Steven Gruesbeck has been named director of Service-Learning at NSU. Gruesbeck will coordinate and promote the university-wide service-learning initiative to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of northwest Louisiana as well as the academic, career and interpersonal development of Northwestern students.

“Service is a very important part of the University’s mission and there are many wonderful things going on in academic and student affairs involving field experience and community outreach projects,” Gruesbeck said. “Northwestern faculty and student organizations are actively involved in philanthropy, community service and civic engagement. The Student Activities Board has a service-learning committee that awards outstanding community service. As director of Service-Learning, I look forward to further promoting and developing service-learning here at Northwestern and within our community and state. Key to successful service-learning is that activities in which students are involved remain tied to education and career goals.”

Gruesbeck has more than a decade of college-level teaching experience and since 2001, has helped to successfully coordinate, evaluate, and develop initiatives aimed squarely at increasing student engagement in and graduation from Northwestern.

“Directing Northwestern’s Service-Learning initiative seemed to me to be the next logical step,” he said.

Service-learning involves the practical application of theory and methods to real-world settings, followed by reflection upon the experience within the context of the college curriculum. NSU’s service-learning is administratively housed within the office of the Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs.

“Teaching and learning are enhanced by integrating discussions of relevant practical experience into lectures and coursework,” Gruesbeck explained. “Results of successful service-learning are likened to those achieved through participation in apprenticeships, field experience, or internships; however, in service-learning there are also substantial benefits to the community and community partnership is very important. Effective partnerships are mutually beneficial and involve targeting specific needs in the community that can be
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me and for NSU,” Hall said.

The committee writes the accreditation criteria for electrical and related engineering technology programs and selects, trains and mentors the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) evaluations who visit these programs for accreditation.

Shelly Burns, reference librarian and coordinator of Technical Processing at Watson Library presented “Labels by Design” at the national 2008 SirsiDynix SuperConference in Detroit, Mich., in April. This is a newly implemented feature in the Workflows software many libraries use in cataloging.

Shelly originally presented it as an instructional seminar at the LOUIS User’s Conference in Baton Rouge last October. This seminar provided the opportunity for all LOUIS member libraries in the State of Louisiana to take advantage of this feature.

The presentation was well received, and Shelly was invited to share it at the System Administrators’ Conference in January in Baton Rouge. At the beginning of this year, SirsiDynix had received numerous requests from other Unicorn/Symphony users for a presentation on this topic, and asked Shelly to present in Detroit. Shelly presented “Labels by Design” on April 6 to a crowd of inquisitive librarians and continues to provide assistance and support.

Todd Barrios, CEC, chef instructor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, recently auditioned for the upcoming season of the BravoTV hit show, Top Chef. At an open casting call at Bayona Restaurant in New Orleans, Chef Todd was interviewed by Magical Elves Production Company casting directors. The selection process involved a group interview with other hopefuls, a 22-page application, and a 3-5 minute video showing who they are, where they work, and what makes them “tick.” Chef Todd was among a pool of some of New Orleans’ best chefs from Commander’s Palace and Galatoire’s, to name a few. The selection process will take a couple of months. Expected filming will be sometime this summer.

Health Services welcomes a new nurse. Sheree Barrios, RN, has joined the staff. She is the wife of Chef Todd Barrios, FCS, and the mother of three children.

Keith Dromm, associate professor of philosophy in the Louisiana Scholars’ College, wrote a chapter for The Office and Philosophy, edited by J. Jeremy Wisnewski (Blackwell, 2008). The book’s chapters use the popular television series to explore various issues in philosophy. Dromm’s chapter, “The Hostile Office: Michael as a Sexual Harasser,” uses a central character of the series to show what is morally wrong with sexual harassment.


Dr. William Lomerson, College of Business, presented a paper at the Southern Association of Information Systems conference on March 18 in Richmond, Va. The paper entitled “Improving CIS Enrollments through Flexible Minors: An Examination of Existing Curricula” examines CIS minors offered by institutions in the United States, and how they can be utilized to increase enrollments in CIS.

