CONAH colleagues name Hickman 2013 Nurse Educator of the Year

Northwestern State University’s College of Nursing and Allied Health named Debbie Hickman Educator of the Year. Hickman is an assistant professor of nursing at Northwestern State’s Leesville-Ft Polk campus. She was nominated by her colleagues for the honor.

“Ms. Hickman is very deserving of this distinctive honor,” said Dr. Norann Planchock, dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health. “For eight years, Deborah has been a stabilizing force in nursing on the Leesville-Ft Polk campus. She was nominated by her colleagues for the honor.

“Ms. Hickman is very deserving of this distinctive honor,” said Dr. Norann Planchock, dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health. “For eight years, Deborah has been a stabilizing force in nursing on the Leesville-Ft Polk campus. She was nominated by her colleagues for the honor.

Hickman has been a nurse educator for 12 years. She teaches fundamentals and medical/surgical nursing classes and tutors two groups of clinical students each semester. She is also the lab coordinator for NSU’s Leesville-Fort Polk campus.

“I love being a nurse educator for so many reasons. I have the opportunity to educate and train the next generations of nurses. It is my goal to prepare student nurses to provide quality holistic patient-centered care,” she said. “As an educator, I provide information about the care of a patient, professionalism and personalize training directed at helping them develop nursing behaviors. These behaviors include caring, holistic care, therapeutic communication, physical assessment, critical thinking and bedside skills. As an educator, it is my responsibility to socialize nursing students into the role of a professional nurse. This is done by role-modeling professionalism,
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Bolton will attend Leadership Training Course (LTC) in Fort Knox, Ky., with four freshman-level (MSI) cadets. “It is designed to coach, teach and mentor young cadets, the ones just entering ROTC units throughout the US and Puerto Rico,” he said. “This is an introductory course to the ‘Big Army’ and what we do as officers and leaders on a daily basis. It’s also a good recruiting tool and resource to motivate cadets to continue in the ROTC program and hopefully commission as a Second Lieutenant.”

Dr. Patrick Dill, associate director of choral activities and assistant professor of voice (CAPA), presented at the Music of the Americas Choral Symposium in Fargo, N.D. The conference, held May 3-5, was co-sponsored by the American Choral Directors Association and North Dakota State University and showcased the choral music and traditions of North, Central and South America.

“American musical revolution: the Artistic Divergence of William Billings’s Choral Works from Puritan Theology.”


About the experience, Dill said, “It was wonderful to learn from some of the most influential conductors from across North and South America, and I’m truly honored to have been included among them as a presenter.”

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Hickman is certified in pediatric advanced life support, basic life support, advanced cardiac life support and trauma nursing care. She was nurse planner and presenter for the first nursing continuing education seminar held on NSU’s Leesville-Fort Polk campus. The seminar, in which Hickman presented information on legal issues, featured six speakers and offered six contact hours of continuing education credits for registered nurses. Hickman travels each year to out-of-state educator workshops to maintain best practice and current teaching strategies.

In her community, Hickman is vice president of the Woman League of DeRidder and a staff educator and consultant for Beauregard Association for the Developmentally Disabled. “She is a highly self-motivated educator who loves to teach nursing students,” said Joyce Barnes, academic advisor/recruiting support specialist at NSU’s Leesville-Fort Polk campus. “Professionalism is obvious in Debbie Hickman’s teaching style as well as in her daily role modeling for the students of Northwestern State University. We feel extremely lucky to have someone of her caliber as a full time educator.”

“When I was a young woman, I knew that someday I would have a career in nursing,” Hickman said. “As my nursing career developed, I became a nursing director of a specialty unit in a hospital. This administrative position afforded me many opportunities to teach healthcare professionals. It was during those years as an administrator that I realized teaching nurses was something I wanted to devote myself to for many years to come.”

NSU employees can donate to Crisis Leave Pool

Northwestern State University employees are invited to donate to the Crisis Leave Pool. Anyone who accumulates annual leave can donate a minimum of eight hours or a maximum of 16 hours per fiscal year.

The Crisis Leave Program is a means of providing paid leave to an eligible employee who has experienced a catastrophic illness or injury to himself/herself or eligible family member. The program’s intent is to provide assistance to employees who, through no fault of their own, have insufficient appropriate accrued leave to cover the crisis leave period.

Employees can only donate annual leave into the pool. You can obtain a copy of the donation form by contacting Yvette Garrett Ceasar-Williams, associate registrar for records, by calling Ext. 6171 or e-mailing williamsy@nsula.edu. The form must be submitted to the Payroll Department in Business Affairs.

