University restructuring effective July 1

Northwestern received approval last month for an extensive academic reorganization from the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System to help curtail operating costs in the wake of substantial reductions in state funding.

Under the proposal, Northwestern has eliminated eight bachelor’s degree programs, one master’s degree offering, 12 academic minors and five concentrations in baccalaureate degree programs.

NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb said students will be able to continue studies in many of the academic areas in which specific degree programs are being eliminated because of the consolidation of those programs with other academic offerings.

The proposal for academic reorganization comes after a comprehensive review of academic programs that began in July of 2009 and continued through March of 2010, Webb said. The university’s Program Review Committee was comprised of representatives from each academic college and the NSU Faculty Senate.

All academic programs were reviewed in the process that involved faculty and staff from all levels, the Northwestern president stated, and a campus forum was held in the spring semester to inform students about the program review.

Webb said proposals to eliminate or consolidate programs were based on “costs, efficiency, completion rates, semester credit hour production, ties to the University Core Curriculum, enrollment and other pertinent factors.” He added that annual reviews of remaining academic programs “will be conducted to evaluate retention, student success, recruitment and the overall effectiveness of the programs.”

Academic reorganization was necessary, Webb said, because of $9.7 million in state budget cuts over the past 18 months and projections of additional reductions in state funding of up to $10 million during the next year. State allocations to the university have been cut by 19.5 percent since July of 2008.

Northwestern has eliminated 160 positions through layoffs and abolishing vacant positions since the 2007-08 fiscal year, reducing the size of the faculty and staff from more than 960 positions to just over 800.

The academic realignment plan submitted to the board this week will result in the elimination of an additional 21 positions by the end of the new fiscal year beginning July 1. The positions of three academic deans, four department

If you are relocating to another office on campus, please notify NSU News and let us know your new office number, phone number, title and department. This information will be printed in the August NSU News.
NSU adopting Moodle as new course management system

Training courses available for faculty; Blackboard will be phased out

NSU is adopting a new course management system that will be used in place of Blackboard beginning this fall. Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment) is an open source software that has become popular worldwide to create dynamic and effective learning sites.

The Office of Electronic and Continuing Education is offering professional development workshops this summer in which faculty can learn about Moodle and how to use it.

Dates for July workshops are as follows.

- Wednesday, July 7, 2-4 p.m.
- Thursday, July 8, 10 a.m.-noon
- Thursday, July 8, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 14, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- Thursday, July 15, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
- Monday, July 19, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, July 20, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, July 27, 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, July 28, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

All sessions will be held in the computer lab, Room 113, Dodd Hall.

The decision to change to a more flexible course management system was based upon faculty feedback and the desire to build a customized course management system for NSU, said Dr. Darlene Williams, vice president for Technology, Research and Economic Development.

“Blackboard is proprietary. We want to overcome limitations with software and integration,” Williams said. “Moodle offers more flexibility for application development and for integrating existing applications.”

Moodle will allow NSU to develop and customize its course management system to more efficiently meet the needs of faculty and students with a streamlined approach to application integration, such as taking attendance and reporting grades, and replicating some of the positive features of Blackboard.

Moodle was piloted on campus two years ago with a small number of faculty who responded positively to the system. Going into the fall semester, Moodle and Blackboard will run simultaneously while courses are transitioned to Moodle over the next 12 months.

By summer 2011, Blackboard will no longer be in use at all.

“Because of the number of on-line degree programs and on-line courses, we set a timeline of one year for migration to the new system, Williams said. “This will be a transition. It will take time for people to feel comfortable. That is why we are offering support through professional development workshops as well as through the help desk in order to respond to questions.”

To sign up for one of the Moodle workshops, email ece@nsula.edu or call 357-6355.

Realignment...Continued from Page 1

heads or directors and three program coordinators will be abolished.

Webb said program elimination and other aspects of academic reorganization will result in cost savings of approximately $2.5 million. The 160 positions that were previously abolished “reduced personnel costs by some $5 million,” Webb stated.

Degree programs to be eliminated are the master’s degree in heritage resources and bachelor’s degrees in physics, physics education, chemistry, chemistry education, heritage resources, journalism, sociology and political science.

Existing minors to be eliminated include aviation science, geology, physics, chemistry, journalism, sociology, German, French, historic preservation, philosophy, political science and food and nutrition. Concentrations in aviation science, recreation administration, fashion merchandising and housing and interiors, economics and German would also be eliminated. The proposals have been approved by the Louisiana Board of Regents.
Dr. Margaret S. Kilcoyne has been asked to serve as a member of the Association of Business Communications Research Committee. As a member of the committee, Dr. Kilcoyne’s first two tasks will be selecting the winners of two awards: The Outstanding Researcher and the Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation. Materials are forthcoming in July for the six nominees for Outstanding Researcher and, later, materials for three nominees for best dissertation.

