Shirley A. (Holly) Stave presented a paper, “Coyote Sisters and Their Young: The Family in Barbara Kingsolver’s Prodigal Summer” at the Society for the Study of Southern Literature, which met in New Orleans in April.

Dr. Norann Planchock and Dr. Pamela Simmons were facilitators/presenters at the “Nursing’s Future in Louisiana: 2010 Summit of Nursing Educators, Nursing Employers and Nursing Regulators” held March 25 in Baton Rouge. Dr. Planchock led the “Issues and Trends Related to Nursing Education” concurrent sessions and Dr. Simmons led the “Workforce Recruitment and Retention Issues” concurrent sessions. Maxine Johnson was the conference moderator.

Dr. Simmons, project director and co-conference chair, Diane Webb, co-conference chair, Maxine Johnson, and Dr. Planchock hosted the S.A.F.E.R. (Schools of nursing Aligned For Emergency Responsiveness)
NSU community pitches in with clean-up

Despite rainy conditions, approximately 53 NSU faculty, staff, and students gathered at Normal Hill on May 1 and helped clean-up campus and along MLK, Behan, Caspari, Boyd, 2nd St. and Cypress Avenue. The event was held in conjunction with the city-wide cleanup.

The four teams (Purple, Orange, White and Green) joined with volunteers from around the city at the downtown riverbank where the first Green Market of 2010 was held. The City of Natchitoches, in partnership with Keep Louisiana Beautiful, provided gloves, trash bags, and light refreshments to all volunteers. Courtney Hornsby, from the City of Natchitoches, indicated that approximately two tons of trash were collected on the day of the clean-up.

“When we combine this figure with other cleanups held this spring, we estimate that 5-7 tons of trash were collected and disposed of properly,” said Steve Gruesbeck, director of Service-Learning, who spearheaded NSU’s involvement with the clean-up.

NSU Faculty and family volunteers were Dr. Lisa Abney, Dr. Mike Cundall and sons Justin and Jack, Dr. Jonathan Akin, Dr. Greg Handel, Jim Hurley, Jennifer Videtto, Dr. Julie Ernstlein, Dr. Malena McLaren, husband Kevin and daughter Anna; Gruesbeck and daughter Emma, Carmel Bourg, Dr. April French, Dr. Walter Flomer, Dr. Sharron Joy, Dr. Tara Gallien and son Daniel, Dr. Kioh Kim and son Chuhyun.

Dr. Kim also invited NSU’s visiting Korean Student Teachers Namju Kim, Taeceun Kim, Minjung Kim, Mina Han and Jiyeon Lee.

NSU student volunteers were Yaser Elqutub, Alan Jones, Luke Tarver, Marcus Sandoval, Brian Bailes, Mason Ross, Chassidy Bayonne, Adrienne Thomas, Tijuan Rushing, James Cox, Crystal Larson, Morgan Parker, Tamika Thomas, Joshua Allen, Bianca Warren, Phill Dill, Kendall Franklin, Amy Dupuy, Cynthia Rodriguez, Madelyn Hall, Corey Chachery, Ada Tate, Zach Jones, Donoan Wesley, Denise Gibson and Justin Copeland.

In addition, Brenda Webb gave a warm welcome and thank you on behalf of President Webb and herself on the morning of the clean-up.

NSU students enrolled in Jamie Flanagan’s IDS 2000 Service Learning class sponsored fourth and fifth graders from NSU Elementary Lab in their first science fair May 4. Seated from left are fifth grade students Lauryn Buckner, Jessica Zhang, Connor Bertucci and Taylor Garland. Standing are Dalton Dark, Zackary Dubois, Kade Busby, NSU student Jamie Warrick, Meredith Phelps and Katelynd Hayward.

Students in IDS 2000 Service Learning class assisted Anne Stevens, 4th and 5th grade science teacher at NSU Elementary Lab with a science fair. The projects were judged by Denise Garland, Dr. Andei Ludu and Clarence Davis. From left are D.J. Rabb, Madison Henson, Mariah Jones, Paige Casson, NSU student Siji Wyatt, Cole Kendrick and Jacob Boyt.
NSU’s Vet Tech Program is seeking good homes for dogs and cats currently housed in Bienvenu Hall. The animals are cared for by throughout the semester by Vet Tech students as the students learn to handle and treat the animals for heartworms and other health conditions. The animals are currently in good health and ready for adoption.

