University of New Orleans

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Where would New Orleans be without The University of New Orleans?

Paul Thomas Bole, University of New Orleans

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By: Tom Bole
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New Orleans is said to be one of the most unique cities in the United States. Her rich European and American history and culture combine with a troubled past and peppered with natural disasters makes New Orleans a magical and charming place for her residents and cadres of visitors. Nevertheless, New Orleans is not always thought of as a college town. New Orleans seems to be more famous for the local music, food, and culture, which when combined is found no place else on Earth. Despite her many extraordinary distractions, New Orleans does play host to one outstanding public institution of higher learning, known today as The University of New Orleans (UNO). Today UNO is seen as a local economic powerhouse. It’s a driving force that continues to benefit and support the city of New Orleans and the surrounding areas.

UNO has a rich 50 year history of providing area residents (and visitors) a top-notch education at very reasonable rates. UNO was privileged to be one of the first to racially desegregate public higher education in the deep-south region. This meant that when UNO opened its doors in 1950, anyone with proper academic credentials could enroll at UNO-- AND ENROLL THEY DID! Because of those early [and continued] victories against racial discrimination and other reasons, UNO is held in high regard by nearly all area residents.

Another one of UNO’s many significant accomplishments is its history of building the region’s middle-class. This has the obvious advantage of providing the area with an educated work-force that has resulted in a stronger community. For instance, UNO alumni can be found throughout the community now serving as highly qualified teachers, entrepreneurs, and other professionals necessary for growing and sustaining any major metropolitan community.

UNO has always enjoyed a strong academic reputation. This is true because the university recruits outstanding faculty from around the world. Local residents frequently comment that UNO is more rigorous than some of the area’s private institutions where many of the area’s wealthier residents had historically enrolled.

Notwithstanding its well respected and rigorous reputation, UNO is not always a local’s first choice for getting a university education. Fortunately for our local community, we are blessed that many of these students frequently come back home to UNO. Whether students choose UNO as their first choice or come
back home as a transfer student, UNO continues to be many students' best hope and dream to earn a
rigorous and affordable university degree.

The point is UNO is a major urban research university with a 50 year history of educating a
tremendous number of New Orleans and surrounding area residents. Many alumni remain in New Orleans
and are slowly transforming the area into an educated community, which has had a huge impact on
building the local middle-class. UNO certainly has many other feathers in its cap. But the question is:
Where would New Orleans be without UNO?