The Association for Business Communication (ABC) is an international, interdisciplinary organization committed to advancing business communication research, education, and practice.

An article entitled “Do Our Future Cyber Socialites Use Social Sites?” by Drs. Margaret S. Kilcoyne, Brenda Hanson, Julie McDonald, Glenn Maples, and Sue Champion was published in the spring 2010 issue of the International Journal of Business Disciplines. Over the past several years, personal communication venues and our professional communication venues have been dramatically impacted by the changes in technology, specifically, in the Internet. Data was collected regarding college students’ current use of social networking sites including Facebook and MySpace. One hundred eighty-two students participated in the study. Analysis of the data collected was used to implement revisions to subject matter required in business courses taught in an educational setting at a post-secondary level.

On June 12 Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne attended the Federation of Business Disciplines Boot Camp at the Hyatt Regency Houston. The purpose of the meeting was to assist each association’s vice president/program chairperson with the preparation of the 2011 Annual Federation of Business Disciplines Conference to be held March 9-12, 2011 in Houston.

The Federation of Business Disciplines (FBD) is a successful nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization. It was founded in 1973 and held its first meeting in 1974. FBD developed into one of the largest, most prestigious annual conferences for those disciplines common to business administration and has both national and international constituencies of more than 1,000 college professors from schools of businesses attending its annual conferences.

Dr. Kilcoyne is the vice president/program chair for the Association of Business Communication-Southwestern United States. She is responsible for preparing the association’s program in conjunction with the other nine associations. Almost 800 participants attended the 2010 conference in Dallas.

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Transfer Center, moving annually nearly 100,000 federal and state inmates in conjunction with the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS). More recently he has been involved in the training of Louisiana law enforcement officers in the areas of prisoner transportation and courtroom security, and serving as a consultant in a prisoner transportation civil rights class action suit involving a private prisoner transport firm and over 25,000 inmates.

Ben Wood, M.S.R.S., assistant professor of radiologic sciences, coauthored two manuscripts in this month’s issue of Radiologic Technology. Radiologic Technology is the official scholarly/professional journal of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. The articles are as follows:


Keith Dromm, associate professor of philosophy in the Scholars’ College, presented a paper at the Ghent Conference on Literary Theory #7: Wittgenstein Reading in Ghent, Belgium on June 26. The title of his paper was “‘Playing the Hunch’: The Investigative Methods of Wittgenstein and the Hard-Boiled Detective.”
UL System to host a service-learning conference Aug. 9

This conference is free thanks to a generous grant from Learn and Serve America. Faculty, staff and students from University of Louisiana System schools are encouraged to attend. Visit www.ulsystem.edu/conference for more information and free online registration.

Contact Steven Gruesbeck before June 30 for additional details about no-cost travel arrangements specifically for NSU faculty and staff. The conference will take place in the Claiborne Building, 1201 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge.

Nationally renowned service-learning practitioner, advocate, and scholar Nadinne Cruz will be the keynote speaker. Also joining us will be Louisiana’s own Mack McCarter, who founded Community Renewal International in Shreveport-Bossier.

Broussard represents NSU and SLC at National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Conference

At the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics national conference in Anaheim, CA, Associate Director of Athletics Dr. William Broussard was recognized for his efforts in increasing membership as the Southland Conference representative for the National Association of Athletic Development Directors (NAADD). NAADD held a welcome reception on the conference’s opening night to recognize the conference representatives from the SEC, Big Ten, Big 12, and several others, including the twelve-member Southland Conference in which Northwestern State competes.

The NACDA conference is held annually and includes participants from across the nation in all levels of NCAA and NAIA-sponsored competition. It was Broussard’s first time being recognized by NAADD for his efforts in boosting Southland Conference membership in the organization by 80 percent since his tenure began two years ago. He also was an invited speaker at the conference, addressing nine participants in NAADD’s Diversity Initiative scholarship program. The Diversity Initiative identifies female and ethnic minority athletic administrators from across the United States and provides financial support for them to join NACDA and attend the national conference. Broussard is a two-time recipient of the award in 2008 and 2009.