“Ideally, we will get new animals at the beginning of every semester and find homes for them at the end of the semester,” Hudspeth said, adding that the department follows adoption guidelines to ensure each animal is going to a safe home.

Available for adoption are:
- Lila – female lab mix, 7 months old, not spayed
- Dilly – female lab/chow mix, 2 years old, spayed
- Maya – female terrier mix, 9 weeks old
- Torry – female cat, one year old, spayed
- Allie – female cat, one year old, spayed
- Tony – male cat, one year old, neutered
- Bianca – female cat, not spayed
- Kitten, 9 weeks
- Kitten, 7 weeks

Although many of the animals in Bienvenu Hall were abandoned, Hudspeth stressed that the program is not a shelter and, with limited space and resources, is only able to care for a specific number of animals. However, after the animals have been sufficiently rehabilitated, vaccinated and have no health concerns, they make excellent pets.

For more information on adopting one of these animals, contact Hudspeth at ext. 4316.
Scientist’s research draws international attention

An article by Dr. Andrei Ludu, professor of physics at Northwestern State University, has been accepted for publication in the Journal for Theoretical Biology, a top international peer-reviewed journal. The Journal of Theoretical Biology covers topics of interest to biology in many areas of research, often using mathematics.

“The fact that the article was published in a journal of biology suggests that our IDEAS interdisciplinary program really works and produces,” Ludu said.

The IDEAS (Interdisciplinary Experimentation and Scholarship) program is an undergraduate research program that applies biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics to conduct research and solve problems. This interdisciplinary approach requires students to master concepts from multiple disciplines. The experimental approaches encourage researchers and students to reach beyond the traditional model of solving problems using the principles and technologies within a single discipline.

Ludu will also give a series of lectures on the material published in his book on solitons at an international mathematical physics conference in Varna, Bulgaria, June 4-9. The lecture series is sponsored in full by the host institution. The talk will be targeted to international students and experts in Ludu’s scientific field and related fields.

People...Continued from Page 1

Invitational Conference in New Orleans April 23. The conference, which was funded by a $49,700 grant from the NIH/NCMHHD, was a collaborative effort between the NSU College of Nursing and Dillard University Division of Nursing.

Associate Professor of Chemistry Dr. Gillian Rudd has been invited to serve on a panel that reviews student affiliate chapters of the American Chemical Society. Rudd is advisor to NSU’s award-winning ACS student affiliate chapter and has previously served as an on-line reviewer of chapter reports. Now she will join colleagues in Washington, D.C., as an on-site peer reviewer of ACS undergraduate program finalists July 16-18.

“This is tremendously exciting because it’s when the final decision-making for the SAACS chapter awards is made and it should be good fun,” Rudd said.

The ACS recognizes successful student chapters for conducting exceptional programs and activities during the academic year. Chapters are evaluated on the value and impact of their activities and initiatives, such as community service and Earth Day events, attendance at scientific meetings, communication and green chemistry initiatives. All are described in each chapter report.

ACS is an organization which represents professionals at all degree levels and in all fields of chemistry and sciences that involve chemistry. Student chapters are organizations for undergraduate chemical science majors. Members participate in a wide range of programs and activities that enhance their college experience and prepare them for successful careers.

Paul Christopher, assistant professor of low strings, performed a guest artist recital with pianist Elena Kuroda as part of ArtsFest 2010 at Baton Rouge Community College on April 27. The program featured music by Louisiana composers and included the world premiere of Dialogue for cello and piano by Kevin George. Christopher also traveled to Costa Rica in May with fellow CAPA faculty member Dr. Christine Allen, associate professor of piano, where they presented master classes and a guest artist recital at the Universidad de Costa Rica in San Pedro.

Dr. Barbara Duchardt, Professor, College of Education attended and presented “A Five-Year Strategic Instruction Model™ Plan for Louisiana” at the Louisiana Strategic Instruction Model™ Professional Development Update at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge on May 4-5.
Leesville-Ft. Polk SNA hosts guest speaker

The Student Nurses Association at NSU Leesville-Fort Polk welcomed to their monthly meeting Glen Cooley, Ph.D., CPA, CFP, Associate Professor of Accounting, and Poindexter Foundation Endowed Professorship #1 in April.