Dr. William Broussard was awarded a grant to attend the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) conference in Dallas June 9-12. The award, called the National Association of Athletic Development Directors Diversity Initiative Award, “seeks individuals who want to advance their athletics administration career, enhance professional ability to raise funds for their institution, and create valuable networking opportunities with numerous collegiate athletics administrators.” It’s a $1,000 travel stipend, and the program is in its second year.

Broussard is completing his first full year as the executive director of the NSU Athletic Association and played an integral role in generating over $500,000 in pledges, in-kind, and cash contributions to the NSU
COB students excel at AITP meeting

Seventeen students and faculty from the College of Business attended the Association of Information Technology Professionals meeting in Memphis March 27-29. Faculty included Dr. Lissa Pollacia, Dr. Jack Russell, Dr. Bin Mai and Ms. Barbara Russell.

Students were Marcus Simmons, Sara Welch, Sam Norton, J.C. Caruso, Cody Chop, Jake Guidry, Tim Straus, Rebel Powell, Jared Shifflet, Devon Drake, Chris Quirk, Jeff Turpin, Justin Turner, Julien Banta, Jesse Calhoun, Shay Sloan and Mark Reeves.

Students Sam Norton and Mark Reeves won second in Database with Cody Chop and Jeff Turpin earning honorable mention. Honorable mention was also presented to Devon Drake and Shay Sloan for network design and Sara Welch for students papers.

Three NSU students, Rebel Powell, Jared Shifflet and Tim Straus, were among only 17 students representing 74 colleges to earn the Associate Computing Professional (ACP) certification.

“Many students attempted the certification exam. The room was full each time the exam was offered. Only 17 students passed it. Three of the 17 were from NSU, 18 percent of those passing,” Russell said. “Our students made a good showing.”

The NSU chapter was named the Outstanding Student Chapter for Region 3, which includes Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Mississippi and Arkansas. There were 674 delegates in attendance.

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Athletic Association via the Demon Victory Fund, Second Century Facility Renovation project, the Endowed Scholarship Program, and various special events in 2007-2008. He also recently had a paper entitled “Writing/Righting College Athletics: The University Writing Program as a Locus of Student-Athlete Advocacy” accepted to the inaugural College Sport Research Institute conference at the University of Memphis, Tenn.

Dr. Jeff Mathews, associate professor of music, presented a paper at the “Music of War” conference hosted by the Martin Institute for Law and Society at Stonehill College in Boston, Mass. The Martin Institute is in the midst of a year-long study of war.

Dr. Rafiqul Islam, Department of Engineering Technology, presented a paper entitled “Wireless Application in Biomedical Engineering and Technology Programs and its Impacts on Enrollment and Economy” in the annual Summit of the Global Wireless Education Consortium (GWEC) at Terre Haute, Ind., during March 6-8. GWEC is focused on expanding wireless technology curriculum in academic institutes worldwide.

Dr. Juliette Delabbio, director of the NSU Aquaculture Research Center, has been reelected to the Board of the World Aquaculture Society. Dr. Delabbio will serve a 2-year term as secretary. The World Aquaculture Society is the largest not-for-profit aquaculture organization in the world. Society members are from 92 countries and represent academic, industrial and government interests in

Correction:

Robyn House Whitehead was misidentified as the wellness coordinator for the NSU WRAC in the April edition of NSU News. Robyn, former wellness coordinator, has been an instructor on staff with Health and Human Performance since January. Kendra Broussard is currently the wellness coordinator at the WRAC.

See Page 4 for more about Kendra.
Staff Profile

As wellness coordinator for the WRAC since last December, Kendra Broussard has a variety of tasks that include marketing WRAC services, conducting fitness testing and lab services and developing incentive programs for WRAC patrons. She also oversees group exercise and personal training and education materials. Kendra serves on the HealthFest committee and the Wellness Coalition Committee and recently sat on the President’s Leadership Council judging committee.

A native of Regina Beach, Saskatchewan, Canada, Kendra arrived in Natchitoches in 1995 to play on the NSU volleyball team and earned her undergraduate degree in health and exercise science in 2000 while holding a student job in the Athletics office.

