Walking for a Cause

Hall & Myers training for 3-day 60-mile benefit

Katy Hall and Dr. Leigh Ann Myers will be joining thousands of participants in the Breast Cancer 3-Day, a 60-mile fund raiser walk sponsored by the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. The Breast Cancer 3-Day will be hosted in 14 cities across the nation August through November. Hall is the Prior Learning Advocate (PLA) for the Call program in ECE. Myers is associate professor of mathematics.

Hall and Myers’ team will also include Natchitoches residents Dr. Cissy Picou and her daughter Megan Picou, as well as Hall’s daughter Stacy Hill of Atlanta and two friends from Greensboro, N.C.

The Team NITWITs (Nothing is Impossible Together Whatever It Takes) will participate in the Atlanta walk Oct. 24-26.

At 60 miles, the Breast Cancer 3-Day is the longest walk of its kind. The purpose of the 3-Day illustrates the work and dedication that are required for patients, health care professionals and others affected by cancer. Participating in preparing for and participating in a 60-mile walk requires long-term preparation of both mind and body to accomplish the goal. Thousands of women and men come together, each raising at least $2,200 for Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund. Then they take their commitment to end...
Creighton, Kilcoyne share research in Austria

Dr. Walter Creighton and Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne of the College of Business at Northwestern State University explained how new technology has improved classroom instruction at an international conference in June.

Creighton, a professor of computer information systems and Kilcoyne, the director of business programs and an associate professor of business, presented a paper, “Using Technology Tools to Enhance Learning in Distance Courses” at the College Teaching and Learning Conference in Salzburg, Austria. The paper was written by Creighton, Kilcoyne and colleague Dr. Julie McDonald, an associate professor of business.

Kilcoyne said that technology continues to change the way that people work and play and has challenged institutions of higher education to redesign the delivery course methods for their students.

“The course content taught in the classroom, the tools used to deliver the course content and to enhance learning and the ways in which courses are delivered have changed,” said Kilcoyne.

The College of Business has used Camtasia Studio software to allow instructors to become more involved in “teaching” Distance Courses.

3-Day...Continued from Page 1

breast cancer one step further and walk 60 miles over the course of three days, sharing prepared meals and sleeping in pink pup tents at campgrounds along the way.

Eighty-five percent of the net proceeds of this event go to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Every advancement in breast cancer research, treatment, education and prevention in the last 25 years has been touched by a Komen for the Cure grant. The remaining 15 percent of net funds goes to the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund to provide a permanent endowment for ongoing support of breast cancer initiatives.

Hall became involved when her daughter called and said “Would you do this with me?” She recruited Dr. Myers and Dr. Picou. To train, the women are walking an increasing number of miles per week so that the week before the 3-Day, they will walk 45 miles.

“Leigh and I are close friends so she was going to help me with training before she even considered walking herself,” Hall said. “You know you have a true friend when she voluntarily goes out and beats herself up to support you in something like this.”

“The hardest part is the time involved. The summer is going to be consumed with walking. We go at about 3 miles per hour, but a 15-mile walk takes at least five hours, which is not an insignificant amount of time,” Hall said. “However, as Leigh has said, we chose to fill our time with this right now, so we’ll find the time. We have a lot of routes lined out with different distances so we can mix and match as the mileage gets longer.”

“I was afraid the heat in the summer would be a problem,” Myers said. “But God has blessed us with great weather for a Louisiana summer so far.”

Overcoming blisters and general achiness are small challenges compared with what participating in the walk means.

“The most meaningful aspects of participating in an event like the 3-Day are supporting all of the people who are fighting and/or have fought Breast Cancer in some way and raising the money for more research that will hopefully lead to a cure,” Myers said. “Without those factors, I can’t imagine anyone being motivated enough to do the event.”

“For me, I am doing this for my mom and two of my best friends,” Hall said. “My mom didn’t survive and my friends did. One of them is walking with me, my ‘friend of longest duration’ – we don’t use ‘oldest friend’ in our conversations. Her name is Beth and we’ve known each other since we were five. I’m also doing it for my daughter Stacy. I want her, just like every other person making this walk, to never have to worry about breast cancer again. She was only six when my mom died. I don’t want any other child to lose a grandmother so young. I was 33, but I could have been 10 or 72. It’s always too soon to lose your mother, but so much harder when you know you have been robbed of someone you love. I miss her every day.”