Earlier in the day en route to the Los Angeles area, Broussard spent the morning addressing a graduate cohort participating in a lecture series at the University of Washington in Seattle. The students were participants in the Center for Intercollegiate Leadership’s executive master’s program lecture series, which has invited Broussard as a past speaker and published his research in their working paper series.
Long-time College of Business professor retires

After 32 years at NSU, Dr. Stephen Elliott, Kilpatrick Life Insurance Company Endowed Professor, a nationally known finance researcher, full professor and senior faculty member of the College of Business retired July 1. Dr. Elliott rose through the ranks from assistant professor, associate professor, and to full professor, then to Dean of the College of Business. He was also a former professor of finance at the University of Hawaii and had prior experience in the banking and insurance industries.

During his academic career, he authored research papers in over 70 refereed journal publications (in 19 of the leading finance and economic journals) and proceedings. He presented more than 40 refereed paper presentations at international and national academic conferences across the United States, Mexico and the Caribbean and served as paper discussant and chairman at numerous other Economics and Finance conferences.

Under his watch as Dean, in 2005 he was instrumental in writing and defending the proposal for $600,000 in state matching funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents in Baton Rouge to complete the $1 million Charles Ragus Family Endowed Chair in the College of Business. Within a year, 6 additional $100,000 endowed professorships were created to assist faculty research efforts.

While at Northwestern, Dr. Elliott served for nearly 20 years as coordinator of Economics and Finance, 12 years on the faculty senate, and numerous other university committees. Dr. Elliott wants to thank all his colleagues in the College of Business and throughout NSU for their friendship, cordial support, cooperation, and professional work environment. When he retires he plans to spend more time with his family which includes three grandchildren, enjoy water sports, do some fishing, travel more, and continue teaching Sunday school class at First Baptist Church.

Elliott greeted well-wishers and friends during a reception on June 29.

Barbara Gillis retired from her position as Testing Services director with a Limo Launch on June 30. Gillis departed the Testing Center and was escorted by friends and colleagues down a red carpet to a waiting limousine in front of the Student Union. Barbara released 40 balloons to commemorate her 40 years of service, then was chauffeured around campus, stopping at offices to say goodbye to friends and colleagues. She was later honored with a reception at the home of Drs. Danny and Cathy Seymour.
CONGRATULATIONS

The following individuals received notification of an award from the Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund (BORSF) under the following subprogram:

Traditional Enhancement Subprogram

Mr. Christopher Burrell, Department of CAPA/Theatre, College of Liberal Arts, an award of $32,000 for “The Creation of a Theatre and Dance Performance Laboratory in the Northwestern State University Theatre and Dance Program”;

Dr. Michael Cundall, LA Scholars’ College, an award of $58,100 for “Art History and Pedagogy”;

Dr. J. Mark Thompson, Department of CAPA/Music, College of Liberal Arts, an award of $88,997 for “Enhancement of Instrumental Methods Course Offerings through the Acquisition of Musical Instruments”;

Dr. Zafer Hatahet, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, an award of $40,000 for “DNA Barcoding of Plants in Louisiana,” and;

Dr. Daniel Withey, Department of Engineering Technology, College of Science and Technology, an award of $86,925 for “Laboratory Equipment for BMET Concentration.”

Dr. J. Mark Thompson, Department of CAPA/Music, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $6,316 for “Security Enhancement of the Louisiana Folklife Center Archival Holdings.” Dr. Shane Rasmussen is collaborator.

Dr. Tara Gallien, Department of Health and Human Performance, College of Science and Technology, received notification of an award of $18,000 for “The Louisiana Tobacco-Free College3 Initiative (LTFCI).”

Dr. Weijia Zhu, Department of Chemistry and Physics, College of Science and Technology, received notification of an award of $132,262 for “Understanding Wave, Optics and Gravity through Project-Based Inquiry, Hands-On Demonstrations and Online Learning.” Dr. Andrei Ludu, Ms. Maria Ludu and Ms. Shelly Hynes are collaborators.

Ms. Claudia Triche, Department of Social Work, received notification of an additional award of $152,021 for “Louisiana Child Welfare Comprehensive Workforce Project-Year 2.”

Dr. Norann Planchock, College of Nursing, received notification of an award of $51,280 for “Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship.”

Mr. Jeffrey Girard, School of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $72,251 for “2010-2011 Regional Archaeology Program.”

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, College of Science and Technology, received notification of an award of $40,000 for “Child Safe Spaces in Evacuation Shelters.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to National Endowment for the Arts for “2011 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival.”

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to LA Endowment for the Humanities for “Traditional Remedies: Folklife During Times of Adversity.”

Ms. Maxine Johnson, College of Nursing, submitted a proposal to United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for “Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program.” Dr. Darlene Williams is collaborator.

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Beginning Digital Photography

This class will teach basic subjects of how to take better photos with digital cameras. It will include such subjects as: use of available light, use of flash, memory cards, filters, lenses, composition, photography camps, photography contests, photography seminars, photography magazines, where to go to take good photos and much more. Join others for this fun class.

