

General Information

Location

The Lamar University campus is located in Beaumont, Texas. With a population of more than 115,000, Beaumont is a diversified city, home not only to the University but also to businesses and industries stemming from a strong petrochemical and agricultural base. World-renowned companies are located in Beaumont to take advantage of the area's resources and its educated work-force.

A host of cultural attractions offer a variety of leisure options from world-class museums and symphony presentations to shopping districts and many spring and fall festivals. A civic center, convention center, entertainment complex and coliseum draw professional entertainers and a wide variety of business, social and professional groups to the city. Beaumont is convenient to lake, river and ocean recreation, located only a few miles from the balmy Gulf Coast and little more than an hour from the Big Thicket National Preserve, large lakes and piney woods.

The campus is home to the stately Mary and John Gray Library, the Montagne Center coliseum, the Sheila Umphrey Recreation Sports Center, Gladys City Boomtown, several residence halls and state-of-the-art computing and engineering facilities, including a leading-edge interactive video laboratory. Lamar University welcomes visitors. Information regarding tours may be obtained from the Office of Admission Services, P.O. Box 10009, Beaumont, Texas 77710, phone (409) 880-8316.

History

Lamar University originated on March 8, 1923, when the South Park School District in Beaumont authorized its superintendent to proceed with plans to open "a Junior College of the first class." On Sept. 17, 1923, South Park Junior College opened with 125 students and a faculty of fourteen. Located on the third floor of the South Park High School building, the College shared the library and athletic facilities with the high school. In 1932, separate facilities were provided and the name of the institution was changed to Lamar College, to honor Mirabeau B. Lamar, second president of the Republic of Texas and the "Father of Education" in Texas.

On June 8, 1942, as a result of a public campaign, a new campus was purchased and classes were held for the first time on the present-day campus in Beaumont. After World War II, the College grew to 1,079, and the Honorable Jack Brooks introduced a bill in the Texas House of Representatives to make Lamar University a state-supported senior college. The Legislature approved House Bill-52 June 4, 1949, creating Lamar State College of Technology effective September 1, 1951. Lamar was the first junior college in Texas to become a four-year, state-supported college. Lamar continued to grow, building strong programs in engineering, sciences, business, education and the arts.

In 1962, a graduate school was established offering master's degrees in several fields. In 1969, an extension center was opened in Orange. The Doctor of Engineering degree was established in 1971. In the same year, House Bill-590 became law, changing the institution's status from college to university. Lamar State College of Technology, with an enrollment of 10,874, officially became Lamar University on August 23, 1971.

In 1975, the long-standing, private two-year Port Arthur College became Lamar University at Port Arthur. The Lamar University System, of which Lamar University-Beaumont was the primary component, was established in the 68th Session of the Texas Legislature with the passage of SB-620, which took effect in August 1983.

In 1990, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recommended that all two-year programs at Lamar University be combined into the Lamar University Institute of Technology. The programs in the former College of Technical Arts, along with Allied Health, Office Technology and Restaurant/Institutional Food Management were placed in the new Institute. The Doctor of Education in Deaf Studies/Deaf Education was established at Lamar University in 1993, the Doctor of Audiology in 2003, the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership in 2004, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering in 2005.

Lamar's commitment to quality higher education has been steady and progressive, anticipating the evolving needs of its students. To facilitate this commitment, the Texas Legislature approved House Bill-2313 to merge the Lamar University System with The Texas State University System (TSUS). Effective September 1, 1995, Lamar University, along with the two-year components, joined sister institutions Angelo State University, Sam Houston State University, Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University-San Marcos) and Sul Ross State University. On June 19, 1999, the Texas Legislature approved House Bill-1297 to rename Lamar University at Port Arthur, Lamar University at Orange and the Lamar University Institute of Technology. Today, these TSUS institutions are known as Lamar State College at Port Arthur, Lamar State College at Orange and the Lamar Institute of Technology.