With that in mind, the team members continue training. Katy purchased a tiny pink camera to document the walk.

“I know we are going to have a wonderful, wonderful if sweaty and blister time,” she said. “We are all excited.”

For more information or to make a contribution, visit Katy and Leigh’s respective websites at http://08.the3day.org/goto/katy.html or http://08.the3day.org/goto/leigh_myers. For more information about the 3-Day, visit www.the3day.org.
Dr. Pat Pierson, head of the Department of Family & Consumer Sciences, received the certificate of accreditation from Dr. Bonnie Braun, president of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences, at the 99th Annual AAFCS Conference June 18-21 in Milwaukee, Wis. NSU is one of only 53 universities in the country that is currently accredited by the Council for Accreditation of AAFCS.

Pierson participates in self study task force

Dr. Pat Pierson, FACS department head and associate professor, was a member of a team of university administrators and faculty from all over the country that recently presented “How to Write a Self-Study” at the 99th annual conference of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences in Milwaukee.

As a member of a task force that is currently revising accreditation standards for AAFCS, she presented a draft of “Standard One: Institutional Environment” to the Collegiate Assembly and Higher Education Units of AAFCS. The task force should complete its work on the new standards by Nov. 1.

Archivist Wernet presents papers to colleagues

Mary Linn Wernet presented a paper in May entitled “Searching Beneath the Surface: The Magnetic Allure of Carl Fredrich Gauss” at the Annual Society of Southwest Archivists Conference: Magnolia & Megabytes: 21st Century Stewardship in Houston, Texas. Accepted earlier this year was Wernet’s session proposal, It’s Not Always Humanities: Archivists and the Sciences, focusing how archivists promote their math and science collections demonstrating that archives are not always about humanities.

The session also featured papers of Archivists with Texas A&M University and the University of Texas at Austin. Wernet’s presentation focused on how the Cammie G. Henry Research Center has researched out to promote the papers of the Center holds on the world’s fifth most famously recognized mathematician, Carl Fredrich Gauss. Funds for the conference were awarded to her by a NSU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Professional Development Grant.

For those interested in Wernet’s paper, she will deliver a presentation during NSU Research Day 2009. Her paper will also be submitted to the Society of Southwest Archivists quarterly publication.

Before the conference, Wernet participated in a Society of Southwest Archivists sponsored half-day, hands-on workshop on Creating and Managing Online Exhibits. During the conference, Wernet attended several sessions including sessions on Archiving Born-Digital Records and Manuscripts in University Settings, Ownership of Digital Materials in Personal Paper Collections and the Archivists Toolkit a program designed to streamline workflows, standardize archival information and import and export EAD (Encoding for Archival Description) finding aids.

Wernet, representing the Cammie G. Henry Research Center, and Library Specialist 2 Madeline Meziere, representing the St. Matthew School Community Association, attended the African American Heritage Trail Community Meeting at the Natchitoches Events Center on Wednesday, June 18.

The meeting was sponsored by the Louisiana Office of Tourism Heritage Trails Department and the Cane River National Heritage Area. All who attended were informed of the Africain American Heritage Trail in Louisiana.
People...Continued from Page 1

conducted a Memorial Day concert in the north Atlanta suburb of Suwanee. The Band of the Air Force Reserve is a full-time active duty band of professional musicians based at Warner-Robbins Air Force Base, Georgia.

Paul Christopher, assistant professor of low strings, will perform as principal cello in two major music festivals this summer: Des Moines Metro Opera in Indianola, Iowa, and the Peter Britt Music Festival in Jacksonville, Ore.

Dr. Augustine Amenyah presented research at the 49th Adult Education Research Conference in St. Louis, Mo., June 4-9. Amenyah represented the NSU Adult Education program. His presentation examined the differences between on-line teaching and learning as opposed to face to face teaching and learning, including who participates and why. Key issues are communication, academic honesty, rigor of scholarship and engagement and the motivation of learners. His presentation also questioned the assessment format for online learning, accreditation, course development and the challenges of instruction.

He also discussed feedback, delivery software such as Blackboard, funding and turnaround for technology and the future of adult learning and on-line teaching and learning, employability and retention.

