

## Hard to say goodbye

May 12, 2016 8:45 AM Alicia Duplessis Jasmin  
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[Earl Retif](#) began his career at Tulane University in July 1976 as university registrar with tasks that included keeping student records and overseeing the admission process. During his 40-year career, he eventually became the vice president for enrollment management and was instrumental in increasing the student population in the years following Hurricane Katrina. But increasing the quantity of students wasn't the only goal Retif sought to meet, he has since attracted the best and the brightest to Tulane making post-Katrina classes among the strongest academically in the university's history. On his watch, Tulane also rose to No. 41 in the *U.S. News* rankings of [Best National Universities](#).

In this infographic by Tracey Bellina-Milazzo, students share how Earl Retif has affected their Tulane experience. Retif retires on May 13.

# PRAISE FOR EARL RETIF

## VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

"The culture on the Tulane campus would not be the same without Earl. His kind, yet witty, guidance is often sought by students and his door is always open to us."

—Trey Holmes, PHTM '16,  
beginning graduate school at the  
Tulane School of Public Health this fall

**HE HAS SENT  
OVER 118,000  
TULANE  
GRADUATES  
OUT INTO  
THE WORLD.**

"I will be forever indebted to his ceaseless willingness to listen, offer advice, and to challenge my ideas."

—Sean Saxton, SSE '15,  
currently living in Madrid, Spain

"The office of admissions runs with an efficiency and cohesiveness that every other department on campus envies because of Earl's approachability. He is the reason that Tulane has amassed such an amazing student body."

—Adam Kline, PHTM '16, student worker in admissions office

**HE'S  
BROUGHT  
16,103  
NEW  
FRESHMEN  
TO TULANE IN  
10 YEARS.**



"Earl's signature was on my acceptance letter and he always encouraged me to become a Green Wave Ambassador. He cares about the student experience, which in turn makes students care even more about the Tulane experience." —Samantha Gould, PHTM '14, '16

**OVER ONE MILLION TULANE  
TRANSCRIPTS BEAR  
EARL'S SIGNATURE.**

"Though eternally humble and 'wizard behind the curtain'-esque, Earl has meticulously shaped the essence of the Tulane student body over his years of service."

—Madeline Ross, PHTM '13, current  
student at Georgetown School of Medicine

"Earl is a jack-of-all-trades and a master of all of them. He is an indelible part of my memories at Tulane."

—Jonathan Chawla, SLA '13, SSE '13,  
current student at LSU Medical School