As part of its national accreditation process, NSU has developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that focuses exclusively on student success in academic pursuits as well as career planning.

Beginning with the Fall 2008 semester, first-time freshman will receive strong academic and career counseling as part of the collegiate experience.

"Many of our students don’t know why they are in their majors. They are not taking advantage of academic and career advising and it reflects in retention," said Dr. Tom Hanson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Academic and Career Engagement, or ACE, will be an improved way to enhance student learning and academic achievement as well as provide students with knowledge about the career fields they are preparing to enter. The advising and counseling initiatives are intended to put students on an academic track aligned with their interests and goals while exploring field-specific information and resources.

Heretofore, students who registered for classes on the Web never saw their advisors until a problem arose, such as scheduling. Often a student will complete several academic years before they realize they are not suited for a career in their major. The ACE program will comprise not only advising, but also getting the students focused on career goals as freshmen.

"Through ACE, students can identify their area of interest, then work with an advisor to create a career map. The goal is to increase the student's knowledge of the career before the student chooses a degree plan," said Dr. Patrice Moulton, vice president for Student Affairs.

"The key adjective is ‘developmental’ advising. It is different from registration advising,” said Jennifer Videtto, director of Institutional Research. “It will be proactive and considered an extension of teaching. The advisors will be reaching out.”
People...Continued from Page 1

by the AECT, Association for Educational Communications and Technology.

A reception honoring Dr. Holly Stave, associate professor of English in the Louisiana Scholars’ College, was held in recognition of Dr. Stave, who edited and wrote the introduction and a chapter for “Toni Morrison and the Bible: Contested Intertextualities,” published in 2006 by Peter Lang Publishers. Dr. Stave’s chapter is entitled “The Master’s Tools: Morrison’s Paradise and the Problem of Christianity.” The reception was held Nov. 16.

Dr. Christine Ford, professor of language and communications, and her sister, Pauline Perry, attended the South Central Modern Language Association Conference held at the Renaissance Hotel in Dallas, Texas, Oct. 26-28. Dr. Ford and her sister were co-presenters on the Freshman Composition Panel, the only session on composition included in the conference. The title of their presentation was “Sense and Sensibility: Both for the Price of One,” an account of their team-teaching experience at the Nursing Education Center in Shreveport.

Dr. Juliette Delabbio, director of the NSU Aquaculture Research Center, was an invited speaker at a National Meeting of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Scientists in Salt Lake City, Utah, in early October. She gave a talk on farm management and farm biosecurity.

Matthew DeFord, assistant professor of sculpture, will present an exhibit of works at the Morrison Institute of the Arts beginning Feb. 2. A reception will be held to mark the opening. For more information, visit www.morrisonarts.org.

Kari Cook, faculty member for the Rad Tech Program on the Alexandria Campus, has completed all requirements for her masters degree in Rad Tech Science Education and now joins the rank of her coworkers, all of whom hold a masters degree or higher. Kari will graduate this December from Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas.

This degree places NSU Bachelors of Science in Radiologic Technology Program among an elite and limited list of programs across the United States in which all faculty currently teaching in the program hold the highest degree in the radiologic technology profession. Faculty included are Kelli Haynes, MSRS; Rebecca Britt, MSRS; Tammy Curtis, MSRS; Kendall DeLacerda, MSRS; Carla Walker, MSRS, and Dr. Laura Aaron, Ph.D.

Cara Parsons Leggett and Dr. Michelle Fazio-Brunson in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences will have two articles published in Collaborations, a peer-reviewed publication of the Louisiana Early Childhood Association. The first is “Communicating with Parents in Infant/Toddler Programs: Strategies for Enhancing Parental Involvement.”

The second article, “Multiple Intelligences, Louisiana’s Early Learning Guidelines, and Children’s Literature: Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Toddlers” was written by Dr. Michelle Fazio-Brunson, Cara Parsons Leggett, and Cara M. Bertucci, also in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.


Dr. McClain also organized the 86th Anniversary Meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South—Southern Section, Nov. 1-4 in Memphis, Tenn. This meeting brings together K-12 and college/university faculty, as well as undergraduate and graduate students, who are interested in and who teach subjects related to ancient Greece and Rome.

Dr. McClain has also been invited to be the respondent to “Classica Africana V: Classicism and Anti-Classicism among Late-Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth Century African American Intellectuals” at the 138th Annual Meeting of the American Philological Association (APA), Jan. 4-7, 2007. She will present, with Nicolas K. Rauh, Purdue University, Prostitution in the Greco-Roman Maritime.
People...Continued from Page 2

Landscapes” as part of a panel on “The Hellenic Brothel as Space, Place and Idea” at the Archaeological Institute of America’s joint meeting with the APA.

