University College marks decade of serving student needs

Northwestern’s University College is celebrating its 10th anniversary this month. The college, which encompasses not only the associate and bachelor of General Studies degree programs, but also Student Support Services, Disability Services, Academic Advising, and Campus-Wide Tutoring, was formed in 1997 to help students become acclimated to college life. The University College is an important component of NSU’s quest to become a student-centered school.

“The most important component at the time were the General Studies degree programs,” said Dr. Sue Weaver, dean of University College. “General Studies offers two and four-year degree programs with several different concentrations. Over the past 10 years, General Studies has always been in the top two or three in terms of numbers of graduates, after nursing.”

For several years, General Studies brought in students in need of developmental coursework in one or more subjects through the Excel program. After a self-study in 2000, the program became more rigorous by requiring a minor and six hours of a foreign language. One example of growth is the Criminal Justice program, which began as a General Studies concentration and eventually became its own program.

Some highlights that have taken place within the college in the last decade include the development of a faculty advisor training program and an advising handbook for faculty, the Academic Advising Council and the Faculty Advisor of the Year award. Advisors are Don Barker, Steven Gruesbeck, Steve Hicks and Terence Vinson, who all oversee different programs within the University College.

As the university’s focus turned to retention, the academic advising component of University College has grown. The College has overseen the training of faculty from other departments on advising techniques as well as retention programs that include the Fourth-Week Grade Report, an early warning system for academic intervention; Summer Bridge, an orientation program for first-year students; Majors Fair; PASS Program; and Tutoring.

“The QEP is now focused on faculty academic advising with the ACE plan, an outgrowth of Dean’s Select Advisor program,” Weaver said. “It’s grown beyond the University College and now is the plan for the future.”

Student Support Services is an off-shoot of Academic Advising and places an emphasis on high academic achievement for students who are first generation college students, high risk, low income or disabled.

“There is a thin line of definition between an academic service and a student service,” according to Barker, Student Support Services director. “Students who

See University College Page 3
Broussard presents research to AERA

Recently having successfully completed his defense of his doctoral dissertation at the University of Arizona, Assistant Athletics Director for External Relations Dr. William Broussard presented in two paper sessions at the 2007 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting in Chicago April 8-10.

AERA is “a national research society, (that) strives to advance knowledge about education, to encourage scholarly inquiry related to education, and to promote the use of research to improve education and serve the public good,” according to the AERA Home Page. The conference hosts approximately 10,000 higher ed faculty, administrators, and graduate students presenting papers on various higher education topics including higher education policies and practices as well as pedagogical approaches for working with students from diverse learning and cultural backgrounds.

Broussard presented April 8 on a panel entitled “Research on the ‘Front Porch’ - Research and Inquiry on American Intercollegiate Athletics” with representatives from the University of Washington and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He presented a talk entitled “A Rhetoric of Resistance - The Lack of Sport Culture Scholarship in Rhetoric and Composition.”

On April 9, Broussard presented during a panel sponsored by the AERA Special Interest Group on Education and Sport. He presented a paper entitled “Redressing the Education of Student-Athletes: The University Writing Program as a Locus of Student-Athlete Advocacy.” The paper was about the role that university writing program professionals have played in NCAA reform in the past two decades. The panel had approximately 75 attendees and other presenters from University of Central Florida, Loyola Marymount, Asuza Pacific, University of Miami, and Indiana University.

Best of luck to university retirees

Northwestern recognizes faculty and staff who have retired in the last year and wish them good luck.

Walter Askew, University Police
Nancy Beard, College of Nursing
Delbert Broadway, Physical Plant
Beth Carter, College of Business
Fred Clark, College of Business
James Michael Collins, Athletics
John Dilworth, University Affairs
Christine Ford, Language and Communications
Bob Gillan, College of Education
Joann Himaya, College of Nursing

Leo Johnson, Physical Plant
Louise Martin, President’s Office
Dootsie McNeely, Journalism
Louis Price, Print Shop
Ualeta Singh, College of Nursing
Jerry Smith, Grounds
Dee Ann Willis, College of Education
Ed Winn, Custodial
Alvin Young, Custodial
University College...Continued from Page 1

sought aid from SSS have come from every major that NSU offers. When we moved, we decided to place greater emphasis on high academic achievement. Some of our graduates have gone on to graduate from law school. Last year, a student was accepted to medical school.” SSS helped about 360 students last year.

