



NSU News

A Publication for the Northwestern State University Faculty & Staff

VOLUME 45 No. 5 JUNE 2021

PEOPLE

An article by Assistant Professor of English **Dr. Ereck Jarvis**, “Enwhitenmen’ and The Woman of Colour,” is newly published as part of “A Roundtable on The Woman of Colour (1808): Pedagogic and Critical Approaches” in the peer-reviewed open access journal *Studies in Religion and the Enlightenment*. <https://www.srejournal.org/2021/03/16/enwhitenmen/>

Dr. Greg Granger, professor of history, has contributed several short pieces to the music-oriented website, *Something Else! Reviews*. His most recent article, “Sacred and Great Gigs in the Sky: The Vocalise Tradition from Duke Ellington to Pink Floyd,” as well as past articles and interviews can be found at www.somethingelserreviews.com/author/greg-granger.

Granger has also recently begun regular appearances on the locally produced podcast, *Billy West Live*, found at https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9mZWVkcys5idXp6c3Byb3V0LmNvbS8xNzYxMTA0LnJzcw?sa=X&ved=0CAMQ4aUDahcKEwjQ4_TI2efwAhUAAAAAHQAAAAQAQ&hl=en.



*You are cordially invited to attend
a retirement reception
honoring*

Dr. Chris Maggio

President
Northwestern State University

*for his leadership and service to the
Northwestern State University campus*

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

*Orville Hanchey Gallery
Northwestern State University*

140 Central Avenue



Light refreshments served





NSU Fun & Fitness SUMMER DAY CAMP 2021

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Please complete the form below
- Make your check payable to NSU Fun and Fitness Camp
- You can drop your completed registration form, along with your payment, by the NSU WRAC or mail it to:

Fun and Fitness Summer Day Camp
Attention: Jason Stelly
NSU WRAC, Room 217
Natchitoches, LA 71497



- 3 5-day sessions of camp
- July 5-9; July 12-16; July 19-23
- M-F; 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Ages 5-12
- Early Bird: \$125.00 per week per camper (includes a \$25 non-refundable deposit for each week) before June 19. \$150.00 after June 19.
- Provisions for early drop-off or late pick-up
- Campers must bring their own lunch—The camp will provide an afternoon snack for all campers.
- There will be a limited number of campers. Campers will be admitted on a first come first serve basis. Register Early!!!!

CONTACT INFO: JASON STELLY
318.357.5341/STELLYJ@NSULA.EDU

NSU FUN & FITNESS SUMMER DAY CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Last Name _____ First Name _____

Age _____ Male Female

Please check all sessions your camper will be attending: July 5-9 July 12-16 July 19-23

Parent/Guardian's Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent/Guardian Home Phone _____ Parent Guardian Work Phone _____

T-shirt Size: Children sizes S (6-8) M (10-12) L (14-16) Adult sizes S M L

Name and Relationship of relative or friend who can be reached in case of emergency, if parents cannot be reached, and whom the child can be released to other than the parents.

1. Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

2. Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Family Physician _____

List any medical problems your child may have that would affect his/her participation _____

Dates set for Summer Art Camp

Northwestern State University's Department of Fine and Graphic Art will present Art Camp 2021 this summer.

Dates are June 7-11 for ages 5-11, June 14-18 for ages 5-11 and June 21-25 for ages 12-18.
For details email

Corbin Covher at covherc@nsula.edu. Updates will be posted on social media @ NSUARTCAMP.

Student Union has new art space



Professors of Art Leslie Gruesbeck and Micheal Yankowski worked with Karen Loach, assistant director and career services coordinator in Counseling and Career Services, to create an exhibit space for student art on the third floor of the Student Union. The exhibit is called “The Egg: Studies in black and white.” Students photographed white eggs on a white background using shadows. “This area is often utilized by students waiting to see staff members in Counseling, Career Services, Student Conduct and Title XI/Student Advocacy,” Loach said. “Hopefully, the beautiful art created by Yankowski’s class will give students something interesting and soothing to focus on while they are waiting. Additionally, the Student Union hosts middle school and high school students from across the region for several camps during the summer. The art exhibited in this space will also help inspire future artists.” Loach said the exhibit will be periodically updated with student art.

