175 Ways Tulane Has Rocked the World

We mark the university's demi-semi-septcentennial with a compendium of achievements.

TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE
Social entrepreneurship touts profit, planet and people.

CRAZIER THAN ADVERTISED
Sideshow of New Orleans occupy the chronicles of Angus Lind.
The Medical College of Louisiana, precursor to Tulane University, combats yellow fever and cholera, raises medical standards and trains physicians when it is founded in New Orleans in 1834 by seven young doctors.

With the medical college as its matrix, the University of Louisiana is established by a new state constitution in 1845. Faculties in law, letters and natural science become part of the university.

Established in 1847, the Tulane School of Law is the 12th oldest in the United States.

Tulane University comes into being in 1884 when the Louisiana legislature turns over the assets of the struggling University of Louisiana to 17 administrators of a fund established by merchant Paul Tulane "for the promotion and encouragement of intellectual, moral, and industrial education" among local residents.

The manual training department of Tulane University exhibits its work at the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition in 1884. The exposition—the largest the world has ever seen—is held at the city's edge in Audubon Park, across the street from what becomes the university's uptown campus.

In 1886, Josephine Louise Newcomb founds H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College at Tulane University in memory of her daughter. The avowed purpose of Newcomb College is to make available a liberal education for women on a level equal to that offered to men.

Dr. Rudolph Matas, an 1880 Tulane medical school graduate, travels to Cuba on an internship with the U.S. Havana Yellow Fever Commission. He conducts microscopic studies of living yellow fever samples that lead to the discovery that the mosquito is the carrier of the dreaded fever. He later joins the medical school faculty and becomes a professor of surgery. Known as the "Father of Vascular Surgery," Matas invents more than 20 surgical procedures during his 42 years teaching at the medical school.

Dr. Charles Bass, dean of the medical school (1922-40), is known as the "Father of Preventive Dentistry." His studies focus on the activity of microorganisms in
human saliva. When these microorganisms combine with oral plaque, tooth decay occurs. Bass advocates for daily removal of oral bacteria through proper use of a toothbrush and dental floss.

Drs. Alton Ochsner and Michael DeBakey, medical school physicians, are the first doctors to link smoking cigarettes to lung cancer in a paper published in 1939. Often ridiculed by his peers, Ochsner campaigned against lung cancer his whole career by trying to persuade people to quit smoking and by developing techniques for lung surgery.

Dr. Michael DeBakey (A&S ’30, M ’32), a medical school faculty member in 1957-48, invents a pump that becomes a key component in heart-lung machines used in heart surgery. He continues performing heart surgery well into his 90s.

Dr. George M. Haik (M ’34) is a pioneer in cataract surgery and performs the first corneal transplant in the South at Charity Hospital in New Orleans in 1943.

Dr. Robert G. Heath establishes the Department of Psychiatry and Neurology at the medical school in 1949. Chair of the department until 1980, he is the first researcher to delineate a neurophysiological basis for pleasure in the human brain in schizophrenia and to postulate schizophrenia as an autoimmune disorder.

Dr. William J. Mogabgab, (A&S ’42, M ’44), chief of infectious diseases at the medical school, is the first researcher to isolate the common cold virus in 1955.

Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (M ’51), a pathologist, helps develop tests to ensure the safety of vaccines for polio and measles. She is the first woman appointed director of the National Institutes of Health in the 1990s. A pioneer in in vitro fertilization, Dr. Fred Wirth (M ’67) is the first U.S. test-tube-baby doctor. The first American “test-tube” baby conceived is Elizabeth Carr, born Dec. 28, 1981. She is the 15th such birth worldwide. More than a million test-tube babies have been born since.

Stephen D. Cook (F ’74, G ’78), a medical school professor of orthopaedics, develops the Long-term Stable Fixation hip, known as the Tulane Hip, in the 1980s.

In 2001, the Tulane Center for Gene Therapy is established. It is the first major center in the United States to focus on research using adult stem cells.

Dr. Roy S. Weiner, professor of medical oncology, develops methods in the 1990s for freezing and thawing human mononuclear cells. His research contributes to treatment of adult leukemia as well as breast and lung cancer.

