Purple Shield fund will honor memory of late NSU-Leesville/Fort Polk director

In order to honor the memory of their late executive director, Dr. Larry Monk, the faculty and staff of Northwestern State University Leesville-Fort Polk, with the approval of Northwestern State University, have established the Larry Monk Purple Shield Emergency Fund.

Initiated by Dr. Monk shortly after he assumed the executive director’s position and named the Purple Shield Fund, the account has assisted students who needed temporary financial assistance. Students did not have to be receiving financial aid to receive help from the Purple Shield, but have severe, temporary economic hardship.

Dr. Monk, a long-time Vernon Parish educator, died suddenly in July. His death shocked and saddened not only the Northwestern faculty and staff but also the community and Dr. Monk’s church family.

Dr. Monk began serving as the executive director at NSU Leesville-Fort Polk in 2003, after having been a faculty member for more than 20 years, beginning his career at NSU Leesville-Fort Polk in 1981 as an adjunct instructor. In 1999, after retiring as assistant superintendent of Vernon Parish Schools, he became instructor of education until he was appointed executive director.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the Larry Monk Purple Shield Emergency Fund can send a donation to NSU Foundation, NSU Alumni Center, College Avenue, Natchitoches, LA 71497.

NSU Leesville-Fort Polk is located on University Parkway, midway between Leesville and Fort Polk.

The Leesville campus offers four-year baccalaureate degrees in psychology, criminal justice, and general studies, as well as associate degrees in nursing, business administration, criminal justice and general studies (child development). A graduate student can earn a Master of Education in Administration and Supervision or in Counseling and Guidance.

For information a prospective student can call the main office at 337.392.3100, access the website at www.nsula.edu/leesville, or visit the campus at 3329 University Parkway, Leesville.
COB students excel at AITP competition

Fifteen NSU students took part in the Region 3 Association of Information Technology Professionals student competitions held in San Angelo, Texas.

The team of Chris Quirk of Leesville and Jeff Turpin of Natchitoches won the Systems Analysis and Design category with Anthony Mason of Patterson and Kory Jones of Lufkin, Texas, earning honorable mention.

In database design, Quirk and Tony Holden of New Llano finished first followed by Allie Brewer of Olive Branch, Miss. and Mason in second. Kyle Newman of Lafayette and Turpin received honorable mention.

People...
Continued from Page 1

Division of the Council for Exceptional Children on Thursday, November 6, 2008 at the Dallas Lincoln Center Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

Mary Linn Wernet, vice president of the North Louisiana Historical Association (NLHA), planned and attended the association’s fall field trip and meeting that was held at Poverty Point State Historic site on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Wernet also attended and delivered a paper at the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association meeting on Nov. 13 at Loyola University in New Orleans. The paper concerned Jewish communities in north Louisiana and was delivered during a panel entitled “Jewish Louisiana.”
Several NSU staff and faculty promoted degree programs at NSU during the annual Bossier Benefits Fair in Bossier City. Area and regional businesses, industries and educational institutions attended the event to make employees of Bossier City aware of the opportunities available to them. Those attending were Prior Learning Assessment Coordinator Katy Hall, Coordinator of Adult Education Initiatives Carl Henry III, Assistant Director of University Recruiting Melanie McBride, Coordinator of Credit Activities Stephanie McBride and Associate Professor of Engineering Technology Bobby Nowlin.

NSU faculty and staff discussed the Consortium for All Louisiana Learners (CALL) initiatives, along with available in-person and on-line degree programs at the university.

Birth announcement

Helen Tousek, administrative assistant in the College of Education, and her husband Michael are happy to announce the birth of their seventh grandchild. Keri Lynn Harris arrived at 7:51 p.m. Oct. 28 at Willis-Knighton in Shreveport. Keri weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 21-1/2 inches long. She was welcomed home by her 21-month-old sister, Cady Paige. Keri and Cady are the daughters of Payton and Tracey Tousek Harris of Keithville.
RESEARCH DAY
will be April 2, 2009

CONGRATULATIONS
The following individuals received notification of an award from the Louisiana Campus Compact, Ready Campus Course Integration Grant Program, funded by the Louisiana Board of Regents:

- **Mr. Jack Atherton**, Criminal Justice Department, College of Liberal Arts, an award of $3,987 for “Ready Campus Integration Grant Program: Emergency Management Public Policy and Law”;

- **Dr. Gerra Perkins**, School of Counseling/SPS, College of Education, an award of $5,000 for “Ready Campus Course Integration”;

- **Dr. Gillian E.A. Rudd**, Department of Chemistry and Physics, College of Science and Technology, an award of $4,478 for “Ready Campus Course Integration Grant Program,” and;

- **Dr. George “Trey” Cunningham**, Department of Health and Human Performance, College of Science and Technology, an award of $1,672 for “Exercise Training for Emergency Preparedness.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- **Dr. Catherine McMillan**, Department of Health and Human Performance, College of Science and Technology, submitted a proposal to the Shreveport-Bossier Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure for “Take Action Against Breast Cancer (TAABC).” **Beverly Owusu-Duku** is collaborator.

- **Dr. Alexei Muravitsky**, LA Scholars’ College, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Board of Regents, Pfund under the Louisiana Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), for “Logical Friendliness as a Consequence Nonmonotonic Operator.”

- **Dr. Bin Mai**, College of Business, submitted a proposal to Department of Defense/ULL, EPSCoR, for “Obfuscating and Deobfuscating Intent in Computer Programs.”

- **Dr. Shane Rasmussen**, Louisiana Folklife Center, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Office of Tourism for “2009 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival Media.”

The following individuals submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund (BORSF) under the following subprograms:

**Research Competitiveness Subprogram**
- **Dr. Julie Delabbio**, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, for “Factors Affecting Cannibalism in Larviculture of Alligator Gar *Atractosteus spatula.*”

**Traditional Enhancement subprogram**
- **Dr. Rafiqul Islam**, Department of Engineering Technology, College of Science and Technology, for “Biomedical Signal Processing and Instrumentation.” **Mr. Mohammad Baig**, Dr. **Tom Hall, Jr.**, and Dr. **Daniel Withey** are collaborators.

- **Dr. Tommy Hailey**, School of Social Sciences, College of Science and Technology, for “State-of-the-Art Documentation Equipment to Enhance NSU’s Heritage Resources Program’s HRGIS Facility.” **Dr. ElizaBeth Guin** is collaborator.

- **Dr. Zafer Hatahet**, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, for “Establishment of microbiology, anatomy, and physiology lab facility at NSU’s CenLa campus.” **Ms. Shirley Cashio** is collaborator.

**Undergraduate Enhancement subprogram**
- **Dr. James Crank**, Department of Language and Communications, College of Liberal Arts, for “Strengthening New Concentration in Film Studies through a Departmental Film Library.” **Dr. Allen Bauman** is collaborator.

- **Dr. Steven Gabrey**, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, for “Enhancing Career Competitiveness of Science Undergraduates by Providing Opportunities for Professional Skill Development.” **Dr. Julie Delabbio**, Dr. **Darrel Fry** and Dr. **Wanda Goleman** are collaborators.

- **Dr. Zafer Hatahet**, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, for “Establishment of bioinformatics lab facility in the department of biological sciences” with **Garrett Dancik** as collaborator, and “Establishment of a forensic science lab in the department of biological sciences” with **Dr. Jonathan Akin** as collaborator.

See ORSP Page 5
Dr. Curt Phifer, LA Scholars’ College, for “Enhancement of Biological Sciences Laboratory for the Louisiana Scholars’ College.” Dr. Margaret Cochran is collaborator.

**T W E L V E  P R O P O S A L S  F U N D E D  F O R  N E F  A Y  2 0 0 8 - 0 9 ,  R O U N D  1**

Twelve proposals were funded in the first round of AY 2008-09 NSU Enrichment Fund Competitive Grant Programs.