Kendra and her husband, Assistant Athletics Director William Broussard, have been married seven years this month. They lived in Tucson, Ariz., for 6-1/2 years, where Kendra worked in a physical therapy clinic before earning certification as a licensed massage therapist. She is also an AFAA certified personal trainer. She worked at the Marriott Star Pass Resort for three years before the couple moved back to Natchitoches.

“I think one of the most rewarding aspects of my job is seeing people realize what a healthy lifestyle can do for them. Seeing them succeed brings me great joy. I like to see people realize that their hard work paid off.”

In her free time, Kendra still enjoys a competitive game of volleyball. She also enjoys scrapbooking and watching NSU athletics.

She also participated in NSU’s HealthFest, held on April 17. “I was mostly doing cholesterol testing in the back,” she said. “By 12:30 I was back at the WRAC booth doing body compositions and blood pressures.”

Kendra has always been interested in sports and fitness. “Growing up I participated in every sporting event I could, track, softball, volleyball, basketball, golf, dance, figure skating, ringette (female version of hockey), you name it,” she said. “Once I got to college and took classes in the discipline – especially anatomy and kinesiology, I was hooked. I love seeing how the body functions and works and what makes it tick. Seeing others get involved and get results is a very rewarding feeling.”

The key to helping people adopt healthy habits is through education, motivation and positive feedback. “Young and old alike, people love to hear that you can see results in them,” she said. “Not merely physical results, though that is great, but that you can see a change in their attitude, you see the energy they have now or that you can see their dedication.”

ECE announces non-credit short course classes

ACT PREP
Date: May 10-31, Sat
Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Fee: $179
Location: Russell Hall, Rm. 115
Instructor: TBD

KENPO KARATE
Date: May 27-Aug. 7, Tues & Thurs
Time: 6-8:30 p.m.
Fee: $65-children
 $75-adults
Location: Health & Human Performance Bldg., Rm. 127
Instructor: Shihan-Sama Roy Adams
(Sixth Degree Black Belt Rokudan, Red & White Belt)

To learn more about our online non-credit courses visit http://www.gatlineducation.com/nsula & http://www.ed2go.com/nsu/

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL 800-376-2422 or 318-357-6355
HealthFest showcases many facets of healthy living

More than 1,000 participants visited 70 exhibitor booths during HealthFest.

Sheree Barrios and Kendra Broussard performed a health screening for a visitor.

A Health Fest visitor participated in the Fit Challenge, which included measuring how high he could jump.

To promote tobacco-free living, Health Fest organizers provided trash cans in which smokers were encouraged to trash their cigarettes.

Theatre students Donald Jones, Jennifer Collins, Liz Maxwell and Megan Berry entertained the crowd at Health Fest, led by Director of Theatre Scott Burrell.
CONGRATULATIONS

Ms. Julie Longlois, Carl Perkins Program, received notification of an award of $19,855 from the Louisiana Community & Technical College System for “Carl D. Perkins Basic Post-Secondary Carryover.”

Dr. Julie Delabbio, Aquaculture Center, Biological Sciences Department, College of Science and Technology, received notification of an award of $147,010 from the LSU Agricultural Center for the continuation of “Aquaculture Research Project (River Water Research).”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Darlene Williams, Vice President of Technology, Research, and Economic Development, submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Education, FIPSE, for “Bridging the Gap in Health Care in Selected Rural Communities in Louisiana.”

Dr. Bin Mai, College of Business, submitted a proposal with Louisiana Tech to the National Science Foundation, for “Game Theoretic Strategies under Socio-economic Dynamics in Cyberspace.”

Dr. Leigh Ann Myers, Department of Mathematics, College of Science and Technology, submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation, for “Partnership for Louisiana Science and Mathematics (PLaSMa) START.” Dr. Kathy Autrey, April French, and Dr. Paul Withey are collaborators.

Dr. John Foster, Department of Language and Communications, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Campus Compact, Ready & Response Service Team, for “Service Learning Train the Trainer Travel and Professional Development Grant.”

Mr. Steven Gruesbeck, Director of Service-Learning, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Campus Compact, Ready & Response Service Team, for “Service Learning Train the Trainer Travel and Professional Development Grant.”

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Child and Family Network, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, College of Science and Technology, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support for “Comprehensive Child Care Resource and Referral, Training and Technical Assistance.”