Dr. Benjamin Lee, professor of urology, develops in 2009 minimally invasive kidney cancer surgery, in which tumors are frozen, killing cancer cells without using radiation or chemotherapy.

The Tulane Community Health Center at Covenant House opens in the days following Hurricane Katrina in fall 2005. The School of Medicine has since opened other community health clinics, providing a new model for health-care delivery.

The Academic Building is constructed in 1894 on a circular muddy drive facing St. Charles Avenue. Later, it’s renamed Gibson Hall for Randall Lee Gibson, a former Confederate General, U.S. senator from Louisiana and the first president of the Board of Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund.

Brown Ayres (1856-1919), physicist and astronomer, designs a physical laboratory built on the uptown campus in 1894. The building faces north and south for natural lighting and for convenience during use of magnetic instruments. The building is enlarged in 1979 and renamed F. Edward Hebert Hall in honor of the late U.S. congressman whose Washington office is reproduced inside.

Beta Theta Phi is the first fraternity to buy and remodel its own house around 1900 at the corner of Magnolia (now Zimple) and Audubon streets.

The first building in America constructed exclusively for medical school instruction—Richardson Memorial Building—is built on the uptown campus in 1908. Later the medical school moves downtown, and today the School of Architecture occupies the building.

In 1912, the Tulane School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine—precursor of the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine—is founded. It is the first public health school established in the United States and the only school of tropical medicine in the nation.
Tulane’s College of Commerce—the first business school in the South—is founded in 1914.

The School of Social Work—the first in the South—is established in 1927.

McAlister Auditorium, built in 1940, has the world’s largest self-suspended concrete dome. The saucer dome is approximately 110 feet across.

William Joseph Mouton Jr. (E ’53, ’58) develops techniques for driving deep pilings in New Orleans’ soft ground and anchoring them in the hard strata below. The method provides the underpinnings for the growth of the city’s skyline in the 1960s.

Architectural Forum reports in 1956 that French Quarter boundaries remain today as they were denoted in the survey.

Preservationists, including William E. Borah (A&S ’61, L ’65), stop a misguided effort to build an elevated highway through the French Quarter in the late 1960s.

The A. B. Freeman School of Business partners with Reuters and Trading Technologies in 2007 to build a simulated stock-trading center in Goldring/Woldenberg Hall II. The center mimics a real trading floor and includes systems used in most commercial trading houses.


On Jan. 1, 1932, the Green Wave football team plays the University of Southern California for the national championship in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif. USC beats the Green Wave, 21-12.

In 1935, the first Sugar Bowl is played in Tulane Stadium on Willow Street. The Green Wave football team beats Temple University. The postseason contest is called the Sugar Bowl because the stadium is located where a sugar plantation once operated. In the late 1700s, Etienne de Bore perfected the process of making granulated sugar from sugar cane juice here.


Tulane wins the NCAA tennis championship in 1959.

In the first Super Bowl ever played, in the Los Angeles Coliseum in 1967, Max McGee (A&S ’54) makes a spectacular one-handed catch of a pass thrown by his Green Bay Packer teammate Bart Starr. McGee runs 37 yards to score the first touchdown in Super Bowl history. The Packers beat the Kansas City Chiefs, 35–10, with McGee catching seven passes and scoring two touchdowns.

Dave Dixon (B ’43) revolutionizes the sports world of New Orleans. He is instrumental in bringing the Saints NFL franchise to the city and in getting the Louisiana Superdome built.

Before it is demolished in 1980, Tulane...
Stadium is the site of three Super Bowls (IV in 1970; VI in 1972; and IX in 1975). The stadium also is home to the New Orleans Saints in 1967–74.

47 Saints place kicker Tom Dempsey sets the record for longest field goal of 65 yards in Tulane Stadium on Nov. 8, 1970. This record has never been surpassed, but was tied by the Denver Broncos’ Ja-son Elam in 1998.