Tutoring Center seeking textbooks to update library

The Academic Tutoring Center is updating its library. Tutors are asking any faculty who have extra desk copies of their current or future textbooks to contact the ATC and the staff will retrieve the textbooks. For more information or to contribute textbooks, contact Lori Leblanc, counselor, Tutoring and Disability Support, at Ext. 5045 or e-mail leblancl@nsula.edu.
Northwestern State University professors Dr. Michelle Morris and Dr. Terrie Poehl presented a puppet show for first graders at L.P. Vaughn Elementary School. The two used school gardening and other projects to educate the students about diet, nutrition and exercise.

School garden partnership with L.P. Vaughn leads to instruction in health, nutrition, history and more

Two members of the Northwestern State University faculty concluded a service project with Natchitoches first graders that integrated learning with gardening, nutrition and exercise. Dr. Michelle Morris and Dr. Terrie Poehl from the College of Education and Human Development spent months working with students at L.P. Vaughn Elementary as they grew vegetables in a school garden and related health and exercise to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The project culminated with a program that coincided with Global Youth Service Day.

“The project linked instruction to science, history and healthy living,” Morris said.

The two used vegetable characters in “My Plate” puppet shows to educate children about food groups and a balanced diet. Giving the children pedometers allowed them to track how many steps they took in a day, which they compared to the miles Meriwether Lewis and William Clark travelled during their historic Corps of Discovery expedition.

Students harvested herbs and vegetables from their garden that Morris used to prepare a salad for the classes.

First grade teachers Martha Fontcuberta, Alexandra Antwine, Daphne Butler and Jennifer Jenkins directed students in making posters about what they learned.

Students said their favorite parts of the program were the puppet shows, reading about Meriwether Lewis’s dog Seaman and growing cilantro.

Morris and Poehl presented their project, “A Step in the Right Direction: A Gardening and Exercise Service-Learning Project,” during the University of Louisiana System’s Academic Summit in April.

Morris has partnered in school garden projects with L.P. Vaughn since 2011 to promote hands-on learning.

School gardening has grown in popularity throughout the United States as gardening lends itself to instruction in science, mathematics, writing and other subjects. Since initiating the project, Morris sought partnerships with the Louisiana Serve Commission and volunteer groups to sustain the gardening project at L.P. Vaughn.
Briggs completes swim to raise scholarship funds

Northwestern State alumnum Reed Perilloux (1966) of Colfax and Dr. Harry Briggs greeted each other with a hearty “Semper Fi” following Briggs’ annual birthday swim in Kincaid Lake. Briggs, a political science professor at NSU’s Leesville-Fort Polk campus, stages the annual 2-mile swim to raise funds for the Dora Douglas Briggs Nursing and Radiologic Sciences Endowed Scholarship at Northwestern State’s Cenla campus.

Briggs completed the swim to commemorate his 92nd birthday, which was held in conjunction with the Cenla Alumni After Hours at Tunk’s Cypress Inn.

Briggs has completed numerous swims to raise funds to support Northwestern State scholarships. Last year, he was recognized for establishing a generous planned gift annuity to benefit Northwestern State tennis athletes, a tennis complex project and scholarships to aid NSU’s nursing and radiologic sciences programs in Alexandria. Known since the 1950s as “The Paddlin’ Professor,” Briggs has over the years initiated several scholarship endowments to benefit current and future students at Northwestern.

Briggs is a member of the International Swimming Hall of Fame for his distance swimming exploits around the world as a young man and has not stopped challenging himself. In addition to his numerous swimming accomplishments, Briggs is a Marine Corps veteran of World War II battles in the Pacific.

Summer swim classes available at Rec Complex

Northwestern State University’s Aquatics Program announces swimming and water exercise sessions to be held at the NSU Rec Complex pool this summer.

Learn To Swim classes will be held Tuesday through Friday in June. Hours will be 9-9:50 a.m., 10-10:50 a.m. and 11-11:50 a.m. the weeks of June 4, June 18 and June 25. Hours for the week of June 11 are 9-9:50 a.m. and 11-11:50 a.m. The cost is $50 per week. Private lessons to be scheduled with the instructor will be available in July at a cost of $75 per week. A parent/child swim program will be held from 11-11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday the weeks of July 9 and July 16 at a cost of $50 per week.

Adult Learn To Swim classes will be held Tuesday through Friday the weeks of July 9 and July 16. Classes will take place from 11-11:45 a.m. and 6-6:45 p.m. at a cost of $40 per week. Water exercise classes are held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for $50 per month.

For more information contact Cindy Davis at cindyd@nsula.edu or call (318) 357-5103.

Art camp for children will be held June 10-14 and June 17-21. A teen camp will be July 15-19.