Under Gruesbeck, Northwestern’s tutoring programs have been extremely successful. More than 600 students visited the Academic Center one or more times during the 2006-07 academic year.

“Many come to Kyser during the day, but we have an increasing number of students coming to three satellite locations at the WRAC, the Health and Human Performance building and Boozman Hall,” he said. During the summer, the library is also a satellite location. “We have had great response by adding the evening hours.”

Peer tutors complete a CRLA-Certified comprehensive tutor training program and work 12-15 hours per week with individuals and groups of three to eight students at a time. Tutoring is available for over 100 classes in the Arts and Sciences. All students are welcome to participate.

Vinson is in charge of Summer Bridge, the transition program that at one time was primarily for developmental students. With the implementation of higher admissions standards, however, this year’s Summer Bridge students are learning about programs, services and administration.

“This summer, there are 30 students and the numbers are still growing,” Vinson said. “Summer Bridge covers the adjustment to college, maximizing the college education, goals, technology in-service, study strategies, transition strategies, note-taking, polices, campus resources, career exploration, advising and registration procedures.”

Positive aspects of Summer Bridge are removing the stigma about tutoring for students attending summer school and teaching the student to be as proactive as possible, Vinson said.

Hicks serves as coordinator of Disability Services and works as a liaison between the student and the university to make sure students have equal access to programs and services. He facilitates academic and physical accommodations for students with disabilities. Some accommodations include, but are not limited to testing administration, priority-registration, assistance with accessibility issues, such as campus transportation, parking concerns, etc.

“A lot of progress has been made in the last 10 years. Significant renovations to buildings have solved many accessibility problems. We try to work with students based on needs, which might include specific technology or software, depending on their disability,” Hicks said. “We have very accommodating faculty and staff who work with students with a variety of disabilities.”

University College also developed the Program for Academic Student Success (PASS) for students who were suspended and allowed to come back on certain conditions. Students are expected to participate in study hall and comprehensive advising. In order to remain enrolled at Northwestern, PASS students must earn an acceptable GPA by the end of the semester.

Through funding from the US Department of Education, the University College has been active in training personnel from community colleges in advising techniques. “Don won a grant to take what we are doing and help community colleges be good advisors,” Weaver said. “BPCC was one of the first partners and it cemented our relationship with community colleges who now send their students to us.”

In order to evaluate students in General Studies, five years ago the University College developed Prior Learning Assessment which is the forerunner of Continuum for All Louisiana Learners (CALL).

“Because NSU’s Prior Learning Assessment is approved by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, it will be respected,” Weaver said. “This is a big step for a university to take. It is a forward-thinking approach to learning.

These approaches help a program grow not only campus-wide, but area-wide, Weaver said.

“Success is when a program grows beyond its bounds and is then taken to a new level,” Weaver said. “A university that takes an approaching to retention needs a university college.”
required to keep current with the professional standards and best practices of the Archive profession.

On June 20, Wernet participated in the Louisiana’s Secretary of State, Old State Capital teacher workshop in Baton Rouge entitled “Music, Murals, and More: The Works Progress Administration in Louisiana.” The workshop was sponsored by Louisiana Gumbo: A Recipe for Empowerment Project and funded by a grant from the institute for Museum and Library Services and was attended by teachers participating in the teaching American History Grant. Wernet presented two sessions on history of the “The Federal Writers’ Project in Louisiana.” During the session, she informed the teachers of secondary and primary resources available to them in the libraries, archive and manuscript collections across the state, provided them with detailed information on the Federal Writers’ Project Collection that the Cammie G. Henry Research Center holds, and allowed them to read narrative samplings from the CGHRC collection.

Wm. Perry Morgan, director of Musical Theatre studies at NSU, is spending his summer at the Texas Shakespeare Festival in residence at Kilgore College. Professor Morgan is directing the play “The Blue Horse” and is serving as musical director/conductor for “Man of La Mancha.” Both shows play throughout the month of July running in rotating repertory with “Amadeus, “Othello” and “Much Ado About Nothing.” Perry is just two hours from Natchitoches.

Go to www.TexasShakespear.com for the performance schedule, reservation information and more information.