Dr. Paula Furr, Department of Journalism, was invited to serve at the June 2008 College Board Advanced Placement English Literature Reading in Louisville, Ky., as a table leader. Dr. Furr has worked with the program since 1993. Master high school AP teachers and college faculty score the free response section. In her position as a table leader, Dr. Furr helped train examination readers and monitored the progress and reliability of readers under her supervision.

Dr. Kioh Kim, assistant professor, College of Education, presented at the International Cooperative Learning World Conference in Nagoya, Japan on June 6-8.

His topic of the presentation was Using QuestGarden to Design WebQuests. His presentation focused on designing WebQuests by using QuestGarden and teachers’ use of WebQuests to have a cooperative and constructivist lesson format for Web-enabled inquiry-based learning.

Before attending the conference, Dr. Kim observed and evaluated seven teacher education students’ (2 from NSU and 5 from Louisiana Tech) teaching in Korean classrooms with Dr. Connie LaBorde from Louisiana Tech on April 21-25 while they were doing field experience/student teaching for two months.

While in Korea Dr. Kim also joined three NSU faculty members, Dr. Ron McBride, Dr. Frank Fuller, and Dr. Paul Nagel (see related story on Page 8), in visiting Kongju National University (KNU) on May 13-22. The purpose of the visit was to establish good relationship between NSU and KNU by sharing research areas and exploring the Korean education and culture. This visit was based on the academic exchange agreement between the two universities.

May 21-June 2, 16 students, professors and other participants visited archeological and other historic sites around Naples, Pompeii and Rome. The leaders of the trip were Dr. Richard Jensen, Scholars’ College, and Dr. Janina Darling, University of California at Santa Cruz. Dr. Vincenzo Di Giovanni, an archaeologist and visiting lecturer at NSU several years ago, assisted the group in obtaining permission to visit six important houses in Pompeii normally closed to tourists. Among other features of the trip, the group attended a performance of Verdi’s "I Lombardi" at the oldest continually operating opera house in Italy, the San Carlo theater of Naples. The next tour or Italy will be offered in 2011.

Retirement

As of May 31, Ms. Betty Deans retired from the university after 20 years of employment. She will begin a new career with CLECO in Pineville as internal auditor.

The university wishes Betty all the best and thanks her for her years of valuable service to Northwestern.
Grant incorporates service-learning with plan development

Faculty in the Department of Health and Human Performance are collaboratively working with Athletic Department personnel to enhance the Athletic Department’s emergency mitigation and preparedness plans through a grant from Louisiana Campus Compass.

The purpose of the grant is to allow its writers to augment emergency and disaster mitigation plans for the Athletic Department and its facilities, as well as incorporate the planning development into the curriculum modules of the graduate sport administration curriculum. The mission of Louisiana Campus Compact is to integrate service-learning with education goals. The grant will allow graduate students in the sports administration program to assist in developing the mitigation and emergency plans.

“With the help of the students, we will take the university model along with current athletic mitigation and emergency management standards and research principles to make it more specific to the Athletic Department and its facilities,” said Dr. Trey Cunningham, HHP assistant professor. A second aim for the graduate students will be to gain valuable practical experiences through volunteer work with industry administrators and reflective learning practices.”

Cunningham and HHP Department Head Dr. John Dollar, principal investigators, were assisted with the service-learning component by Steven Gruesbeck, director of service-learning.

The academic activities included in the proposal are consistent with best practices in service-learning. By combining didactic instruction with hands-on experience in emergency planning, HHP will produce Sport Administration professionals who are better prepared to respond to local, regional and national emergencies.

Dr. Bill Dickens, HHP professor, an industry authority in athletic facilities, will also collaborate with the project. They developed the grant in cooperation with Director of Athletics Greg Burke and Alan Pasch, director of athletic facilities.

“The NSU Athletic Department is appreciative that Dr. Cunningham and his students are willing to invest time into updating and enhancing the game day operations at its events,” Burke said. “Fan comfort and safety should always be a high priority at any athletic venue and I am confident that the research and subsequent ideas generated from this project will be helpful in ensuring that NSU can offer the safest, while still enjoyable, environment at its athletic events.”

Funding for the Ready Campus Course Integration Grant program is made possible with funds from the 2008 Louisiana Campus Compact Ready Campus project funded by the Louisiana Board of Regents.