Ten proposals were funded in the Professional Development program:

- **Shirley Stave**—Scholars’ College—First Response: *A Mercy*—$1,913
- **Ronald McBride**—Education—Attending and presenting at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education 20th International Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, March 2-6, 2009—$1,105
- **Thomas Reynolds**—Language/Communication—Franklin’s Autobiography as a Model of Empirical Rhetoric—$1,838
- **Paul Forsyth**—CAPA/Music—The World Premiere of Richard Rose’s New Composition for Saxophone—$1,302
- **Isaac Powell**—CAPA/Art—Arcroft Center for Arts and Humanities Artist Residency Program—$1,793
- **Michael Cundall**—Scholars’ College—Monograph on Racist and Ethnic Humor—$2,500
- **Sarah McFarland**—Language/Communication—Selkie Skin and the Human Within: Human/Animal Natures in Island Lore—$3,129
- **Kristine Coreil**—CAPA/Music—Performances of American Composers: Music for Horn since 1968—$4,525
- **Martha Rhymes**—Education—Teacher Preparation and Training in Initial Certification and Graduate Programs to Improve Louisiana Schools—$2,110
- **Tommy Hailey**—Social Sciences—Searching for Geochemical Evidence of Structures at Fort Jesup—$3,800

One proposal was funded in the Undergraduate Student Research program:

- **Darrell Fry**—Chemistry/Physics—Effect of extended photoperiod on the water quality in crawfish ponds—$2,127

One proposal was funded in the Proposal Stimulus Research program:

- **Christie Maranto**—Nursing—Improved Outcomes for Medically Underserved Clients with Chronic Illness—$2,297

For more information regarding funding opportunities, visit ORSP’s website at [www.nsula.edu/orsp](http://www.nsula.edu/orsp).

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**McBride photo exhibit revisits spring trip to Asia**

Dr. Ron McBride, professor of Educational Technology in the College of Education, completed a photo exhibition in the Orville J. Hanchey Gallery Nov. 4-21. The exhibit consisted of images shot in South Korea during a scholarly exchange and study trip to Kongju National University last May. The show entitled *Images From Korea*, was a collection of 57 pieces photographed during the visit to Chungnam Province, Gongju, the host city, and Seoul. He noted the work was not a “travel log” of images but an attempt to employ photographic composition while preserving the integrity of the image.

McBride has over 40 years experience as a photographer and has displayed his work with the art faculty at NSU and the Louisiana School For Math, Science and the Arts. He had several exhibits in Georgia at Dalton College. His work was accepted to state journeyed competitions in Atlanta. He has served as a juror for several exhibits and continues to critique student work for NSU and the Louisiana School. Dr. McBride has taught photography for NSU and teaches it for the Louisiana School.
Faculty, staff, and students NSU Leesville-Fort Polk participated in Hats On Day to raise awareness of children fighting cancer.

“In most schools, kids with cancer are the only ones wearing hats. On Hats On Day kids with cancer are not alone. Everybody wears a hat,” explained Tresa Abramson, coordinator of public relations.

More than $100 was collected, to be donated to Friends of Kids with Cancer, a national organization dedicated to enriching the daily lives of children undergoing treatment for cancer and blood-related diseases.

NSU Leesville-Fort Polk is located on University Parkway, midway between Leesville and Fort Polk. It is a satellite campus of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, part of the University of Louisiana system.

The Leesville campus offers four-year baccalaureate degrees in psychology, criminal justice, and general studies, as well as associate degrees in nursing, business administration, criminal justice and general studies (child development). A graduate student can earn a Master of Education in Administration and Supervision or in Counseling and Guidance.

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Prospective journalism students will visit campus for J-Day

The Northwestern State University Department of Journalism will host its annual Journalism Day on Friday Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon for area high school students, teachers and parents or guardians.

The journalism department has been hosting J-Day, as it is more popularly referred, for the past 41 years. The event is free. J-Day hosts keynote speakers, comprised chiefly of NSU graduates, who speak to the students about the many career opportunities in journalism and mass communications. Other activities include roundtable discussions with current NSU journalism students and journalism-related competitions with scholarships to attend NSU awarded to winners.

Dr. Jung Lim is the J-Day’s faculty coordinator.