Date: July 6, 2010
Time: 6 - 8 p.m.
Fee: $55
Location: Russell Hall, Rm. 211
Instructor: Gale Trussell

MS Publisher

You will learn how to create fancy flyers, cool calendars, lovely labels, and brilliant business cards. Also, add great graphics to greeting cards, invitations, certificates, letterhead and much more. Learn how to add cute clipart and work with templates to create any type of publication you could ever want. Have fun publishing with pizzazz!!!

Date: July 7, 14, & 21, Wed
Time: 5-8 p.m.
Fee: $99
Location: Dodd Hall, Rm. 113
Instructor: Terrie McCallister

Silk Floral Design

Do you have an interest in floral design? Learn how to design your own long-lasting artificial flower arrangements for home or office! This class is for beginning floral designers who want to learn how to create permanent silk floral arrangements. If you have a love for flowers and would like to know how to arrange them, this class is for you!

Date: July 10, 17, & 24, 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)

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: July 10, 17, & 24, Sat
Time: 1 - 4 p.m.
Fee: $200 tuition plus $100 supply fee
Location: The Master’s Bouquet Flower & Gift Shop (subject to change depending on class size)
Instructor: Dawn Martin (Louisiana State Licensed Florist, member of SAF & LSFA) over 20 years floral experience/owner of The Master’s Bouquet Flower & Gift Shop

Beginning Guitar

The focus is on humming and strumming familiar tunes; music appreciation and enjoyment. Students will learn basic major and minor chords. 6 Practice sessions will include familiar songs. Students will compile a collection of at least 20 familiar songs.

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ORSP...Continued from Page 6


Dr. Paul Nagel, Department of Elementary Education, College of Education, submitted a proposal to National Geographic Society for “Core Operations for Geography Education.”

Mr. Jim Kilcoyne, Small Business Development Center, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Small Business Development Center for “Small Business Development Center.”

For more information regarding funding opportunities, visit ORSP’s website at www.nsula.edu/orsp.
that they will learn to play in 6 easy lessons. **Home practice will be required in order to achieve successful results.** Students should be at least 11-years-old. (Self-motivation to practice and learn is a must.) Singing is encouraged, but not required. Spread the word—We need 8-12 students in this class in order to offer it as scheduled. Bring a friend!

**Intermediate Guitar**

The focus is on blues and rock guitar technique; music appreciation and enjoyment.

**Prerequisite knowledge:** Students must know basic major and minor chords on demand before enrolling for this class. 6 practice sessions will include familiar songs. Students will compile a collection of at least 20 familiar songs that they will learn to play in 6 easy lessons. **Home practice will be required in order to achieve successful results.** Students should be at least 11-years-old. (Self-motivation to practice and learn is a must.) Singing is encouraged, but not required. Spread the word—We need 8-12 students in this class in order to offer it as scheduled. Bring a friend!

**Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People**

If you yearn to experience the joy of playing piano, but you don’t want years of weekly lessons, this short course is for you. Simply spend one enjoyable evening learning how to play the piano the way the pros do - with chords. Save time and money with this innovative approach that shows you the easy way to play several songs right in class - then develop your techniques at home using the practice CD provided by the instructor. This is an absolutely beginning class in chord piano techniques that will have you playing your favorite songs soon after this one session, and if you can find middle C and know the meaning of Every Good Boy Does Fine, you already know enough to enroll. If not, send a SASE for a free pamphlet to Music Masters, 90 Molly Lane Ringgold, GA, 30736. Then register with confidence. Instructor will collect $25 for book and 68-minute practice CD in class.

**Topics include:**
- How chords work in music
- Musicians’ “shortcuts”
- How to “speed read” sheet music
- How to derive all major, minor, and seventh chords
- How to handle different keys and time signatures
- Simple techniques of “counting”
- How to substitute for 12,000 complex chords

**Non-Credit Classes...Continued from Page 7**

Mrs. Barbara Moore, mother of assistant men’s basketball coach Jeff Moore and mother-in-law of NSU Elementary Lab teacher Amy Moore, passed away. Visitation and services were held in Lake Arthur on June 10. A plant was sent to services from the NSU Floral Fund.

Kayla Shaw, daughter of Kathy Shaw, College of Education, passed away on Friday, June 18. The NSU Floral Fund sent a spray of flowers to services.

Flowers were also sent to the funeral service for Jerry Kay. Mr. Kay was the father of Sonia Kay, administrative coordinator in South Hall, and father-in-law of Kelly Kay, development information specialist for Alumni Affairs.