Art camp sessions will focus on ‘Written Word,’ ‘Medieval Times’

Northwestern State University will offer two sessions of Art Fundamentals Summer Camp for youngsters this summer, as well as the Visual Arts Academy for teens. The School of Creative and Performing Arts’ Department of Fine and Graphic Art is hosting the camps.

“Art and the Written Word” will be offered June 10-14 for children ages 5-11. Organizers have partnered with faculty in the Department of Language and Communication to help campers explore how words can inspire art and be used as elements in art and design. Participants will work with clay, papier mache, jewelry, paint and more.

“Medieval Times,” offered June 17-21 for children ages 5-11, will offer crafts that reflect ancient techniques such as ceramics, beadwork, mask-making, illuminated manuscripts, scrolls and leatherwork.

Times for both sessions will be 1-5 p.m. Classes will take place in Room 205 of the NSU Art Department. Students can be dropped off as early as 12:30 p.m. and picked up as late as 5:30 p.m. Early drop-offs may bring their own lunches. Tuition cost is $145 for each weeklong session, and includes a snack and crafts materials. A sibling discount of $10 per sibling is available. There is also a $10 discount for attending both sessions.

This year’s Visual Arts Academy for students age 12-17 will focus on sculpture and 3-D design. The all-day camp will be 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. July 15-19. Students may arrive as early as 8 a.m. and bring their own breakfast and can be picked up as late as 5:30 p.m. Students should bring sack lunches. Tuition is $222 with a sibling discount available. Instructors will be Amanda Roe, from the Louisiana School of Math, Science and the Arts, and Annabel Jones, artist and graduate assistant in NSU’s Department of Fine and Graphic Art.

For more information, contact Leslie Gregory Gruesbeck at (318) 357-5476 or e-mail gruesbeckl@nsula.edu.

Faculty/staff eligible for discount football ticket options

NSU Faculty & Staff Football Season Tickets are now available. NSU Faculty & Staff chairback seats are $90, a discounted rate in the Reserved Chairback seating area. This is a savings of more than 45 percent, and includes a parking pass, which has a $60 value. Bank draft and payroll deduction options are available.

To order season tickets and pick your 2013 seat location call the ticket sales staff at Ext. 4268.

Art and Graphic Department
**JUNE CLASSES**

**Driver Education**  
This course will consist of 30 hours of classroom instruction and a minimum of 8 hours of practice driving (behind-the-wheel instruction). You will receive a certificate verifying successful completion of the course. Please provide proof of age. Must be 15 years old, or on or before the first day of class!  
Date: Contact the Office of Electronic and Continuing Education for dates.  
(Driving Schedules will be set once class begins.)  
Time: TBD  
Location: South Hall  
Instructor: Kevin Warner  
Fee: $350

**Water Aerobics**  
This workout consists of simple low impact exercises executed in the water. The program is designed to promote and maintain cardio respiratory fitness, strengthen muscles, and improve flexibility. This program is especially recommended for arthritic and/or pregnant women.  
Date: June 4-28 (Session 1)  
July 2-31 (Session 2)  
Aug 6-30 (Session 3)  
Time: Tues, Wed, & Fri  
11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Fee: $35 per session or $95 for all 3 sessions  
Location: NSU Recreation Complex  
Instructor: Denise Poleman

**Belly Dance - Level I**  
This class will introduce Tribal Fusion Belly Dance. This type of belly dance is a combination of several dance styles and will incorporate different styles of music. Basic steps, basic combinations, improvisation, and a choreographed dance will be covered in the six weeks. No dance experience necessary. Dress in comfortable clothes (tank top, yoga type pants). No shoes necessary.  
Date: June 13-July 25, Thurs  
Time: 6-7:15 p.m.  
Fee: $65  
Location: NSU WRAC  
Instructor: Cheryl Gianforte

**Basic Floral Design**  
Do you have an interest in floral design? Learn basic floral design including how to make a bow, various wiring techniques for flowers, how to design a centerpiece, and much more! This class is for beginning floral designers who want to learn “how the pros do it”! If you have a love for flowers and would like to know how to arrange them, this class is for you! Whether you would like to enter the floral industry as a designer assistant, or just want to arrange flowers at home, this class will teach you the basics you need to know!  
Date: June 15, 22, & 29, Sat  
Time: 1 - 4 p.m.  
Fee: $200 tuition plus $100 supply fee  
Location: The Master’s Bouquet 108 South Dr., Natchitoches  
Instructor: Dawn Martin (LA State Licensed Florist, member of SAF & LSFA)