48 Green Wave football teams in 1925 and 1998 have undefeated seasons.

49 Tulane becomes a charter member of Conference USA in 1995. In 2009–10, Tulane competes at the NCAA Division I-A level, fielding women’s teams in basketball, cross country, golf, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor/outdoor track and field, and volleyball and men’s teams in baseball, basketball, football, cross country, outdoor track and field, and tennis.

50 President Scott Cowen leads a national effort in 2003 to expand opportunities for postseason intercollegiate football play for teams not in the existing Bowl Championship Series group. Cowen testifies before Congress and in the court of public opinion, marshaling support from other university presidents and winning concessions from the BCS cartel.

51 The Tulane baseball team earns a trip to the College World Series in 2001, followed by a second appearance in 2005.

52 Tulane football star running back Matt Forte (B ’09) has an outstanding rookie season with the Chicago Bears in 2008 with 1,238 rushing yards and 8 touchdowns.

53 Tulane finished second in the nation, receiving an A+ grade in the second annual Glass Ceiling Report Card in 2008 for providing coaching opportunities for women.

54 Nearly half of Green Wave student-athletes hold grade-point-averages of 3.0 or higher in 2008–09, with 107 Tulane student-athletes named to the Conference USA Commissioner’s Honor Roll in spring 2009.

55 An ambitious, red-headed farm boy from north Louisiana, Hugh Pierce Long Jr., studies at the Law School as a special student in 1914. He stays only one year and does not complete all his courses. This is the only formal, legal training that the young man ever has. He later emerges as “The Kingfish” Huey P. Long, one of Louisiana’s most powerful and colorful politicians, serving as governor and U.S. senator.

56 Twelve Louisiana governors have attended Tulane University.


58 Lindy Claiborne Boggs (NC ’35) is the first woman in Louisiana elected to the U.S. Congress. She is reelected seven times (1973–91) to represent the 2nd District of Louisiana, which includes part of New Orleans. She is first appointed to the seat in 1972 to replace her husband, Hale Boggs (A&S ’35, L ’37), when his plane disappears on a flight over Alaska, Hale Boggs serves in Congress in 1941–43 and 1947–72.

59 Bob Livingston (A&S ’64, L ’68) is another Tulane alumnus who serves in the U.S. Congress (1977–99).

60 Newt Gingrich, a Republican U.S. Congressman from Georgia and Speaker of the House, introduces the conservative Contract With America in 1994. Gingrich earns his PhD in history from Tulane in 1971.

61 Gene Taylor (A&S ’76), a Democrat, has represented the 4th District of Mississippi in the U.S. Congress since 1989. Taylor’s district encompasses the Mississippi coast hard hit by Hurricane Katrina.

ART and MUSIC

62 Ellsworth Woodward and William Woodward, two brothers from Massachusetts, come to the Cotton Exposition in 1884 and then stay to teach painting and drawing at the Newcomb Art School and take leading roles in architectural preservation of the French Quarter. In 1905, William Woodward paints the oil on canvas P ass Christian.

63 The Newcomb Pottery grows out of the ideas of the Arts and Crafts Movement. The designs of the pottery are based on the flora and fauna of the Southern region. More than 70,000 pieces of pottery are produced in an experiment to provide employment for women in a milieu where few opportunities existed. In its heyday, between 1900 and 1915, Newcomb Pottery
wins prizes at seven international expositions, including a bronze medal at the Paris Exposition in 1901. Newcomb Pottery continues to hold its value: a 1904 vase went for $169,207 in a 2009 auction.

**64** Artist Caroline Wogan Durieux (NC '16) moves to Mexico in the 1930s, forming a friendship with Mexican Revolutionary artist Diego Rivera. She works in the 1950s with scientists to develop a new technique in color electron printing using radioactive ink to produce her satiric art.

**65** Among the public monuments sculptor Angela Gregory (NC '25, A '40) creates is the Statue of Bienville (1955) on Loyola Avenue in New Orleans.

**66** Jules Struppeck, professor of art and sculptor, is photographer and author of the classic textbook *The Creation of Sculpture*, published by Henry Holt in 1952.