Dr. Julie Kane, associate professor of language and communications, moderated and participated in a panel discussion at the Louisiana Festival of the Book. The topic was a New Orleans poet, Everette Maddox, Dr. Kane has just co-edited “Umpteen Ways of Looking at a Possum” with Dr. Grace Bauer which is a collection of Maddox’s work with tributes from his friends and peers. Dr. Kane’s panel was very well attended.

Dr. Lisa Abney, Dr. Allen Bauman, Lisa Rougeau, and Sheila Richmond represented NSU Writing Project, the Department of Language and Communication, and the Louisiana Folklife Center at the Louisiana Book Festival in Baton Rouge on Oct. 28. Ryan Reid, Robert Tummons, Aubry Landry, Graham Harvey, Jessica Folse, Jenna Portier, Rima Krausauskyte, Catashia Williams, and Jayme Bunch aided in creating the displays and activities and hosting the tables during the event.

Dr. Kioh Kim, at the College of Education, presented a research paper, “Role of Technology Integration Course on Pre-service Teacher’s Intent to Use Technology” at the Association for Educational Communications & Technology conference in Dallas, Texas, Oct. 10-14. This paper presents the results of a study to explore preservice teachers’ progress of their intent to use computer-based technology by taking educational technology integration course which mirrors the General Preparation of International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) profiles. He also presented “Using Unique Visuals as a Means of Marketing Early to Mid 20th Century Farm Tractors” with Dr. Aagard and Dr. Nabb of the University of Wyoming at the International Visual Literacy Association (IVLA) conference held in Fort Worth, Texas, Oct. 6-10. Dr. Kim is going to present “Pocket PC as Teaching Management Tool” at the Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators (LACUE) conference in Baton Rouge, Nov. 29 – Dec. 1, with Dr. Ron McBride, Dr. Karen McFerrin, and Dr. Sanghoon Park at the NSU College of Education.

Dr. J. Mark Thompson, professor of music, performed bass trombone with the IAJE Jazz Ensemble Session under the direction of Dean Sorenson on Nov. 19. He also presented a clinic entitled "Building Better Bass Trombone Players" on Nov. 20, during the 2006 Louisiana Music Educators Association Conference in Baton Rouge.

Native American basketry and crafts will be highlights of annual Anthropological Society craft sale

The Northwestern State University Anthropological Society will sponsor the 32nd Annual Native American Crafts Day Saturday, Dec. 2. The event will be held from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in the Williamson Museum in Kyser Hall on the NSU campus in Natchitoches. Admission is free and open to the public.

Native Americans from Louisiana tribes will demonstrate and sell various arts and crafts. The Crafts Day is held each year on the same day as the Natchitoches Christmas Festival. Traditionally, artists and craftspeople from the Coushatta, Chitimacha, Tunica-Biloxi, Choctaw and Appalachee tribal communities attend the event.

Baskets, beadwork, metal jewelry, woodcarvings and other Native American arts will be available for sale.
Faculty and staff from the Shreveport campus attended a recent Quarterback Club luncheon. From left are Jeremy Davis, Dr. Ray Kumar, Kim French and Dr. Webb.

Dr. Lawrence Davis, Dr. Ray Kumar, Dr. Randy Webb and Bob Griffin of KSLA Sports were among the guests at the Shreveport Quarterback Club lunch.

Shirley Cashio, Diane Webb, Brenda Webb and Debbie Moore talked with Dr. Webb during the Shreveport event.

**ACE...Continued from Page 1**

Other committee members are Dr. Steve Horton, dean of Research and Graduate Studies; Roni Ramirez, coordinator of assessment, and Larry Monk, Leesville/Fort Polk director.

ACE is directed to entering freshmen, and will be embedded in Orientation 1010, but advising will flow with the students for four years. Not only will the program help students identify how they learn best, but also provide resources to explore their career path. For instance, a student interested in landscape design may find a student job with the grounds crew. The program will cross into student life and academic life and the committee expects higher retention to be an indicator and bi-product of student success.

According to Hansen, there will also be rewards attached to advising, such as release time. The ultimate goal is to make sure incoming freshmen get strong advising and career counseling early to insure a more successful academic career and better preparation for the work force.

