



From the President

Every fall, there is excitement in the air as the new academic year begins and students return to campus. We also welcome to campus our first-year students as they begin their college careers, no doubt nervous about what awaits them but eager to get started nonetheless. This year brings us the largest first-year class since Hurricane Katrina—872 students from 47 states/territories and 20 countries.

This fall is particularly exciting as we unveil impressive renovations on both of our campuses. On the main campus, Thomas Hall has been transformed into a one-stop-shop visitor center and administrative building, housing the Offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, the Bursar, Student Records, and Student Finance.

On the Broadway campus, renovations to the former Dominican Conference Center have been completed, providing a new home for the Stuart H. Smith Law Clinic and Center for Social Justice, as well as the College of Law's Office of Career Services.

Plans are underway for even more renovations. These include Monroe Hall, and the creation of the Tom Benson Jesuit Center in the old library.

Of course, we also are delighted to have our faculty return to campus (and welcome our new faculty members as well), who are all vital to the success of our students and the university. It is especially gratifying when we are able to spotlight some of our key faculty members, and the Phil and Ellen Frohnmayer Reunion and Tribute that was held in the spring allowed us to do just that.

In addition, sharing the diverse achievements and successes of our alumni, whether they are leaders in the hot sauce industry or recounting to us their travels to Havana, Cuba (as you will see in this issue), is important as well.

Equally exciting are the preparations we are making to celebrate the university's centennial beginning in April of next year. For almost 100 years, Loyola has been educating young men and women to be the leaders and innovators of tomorrow. As we approach the start of our second century, now, more than ever, our mission is crucial to help make New Orleans and the world a better place.

Finally, as part of the centennial celebration next year, there will be a brand new look for the *Loyola University New Orleans Magazine*. We will continue to share with you stories of our success, along with new opportunities for engagement and participation.

Great things have begun this fall, and even greater ones are on the horizon.

With prayers and best wishes,

Kevin Wm. Wildes, S.J., Ph.D., President