**67** The GRAMMY music awards gets its name in 1958 from Jay Danna (NC '42). In a nationwide contest, Danna suggests “GRAMMY” because when she used to play the gramophone too loud, her mother would yell at her to “turn down the grammy.”

**68** The Hogan Jazz Archive is initiated in 1958 with Ford Foundation funding. The core of the jazz archive’s research collection is oral history interviews with more than 600 pioneer jazz musicians.

**69** The playful, colorful abstract expressionist paintings and sculpture of Ida Kohlmeyer (NC '33, G '50) are in the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art and the New Orleans Museum of Art, among other collections.

**70** Jessie Poesch, professor of art history from 1963 to the 2000s, is a pioneer in the study of Southern art. Among her books are *The Art of the South and Newcomb Pottery*.

**71** Lynda Benglis (NC '64), a sculptor whose work in polyurethane, gold-leaf, zinc and aluminum evokes sensuality and physicality, shakes up the art world with her own advertisement in which she appears nude in *Artsforum* magazine in 1974. Benglis creates the ad to promote an exhibition of her work, as a statement in response to what she sees as the underrepresentation of women in the male-run artistic community.

**72** Hunt Slonem (A&S '73) combines abstract expressionism and representational imagery in his paintings that often depict birds, rabbits, butterflies and monkeys as well as portraits of famous people like Abraham Lincoln. Slonem’s work is in more than 80 museums internationally. Photography by William Craft Brumfield, (A&S '66), a professor of Germanic and Slavic Studies, documents the architecture and American studies.

**73** Among the public monuments sculptor Angela Gregory (NC '25, A '40) creates is the Statue of Bienville (1955) on Loyola Avenue in New Orleans.

**74** Two Tulane graduates have been president of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago: Anthony Jones (G '68) and Wellington “Duke” Reiter (A '81).

**75** A professor of art since 1976, Gene Koss brings the art of glass sculpture to the Newcomb Department of Art by building hot glass furnaces and teaching students how to use glass as a medium of artistic expression.

**76** Born in the Soviet Union and trained in the Russian classical tradition from age 6, Faina Lushtak, a brilliant piano composer, performer and teacher, emigrates to America to join the Newcomb Department of Music in the early 1980s.

**77** Bill Malone, professor of history, is nominated for a GRAMMY Award in 1982 for compiling *Classic Country Music: The Smithsonian Collection*.

**78** Brian Skinner (A&S '80) is an opera tenor who performs internationally under the name Fernando del Valle. His roles include Don Joe in *Carmen*, Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, Faust in *Boito’s Mefistofele* and others.

**79** The "American Routes" public radio show arrives at Tulane in 2008 when Nick Spitzer, the show’s founder and on-air host, becomes a professor of communication and American studies, and the university steps into the role of co-producer of the show that explores American music, including blues, country, gospel, jazz, rock ‘n’ roll and soul.

**80** In 2008, the Whitney Biennial presents a sculptural installation made of everyday material by Phoebe Washburn (NC '96).

**81** Charlie Clausner, a drummer and first-year student at Tulane, and his band, Nerds in Disguise, win a 2009 MTV Video Music Award for Best Performance in a Pepsi Rock Band Video. The band’s video uses the song “My Own Worst Enemy” by Lit.
82 John L. Riddell, a medical college professor, invents the binocular microscope in 1852.

83 Considered the greatest chess player of his era and unofficial World Chess Champion, Paul Morphy receives a law degree in 1857, memorizing the entire Louisiana Civil Code. That same year he participates in the first American Chess Congress held in New York City, crushing all opponents. The following year he travels to Europe and in match after match proves that he has no equal. In one stunt held in Paris, Morphy plays eight simultaneous games while blindfolded. He wins six games and draws two games.

84 A. Baldwin Wood (E 1889) designs in 1913 the Woodscrew pump that is still used today to keep the streets of New Orleans dry.

85 Alfred H. Clifford, professor of mathematics from 1955 to 1990, is an internationally recognized algebraic theorist. He is co-author of The Algebraic Theory of Semigroups and founding editor of the journal Semigroup Forum.