Telling the student nurses why she had asked Dr. Cooley to speak, Wendy Palermo, MSN, RN, PhD(c), advisor to the group, noted that many of them will be ending their student status at graduation on May 7 and starting their careers as registered nurses, some even just beginning their first paid work. She said that while they are likely to be excited over what might seem like a lot of spending money, the reality is that along with the salaries come expenses and other financial obligations.

Dr. Cooley noted that, according to many studies, 30-40% of Americans don’t know where their money goes, and he recommended that all undergraduates take a course in personal finance.

He said that everyone needs to set financial goals and develop plans to achieve those goals. There are short-term goals, intermediate goals, and long-term goals. The items listed under each goal should be prioritized.

Each person needs to plan for retirement by budgeting a certain amount to save each month. Many companies offer 401(k) plans, to which the employer, as well as the employee, contributes. Another method of saving is to contribute to a Roth IRA, which will be tax free if the taxpayer leaves the funds in until he is 59 ½. He emphasized that an investor’s funds needed to be diversified within the 401(k) plans and the IRA’s in order to avoid as much risk as possible. Dr. Cooley’s advice was to have funds deducted from the paycheck before the employee sees the check, saying “If you don’t see it, you won’t spend it.” Dr. Cooley also noted the importance of life insurance in order to protect one’s family.

One question that a student asked was, when employed, to take the benefits offered or to take the higher salary. Dr. Cooley said making that decision depended upon each person’s situation, but in general it was better to take the benefits because they are usually tax free.

When another student asked about gold, Dr. Cooley said he would not recommend gold as an investment.

Dr. Cooley concluded the program by saying the best advice he could give was for the graduates to repay their student loans and any other debts as fast as possible and use their funds for themselves rather than paying interest.

Lady Demons will host summer basketball camps

The NSU Lady Demons Basketball team will offer two basketball camps this summer. The Little Dribblers Day Camp will be from 8 a.m.-noon Monday-June 7-Thursday, June 10 at the NSU WRAC. The camp is for children ages 5-12 and the cost is $75 per child.

The camp is designed to teach youngsters the proper techniques and fundamentals of basketball in a fun environment. The coaching staff includes former WNBA player and current Assistant Coach Trina Frierson, Assistant Coach Bob Austin, Assistant Coach Victoria Willis, Head Coach Jennifer Graf and current and former Lady Demons. Each participant will receive a T-shirt and camp basketball.

Position Camp will be offered June 20-23 and Team Camp will be July 12-14 in Prather Coliseum. Position Camp will be $275 for overnight campers and $225 for commuter campers. A $50 non-refundable deposit is required. The Team camp requires a $100 deposit due by June 25. A confirmation packet will be mailed to each head coach.

For more information, contact the Lady Demon Basketball Office at 357-5891.
Summer theatre productions announced


Both plays 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, which includes the meal and the show. Reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, call (318) 357-4483.

“Cotton Patch Gospel” is based on the book, “The Cotton Patch Version of Matthew and John” by Clarence Jordan. The show is set in Georgia and is a contemporary retelling of the life of Jesus.

Jordan describes the story as an “approach to the scriptures to help the modern reader have the same sense of participation in them which the early Christians must have had.

“Translations have left us stranded in some faraway land in the long-distant past. We need to have it come in our tongue and our time. We want to be participants in the faith not merely spectators.”

In reviewing “Cotton Patch Gospel,” Contemporary Christian Music called it “A dream come true. A breath of fresh air. Something good is happening. A reverential retelling of the book of Matthew. It takes the Bible’s passionate intensity and directness for contemporary meaning into the popular vein without diluting it.”

Pia Wyatt is the director.

“Marriage Can Be Murder” is a murder mystery that takes place at the wedding and reception of Lisa and Michael. Everything of course goes awry as wedding bliss turns to murder. Audience members will laugh till they cry trying to figure out this whodunit in this silly trip down the aisle. This comic production is interactive as the cast of characters serves a four-course dinner to the audience of amateur detectives.

Scott Burrell is the director.

A play for children, “Mother Goose Mysteries” will be presented July 7-10 and 14-17 at 1 p.m. in Theatre West. Tickets are $4.