As a comprehensive university granting bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, Lamar University continues to enhance its instructional, service and research missions. Lamar's growth has produced an economic impact that exceeds \$200 million annually, but even more influential is the impact realized by Lamar graduates, who are more than 67,000 strong.

Government

A board of nine regents, appointed by the Governor and approved by the State Senate for terms of six years, governs The Texas State University System. The Board of Regents delegates the direction of university affairs to the presidents, campus administrative officers and faculty.

Mission Statement

Lamar University is a comprehensive public institution educating a diverse student body, preparing students for leadership and lifelong learning in a multicultural world, and engaging the future of Southeast Texas, the state, the nation and the world through teaching, research and creative activity, and service. *(pending approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)*

Core Values

To provide a learning environment of the highest quality and integrity, Lamar University values . . .

- Our **STUDENTS**, including their curricular and extracurricular activities;
- Our **FACULTY** and **STAFF**, high-quality employees who are committed to educating and serving our students;
- Our commitment to **DIVERSITY** in ideas, people and access;
- Our collegial **ENVIRONMENT** with contemporary, functional and pleasing facilities, a safe campus, and responsible fiscal management;
- Our bonds with **SOUTHEAST TEXAS**, the **STATE**, the **NATION**, and the **WORLD**, including our alumni and friends, through economic and educational development, research and creative activity, service, and outreach.

The Philosophy of Knowledge Core Curriculum

Rationale

A program of General Education Requirements for undergraduates is based on the premise that certain common, essential qualities, independent of one's academic discipline, are necessary for intellectual growth and professional advancement. These fundamental, "liberating" qualities, which have guided human progress through history, enable one to communicate effectively, think critically and examine values and principles. They provide a working acquaintance with the scientific method, an appreciation of cultural achievements and an understanding of the relationships among people, their cultures and their natural environment. By providing a stronger historical consciousness, they sharpen a citizen's sense of responsibility to family and society.

A general education provides the base on which a student can build a strong specialization while having the flexibility that a changing society demands. Specialized skills are needed in a complex environment, but the rapidity of technological change often requires the acquisition of new specialties. A sound general education provides the skills and knowledge which individuals will always need to develop their potential and meet the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Objectives

Lamar University's "Ways of Knowing" core curriculum satisfies the criteria for compliance with the mandates of Senate Bill 148 (75th Legislature) and for consistency with the statement, recommendations and rules of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board regarding core curricula. Lamar's core curriculum includes the basic competencies, which have long been seen by society as the minimal requirement of an educated person. Further by synthesizing the core curriculum into a "Ways of Knowing" or methods of inquiry focus and by emphasizing the application of methods of inquiry in the humanities and the sciences, this core addresses the goals of coherence and distinctiveness.

The core is designed to further develop in students the abilities to think critically, to communicate effectively and to understand the major social and personal issues of the times. Core courses include emphases on research, writing and speaking. Core courses encourage participation in university and community organizations and activities.

Components of the Philosophy of Knowledge Core

I. **Philosophy 1370—three semester hours**

A freshman-level survey of major knowledge systems, presuppositions and methodologies.

Transfer Students: See Note #3 below.

II. **Methods of Inquiry in the Humanities**

Freshman English Composition—six semester hours. English 1301 (or English 1360-Honors) and 1302, 1374 or 1361-Honors. A passing score on THEA writing test or satisfactory completion of the developmental English course (Developmental Writing 0371) is a prerequisite to admission to English 1301.

Literature—three semester hours. Three-hour sophomore-level literature course.

Communication—three semester hours. Communication 1315, 1360, 2335, 2373, 3310 or 3340; or an introductory modern language course (including CMDS 2375).

American History—six semester hours. Texas law requires six hours in American History. This shall be satisfied by completing two courses from History 1301, 1302, 2373, 2374, 1361, 1362 or 2377. Three semester hours may be satisfied by an advanced standing examination or by History 2301.