86 In 1957, Harold Rosen (E '47) leads a team at Hughes Aircraft Co. in California that invents the first worldwide communication satellite in 1958-63. To provide consistent 24-hour communication, the satellite had to remain in orbit around the Earth. Rosen's solution is for the satellite to be lightweight enough to stabilize itself with continuous spinning.

87 Geoffrey Beene, a 1940s medical school dropout, becomes a top fashion designer for the 1960s “mod” generation. He has a career in fashion that spans 40 years.

88 No-iron cotton is invented in 1958 by Ruth Rogan Benerito (NC '35, G '38). She works with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Southern Regional Research Center for three decades and secures 55 patents, including “wash-and-wear” cotton.

89 Irn Harkey (A&S '41), editor and publisher of the Fasacoulou, Miss., Chronicle-Star wins a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing in 1963 for his anti-segregation editorials during the civil rights crisis surrounding the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi.

90 Shirley Ann Grau (NC '50) wins a Pulitzer Prize in 1964 for her novel The Keepers.

91 Dr. Andrew Schally, a School of Medicine faculty member, is awarded in 1977 the Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology for his research on brain hormones.

92 John Kennedy Toole (A&S '58) posthumously awarded the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for his novel A Confederacy of Dunces. Dr. Louis Ignarro, professor of pharmacology (1973-85), receives the 1998 Nobel Prize in Medicine. Ignarro's research while at Tulane shows that nitric oxide has the capacity to relax vascular smooth muscle. This discovery leads to an avalanche of research on the endothelium-derived relaxing factor.

93 David Filo (E '88) co-founds Yahoo! in 1994 with Jerry Wang.

94 Jennifer Grotz (NC '93), a poet and translator, wins the Roma Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award and the New Writing Award from the Fellowship of Southern Writers in 2007. Her work is in Best American Poetry, and Grep, a book of her poems, is published by Houghton Mifflin/Mariner Books in 2003.

96 Lawrence Wright (A&S '69) wins a Pulitzer Prize in 2007 for The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11.

97 Natalie Scott (NC 1999) establishes the Newcomb Unit for war relief in 1915, and after America enters World War I in 1917, she travels by boat to Paris to work with the American Red Cross as an administrator, translator and nurse throughout the war.

98 In World War II, 147 Tulane professors and administrative personnel enter military service, along with some 4,000 Tulane alumni.

99 In the 1940s, physicist Rose Mooney of the Newcomb faculty becomes one of the highest-ranking female scientists on the Manhattan Project, the code name for a project conducted during World War II to develop the first atomic bomb.

100 The end of America's involvement in Vietnam is first announced by President Gerald Ford in a speech to students on the Tulane campus in 1975.

101 Tulane President Scot Cowen leads the renewal of Tulane after Hurricane Katrina causes $650 million in damage to Tulane in August 2005. He immediately authorizes cleanup and repair of the university's campuses as soon as the storm passes.

102 Tulane Emergency Medical Services (TEMS), staffed by Tulane undergraduates certified
as emergency medical technicians, work 20-hour days as a triage team in Baton Rouge, La., and as search-and-rescue workers in New Orleans after Katrina.

Students and faculty disperse among more than 600 universities and colleges during the fall 2005 semester when Tulane is closed in the aftermath of the storm.

During fall 2005, Gibson Hall serves as headquarters and sleeping quarters for the National Guard stationed in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

In the wake of Katrina, Tulane School of Medicine sets up temporary quarters at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston for the entire school year of 2005-06.

The Student Hurricane Network, co-founded by Tulane law students, attracts more than 2,700 volunteers to provide legal assistance to Gulf Coast residents affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

In an emotional Martin Luther King Jr. Day concert, Wynton Marsalis plays and welcomes students back to New Orleans for the first time since Katrina on Jan. 16, 2006, the day before the start of the spring semester.

Janet Woodka (L ’92) is named the federal coordinator for Gulf Coast recovery and rebuilding in March 2009.