**Dr. Matthew Boggan** was accepted to present at the ED-MEDIA World Conference on Educational Media June 27-29 in Vancouver, Canada. Boggan presented a poster presentation on,“A Rural Principal’s Best Friend: Virtual High School & Compressed Video Classes (Administrative & Student Opinions at a Mississippi Rural High School).” The presentation covered Boggan’s three years as administrative principal of Weir Attendance Center in Weir, Miss., (prior to coming to NSU) and how Virtual High School and Compressed Video offerings assisted him in offering Carnegie units to high school students and in the creation of the annual master class schedule.

An article by assistant professor of music theory and low strings **Paul Christopher,** "The Cello Duos of Jacques Offenbach: Cours de Methodique de Duos pour Deux Violoncelles, Opus 49-54,” was published in the May 2007 issue of the American String Teacher. An additional article entitled “Offenbach: Reminiscences a “Robert le Diable” de Giacomo Meyerbeer for cello sextet. The recordings of the Opus 52, #1 duo and the cello sextet are world premiere recordings.

This summer Paul is performing as principal cello of the Des Moines Metro Opera in Indianola, Ia. The Des Moines Metro Opera is one of the most prestigious and longest running summer opera companies in the United States. In August he will be returning to Jacksonville, Ore., for his 16th season as assistant principal cello with the Peter Britt Festival Orchestra. The Peter Britt Festival is the oldest music festival in Oregon and features the finest soloists in classical music including Andre Watts, Lynn Harrell and Pinchas Zuckerman

**Dr. Sanghoon Park,** assistant professor of Educational Technology in the College of Education served as a conference coordinator for 2007 ASTD (American Society for Training & Development) International conference and Expo in Atlanta, June 2-6 on behalf of Korean Banking Institute. He led delegation of 9 Korean domestic Banks and delivered two presentations regarding the current trends and issues in workplace learning including HPT (Human Performance Technology) and ROI (Return on Investment) cases.
CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Steven Gabrey, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, received notification of an award from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for “A Biotic Inventory of Louisiana Spiders.”

Dr. Tommy Hailey, School of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $80,781 from the Louisiana Army National Guard for the continuation of the “Update to the Louisiana Army National Guard ICRMP, Camp Beauregard, Pineville, LA.”

Mrs. Janet Colson, School of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of two awards from the Cane River National Heritage Area. One for $13,899 for “Acquisition of Sister Frances Jerome Woods Collection,” and one for $12,000 for “Detailed Index and Accessibility—Phase II: Natchitoches Parish Clerk of Court.”

Dr. H.P. Gregory, School of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $1,000 from the Cane River National Heritage Area for “50th Annual Caddo Conference.”

Dr. Dayna Bowker Lee, Louisiana Regional Folklife Program, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of two awards from the Cane River National Heritage Area. One for $3,000 for “Southeastern Indian Basketry Database,” and one for $6,200 for “Founding French Families of Natchitoches.”

Ms. Sheila Richmond, Louisiana Folk Life Center, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $500 from the Natchitoches Area Convention Center for “Advertising for the 2007 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival.”

Ms. Maxine Johnson, College of Nursing, received notification of three renewal awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration for the following: “Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students-Baccalaureate”- $91,637; “Associate”- $18,327; “Rad Tech”- $98,999.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Ms. Julie Longlois, Carl Perkins Program Coordinator, submitted a continuation proposal to the Louisiana Community & Technical College System, for “Local Application Plan.”

Dr. Paul Nagel, College of Education, submitted a proposal to the National Geographic Education Foundation for “Endangered Geography: Saving our Curriculum and the Environment.”

Ms. Patty Varnado, Space Science Group, College of Science and Technology, submitted a proposal to the Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation for “The Space Science Group Science Laboratory and Teacher Training Center.”

Ms. Sheila Richmond, Louisiana Folk Life Center, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to the Shreveport Regional Arts Foundation for “2008 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival.”

Dr. Roger Chandler, School of Creative and Performing Arts, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to the Shreveport Regional Arts Foundation for “Natchitoches Iron Pour Project.” Ms. Leslie Gruesbeck is collaborator.