Fine Arts—three semester hours in a visual or performing art. Art 1301, Dance 2304, Humanities 1315, Music 1306 or Theatre 1310.

III. Applications of the Scientific Method of Inquiry

Political Science—six semester hours. Texas law requires six hours in political science, which includes consideration of the U.S. Constitution and the Texas Constitution. This shall be satisfied by completing Political Science 2301 and 2302. Three semester hours may be satisfied by an advanced standing examination.

Mathematical Science—six semester hours. Three semester hours in mathematics at or above the level of college algebra (MATH 1314) and three semester hours in mathematics (at or above the content level of trigonometry-MATH 1316) or in Methods of Quantitative Data Analysis. Approved courses in the latter category are BUAL 3310, INEN 2301, MATH 1342, MATH 3370 and PSYC 2471.

Laboratory Sciences—eight semester hours. (biology, chemistry, geology or physics courses that contain a laboratory component.)

Social Science—three semester hours. A course from one of the following: Anthropology 2346 or 2351, Economics 1301 (for non-Business majors or minors), Psychology 2301 or Sociology 1301. **Business majors must take both Economics 2301 and 2302 to satisfy degree requirements.**

IV. Physical Education Activity—one semester hour of physical activity

Notes:

1. When there are course options, consult the individual department or program to determine if there is a recommended or specified course preference.
2. Carefully observe any prerequisites listed in the Catalog for approved courses.
3. **Transfer Students** from a junior or community college who have completed the Associate Degree and/or are in a 2 + 2 plan may satisfy the Philosophy 1370 (Philosophy of Knowledge) Core requirement by having taken Philosophy 1301 (Introduction to Philosophy) or its equivalent.

Accreditation

Lamar University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number (404) 679-4501; website www.sacscoc.org, to award degrees at the Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's and Doctoral levels. In addition, Lamar is approved by the Texas Education Agency.

Several departments and programs are accredited by professional agencies. In the College of Engineering, the programs in Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Industrial and Mechanical Engineering are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. Computer Science is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The undergraduate and graduate programs of the College of Business are accredited by the International Association for Management Education.

Other accreditations include Nursing by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, the Department of Chemistry by the American Chemical

Society; the Department of Geology by the American Institute of Professional Geologists; Department of Music by the National Association of Schools of Music; Dietetics program by the American Dietetic Association; the program in Social Work by the Council on Social Work Education and programs in Speech-Language Pathology by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and in Deaf Education by the Council for Education of the Deaf. The University also is a member of many academic councils, societies and associations.

Policy Regarding Review of Institutional Accreditation Documentation

Persons wishing to review documentation regarding the institution's accreditation, approval or licensing may do so by contacting the Office of the Provost, Room 101 in the Plummer Building (409-880-8398).

Teacher Certification

All teacher education programs of the University are approved by the Texas Education Agency and the State Board of Educator Certification. Students seeking teacher certification should consult the Director of Professional Services, College of Education and Human Development (409-880-8902), regarding requirements.

Organization

Lamar University is organized into six colleges. These are Arts and Sciences, Business, Education and Human Development, Engineering, Fine Arts and Communication and Graduate Studies. Within each college are academic departments and programs. Each college is headed by a dean, and each department is headed by a department chair.

Degree Offerings

Associate of Science in Nursing

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Criminal Justice, Dance, English, French, History, Mathematics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish, and Theater

Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting, Economics, Finance, General Business, Management, Marketing, Human Resources Management and Management Information Systems

Bachelor of General Studies

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art or Visual Design

Bachelor of Music

Bachelor of Science in Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Communication Disorders, Computer Information Science, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Dance, Earth Science, Economics, Environmental Science, Exercise Science and Fitness Management, Family and Consumer Sciences, Forensic Chemistry, Geology, Health, Interdisciplinary Studies, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Medical Technology, Nursing, Physical Science, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Studio Art, Theatre, Visual Art, and the following Engineering fields: Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Industrial, Mechanical and Industrial Technology