DeFord contributes to “Pop” art, exhibits work at ULM

Matt DeFord, associate professor or art, was one of seven artists to be selected for the exhibit “POP!: 50 Years of Bubble Wrap” at ArtSpace in Shreveport. Matt submitted a proposal of what he would do with bubble wrap as an artistic medium and it was accepted.

“I created three large spheres with holes at the bottom and a light on the inside. They were to be hung so that the viewer can enter into them. The spheres were 6 feet, 8 feet and 10 feet in diameter.

More on the exhibit is available at http://artspaceshreveport.com/2010/05/06/pop.

A piece by DeFord was also accepted to display on the University of Louisiana-Monroe campus sculpture garden for a year. The piece is entitled “The View #2.”
Dr. Vickie Gentry, College of Education, welcomed nine student teachers from the School of Education at Chungnam National University (CNU) in South Korea. The nine graduate students of education conducted their student teaching at the NSU Middle Lab School, Natchitoches Magnet School and Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts for four weeks during May. Prior to their student teaching, there was one-week training by an English professor Dr. Shane Rasmussen and Education instructors Connie Melder and Eileen Kendrick.

The student teaching program is based on the academic exchange agreement between the College of Education and the School of Education of Chungnam National University. The purpose of the student teaching program is to have students develop their global perspectives as future teachers so that they can bring their valuable experience into their classrooms in the future. Another purpose of their visit was to explore and learn more about American and Louisiana education, culture, food, people, etc. While in Natchitoches, they participated in various school activities at the various schools. They also presented their American educational experience at the University of Louisiana Monroe International Educational Tools for Success conference.

CNU is located in Taegon, the fifth largest city in South Korea, having 1.5 million inhabitants. CNU has about 32,000 students at 15 Colleges of Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Economics & Management, Engineering, Agriculture & Life Science, Law, Pharmacy, Medicine, Human Ecology, Fine Arts & Music, Veterinary Medicine, and Bioscience & Biotechnology, and at seven graduate schools of Graduate School, Business Administration, Education, Public Administration, Public Health, Industry, Patent Law, Peace & Security Studies.
CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. Joe Morris, Department of Criminal Justice, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $25,000 from U.S. Dept of Education through Louisiana Tech for “Cyber Forensics Camp Competition.”

Ms. Jodie Heinicka, Department of Athletics, received notification of an award of $1,183 from National Collegiate Athletic Association for “NCAA APR Supplemental Fund.”

Dr. James Crank and Ms. Lisa Rougeou, Department of Language and Communication, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $46,000 from University of California – Berkeley for “Continuing Funding for Northwestern State University Writing Project.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Laura Aaron, Department of Radiologic Sciences, College of Nursing, submitted a proposal to U. S. Department of Health and Human Services for “Enhancing Training Opportunities for Students in a Digital Imaging Environment.” Rebecca Britt, Tammy Curtis, Kelli Haynes, and Ben Wood are collaborators.

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, Louisiana Folklife Center, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to National Park Service for “Changing Times in the Delta.” Dr. Pete Gregory is collaborator.

Dr. Steven Gabrey, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for “Continued Development of the LSS through the World Wide Web.”

Mr. Jeffrey Girard, School of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Division of Archaeology for “Regional Archaeology Program.”

Mr. Joe Morris, Criminal Justice Department, School of Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to U. S. Department of Justice for “Nationwide Examination of Rural Community Policing Issues.” Ms. Daphne Levenson and Ms. Polly Snell are collaborators.

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

National Science Foundation sponsors workshop at NSU

A five-day workshop in Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) was held at NSU from May 17-22. The workshop, which was organized and taught by Dr. Massimo D. Bezoari, professor of chemistry, Scholars’ College, was sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Dr. Bezoari was the principal investigator of the grant awarded in 2008, entitled “Collaborative Enhancement of Undergraduate Science Education Through Inquiry-Based GCMS Experiments,” which provided significant funds ($119,912) for the acquisition of state-of-the-art instrumentation, faculty salaries, as well as support for workshops that included participant living expenses, salaries, and stipends.