ADVANCE program will return to campus this July

Northwestern State University will host the 33rd session of the ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars (ADVANCE) July 4 – 24. ADVANCE is a three-week residential program that academically challenges and socially engages gifted, honors or talented students who are currently in 7-11th grades. ADVANCE will be held on campus and will follow COVID-19 protocols throughout the program.

All applicants must provide a copy of their most recent report card and state standardized test scores. If scores have been misplaced, many schools provide that information on school transcripts, and transcripts may be submitted to ADVANCE. If applicants have taken an ACT or

SAT, those scores may be submitted with their applications.

Course offerings include humanities, mathematics, natural sciences with laboratory components, and computer programming. By working with carefully selected instructors and teaching assistants (TAs), and limiting class enrollment to 15 students, each student is given the opportunity to attain maximum academic growth.

While the academic program at ADVANCE is top-notch, the residential program sets ADVANCE apart from other similar summer programs. For further information visit <http://advance.nsula.edu/>, call (318) 357-4500, or email palmerh@nsula.edu.



Two students named winners of First Year Writer Awards

LaTrinda McGee of Zwolle and Naomi Adams of Natchitoches were named winners of the Northwestern State University Department of English, Foreign Languages, & Cultural Studies Excellence in First-Year Writing Award.

McGee, a freshman nursing major from Zwolle, won Best Narrative Essay for her story, “8 Minutes 46 Seconds.” The essay was written for Instructor **Mariann Wilson**’s online English 1010 class.

Her personal narrative centers on the murder of George Floyd, a cousin she knew personally as Perry, and recounts McGee’s journey to D.C. to participate in the 2020 March on Washington in Floyd’s memory.

“My work revolved around the death of George Floyd that basically reignited the civil rights movement and sparked global change,” said McGee. “With me being the cousin of George, or “Perry”, as we called him it touched me in such a different way. It was difficult to handle all of the

media attention his death was received. Whether it was good or bad it still took a toll.”

McGee said she could not pass up the chance to go to Washington D.C., with family members to take part in the march done in Floyd’s name.

“I reconnected with family I hadn’t seen in years and it was definitely one of the highlights in my life,” said McGee.

“Throughout this tragedy, our family rekindled some of our relationships and made me realize how precious life is.

“I’m not sure if this work will encourage me to seek out any other opportunities to write only because this was so personal to me. I just wrote about my experiences and what our family went through during that tough time.”

Adams, a freshman fine and graphic art major, won Best Research Essay for “Why Serial Killers Flooded the 1980s,” which analyzes the environmental and psychological factors that could explain the historic number of serial murderers in the United