The deadline to submit applications to Louisiana Campus Compact (LACC) Office for the next round of Ready Campus Course Integration Grants is 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19. The awards will be announced in early October. For assistance with the development of service-learning components and/or assessment of service-learning outcomes, please contact Gruesbeck at 4460.

Deanna Chaddick, a graduate assistant at the WRAC, checked the cholesterol level of an individual who attended the free community health fair held at the MLK Center last month. The event was sponsored by the NSU Department of Health and Human Performance and featured more than 30 exhibitors.
CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. Robert Crew, Executive Assistant to the President, received notification of an award of $75,165 from the Louisiana Board of Regents for “Campus Police Technology.”

Dr. Lisa Abney, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an increase of $43,000 from the University of California – Berkeley for the continuation of the “National Writing Project.”

Dr. Darlene Williams, Vice President of Technology, Research, and Economic Development, received notification of an award of $191,593 from the U.S. Department of Education, FIPSE, for “Bridging the Gap in Health Care in Selected Rural Communities in Louisiana.”

Dr. Trey Cunningham, Department of Health and Human Performance, College of Science and Technology, received notification of an award of $9,985 from the Louisiana Board of Regents, Campus Compact, for “Mitigation and Preparedness Planning for Mass Gathering Athletic Facilities.”

Ms. Claudia Triche, Department of Social Work, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $66,131 from the Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, for “Title IV-E Child Welfare Training.”

Dr. Paul Nagel, College of Education, received notification of an award of $7,195 from the University of Louisiana at Monroe for “A Partnership to Improve Geographic Education.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Debra Shelton, College of Nursing, submitted two proposals to the Louisiana Board of Regents, Louisiana Campus Compact, for “Ready Campus First Aid & CPR Training Materials Application for Shreveport” and “Ready Campus First Aid & CPR Training Materials Application for Leesville.”


Dr. Diane Bordenave, College of Education, submitted a proposal to the National Institute of Health for “Three years later: The effect of Hurricane Katrina on women who received residential substance abuse treatment and their children. Can the lessons learned Pre-Katrina be applied after the storm?”

Mr. Steven Gruesbeck, Office of Service Learning, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Campus Compact and the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, for “Students4giving Grant Review and Development.” Yonna Pasch is collaborator.

Ms. Sheila Richmond and Mr. Shane Rasmussen, Louisiana Folklife Center, submitted a proposal to the Shreveport Regional Arts Council for “2009 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival.”

Mr. Bill Brent, School of Creative and Performing Arts, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to the Shreveport Regional Arts Council for “Preserving the past through digital photography and oral history.” Ms. Leslie Gruesbeck is collaborator.

For more information regarding funding opportunities, visit ORSP’s website at www.nsula.edu/orsp.
Summer dinner theatre productions continue

Mark your calendars for more Summer Dinner Theatre performances.

**SYLVIA** is dinner theatre (no matinee as this production is recommended for persons 13 and up).

- July 30-August 2 and August 6-9, 6pm
- Reservations Required (318) 357-4483
- $25 each (meal & show) - choice of entrée (Pesto chicken or eggplant parmesan)
- AA Fredericks Stage

A modern romantic comedy about marriage and a dog. A street-smart mixture of Lab and Poodle, Sylvia becomes a major bone of contention between husband and wife. She offers Greg an escape from the frustrations of his job and the unknowns of middle age. To Kate, Sylvia becomes a rival for affection...And Sylvia thinks Kate just doesn’t understand the relationship between man and dog.

**DOG TALES**, is an original play for children by Scott Burrell, Coordinator of Theatre & Dance

- July 31-August 2 & August 7-9, 1pm - APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGES.
- Reservations required for groups 10+
- $4 each (group rates available for 10+)
- AA Fredericks Stage

DOG TALES is a humorous children’s play about four friends—who just happen to be dogs. The play begins on a hot August dog day afternoon. To keep the “pups” out of trouble, Duke, the father figure of the group, tells the younger pups the story of “The Dog Who Cried Dogcatcher” to teach them a lesson about telling the truth and being respectful to those older and wiser.

Along with Duke, the wise and caring Yellow Lab, the audience will meet Bandit, the energetic and playful Jack Russell; Daisy, the loving and beautiful Toy Poodle; and Bo, the carefree and likable Bassett hound. The play is for kids of all ages. Running length, approx. 50 minutes.