Following a summer QEP meeting, the ACE committee drafted a document outlining the ACE plan that will be on-line in the spring.

**Misty LaCour**, assistant director of recruiting for Graduate and Adult Studies, announces several upcoming events.

**January 26, 2007**

**Clinical Psychology Graduate Program Reception**

This reception is for anyone interested in the Clinical Psych grad program. The day will include an admissions session, tour of campus & downtown, presentations by faculty, and Clinical Psych program experiences.

**January 26, 2007**

**FREE Practice GRE Exam**

The practice exam is administered and scored by Kaplan.

**January 27, 2007**

**Heritage Resources Graduate Program Reception**

This reception is for anyone interested in the Heritage Resources grad program. The day will include admissions session, tour of campus & historical sites in Natchitoches, presentations by faculty, and Heritage Resources program experiences.

To RSVP for any of these events, contact Misty LaCour at lacourm@nsula.edu or 318-357-6000.
Civil rights conference recognized for excellence

A recent civil rights conference held at Northwestern State University was honored at the annual meeting of the Southern Consortium of the American Democracy Project held in at Morehead State University in Morehead, Ky.

The conference, “Pathways to Empowerment,” was awarded second place in the co-curricular competition. The conference also received second place in the same category last year.

“Those who judged the competition were impressed by the involvement of so many organizations in the Civil Rights Conference,” said Dr. Greg Granger, director of the School of Social Sciences at NSU, who also represented the University of Louisiana System at the meeting. “The university was able to work with other governmental agencies, local businesses and non-profit groups to develop a conference that will have a long-lasting impact in the community.”

The conference was co-sponsored by the Northwestern State University School of Social Sciences as part of the American Democracy Project, the NSU Office of Cultural Diversity, the Northwestern Student Government Association and The Real Views.

 Panels discussed entrepreneurship and business development, healthcare, solutions to poverty, overcoming disabilities and the STEP Program as well as civic engagement and education.

 The conference was co-chaired by Professor of Political Science Dr. Alex Aichinger and Stacy Fontenot, project coordinator for the School of Social Sciences.

 In conjunction with the conference, an art show created by individuals from Pinecrest Developmental Center, “Internal Expression-Connecting People through Art,” was displayed in NSU’s Watson Library. Several Northwestern students also wrote poetry to compliment the works in the show.

 The University of Louisiana System won first place in the Institutional category for its Xtreme Spring Break project in which students from UL System institutions volunteered to assist hurricane victims in south Louisiana.

 “The University of Louisiana System was well represented, which shows the commitment each university has to service learning,” said Granger.

 According to Granger, who oversees service learning and civic engagement activities at Northwestern, a campus survey is underway to determine what service activities are being done by student organizations at NSU. Once the survey is complete, faculty, staff and additional students will be surveyed to develop a complete database of service activities.

 “Service learning is a high priority at Northwestern,” said Granger. “Our students are willing to get involved in their community and all areas of the university are working together to gain the most possible benefit.”

 American Democracy Project South covers 13 states and was the first ADP regional organization.

 For more information, go to www.adpsouth.org.

Sympathy

A donation from the NSU Floral Fund was made to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Carolyn Annette Kelly, daughter of Jennifer Kelly, director of Auxiliary Services.

Jennifer and Keenan express their appreciation to the numerous NSU faculty and staff members who have offered their love, support and assistance over the past few weeks. The scholarship fund was established through the NSU Foundation. Contributions to the scholarship fund may be directed to the Northwestern State University Foundation, Alumni Office, Natchitoches, Louisiana 71497.

Ms. Edith Garcia, mother of Social Sciences administrative assistant Janet Broadway, passed away Sunday, Nov. 26. Services were held at the First Baptist Church of Provencal on Nov. 29.
CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Paul Nagel, College of Education, received notification of a $49,950 award from the Louisiana Geography Education Alliance for “Expanding Horizons: Increasing Geographic Knowledge.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Juliette Delabbio, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science & Technology, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Board of Regents, Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS) for “The effects of added horizontal substrate on production of red swamp crawfish.”

Dr. Lisa Abney, Department of Language and Communication, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Board of Regents, Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS) for “Improving Oral and Written Communication Skills in Louisiana’s Workforce.”

Dr. Patrice Moulton, Vice President of Student Affairs, submitted a proposal to the University of Louisiana System Serves Grant for “Can you Handle It?: NSU Service Week?” Patric Dubois is collaborator.