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

Mark your calendars for Summer Dinner Theatre

The Summer Dinner Theatre will present

“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown”
June 11-14 and June 18-21
The production will be directed by Barry Stoneking. Musical director will be Michael Rorex. This musical comedy is based on the Charles M. Schulz comic strip, Peanuts. Cost is $25 per person, which includes meal and show. Call 357-4483 to make reservations.

“Sylvia”
July 30-Aug. 2 and Aug. 6-9
“Sylvia” is the A.R. Gurney story about a dog, the couple who adopts her and the drama that results. This production will be directed by Wm. Perry Morgan. The cost is $25, which includes meal and show. Call 357-4483 to make reservations.
Instructor of art **Matt DeFord** was accepted into an international juried exhibit called the “10th Annual Contemporary Art International Online Juried Art Exhibition” through the Upstream People Gallery in Omaha, Neb. The exhibit opens on May 1 and can be viewed at www.upstreampeoplegallery.com. DeFord will get a 12 month gallery representation.
Changes in the facility use announced

Changes in the process Northwestern utilizes to coordinate Rent and Use of Property were announced at a meeting with the Facility Use Committee and Building Managers from across the campus. These changes, authored by the Office of the Director for NSU Facility Use (ODFU), will enhance the university’s ability to manage its various Facility Use functions, such as scheduling, rental fee collection, financial activities, interdepartmental coordination, and customer service.

Fred N. Terasa, director of NSU Facility Use and the Student Union, along with Angela Spann, administrative coordinator, and Susan Hussey, event coordinator, also shared the NSU Facility Use Action Flowchart with the building managers and Facility Use Committee. The flowchart, which illustrates the flow of actions and paperwork required to effect facility use coordination served as the roadmap for a complete rewrite of the Rent and Use of Property policies and procedures.

The heart of these changes is a new Facility Use Request Form (FURF). It collapses the two previous request forms into a single 5-part document. The new FURF serves as the request for facility use, the building manager and director of Facility Use approvals document, an invoice tracker, and a checklist of key actions for ODFU. The Student Union has a supplemental page for coordination of all aspects of support it offers its customers (tables, chairs, AV, etc.).

The new FURF was distributed to all departments the first week of April. Beginning April 11 ODFU only accepts the new forms. In other words, any old versions of the FURF, dated after April 10, 2008, will not be accepted.

The Northwestern State Rent and Use Policy, a component of the University Fiscal Policy and Procedure Manual, was recently rewritten and is in DRAFT form. The Facility Use Committee and building managers are currently reviewing the document. It is expected to be posted to the Business Affairs website in early May 2008.

Copies of any of these materials may be obtained from ODFU in Room 214, Student Union; by calling 357-6511; or via e-mail at spanna@nsula.edu. The creation of a Northwestern State Facility Use Website will compliment the entire process.

Clark proposes Mentoring Minority Students in Education

As a recipient of the Freeport McMoran Scholarship, Dr. Leonard J. Clark, College of Education, proposed what he titled Mentoring Minority Students in Education Initiative, an effort to impact retention of minority candidates in teacher education and forge a definitive collaboration between public school teachers, minority candidates in teacher education programs.

In Phase I, the student forum, he implemented a process that allowed minority student participants to craft a number of questions relating to professionalism, pedagogy, and leadership and student culture. College of education faculty members Drs. Jacqueline Mason, Henrietta Pichon, Diane Bordenave, and Augustine Amenyah facilitated the student forum.

In preparation for Phase II, the symposium, results of the student forum were compiled for review by teacher-mentors. Collaborating with Mrs. Susie Brooks of Natchitoches Parish Schools, the following teachers were chosen and agreed to mentor minority teacher education candidates as teacher-mentors: Anita Evans, Sonya Elie, Chrystal Davis, Annie Sawyer, Fannie Holden, Helen Calhoun, Sarah Rachal and Gary Brown. The symposium was held Monday, April 21. Minority teacher education candidates were given the opportunity to find answers to their questions at the symposium and forge mentoring relationships with veteran teachers.
Dear NSU friends and family,

My family and I would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone during the loss of my husband, Mark. All of the food, flowers, contributions, visits, phone calls, emails, hugs, prayers and kind words were very uplifting and comforting to each of us. Our family is very grateful to be blessed by people as wonderful as you.