**BECAUSE OUR SUMMER SHOWS ALL FEATURE AN ANIMAL, THE NSU STUDENT THEATRE ORGANIZATION IS REQUESTING AUDIENCE MEMBERS BRING A DONATION OF PET FOOD TO DROP IN THE COLLECTION BOX OR MAKE A MONETARY DONATION UPON ARRIVAL. THESE DONATIONS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER.**

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**Congratulations!**

The NSU Theatre Department congratulates Miss Northwestern-Lady of the Bracelet Mandi Ridgell for her accomplishments at the Miss Louisiana pageant. Mandi, a theatre major, won the talent competition, the People’s Choice Award and was a Top 10 finalist.

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Ms. Ruth Burczyk, mother of Dr. Christine Allen, associate professor of music in the School of Creative and Performing Arts, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 14. Ms. Burczyk was a highly respected pianist and was a “Steinway Artist” and lived in Dearborn, Mich., where the funeral services were held on Thurs., June 19. A plant was sent to the funeral service from the NSU Floral Fund.

A plant was also sent to the service for Devin Carroll, son of Calli Carroll, lab coordinator for Nursing in Shreveport.

*The NSU Floral Fund expresses their most sincere condolences to the bereaved families.*
As part of effort to expand relationships with Kongju National University in South Korea, three faculty members from the College of Education participated in a visiting scholar and study tour May 13-22. In addition, an agreement was signed to encourage student and faculty exchanges between the two universities. The understanding is designed to bring Korean students seeking master’s degrees in education to NSU while allowing Northwestern faculty to participate in short courses, lectures and other academic pursuits in South Korea. Kongju National University is interested in having their teacher candidates seek advanced degrees at Northwestern so they can share their knowledge of American culture and education with their peers but focusing on teaching strategies and pedagogy.

Dr. Paul Nagel, Dr. Ron McBride and Dr. Frank Fuller were selected by application to participate in the first visiting scholar program. They were accompanied on many activities by Dr. Kioh Kim, also on faculty at NSU’s College of Education, who was instrumental in developing the pilot exchange programs.

The delegation from Northwestern met with Kongju National University officials and toured the university, an elementary school and Konju National University High School which is a middle/high school in Gongju, the host city of the university. The national high school was similar to the Louisiana School For Math, Science and the Arts in Natchitoches. Some of the sites visited where Gongju National Museum, the ancient walls above the city, the Temple Gapsa, an abandoned coal mine and museum, and in Seoul, the Korea Folk Village, Changdeokgung Palace, and the National Folk Museum of Korea. The historic South Gate from the original “Walled City” in Seoul was in repair after an attempt to destroy it some months ago.

The group from NSU was treated to a special event that was unplanned. While walking the walls above Gongju the Mayor invited our group to observe an ancient coming of age ritual performed once a year for twenty year old men and women who are crossing the threshold to adulthood. It was a ceremony that was a special event not only for those participating but dignitaries, parents and special guests as well. While speaking to the crowd, the Mayor introduced the Northwestern delegation which was a special moment for those attending.

The visiting faculty from NSU made presentations at KNU. Dr. Ron McBride presented a paper, Current Trends, Best Practices, and Future Applications in Distance Education: Focus on Online Learning. Dr. Frank Fuller presented a paper, Crisis Response in Online Classes when the Crisis is not Shared by All Participants: The Harsh Example of Katrina. Dr. Paul Nagel presented a paper, 21st Century Skills-Geography, and Teaching Critical Thinking Skills with Geography. McBride and Fuller also presented information about the M. Ed. online, Online Graduate Degrees in the College of Education at Northwestern State University. The purpose was to recruit students for NSU’s online graduate programs and to provide information for those who desire to pursue a degree on campus. Part of the agreement is to send students to Northwestern which KNU intends to do as quickly as possible.

Within the last year, Northwestern sent 12 students abroad to teach in elementary and middle schools in Korea’s Chungnam province and has hosted two delegations from Korea. Thirty K-12 classroom teachers from Korea will arrive in Natchitoches in July for English education instruction, classes in pedagogy and recreational activities.