Sympathy

  Services were held Nov. 17 in Houston, followed by a prayer service and visitation in Natchitoches. Burial took place in Bentley in Grant Parish.
- A plant was sent to the funeral for Mrs. Dorothy McGaha Self, mother of Dr. Nelda Wellman, mother-in-law of Dr. Wendell Wellman and grandmother of Dr. Gerra Perkins, all assistant professors in the College of Education.
- Mrs. Loretta Beal, mother of Shelia Thompson, Library Specialist at Watson Library, died Saturday, Nov. 29.
  Services were held Dec. 1 at Blanchard-St. Denis Funeral Home.
COE faculty publish, present research findings

Dr. Kioh Kim, Assistant Professor, College of Education, recently published three articles; (1) “Factors Influencing Integration of Technology in the Classroom” in Southeastern Teacher Education Journal, 1(1), 35-48. (2) “A Quantitative Exploration of Preservice Teachers’ Intent to Use Computer-based Technology” in Journal of Instructional Psychology, 35(3), 275-287, with Dr. Sachin Jain at the University of Idaho, Dr. Guy Westhoff at Washington State University, and Dr. Landra Rezabek at the University of Wyoming. (3) “Comparison of Asian and European Students’ Perceptions of English Learning Experiences in Their High School” in Louisiana English Journal, 11, 40-45, with Dr. Karen McFerrin at NSU, Dr. Guy Westhoff at Washington State University, and Fujuan Tan at the University of Wyoming.

Dr. Kim attended the International Symposium on the World School Textbook 2008 at Kongju National University in Korea in October 2008. He presented a research paper at the Symposium with Dr. Paul Nagel. Their topic is entitled “The Textbook Industry and Ethnocentrism.” The paper will be published in the Journal of International Textbook later. Dr. Kim presented with Dr. Connie LaBorde at Louisiana Tech at the Educational Tools for Success conference at the University of Louisiana at Monroe on Nov. 13. Their presentation topic is “Experience in Teaching Overseas.” Dr. Kim also presents at Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators (LACUE) conference in Baton Rouge on Dec. 5 with Dr. Sanghoon Park, Dr. Karen McFerrin, and Dr. Ron McBride. Their presentation topic is “Blackboard and Skype in an Online Course of Study/Teach Abroad Program.”

PR students participating in ‘Purple Cheer’ toy drive

Students in Dr. Paula Furr’s PR Writing class are teaming up with the Boys and Girls Club in Natchitoches to sponsor a toy drive for Christmas. The project, Spreading Purple Cheer, will provide students hands-on learning experiences with preparing PR materials while helping local children. The PR students are coordinating with other student organizations and the athletic department for toy and monetary donations. Faculty, staff or students who want to contribute should contact Mary Beth Hayes at 352-6268 or mhayes@bgcnla.org.

Aquaculture Research Center director speaks at conference

Dr. Julie Delabbio, professor and director of the NSU Aquaculture Research Center, was the keynote speaker at an industrial conference for companies involved in salmon aquaculture in Chile which concluded this past weekend.

Delabbio spoke on biosecurity, which is the control, containment, reduction and if possible eradication of disease through specific practices and protocols. According to Delabbio, the salmon farming industry in Chile has grown spectacularly over the last 15 years to become one of the most dynamic sectors of the Chilean economy. She said production in 2007 was worth $1.4 billion dollars (USD) and most of the Atlantic salmon seen in grocery stores in Southern states comes from Chile via Miami.

“However, the salmon industry in Chile is in a huge crisis and will be for the next three years,” said Delabbio.

“They are having a serious disease problem, don’t have enough juvenile fish to sustain their current production and they are having a lot of problems with growth performance of the fish in the sea cages.”

Delabbio pointed out that the current worldwide financial crisis occurring impacts the industry because money is not easily found to cure the problems.

Delabbio was the only American speaking at the conference. Other international speakers were from Norway, Scotland and Canada, which are all top-tier salmon farming countries.
Culinary arts students, FACS faculty showcase talents and new facilities during November open house

Guests who attended last month’s open house at the new Culinary Arts Annex were treated to a sumptuous buffet of gourmet edibles, including a variety of flatbread pizzas, duck confit wontons, bread pudding and other goodies made from scratch. The new facility includes state of the art commercial cooking equipment, prep tables and work stations.

Culinary arts student Kevin Bourg and his classmates prepared and served guests at the Culinary Arts open house. The event was coordinated by instructor/chef Todd Barrios and Dr. Patricia Pierson, head of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Todd’s daughter Camryn helped welcome guests.

Chef Todd Barrios, his wife Sheree of NSU Health Services and their daughter Camryn welcomed guests to the open house.