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

NSU Enrichment Fund (NEF)
Internal Grants Program Round 1 AY 2007-08

DEADLINE
September 17, 2007
NEF Professional Development Applications
and
NEF Undergraduate Student Research Applications

Birth Announcements

The Fine and Graphic Arts department is pleased to announce that Sandy Barthelemy, administrative assistant, has given birth to a son, Drew Dillon. He was born on Friday, June 15 and weighed in at 8 pounds 6 ounces. He measured 20-1/2 inches in length.

Mariann Wilson, instructor in the Department of Language and Communications, and her husband Chris announce the birth of their daughter, Ellie Marie, who was born Thursday, May 31 at Natchitoches Regional Medical Center. Ellie weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces and measured 20-1/2 inches in length.
Registration open for Middle Lab students

The Northwestern State University Middle Laboratory School has a limited number of openings for 6th and 7th grade students for the 2007-08 school year. Students should have a good attendance record, no discipline problems, no grade failures, and a GPA of at least 2.5 with no Ds or F’s.

Tuition is $1,500 for the school year. For more information, contact Dr. Drew Moore at the school office at (318) 357-4509.

DeFord work will be featured at Shreveport’s ArtSpace

Work by Matt DeFord, assistant professor, Creative and Performing Arts, will be featured in an exhibit entitled “Mortal Importables” at Artspace in Shreveport.

“It is a solo exhibition that involves light, sound, cast metal, welded steel, wood, and found objects,” DeFord explained. “The pieces of the exhibit are meant to symbolize the transition from mortal life to death to rebirth. It touches on a life well lived, worn-out in living and giving.”

An opening reception will be held from 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, July 19 to coincide with monthly “Third Thursday Arts Trolley Tour.” The exhibition will run through August 18. For more information on the ArtSpace, visit http://srac.pixelfusion hosting.com/index.php.

DeFord has also been accepted into an international juried art competition in Berlin, Germany, through Art Interview, an on-line magazine. He won an Honorable Mention. A link to the competition can be found at http://www.artinterview.com/CompetitionWinners/competition_winners.html.

- A plant was sent by the NSU Floral Fund to services for Bob Armour, father of Jana Armour, Information Systems. Funeral services were held May 24 in Many.

- Jane Ann Foster, mother of John Foster, assistant professor, Language and Communications, and his wife, Maye, Administrative Coordinator 3, Registrar’s Office, passed away Friday, June 15. Services were held in Dennison, Texas, on June 18. A plant was sent to the services from the NSU Floral Fund.
The 28th Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival will be held July 20-21 in Prather Coliseum. The Festival will be held from 5-11 p.m. on Friday, July 20 and from 8 a.m. - 11 p.m. on Saturday, July 21. Tickets are $11 for a weekend pass purchased in advance, $8 for an all-day pass, $5 for the evening only and $3 for children 7-12. Children six and under admitted free.

The 2007 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival is supported by grants from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and the Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. This year’s theme for the Festival is “Passing It On – The Next Generation,” highlighting next generation artists who are carrying on family and community traditions.

“Too often, traditions such as chair making, quilting, playing music and cooking gumbo are perceived as activities carried on by older people. That isn’t the case in Louisiana,” said Sheila Richmond, director of the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival. “Cultural traditions, be they Native American, Scots-Irish, Protestant, African or whatever cultural group are being handed down to children and grandchildren, assuring that the important aspects of culture are continued.”

For the fourth year, the Folk Festival will host the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship on Saturday, July 21, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Prather Coliseum’s Main Stage. Fiddlers from around the state will compete for cash prizes and ribbons in two categories – Trophy Division and Championship Division. Fiddlers can enter in either division, but not both. The Trophy Division is not competitive for the state championship and is open for the following age groups: 12 and under, 13-18, and 60 and above.

The top two fiddlers from each group in the Championship Division – ages 0-21, 22-59, and 60 and above — will compete for cash prizes and the opportunity to be recognized as the state’s best fiddler. The winner will perform that evening at 6 p.m. on the Festival’s main stage in Prather Coliseum. Last year’s Louisiana State Fiddle Champion was Emily Young of DeRidder.

For music lovers, this year’s festival will include many of the types of music heard in Louisiana including country-western, Cajun, blues, ballads, bluegrass, gospel and zydeco.

Friday night’s headliners are the Hardcore Troubadours, playing country music and Scotty Pousson & Pointe Aux Loups Playboys, performing Cajun music.