For more information regarding funding opportunities, visit ORSP’s website at www.nsula.edu/orsp.

Mark Your Calendars!

Northwestern’s 20th Annual Research Day is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2007.

Watch for future announcements on location and deadlines!

ACS students participate in Kids and Chemistry outreach

The American Chemical Society Students Affiliates at NSU, under the direction of faculty advisor Dr. Gillian Rudd, hosted 120 students in fifth through eighth grade from the Natchitoches Magnet School in participating in the “Kids and Chemistry” outreach. The students performed demonstrations and hands-on chemistry projects as part of National Chemistry Week.

Experiments ranged from gushing fountains of diet Pepsi with Mentos, dancing spaghetti, elephant toothpaste, exploding volcanoes, cats meow, methanol bomb and “ooey gooey gloop.”

Give someone you love the gift of health this holiday season

The NSU WRAC Fitness Assessment Lab is offering fitness assessments, personal training packages, metabolic profiles, blood lipid profiles and body composition at varying prices. Consider giving a loved one the gift of fitness and good health to start the new year off right.

For more information on gift certificates, call 357-5428 or 357-5269.
Pennington creates award-winning sculpture

Lt. Col. Lee Pennington, professor of Military Science and Battalion Commander at Northwestern State University, received first place for three-dimensional mixed media in the annual 2006 All Army Fine Arts Contest.

LTC Pennington specializes in classical stoneware busts which he sculpts by hand. The winning sculpture, Colonel Edmund Rucker, is on display at the United States Army Aviation Museum in Fort Rucker, Ala. Fort Rucker, known as the “Home of Army Aviation,” was named after Col. Rucker.

Colonel Edmund Rucker is on permanent loan and is one of two Pennington pieces in the museum. The second piece will be unveiled in the museum this winter. It was created on request of Museum Director Steve Maxham to commemorate fallen aviators in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Before moving to Natchitoches, Pennington was self-taught and had no formal training. He enrolled in art classes at NSU this fall and is studying under the direction of Matt DeFord, assistant professor of sculpture.

“I am excited to be at NSU and am very happy to be learning from a pro,” Pennington said.

“Lee has great talent. He is driven and loves to excel,” DeFord said. “He also has a great deal of patience. He is like a sponge when it comes to learning. I enjoy working with him.”

Pennington’s work is detailed and emotional, and each piece takes him approximately 40 hours to complete.

“I’ve always liked working with my hands. When I started sculpting five years ago people kept telling me God gave me a natural talent. I was drawn to it the day I tried it,” he said. “I only sculpt in my spare time, so hopefully I’ll get faster when I can sculpt full time.”

Most important in his work he said is “an excellent likeness of the subject is important but more than that, my goal is to capture a person’s unique personality in each piece.”

This is the second consecutive year Pennington has received honors in the All Army Fine Arts Contest. Of 306 entries in 2005, he placed first in the three-dimensional category with Beauty, a sculpture study of his wife, Kat.

Lecture planned on Greek Athletes and Roman Gladiators

The Scholars’ College will host a lecture at 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1 as part of its Text and Traditions I class. The lecture, entitled “Greek Athletes and Roman Gladiators,” will be presented by Hugh Lee, associate professor of Classics at University of Maryland and chair of the Department of Classics at UM.

The lecture will be take place in the Faculty/Student Lounge at Watson Library. The lecture is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Jean D’Amato at 3577-4539.
NSU ROTC will offer community Ropes Course

The Space Science Group has donated Ropes Course materials to NSU’s ROTC department. Ropes courses are used to promote leadership and team-building skills as well as personal confidence. There will be a low course and a high course, each divided into several obstacles.

The Ropes Courses will be under the direction of NSU SFC Ray Lear.

“After the physical structure is completed, an instructor training team from North Carolina will conduct Course certification to qualified staff of the ROTC Battalion. This extensive training will be in accordance and conjunction with the Fort Polk Safety Office,” explained Lear.

According to LTC Lee Pennington, ROTC Battalion Commander and Professor of Military Science, “It is a terrific program in and of itself, but will also have a side benefit of greater exposure for the university. It gives high school students the opportunity to visit campus for a stimulating experience. We appreciate being given this opportunity by the Space Science Group.”

The ROTC program will offer Ropes Course Training to various groups on campus as well as community organizations, businesses and educational institutions in Natchitoches and surrounding areas. Course sessions are projected to begin during the spring semester.

### 2006-07 Demon Basketball Home Games

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### Lady Demon Basketball Home Games

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