**Saving with Shannon “Couponing for Beginners”**  
Wondering if clipping and using coupons in the Sunday paper is a waste of time? No, it isn’t a waste of time! By using coupons, frugal and smart shoppers have learned to live on grocery budgets of $70 per week or even per month! Savings may be small in the beginning but with knowledge, time, and practice, coupon shoppers are saving more than ever imagined. Let me teach you how to do it!  
Date: June 22, Sat  
Time: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Fee: $29  
Location: Russell Hall (The Natchitoches Room)  
Instructor: Shannon Cox

**Beginning Ceramics: Playing in the Mud**  
This course is an introduction to working with clay. The student will learn hand-building and sculptural techniques, as well as work on the potter’s wheel. There will also be room for intermediate and advanced students to take the class who want to use the facilities during the class time.  
Date: June 27-Aug. 15, Thurs  
Time: 6-8 p.m.  
Fee: $125 plus $20 material fee (mat. Fee paid directly to instructor first night of class)  
Location: CAPA, Rm. 113 (New Creative & Performing Arts Bldg.)  
Instructor: Matt DeFord

Theatre & Dance will host the popular children’s theatre camp this summer. Theatre & Dance announces summer shows, kids camp

**The Northwestern State Summer Dinner Theatre**  
Theatre will present “Only in America: A Celebration of American Music” June 12-15 and 19-22 and the mystery “Who Killed the Boss?” July 31-Aug. 3 and Aug. 7-10. Both shows will be performed on the A.A. Fredericks Auditorium stage.  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are $25 for dinner and the show. Advance reservations are required and can be made by calling (318) 357-4483.  
“Only in America: A Celebration of American Music” will be directed by Andrew Lewis. The first act of the show is a tribute to America’s musical heritage, celebrating the vast and varied music of America. With more than 25 number one hits from the big band era through to present day. The second act will feature the music of Dixieland, Broadway and rock and roll.  
“Who Killed the Boss?” is a hilarious office party murder mystery. Scott Burrell is the director. The play is set at National Universal Technology Services before the annual company party. Each area of the company is buzzing about the party, which may be a bit restrained after last year’s wild event. Characters such as Rob from marketing, Bill from I.T. and Amanda, the new intern, are part of the cast.  
Theatre and Dance will offer a kid’s summer theatre camp where children 7-13 can learn about acting, singing and dancing. The camp will take place July 31 – Aug. 7. During the camp, the students will also rehearse a kid’s musical that will be presented Aug. 8-10.  
For more information call Ext. 4483.

**Non-Credit Courses...Continued from Page 8**
For assistance in seeking information about funding opportunities, preparing proposals or administering projects, contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs by phone, 357-5222; e-mail at orsp@nsula.edu, or visit the ORSP website at http://www.nsula.edu/orsp.

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Mrs. Cynthia Bourg, mother of Chuck Bourg, director of Physical Plant, and mother-in-law of Carmel Bourg, Wellness Coordinator at the WRAC, passed away May 6. Services were held May 10 at Holy Savior Catholic Church in Mathews. NSU Floral Fund sent a plan to the service.

Funeral services for Ms. Ella Frederick were held May 11. Ms. Frederick was the sister-in-law of Loletta Wynder, project coordinator in the Creole Heritage Center, and the aunt of Ramona Wynder, instructor in the Gallaspy Family College of Education and Human Development.

Graveside services for Grace Bullock Gentry were held May 11 at Ajax Cemetery. Grace’s NSU family includes Dr. Roy B. Gentry Jr., retired faculty, Department of Health and Human Performance; Dr. Vickie Gentry, Gallaspy Family College of Education and Human Development, and Cole Gentry, Office of Electronic and Continuing Education.

Genevieve “Genny” Ireland, mother of Sports Information Director Doug Ireland, passed away May 9. Services were held May 14 in Jonesboro. In lieu of flowers, memorials were made to the Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home.

NSU Floral Fund made a donation to the Home in Mrs. Ireland’s memory.

Charles Willie McPherson Jr., brother of Donna McPherson, Payroll Department of Business Affairs, passed away Saturday, May 25. Services were held May 29 at Floral Haven Funeral Home in Broken Arrow, Okla.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. John Price, Department of Criminal Justice, History and Social Sciences, College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies and Research, received notification of a $50,000 award from Summerlee Foundation for “Goodnight Papers Project.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES


Mr. Joe Morris, Department of Criminal Justice, History, and Social Sciences, College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies and Research, submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Justice entitled, “COPS Social Media (SM) for Public Safety.” Ms. Daphne Levenson is collaborator.

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, Director of Louisiana Folklife Center, submitted a proposal to the National Endowment for the Arts entitled “2014 Natchitoches – NSU Folk Festival.”

Mr. Jeffrey Girard, Department of Criminal Justice, History, and Social Sciences, College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies and Research, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology entitled, “Regional Archaeology Program 2013-2014.”

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