On Saturday night, the headliners will include Cajun performers Hadley Castille and the Sharecroppers and Rivers Revue, playing blues and rhythm and blues.

Also scheduled to perform during the Festival are Kennedy Family Gospel, the Rio Creoles, the Hoodoo Papas, Goldman Thibodeaux and the Lawtell Playboys, the Back Porch Band Howell & Caskey, Briggs Brown and Bayou Cajuns, Manning’s Gospel Singers, Southland Bluegrass, Gal Holiday and Honky Tonk Revue and Thomas “Big Hat” Fields and his Footstompin’ Zydeco Band.

Festival visitors are always interested in the crafts area where traditional craftspeople demonstrate their work and sell items. Many of these artists use natural resources such as vines, river cane, white oak, and moss in creating the crafts that are part of their culture. More than 30 craftspeople are expected to attend.

Narrative sessions will focus on subjects including cooking, quilting, furniture making, healing traditions and the timber industry.

For more information on the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival, call (318) 357-4332 or go to www.nsla.edu/folklife.

Folk Festival to focus on family traditions

• A plant was sent to the funeral service of Jim Risher, father of Ann Deshotel, assistant professor of nursing, Cenla.

• Services for Mrs. Marcella Price, mother of Shirley Snyder, assistant professor in Criminal Justice, were held Friday, June 22 in Pineville. A plant was sent from the NSU floral fund. Mrs. Price passed away on Tuesday, June 19.
Burke appointed to influential NCAA cabinet

NSU Director of Athletics Greg Burke recently attended his first meeting as a member of the influential NCAA Division I Championships/Competition Cabinet, a panel that wields significant governance over all major college sports. Burke was appointed to the 49-member cabinet this spring, representing the Southland Conference and replacing Lynn Hickey, the athletic director at Texas-San Antonio who has been named to the men’s basketball committee.

Burke, 50, will serve a three-year term on the cabinet, which is comprised of athletics administrators, faculty athletic representatives and senior woman administrators from around the country. His first meeting as part of the panel was June 25-27 in Savannah, Ga.

“It’s an honor to represent the Southland Conference on a committee that deals with a diverse multitude of issues related to all aspects of intercollegiate athletics,” he said. “It will definitely be a very positive professional experience for me, one which will help me serve more effectively at Northwestern State University and as a member of the SLC. I appreciate the conference members nominating me for this role.

Burke, about to begin his 11th year as director of athletics at Northwestern, previously served a four-year term on the NCAA Division I Football Issues Committee and concurrently served on the eight-member NCAA Football Championship Subdivision Committee that administers the national playoffs.

---

ECE NON-CREDIT SHORT COURSES JULY CLASSES

**EMS Powerpoint 2003**
- **Date:** July 10, 12, & 17, Tues & Thurs
- **Time:** 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- **Fee:** $45 per session or $99 for all three classes
- **Location:** Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
- **Instructor:** Gena Hatcher

**MS Excel 2003**
- **Date:** July 16, 17, & 18, Mon, Tues, & Wed
- **Time:** 1-4 p.m.
- **Fee:** $45 per session or $99 for all three classes
- **Location:** Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
- **Instructor:** Dara Stanfil

**MS Word 2003**
- **Date:** July 16, 17, & 18, Mon, Tues, & Wed
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- **Fee:** $45 per session or $99 for all three classes
- **Location:** Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
- **Instructor:** Dara Stanfil

**Teen Dance Lessons**
- **Date:** July 23-27, Mon-Fri
- **Time:** 12 – 2 p.m.
- **Fee:** $55
- **Location:** Elitecheer-Nastics Gym
- **Instructor:** Sonja M. Palmer

---

- **Photography**
  - **Beginning Digital & Film Camera Techniques**
  - **Date:** July 17, Tues
  - **Time:** 6 - 7:30 p.m.
  - **Location:** Russell Hall, Rm. 203 (Natchitoches Room)
  - **Instructor:** Gale Trussell

- **Gardening**
  - **Low Maintenance Flower Gardening**
  - **Date:** July 24, Tues
  - **Time:** 6 - 7:30 p.m.
  - **Location:** Russell Hall, Rm. 203 (Natchitoches Room)
  - **Instructor:** Gale Trussell

---

To learn more about our on-line non-credit courses visit http://www.nsula.edu/ece/non-credit.asp

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL 357-6355 OR 357-5003