May God bless each and every one of you.

DeAnna Shirley and Family

Jay Giblin of Baton Rouge, brother of Janay Matt, Alumni, passed away on Friday, April 4. Services were held Monday, April 7 in Baton Rouge.

Mark Shirley, husband of Deanna Shirley, administrative assistant for University College, passed away on Tuesday, April 8. Services were Saturday, April 12 at Calvary Baptist Church in Natchitoches. A love fund has been established at the Sabine State Bank on Keyser Avenue in Mark Shirley’s name. NSU Floral fund sent a spray of flowers to the funeral.

Mr. Shirley was also the uncle of Lisa Fortenberry, secretary Physical Plant, and first cousin of Donna Perot, administrative assistant in the dean’s office, College of Education.

Birth Announcements

Donna L. McPhearson, payroll accounting tech, announces the birth of her first grandchild. Charlotte Paige Abel arrived March 5.
She weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 19-1/2 inches long. Parents are Richard Bruce Abel and his wife Karen Blaylock Abel.

Stephanie Campbell, Health Services, announces the birth of her grandson, Aaron Lee Mayrand, who arrived on Feb. 22.
He weighed 5 pounds 12 ounces and was 17 inches long. Parents are Cassie and Gary Mayrand.
Gruesbeck...continued from Page 1

met by faculty, staff, and students working together in their field of study.”

Gruesbeck plans to work in tandem with other service-learning organizations, including Campus Compact, a national college/university coalition dedicated to promoting community service in higher education. The Louisiana chapter of Campus Compact promotes leadership, volunteerism and activism to develop graduates not only prepared for a career, but also for lives as informed and involved citizens. Louisiana Campus Compact provides the following concrete example of service-learning: “Cleaning up a river is a service. Sitting in a classroom, looking at water samples under a microscope is learning. Students taking samples from local water sources, analyzing sample, documenting the results and presenting scientific findings to a local pollution control agency is service-learning.”

In 2002, Gruesbeck began consulting with the U.S. Department of Education as a professional development trainer and grant reviewer. “Private, as well as state, regional, and federal grant opportunities abound. I hope to encourage participation in, and to help procure funding for, service-learning projects at Northwestern,” he said. Gruesbeck will also conduct workshops for faculty, staff and students on service-learning and will assist in the formulation of grant and presentation proposals involving service-learning across all disciplines.

NSU will hold spring commencement exercises Friday, May 9 in Prather Coliseum.

Graduates from the Colleges of Education, Liberal Arts, Nursing and the Graduate School will receive diplomas at 10 a.m. Those receiving degrees in the College of Business, the Louisiana Scholars’ College, the College of Science and Technology and the University College will be recognized at 3 p.m. Members of the Class of 1958 will receive second diplomas at the afternoon ceremony.

Dr. John Ruffin, director of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, will be the guest speaker at the 10 a.m. ceremony. Ruffin is a well-respected leader and visionary in the field of health disparities. He has devoted his professional life to improving the health status of minority populations in the U.S. and to developing and supporting educational programs for minority populations in the U.S. and to developing and supporting educational programs for minority researchers and health care practitioners.

For over 15 years, Ruffin has led the transformation of the National Institutes of Health minority health and health disparities research agenda from a programmatic concept to an institutional reality. He has served as the associate director for minority programs, Office of Minority Programs, and the associate director for research on minority health, Office of Research on Minority Health.

Northwestern will award an honorary doctorate of humane letters to Joseph Dow of Pasadena, Texas, during the morning ceremonies.

Dow, a 1963 graduate of Northwestern in mathematics, is founder and owner of Dow Pipe and Fence Supply, one of the largest pipe and fence material wholesale companies in the U.S. His company ships pipe and fence material nationally and internationally. Dow has assisted Northwestern in a variety of ways, including donating materials to construct gates at several entrances to NSU’s Natchitoches campus.

The University honored him in 2004 with induction into the Northwestern Alumni Hall of Distinction, the Long Purple Line.