**SCIENTISTS AND THEIR discoveries**

Percy Viosca Jr. (A&S ’13, G ’15) documents wildlife in the Louisiana wetlands and is the first scientist in 1925 to sound the alarm about threats to the wetlands by man-made modifications such as flood protection, deforestation, deepening channels and the cutting of navigation and drainage canals.

Dr. Matthew Bach, professor of physiology, and Claude J. Sperry, professor of electrical engineering, conduct a research project—“Artificial Moonlight”—in 1951-53 for the U.S. Army. Based on their work, the Army constructs a slide rule that field commanders use to set searchlight elevations and azimuths for optimum illumination under various weather conditions. “Artificial Moonlight” greatly improves troop morale on pitch-black nights.

Dr. Jack Wickstrom, professor of orthopaedics, and John Martinez, professor of mechanical engineering, explore the causes and effects of whiplash in rear-end automobile collisions in the early 1960s. Their work leads to mandatory headrest installation in all cars.

Milton Fingerman, ecology and evolutionary biology professor (1954-2000), has a lasting impact on the field of crustacean endocrinology, starting with a study of the diurnal locomotor rhythm of the fiddler crab.

Armand Kuris (A&S ’63) is a professor of ecology, evolution and marine biology at the University of California-Santa Barbara. Kuris’ discoveries about marine ecology have potential to control marine pests such as the voracious European green crab.

Arnold A. Gerall, professor of psychology (1961-97), ushers in the modern era of behavioral neuroendocrinology. Among his findings is that mammals’ ability to display either male or female stereotypical sexual behaviors is related to their degree of exposure to the hormone testosterone. Gerall mentors 38 PhDs during his career at Tulane.

Miriam John earns a master’s degree in chemical engineering from Tulane in 1972 and goes on to become vice president of Sandia National Laboratories California Division, leading physical scientists, engineers, mathematicians and computer scientists in producing a “lab on a chip” for multiple defense, environmental and medical applications.

Prescott Deininger, professor of epidemiology, works on the human genome project, completing the sequence of the polyoma virus genome in 1990. His work is relevant to the causation of cancer, and he continues to conduct basic cancer research.

John Perdew, professor of physics, is the most cited scholar in physics and chemistry academic journals because of the contributions he has made toward the development of density-functional theory. His article, “In Defense of the Hohenberg-Kohn Theorem and Density-Functional Theory,” co-authored with chemistry professor Mel Levy and published in 1982, paves the way for a revolution in quantum chemistry that starts with solid-state physics and is all about solving the mysteries of matter.

Harold Dundee, biology professor, publishes The Amphibians and Reptiles of Louisiana in 1989, the most comprehensive study of Louisiana’s widely varied...
herpetofauna ever. Co-authored with Douglas A. Rossman and illustrated by Eugene C. Beckham, the book describes the state's 130 species of reptiles and amphibians, outlining each animal's life history as well as feeding, behavioral and reproductive habits.

Torbjörn Törnqvist, associate professor of earth and environmental sciences and director of the National Institute for Climatic Change Research Coastal Center at Tulane, announces the bad news in 2008 that the Mississippi Delta is sinking as much as one-fifth of an inch per year. But the good news is that the sinking is mostly limited to the uppermost layer of sediment, and the land underneath is much more stable than previously thought.

Jeff Chambers, associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, determines that the destruction of forest trees from Hurricane Katrina is enough to cancel out a year's worth of new tree growth in all other U.S. forests. Healthy, growing trees play a vital role in removing carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, from the atmosphere by photosynthesis, and the reduction in carbon sequestration by forests has the potential to increase the rate of global warming.

Investigations by Tom Sherry, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, on the wintering ecology of migratory birds in Jamaica show that the survival of the Black-throated Blue Warbler tracks the El Nino-La Nina climate fluctuations in the Caribbean. His work indicates that the birds are likely to decline in association with global warming with the intensification of droughts over time.