Bachelor of Social Work

Master of Arts in Art History, English, History and Visual Art

Master of Business Administration in Accounting, Experiential Business and Entrepreneurship, Financial Management, Healthcare Administration, Management Information Systems, Nursing Administration (dual degree), and Service Management and Marketing

Master of Education in Administration, Educational Technology Leadership, Elementary Education, Counseling and Development, Reading (certificate), Secondary Education, Special Education, Special Education/Educational Diagnostician, and Supervision

Master of Engineering or Master of Engineering Science in Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering

Master of Engineering Management

Master of Music

Master of Music Education

Master of Public Administration

Master of Science in Applied Criminology, Audiology, Biology, Chemistry, Community Psychology, Computer Science, Deaf Studies/Habilitation, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Studies, Family and Consumer Sciences, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Kinesiology, Mathematics

Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Administration and Nursing Education, Speech-Language Pathology and Theater

Doctor of Audiology

Doctor of Education in Deaf Studies/Deaf Education and Educational Leadership

Doctor of Engineering

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering

Entering Dates and Enrollment Opportunities

Courses and schedules have been arranged so students may enter Lamar four times each year. The current University Calendar contains information regarding registration periods and exact entering dates.

Evening Classes

Classes offered after 5 p.m. are considered Evening Classes, sometimes called Extended Day Classes. Evening classes, with few exceptions, are taught by the regular faculty. Persons employed during the day may attend classes in the evening and study to obtain a degree or to expand their knowledge in a special field of interest as an adult non-degree student. Admissions and Registration Services are available in the Wimberly Student Services Building.

Mini-Sessions

Lamar University offers mini-sessions between the end of the fall semester and the beginning of the spring semester (December Mini-Session), and between the end of the spring semester and the beginning of the first summer session (May Mini-Session). Students are limited to one course per mini-session. For additional mini-session policies, students should consult their academic advisor.

Continuing and Distance Education

Continuing and Distance Education is a multi-division of programs and services designed to meet the changing needs of Southeast Texas. Within this division are the Center for Adult Studies, Continuing Education Programs, Center for Distance Education, Spindletop/Gladys City Boomtown Museum, and a variety of other special programs that provide unique educational opportunities.

Center for Adult Studies

The Center for Adult Studies coordinates programs to assist older students who plan to attend college for the first time as well as adults with previous college

credit who want to return to college to finish their degree. During weekdays, the Center's Adult Learning staff provides answers to questions concerning college entrance, degree offerings, courses scheduled, and campus services and resources. To learn more, call the Center for Adult Studies at (409) 880-7989 or visit the website <http://dept.lamar.edu/continuingeducation/adultstudies/index.htm>.

Continuing Education

The Continuing Education Program serves as a link between Lamar University and the community to meet educational, cultural and training needs. Non-credit certification programs and courses help students build professional skills or gain entrance into new career fields. Programs cater to a wide segment of the population and range from summer youth programs to college experiences for people age 65 or older. Customized contract training for business and industry, along with seminar and conference organizational services, are also provided. For course information, call Continuing Education at (409) 880-2233 or visit the website <http://dept.lamar.edu/continuingeducation>.

Center for Distance Education

The Center for Distance Education at Lamar University offers academic courses via several delivery methods, providing excellent opportunities for adults seeking flexibility in scheduling as well as high school students desiring to begin college through dual credit offerings.

Online courses are accessed via the Internet using WebCT, which offers the ease of anytime, anywhere learning. Interactive video offers university courses at participating Region V ESC high schools. This method has a university professor teaching from the main campus to students at multiple receive sites in an interactive, synchronized delivery. Daytime interactive offers a variety of academic courses for all university students. Telecourses are broadcast through Time Warner Cable in Beaumont or students may check out course video-tapes from the John Gray Library. Telecourse delivery utilizes on-campus orientation and exams. Off-campus courses are delivered at various high school campuses in the evenings. All professors are available by phone, appointment or e-mail for each delivery method.

