## Rt. 66 University

http://www.route66university.com/index.php

Welcome to the Rt. 66 University home page. This online institution of higher learning is destined to become the <u>premier</u> (top, first) source of online information for America's most famous highway, variously called the Mother Road, Main Street of America, Route 66 and U.S. 66.

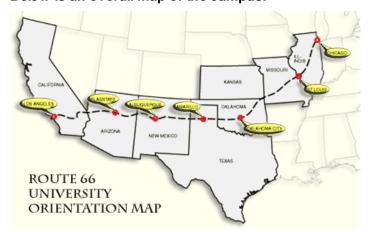
Generations of travelers have experienced Rt. 66 first-hand, and many more today are seeking her out. Whether you are making plans to motor along the Mother Road personally, or you're an <u>armchair adventurer</u> who wants to do some research from your home or office, Rt. 66 University is the source for you.

## **Our Campus**

The campus of Rt. 66 University is unique in the world. Spanning more than two thousand miles in length, from downtown Chicago, Illinois, to the Pacific coast at Santa Monica, California, our campus is more extensive and diverse than any other. Similarly, the life experiences available to the student of Rt. 66 are also of unparalleled diversity and scope.

## Campus Map

Below is an overall map of the campus.



To see individual locations or a larger version, go to this website and click

"maps" (left side of page). http://www.route66university.com/campus.php

## Student Body

The University's <u>student body</u> (all the students) is made up of thousands of individuals worldwide who make Rt. 66 the most studied highway of modern times. A great many of our students live overseas, and pursue their studies via the world wide web. *All* students, however, are strongly encouraged to visit and explore our campus as frequently and as extensively as practical. Only by

doing so will the student be likely to grasp the full mystery and magic of the Mother Road.

(from: Discovering the 66th Dimension by Drew Knowles (edited by Collins))

And suddenly, we were travelers on the fabled road! Caught up in the excitement, we instinctively decided to <u>partake of</u> (experience) a Rt. 66 tradition – an <u>overnighter</u> (staying overnight) in Tucumcari.

When we finally arrived, we were witness to the fact that time does indeed move more slowly along Rt. 66. We entered the town like visitors from another planet – pulses throbbing, pupils dilated, and our throats dry as dust. All around were signs that we had entered another dimension, or perhaps had slipped into (entered) a dream state.

At that moment we felt like explorers who had discovered a new continent; or, perhaps more accurately, it was as though we wee re-discovering something long lost – something no less significant than the (lost) continent of Atlantis. True, we were not the first to make this discovery; and, too, there were folks – like those living in Tucumcari – who had never even lost it. But for each of us who makes the pilgrimage to Route 66, planned or not, there is that very *personal* moment, after which we may never be quite the same.

Leaving the motel the next morning, I felt like Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* stepping out of her tornado re-located house into an unknown world. <u>"We're definitely not in Kansas"</u> (we are in somewhere that we do not recognize...new...strange...wonderful). If anything, Route 66 is even more highly-charged when seen by the light of day.

Leaving Tucumcari, we re-joined I-40 (Interstate highway 40). We <u>hurtled through space</u> (traveled fast) on the <u>superslab</u> (super highway, Interstate). We wondered "does anyone else know what we now know? How long has this been going on? How many other towns are there like Tucumcari? Do those other towns have that same <u>electricity in the air</u> (excitement)? How soon can we make another trip out here? And, are we really supposed to act "normal" when we get back to <u>The Real World</u>? (regular life)

When we got to our new home in our new town, we got busy with our new jobs and house, and kept <u>outting off</u> (delaying) going back out on "the road".

Still, though, I knew that what I'd seen and felt was too important to be ignored for long. I needed to return. As if to remind me, I found myself in a bookstore later that year and picked up several Rt. 66 books. One book was "Route 66, The Mother Road, 66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, by Michael Wallis.

Hallelujah, we are not alone!