"Chocolate" toothpaste is better than fluoride. Arman Sadeghpour presents this discovery during his doctoral thesis defense at the School of Science and Engineering in 2007, reporting that an extract from chocolate, whose chemical makeup is similar to caffeine, helps to harden teeth and make them less susceptible to tooth decay. Sadeghpour has since founded Thedent, a biotechnology company. His patented finding offers a major innovation in commercial oral care products.

The Environmental Law Clinic is launched in 1989. The clinic represents clients in cases related to environmental justice; air and water quality, wetlands protection, landfills and other environmental issues.

American Journal of Comparative Law gives in 2002 the "gold medal" to the comparative and international law program at Tulane Law School.

High-ranking judges among Law School alumni are Justice Elizabeth Weaver (NC '62, L '65) of the Michigan Supreme Court first and only student-edited law review in the United States devoted to legal issues of concern to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Tulane Law School is the only law school in the United States to offer an LLM in admiralty. Tulane also is the first law school to publish a student-edited maritime law review, the Tulane Maritime Law Journal.

Judge John Minor Wisdom (L '29) of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals plays a leading role in four landmark decisions in the 1960s that lead to desegregation of public schools and advancement of civil rights and economic justice. Wisdom receives the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Bill Clinton in 1993.

Under the leadership of dean John Kramer, Tulane Law School in 1987 becomes the first law school in the country to require pro bono service for graduation.

Law & Sexuality, founded in 1989, is the first student-edited law review in the United States devoted to legal issues of concern to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

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Stacey Mitchell (L '94) is chief of the Environmental Crimes Section at the United States Department of Justice. She is involved with U.S. Coast Guard efforts to detect, deter and prosecute those who illegally discharge pollutants into the oceans, coastal waters and inland waterways.

Roberta Shaffer (L '80) is appointed Law Librarian of Congress in August 2009.

In 1965, Dorothy Randolph becomes the first African American professor at the School of Social Work.

In 1966, law student Donald Mintz organizes CACTUS, Community Action Council of Tulane University Students. It is one of the oldest continually operating student-run volunteer groups in the nation.

Since 1986, Tulane has joined every January with Dillard, Xavier, and Loyola universities to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Week for Peace.

Gary Lloyd (SW '61, G '65) establishes in 1987 the Institute on Research and Training in HIV/AIDS Counseling at the School of Social Work. The counseling training manual developed by the institute is used by the World Health Organization and has been translated into more than a dozen languages.

Neil Guidry (SW '90) founds in 1997 the Louisiana Himalaya Association, dedicated to helping Tibetan refugees who have fled their country to escape persecution.

The public-service graduation requirement, instituted after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, is the first such requirement for a major research university in the country. It takes learning outside the classroom and appeals to the desire of the millennial generation to make a difference.

Tulane is the first campus in 2007 to host the Clinton Global Initiative—University. Former President Bill Clinton appears at the event to launch the program that he created to harness the energy and knowledge of college students to solve some of the world's most pressing problems.

In 2008, Tulane President Scott Cowen signs the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, pledging to address the global warming climate challenge and to find ways to minimize global warming emissions.

Tulane is named a 2009 Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in recognition of the university's forestry management and environmental stewardship.

"Meet the Press" (1975–84).

Albert H. Cohen (B '46, '48) is director of taxation for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and is involved in the enactment of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954—the single most comprehensive tax legislation ever undertaken.

Dr. Leslie L. Lukash (A&S '42, M '44) is the Nassau County, N.Y., medical examiner for 43 years.

Two Tulane alumni have been U.S. surgeons general: Luther L. Terry (M '35), who releases in 1964 the first official warning by the U.S. government about the hazards of smoking cigarettes, and Regina Benjamin, (B '91), who is picked for the post in 2009 by President Barack Obama.

Jeanette Jennings (SW '69) is the first African American in several positions: social worker with the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare, faculty member at the University of Mississippi, and associate dean at the University of Tennessee–Knoxville. She also teaches in the Tulane School of Social Work.

Emily Card (NC '63) works on the passage of the federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 and focuses her career on consumers, women and money. She writes The Ms. Money Book and is the first female financial host in the 1980s on the LIFETIME network television show "It's Your Money."