The center also provides point-of-entry advising for adults who are considering returning to college or beginning college for the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science degree program.

To learn more, call the Center for Distance Education at (409) 880-1847 or visit the website <http://dept.lamar.edu/cde/>.

Other programs administered by the Division of Continuing & Distance Education include Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum and the LU Community Outreach Program, which assists individuals and families achieve personal, social and economic self-sufficiency and enhance the neighborhoods and community in which they live. Continuing and Distance Education administrative offices are located in the Montagne Center. To learn more about these programs, call (409) 880-8209.

Alumni Affairs

The Lamar University Office of Alumni Affairs, which supports graduates and ex-students, is active on a year-round basis. The alumni office is located in the John Gray Center, Building B, Suite 102, at 855 Florida Ave., (409-880-8921 or Alumni@Lamar.edu). The office coordinates all events and activities for alumni ranging from fund-raising to social events. Some of these include chapter activities, homecoming, Red White & You and Distinguished Alumni Awards. The Office of Alumni Affairs also coordinates numerous programs for Lamar University Students. These programs include the Dinner and Twelve Stranger programs and new student move in and are designed to provide a connection between LU students and alumni.

Bookstore

The Lamar University Bookstore, a Barnes & Noble college bookstore, is located in the Setzer Student Center. The lease-operated bookstore features new and used textbooks for the school year, trade books, course materials, school supplies and officially licensed Lamar University Cardinal and Lamar Institute of Technology merchandise. Information is available at www.lamar.bkstore.com.

Early Childhood Development Center

Lamar University Early Childhood Development Center is located at 950 East Florida. The Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and provides high-quality extended child care services and preschool/ pre-kindergarten programs designed for children between the ages of 18 months and 5 years. The Center is home to a special program called "Super Kids." The science-based, interactive program for first- through third-graders is taught in one-week sessions during the summer months.

Information Technologies (Central Computing)

The Information Technologies Division is responsible for providing the computing services required by the academic, administrative and research communities of Lamar University.

Central Computing, a department of the division, is located in the Cherry Engineering Building. The facility consists of an ES40 Alpha processor running the administrative software systems for Lamar University with 2 gigabytes of RAM and 702 gigabytes of storage, a DS20 Alpha Server with 512 megabytes of RAM and 54 gigabytes of disk storage running OpenVMS, a DEC 2100 Alpha Server with 256 megabytes of RAM and 18 gigabytes of disk storage running True64UNIX, the Lamar Web Server running Windows NT 4.0 and two Lamar Departmental Web Servers running Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 2000. Central Computing established and maintains an onsite and offsite disaster recovery contingency facilities in the event of a disaster. The facilities house the equipment for the administrative systems. Languages support by the Central Computing department are ADA, Basic, C, C++, FORTRAN, LISP, PASCAL, and JAVA. Software packages include MATLAB, SPSS, SAS, and IMSL. Also maintained are a DEC 2100 Server for the Library running OpenVMS and phone/web registration machines. All computer systems are connected to the University's fiber optic backbone using gigabit Ethernet. There are three 2100 lpm printers and three 50 ppm laser printers for student and faculty use.

Central Computing is open 24 hours a day from 7 a.m. on Monday to 7 a.m. on Saturday. Reports and accounts may be picked up from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. The machines are available 24 hours a day, except once a week when full backups are performed on all servers.

A student entering Lamar University is given a computer account by Central Computing. New student and new faculty accounts are generated by the fourth class day of each semester. In order to activate an account, a student or faculty member must come to the Central Computing window in the Cherry Building and present his/her Lamar ID. Accounts remain active as long as a student is enrolled or a faculty member is employed, unless the Computer Use Policy is violated. Central Computing's web site is http://hal.lamar.edu/%7Eluis/Cc/CC_Main.htm.