These exchanges will bridge 7000 miles and cultures that are fundamentally different yet very similar since South Korea is very westernized and understands the necessity to embrace the English language and model the American education system.
Hodges partnership benefit to many disciplines

A research and education partnership between NSU and Hodges Gardens State Park could provide numerous opportunities to engage students and faculty in hands-on learning in a variety of disciplines, service-learning and outreach to youngsters in rural Sabine and Vernon Parishes. The possibilities were outlined as park personnel and the NSU Department of Biological Sciences hosted university administrators on a scenic tour of the Gardens, which were donated to the state last year and are now part of the State Park system, under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Utilizing Hodges will allow students to conduct plant, animal and applied science research in a natural and secure habitat, but its uses are not limited to scientific research.

“This is a diversified facility,” said John Byrd partnership coordinator and assistant professor of Biological Sciences. “There are opportunities here for several disciplines, not just science. Look around and see what your department could do.” There will be opportunities for journalism students to create press releases and promotional literature, travel and tourism students to work with the State Park system, and performing arts students to stage productions and concerts, Byrd said. Administrators hope to link volunteering opportunities with service-learning initiatives.

A.J. Hodges, an oil and gas businessman, developed the Hodges Gardens Experimental Area and Wildlife Preserve in the 1940s and 1950s as a managed tree farm where experiments in forest genetics took place. The site south of Florien encompassed 4,700 acres and gradually grew into a collection of formal gardens, fountains, greenhouses and natural scenic areas. Eventually the gardens included a bird sanctuary, wildlife refuge, gift shop, a monument to the Louisiana Purchase and an outdoor theatre surrounded a 225-acre lake, all connected by roads and walkways. Opened to the public in 1956 and formally dedicated in 1959, the gardens were transferred to the non-profit A.G and Nona Triggs Hodges Foundation in 1960 as a site dedicated to conservation, religious and cultural projects.

The Foundation donated the Gardens to the State in 2007 and they are under redevelopment by state horticulturists. The park now includes amenities available at other state parks, such as cabin rentals, RV hook-ups, and trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

Byrd foresees projects for students interested in ecology, ornithology, herpetology, entomology, geology and many other branches of science.

“We hope to develop and education program so that as facilities become available, we can have summer camps and programs for high school and junior high students and get the local kids interested in science,” he said.
The third annual “ULS Serves” service-learning conference will be held Monday, Aug. 11 at the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge. Registration is free thanks to a grant from Learn and Serve America.

“This year, we enter phase three of ‘ULS Serves,' a three-year $1.2 million initiative. This University of Louisiana Systems initiative supports service-learning projects at each of the eight system schools. During the first two phases, NSU faculty were awarded more than $50,000,” said Steve Gruesbeck, director of service-learning at NSU.

Dr. Subhash Durlabhji, a professor in the College of Business for 20 years, was honored with a retirement party in June. From left are colleagues Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne, Dr. Tom Hanson, Durlabhji and Dr. Jerry Wall. During his tenure at NSU, Durlabhji was a two-time winner of the Mildred Hart Bailey Research Award.

Leeann Sticker, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences at NSU-Leesville, has recently had an article published in the Journal of Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Science.

Dr. Sticker’s research, which included 354 undergraduates studying over a four-year period, evaluated the influences of age, online experience, classification, course type and semester on characteristics of students enrolled in online nutrition courses.

Results showed that students lacked the skills necessary to locate legitimate information online, that students believed incorrect nutritional information, and that students did not follow nutritional guidelines. It also highlighted the importance of communication in online courses.

The research will assist in developing and/or improving online courses.

The research can assist educators in developing or improving online nutrition courses or similar online courses and can be viewed at http://www.scientificjournals.org/journals2008/j_of_nutrition1_2008.htm.

ULS System service-learning conference set for Aug. 11

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Faculty, staff and students from University of Louisiana System schools are encouraged to attend the Aug. 11 Service-Learning Conference. Information about service-learning funding opportunities ranging from $2,500-$5,000 per project will be provided.

For more information, visit http://www.uls.state.la.us/aronwalker.cfm?s=1001055.

Conference information and on-line registration will be available soon on the ULS homepage.
The Department of Engineering Technology hosted a conference in May to explore the possibility of implementing a program that could provide Louisiana middle and high school students with accessibility to engineering classes. The program, Project Lead the Way, requires partnerships between schools, a university affiliate and industry to expose students who excel in math and science to engineering as a possible career path. The conference was funded by the Carl D. Perkins basic grant.

In an opening statement, President Dr. Randall J. Webb said that the United States needs a “Sputnik-type” stimulus to engage students in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), before the U.S. is overtaken by China and India as the world’s economic leader.