Eighteen students and three faculty from Bossier Parish and Louisiana Delta Community Colleges attended the workshop. Dr. Bezoari used the Process Oriented Guided Inquiry (POGIL) approach in developing student understanding and skills in GCMS analysis. Students carried out a wide range of qualitative analyses, including fire accelerants, selected mixtures of organic compounds, headspace analysis (i.e., vapors from mixtures such as herbs, spices, and flowers), water “pollutants” (using purge-trap concentration), and quantitative analyses, in which they generated calibration graphs and determined the actual concentration of compounds in complicated mixtures.

Dr. Bezoari stated that the workshop was a great success.

“Students learn much more when they are engaged in activities that relate to real life. In this workshop, the experiments related to...”

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Students in the Hospitality Management, Tourism and Recreation program presented the popular International Festival in the 700 block of Front Street in downtown Natchitoches during the spring semester. The event featured exotic delicacies prepared by students in the culinary arts program. Guests sampled cuisines from China, Egypt, Jamaica, Florida, Canada, Germany, Honduras, the Netherlands and Greece. The event is held every other year. Proceeds go towards the NSU Hospitality Foundation.

Forensic science (accelerant analysis), industrial chemistry (organic compounds), natural products (odoriferous compounds in herbs, spices, flowers), and environmental science (water analysis and quantitative analysis). In addition, we have strengthened ties with local and regional institutions, and hope to collaborate with them in research projects in the future.” Faculty from BPCC and LDCC were in agreement, stating “We definitely will be back next year.”

Bezoari gratefully acknowledged the National Science Foundation, DUE CCLI Phase 1 grant # 0736653, for all the activities described.

Alvin E. Blizzard Jr., grandfather of David King, Aviation Science, passed away Friday May 21 at the age of 99 in Shreveport. Services were held at Kings Highway Christian Church in Shreveport.
Northwestern State University’s Office of Electronic and Continuing Education will offer classes in Kenpo Karate, swing dancing and Microsoft PowerPoint in June.

Kenpo Karate will be taught on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from May 25 – Aug. 5. The class will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. in Room 127 of the Health and Human Performance Building.

The fee is $89 for children age 7-14 and $99 for adults ages 14 and up.

“Jumpin’ Jitterbug for Beginners” will teach the single rhythm steps that form the character of swing dancing. The class will be held on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. in Room 127 of the Health and Human Performance Building from June 1 – 29. The fee is $65.

“Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 and Photo Story” will be taught on June 3, 10 and 17 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. in Room 113 of Dodd Hall. The cost for the class is $99.

For more information on these or other non-credit classes at Northwestern, go to www.gatlineducation.com/nsula, www.ed2go.com/nsu, or call 357-6355.

NSU’s Journalism 4060 heads up “The Demon Street Team”

A Journalism 4060 “Public Relations Campaigns” class formed NSU’s first “Demon Street Team” to promote attendance and school spirit from students at on-campus sporting events.

The Street Team worked with NSU’s Athletic Department to help promote Demon Rewards and game promotions. The Demon Street Team was responsible for a volunteering and helping promote increased student participation.

Students in the class incorporated a variety of promotions in their campaign as a way of increasing participation from a larger student-base. The first event they promoted, a Friday evening baseball game vs. UT-Arlington, resulted in the second highest home attendance for an NSU Baseball game this season, against a team that does not travel in large numbers.

Casey Reynolds, a student in the class, stated that “The Street Team will strive to increase student involvement in athletic activities through the Demon Rewards program and in future collaborations with the Student Alumni Association.”

“The ultimate goal of the [athletic] program is to provide an opportunity for student-athletes to earn a degree, enter their chosen career field and have a positive impact on the lives of those they associate with on a personal and professional level.”

Kelly Over de Linden, a JOUR 4060 student, noted “Athletics is one component of a complete university. As part of the university, athletics makes a significant contribution to the attainment of the institutional goals of academic success, physical and emotional well-being, and social development of student-athletes.” The Athletic Department also contributes to the entire university, she added, and “the Street Team is going to organize activities around and during the games. The Street Team is going to organize attractions, games and entertainment that is focused on student, faculty and staff participation.”

The class, taught by Dr. William Broussard, assistant professor of journalism, was also visited by Drake Owens, executive director of the NSU Foundation, and Adam Jonson and Alex Cook, assistant directors of marketing in the NSU Athletic Department.