Two alumni have served as chief of protocol for the United States: John Giffen Weinmann (A&S '50, L '52) for President George H. W. Bush and Donald Ensenat (L '73) for President George W. Bush. Both
also are U.S. Ambassadors: Weinmann to Finland and Ensenat to Brunei.

151 Mignon Faget (NC ’55) is a jewelry designer inspired by New Orleans architecture, culture and flora and fauna of the region.

152 Lawrence Gordon (B ’58) is a producer of Field of Dreams as well as the Lara Croft and Die Hard movies.


154 Jerry Springer (A&S ’65) hosts his own TV talk show.

155 Paul Michael Glaser (A&S ’66) stars as detective David Sarksy in the 1970s television series “Starsky and Hutch.”

156 Harold Sylvester (A&S ’72) is an actor and director who appears in the film An Officer and a Gentleman (1982) and the TV show “Married With Children” (1987–97), among other productions.

157 Henry Armand Milton (A&S ’47, ’49, A ’53) is the first dean of the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts of the National Gallery of Art from 1980 to 2000.

158 Robert M. Harling III (L ’77) writes the off-Broadway hit Steel Magnolias as well as the screenplay for the film version of the story about a Southern, small-town beauty shop. The movie is filmed in Harling’s hometown, Natchitoches, La., in 1989.

159 Dr. Morrison Bethea (M ’70) is a co-author of the book Sugar Busters! The book starts a nationwide dietary phenomenon in 1995, reaching the No. 1 spot on the New York Times best-seller list as it advises its readers to “cut sugar to trim fat.”

160 John E. Koerner III (A&S ’65, L ’69, B ’70) builds Barq’s into the No. 2 root beer brand in the nation before selling the business to Coca-Cola in 1995.

161 Joe Boston earns a PhD in chemical engineering from Tulane in 1970 and later founds AspenTech, a company that develops and commercializes Aspen, a software program that is the corporate engineering standard at most chemical companies worldwide.

162 Victoria Reggie Kennedy (N ’76, L ’79) is co-founder of Common Sense About Kids and Guns, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization focused on children’s safety around guns. She’s the wife of the late U.S. senator from Massachusetts, Edward M. Kennedy.

163 Linda S. Wilson (NC ’57) is president of Radcliffe College of Harvard University from 1989 to 1999.

164 Lourdes M. Rodriguez de Flores (NC ’79), wife of President Francisco Flores Perez, is first lady of El Salvador in 1999-2004.

165 Heather McTeer-Hudson (L ’01) is elected the first female, first African American and youngest mayor of Greenville, Miss.—the “Heart and Soul of the Delta”—in 2003.

166 Michael Price (G ’86) wins Emmys for writing and producing “The Simpsons.”

167 Doug Ellin (A&S ’90) creates “Enthourage,” an HBO comedy-drama about a movie star navigating Hollywood with his childhood friends from Queens, N.Y. The show enters its seventh season in 2010.

168 Francis Cardinal George earns his PhD in philosophy 1970 and has been Archbishop of Chicago since 1997. He’s also president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

169 Mark Tillman (E ’79) is an Air Force One pilot during the presidency of George W. Bush, flying 200 flights a year. He is in the cockpit of the president’s plane during the flight to an undisclosed location on Sept. 11, 2001, and during the controversial “flyover” of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.


171 John Blake Bailey (A&S ’85) makes a name for himself as a “chronicler of middle-class chroniclers” with the biographies he’s written of novelists Richard Yates and John Cheever. Yates: A Tragic Honesty is nominated for a National Book Critics Award (2003). And Cheever: A Life (2009) is reviewed in The New Yorker by John Updike, who writes in the posthumously published article that the 770-page book is “a triumph of thorough research and unblinking appraisal.”


173 Nicholas Shapiro (TC ’02) is assistant press secretary for President Barack Obama.

174 Lisa Jackson (E ’83) is the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

175 Astronaut Doug Hurley (E ’88) is the first Tulane alumnus to blast into outer space. He piloted the space shuttle Endeavour for a 16-day NASA mission to and from the International Space Station in July 2009.