According to PLTW Director of State and Corporate Relations Pat Leaveck, the program targets students seeking careers in engineering, engineering technology and the biomedical field as well as those who plan to attend community colleges. In some cases, students can earn articulated college credit for completing the classes. There are currently about 300,000 students participating nationwide.

Teachers certified to instruct the classes and school counselors must complete a rigorous two-week summer training workshop and be committed to the success of the project, advocates said. The program’s university affiliate must support school staff, maintain on-going program evaluation and serve as an advocate to legislators and industry. The university affiliate is also required to accommodate the annual two-week teacher training workshop.

“The school projects compliment the traditional curriculum,” Leaveck said. “The focus is problem-based learning. Students do authentic real world work and may work in teams. Students learn real world skills.”

The cost of implementing the program can range from as little as $10,000 to as much as $90,000 per high school or $60,000 for a middle school, depending on the school’s existing facilities and equipment. Some grant funding, appropriations or industry support may be available to cover the cost of equipment and software.

The program has been successful in several school districts around the country, including the Arlington, Texas, Independent School District, where the program is supported by the local aerospace manufacturing industry.

“It takes a long pipeline of educators to produce STEM people. If we are going to produce people, we can’t produce them overnight. If we are going to be successful as a nation, we have to foster this link between secondary and post-secondary education,” said Dr. Phil Brown, assistant professor of Engineering Technology at NSU, a key organizer of the conference.
COE needs host families for Korean scholars

Thirty Korean English teachers will visit NSU and the city of Natchitoches to participate in the summer English & Cultural program for four weeks in July – August, 2008.

Faculty in the College of Education are looking for host families who can provide them with a room, meals, and transportation to and from class held on NSU campus from July 27th through August 1st. If interested, contact Dr. Vickie Gentry, Dean of the College of Education, Pod B-Teacher Education Center, Northwestern State University by Thursday July 3rd.

For more information, call Gentry at 6288 or by e-mail at gentryv@nsula.edu.

ECE NON-CREDIT SHORT COURSES JULY CLASSES

**Birthing Naturally Intensive**
Date: July 12, Sat.
Time: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Fee: $49/couple
Location: TBA
Instructor: Erica Norris, a DONA trained doula

**Publishing with Pizzazz!**
Date: July 12, Sat.
Time: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Fee: $45
Location: Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
Instructor: Gena Hatcher

**MS Powerpoint**
Date: July 12, Sat.
Time: 1-4 p.m.
Fee: $45
Location: Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
Instructor: Gena Hatcher

**LA Retail Florist Exam Prep Course**
Date: July 12 & 19, Sat., (classroom)-Sess.3
July 14-25, Mon.-Fri., (lab)
July 26 & Aug. 2, Sat., (classroom)-
Sess.4
July 28-Aug. 8, Mon.-Fri., (lab)
Time: 5-8:30 p.m. (classroom)
8 a.m.-5 p.m. (lab)
Fee: $749 + 899 textbook & material fee
(mat. fee paid directly to instructor prior to start of class)
Location: Russell Hall, Rm. 203 Natchitoches Rm. Kitchen (classroom)
Sweet Events- 128 B South Dr. (lab)
Instructor: Dawn Martin (LA State Licensed Florist, member of SAF & LSFA)
Over 20 year’s floral experience

**MS Word**
Date: July 16, 17, & 18, Wed, Thurs, & Fri.
Time: 9 a.m. 12 p.m.
Fee: $99
Location: Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
Instructor: Dara Stanfil

**MS Excel**
Date: July 16, 17, & 18, Wed, Thurs, & Fri.
Time: 1- 4 p.m.
Fee: $99
Location: Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
Instructor: Dara Stanfil

**Grant Writing Series II**
Date: July 18 & 19, Fri. & Sat.
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.-Fri.
9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.-Sat.
Fee: $99 + $32 book & mat. fee (mat. fee
paid directly to instructor prior to
start of class)
Location: Russell Hall, Rm. 213
Instructor: E. Jean Bush

**Instant Piano**
Date: July 21, Mon.
Time: 6-9:30 p.m.
Fee: $55 + $25 mat. fee.(paid directly to
instructor)
Location: Creative & Performing Arts, Rm. 228
Instructor: David Haynes

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