Lamar Language Institute

The Lamar Language Institute (LLI) is a non-academic English training program, offering *full-time* study of English as a Second Language during fall, spring and summer sessions. LLI intensive courses provide English training for international, college-bound students as well as non-native speakers of English living and working in the community.

Permanent residents may study *part-time* in a program that includes intensive work in all language skill areas: writing, grammar, reading, vocabulary, listening comprehension, conversation and pronunciation.

The *full-time* course provides over 20 hours of ESL instruction per week for 70 class days within the fall and spring semesters. Summer sessions provide more than 100 hours of ESL instruction during a ten-week period.

As an integral part of training and study, the LLI and Lamar University offer students a variety of social activities, both on and off campus. Many of these activities are free, and they to enhance the learning of English while providing opportunities for meaningful interaction with Americans.

Additionally, LLI provides developmental writing and reading courses for non-native speakers of English who have yet to satisfy THEA requirements. The LLI also offers customized corporate training plans, which include on-site instruction of English as a Second Language and English for Special Purposes. Additional information is available by calling (409) 880-8012, e-mailing language@hal.lamar.edu or writing Lamar Language Institute, P.O. Box 10130, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

Library

The Mary and John Gray Library is centrally located on campus. Its collection exceeds 1 million volume equivalents, including microforms and state and federal documents. The library subscribes to almost 2,000 current periodicals and provides access to many full-text databases covering more than 3,000 periodicals.

Students, faculty and staff of Lamar University can use PCs to locate electronic books in the online catalog, access indexes and journals electronically, and locate selected information through the Internet. A service-oriented library staff provides assistance in the use of reference materials, documents, special collections, reserve materials and instructional media. The ID card serves as an individual's library card.

The library provides rooms for group study, and the fifth floor is a designated quiet study floor. Coin-operated copy machines for both print and microforms are available. An open-access PC lab is located on the library's seventh floor in the Media Services department. Assistance in using the PCs, software and the Internet is available from trained staff.

Additionally, students have access to the collections of 51 other publicly funded colleges and universities through the TexShare program. Library hours are posted on the library's web site at <http://library.lamar.edu> and are available in a recorded message at (409) 880-8117.

Montagne Center

The 10,000-seat Montagne Center, home of the Lamar University basketball and volleyball teams, is a multipurpose facility that provides opportunities for educational and extracurricular programs. The center houses the athletic offices, ticket office and continuing and distance education programs.

Mail Centre

The Lamar University Mail Centre is located at 211 Redbird Lane in the Services building. Hours of operation for window services are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The University Mail Centre is a contracted facility operated by the University and is officially designated as Lamar University, 77710. Full postal services are offered, including stamp sales for domestic/international mail, United Parcel Service, mail forwarding, express courier deliveries and bulk mail processing (including folding, tabbing and inserting services).

Students, staff and faculty may rent postal boxes semesterly or annually. Box sharing is prohibited. Mail is received from U.S. Postal Services at 6:45 and 9 a.m. daily Monday through Friday. Outbound stamped and metered mail are dispatched daily at 5p.m.

Research Office

The Research Office is administered by the Associate Vice President for Research, who chairs the Research Council. This office promotes and funds internal research; oversees sponsored programs and technology transfer as well as patent, copyright and intellectual property policies; establishes liaison between the university and state and national funding sources; and assures that proposed projects comply with institutional and governmental regulations. This office also provides assistance to faculty in the development and submission of grant/project proposals by locating funding sources and providing editorial assistance in proposal preparation.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SFSWD) offers a variety of services designed to assure students with disabilities equal access to the university's activities, programs and services. Some of the services provided include academic accommodations, assistive equipment, interpreters, note-takers, physical access and priority registration. Documentation of a disability from a professional in the field is required to receive services.

Students with disabilities should notify the coordinator of SFSWD prior to registration in any university program. The coordinator will arrange a meeting with the student to determine an individualized educational plan.

The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in 101A Wimberly Building. Students may write to P.O. Box 10087, Beaumont, Texas 77710, call (409) 880-8026 or fax (409) 880-2225. Additional information is available at the SFSWD web site, <http://dept.lamar.edu/sfswd>.

Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum

The Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum is located on Lamar's campus at University Drive and Highway 69. The museum is a 15-building replica of Gladys City, the oil boomtown that sprang up overnight when the Lucas Gusher blew in on Spindletop Hill January 10, 1901. The museum is dedicated to the preservation of the history of the legendary Spindletop Oil Boom that followed the Lucas Gusher, marking the beginning of the Petroleum Age.

The museum complex includes a saloon, general store, post office, drug store, livery stable and other buildings all furnished with items of daily life in Gladys City

Boomtown. The replica Lucas Gusher blows water 160 feet in the air during special events. The Visitors Center includes the Museum Store and a large meeting room available to the public. Special events and Living History days with live re-enactors are held throughout the year. Visit www.spindletop.org for a virtual tour and more information.

Smoking Policy

Lamar University is a non-smoking campus, and smoking is not allowed in any university facility. More specifically, smoking is prohibited in all academic classrooms, laboratories, meeting rooms, restrooms, locker rooms, coffee areas, supply storage areas, lobbies, corridors, reception areas, offices, and university vehicles. The cafeteria, dining halls, or other eating areas are nonsmoking areas. This nonsmoking policy applies to university facilities used by off-campus groups as well as university groups.

University Advancement

The Division for University Advancement encompasses development, public relations, alumni affairs, advancement services and operation of the University Reception Center. It also serves as a liaison to the Lamar University Foundation.

Development works closely with the president in raising external funds for student scholarships, endowed faculty positions and other university programs. It also coordinates fund-raising for campus constituencies, including campaign and special event planning as well as prospect research. Through its advancement services arm, it manages a database of alumni, friends and donors, tracking gifts to a multitude of university programs.

Alumni affairs coordinates all activities and events for Lamar University alumni. These include chapter activities, reunions, homecoming and Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Public relations coordinates all media relations, publications and institutional marketing activities for the university. It supports student recruitment, fund-raising and special events through the production of print, broadcast and World Wide Web products and materials. It also publishes the quarterly university magazine, Cardinal Cadence, mailed to more than 54,000 alumni and friends of the university.

The University Reception Center manages logistics for special events ranging from meetings and lunches to formal receptions, banquets and weddings, primarily in the main venue on the eighth floor of the Mary and John Gray Library but also at other locations across campus, including the Dishman Art Museum and Montagne Center.

Offices are located in Building B of the John Gray Center at 855 Florida Ave.

Veterans' Affairs Office

A Veterans' Affairs Office is maintained in the Wimberly Student Services Building to aid veterans in obtaining their educational benefits. It also provides academic assistance and counseling. Veterans are encouraged to complete admissions and testing requirements 90 to 120 days prior to the period for which they wish to enroll. Additional information about veterans' programs may be found in the Fees and Expenses section of this catalog.

University Writing Center

The University Writing Center (UWC) offers free, face-to-face sessions to all Lamar students at any stage of the writing process. Students may visit the UWC early in their writing process, when they are deciding what to write (brainstorming); or they may bring a complete draft for content questions (revision) or grammar and punctuation concerns (editing). Each individualized session aspires to more than just the short-term goal of improving a particular paper; the objective is to nurture better writers. With this in mind, writers work together with tutors to answer any questions or concerns the writers have in sessions that may last from a few minutes up to an hour. The UWC staff, which is composed of Lamar undergraduate and graduate students, welcomes both appointments and walk-ins. Writers may schedule an appointment by calling (409) 880-8571 or visiting the UWC in Maes 208.

The UWC has a small computer area open to Lamar students. These eight computers are connected to the Internet and offer a variety of software programs, including Microsoft Word, Access, Excel and Powerpoint. They are available during regular hours of operation. A computer classroom with 24 computers is also available by reservation, (409) 880-8587, to Lamar faculty for their writing classes.