

University Neighborhood Hit by Storm

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Residents in neighborhoods close to Tulane University woke up early Tuesday morning (Feb. 13) to the harrowing sound similar to a freight train as a tornado associated with a line of thunderstorms moved across the city.

The twister skipped across the area causing widespread pockets of damage from Westwego in Jefferson Parish to the Carrollton area of Uptown and into the Gentilly neighborhood, leaving about 20,000 people without power.

Tulane's uptown campus was left unharmed by the storm but several houses on nearby Burdette Street sustained heavy damage, as did residential and commercial locations throughout the Carrollton area.

Tulane opened for morning classes on Tuesday but was forced to cancel classes on its uptown campus due to a mid-morning power outage.

Administrative offices remained open and power was restored to campus at noon. The Tulane Law School remained in session throughout the day, as did the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and the School of Medicine. The university resumed all classes today (Feb. 14).

According to Sylvester Johnson, associate vice president for facilities, Tulane is powered by two substations in the Entergy New Orleans power grid. Although one substation was put out of commission by the storm, the university was able to run on the remaining substation, says Johnson.

That substation, however, went out at approximately 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and did not go back on-line until noon. A co-generating power plant that can provide power to the uptown campus during an emergency was off-line due to maintenance.

According to Philip Allison, special assistant to the vice president of student affairs, the university has made arrangements to accommodate students temporarily displaced from their residences due to storm damage or power outages. Counselors in the Educational Resource and Counseling Center are also available to talk to students in the wake of the storm.

Allison can be reached at 504-314-2193 or via email, palliso@tulane.edu. Up-to-the-minute information regarding any weather or other emergency affecting the Tulane campus is available by calling the Tulane AlertLine, 504-862-8080, or checking the Tulane [emergency website](#).



Students enjoy a pleasant afternoon after classes are canceled. (Photo by Nick Marinello)