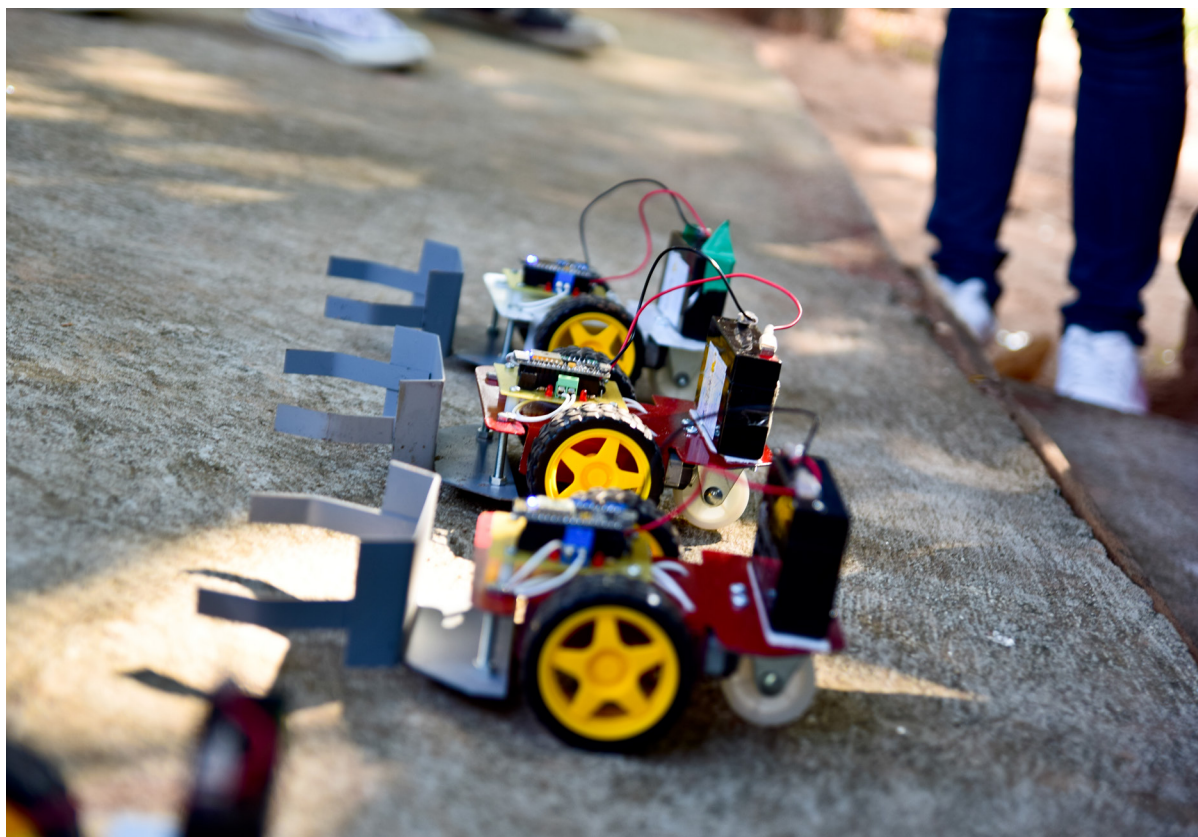
Stated during the 1980s. Adams wrote the essay for Instructor **Katie Rayburn**’s English 1020 class.

“I love true crime, especially documentaries, and have always had a strong interest in serial killers,” said Adams. “The most prolific serial killers in history killed during the late 70s and the entirety of the 80s, and this greatly interested me. When I was presented the opportunity to write a research essay, I immediately decided to write it on this specific situation. Writing this essay also allowed for me to catch a glimpse into the minds of serial killers, which plays into another huge interest of mine—psychology.”

Adams said she was encouraged by receiving the award and said it will make her work to improve her personal writing so that future essays will reach the same level of excellence.

This was the second time the award was presented by

Continued on Page 5



ET Department will host Robotics Camp June 14-18

Northwestern State University's Department of Engineering Technology will host ASTRO STEM Robotics Camp this summer. The Virtual Astro Camp will take place June 14-18 and will be conducted remotely with synchronous and asynchronous activities and for children ages 8-14.

If needed, in-person interaction and live training will be conducted at the

Natchitoches Public Library.

Registration is free and will be held June 1-June 4 at noon. To register and to get more information, visit the department website at <https://engrtech.nsula.edu>. Due to space limitations, only the first 25 applicants will be accepted.

The mission of the camp is the generate interest among youngsters in STEM-related fields and prepare them for the workforce of the future,

according to **Dr. Jafar F. Al-Sharab**, head of NSU's Department of Engineering Technology. This program is sponsored by the A+ Coalition, the Engineering Technology Department and STEM Pioneers Organization.

To learn more, contact Al-Sharab at jafar@nsula.edu or (318) 357-6751 or **Curtis Desselles** at dessellesc@nsula.edu or email the department at engineering@nsula.edu.

First Year Writing Awards ... Continued from Page 4

the Department of English, Foreign Languages, & Cultural Studies. They were given in 2019 but not in 2020. Wilson created the awards and coordinates them.

"I created the awards after learning about similar awards at other universities," said Wilson. "We teach over 2,000 students each year in our freshman writing classes, so I was eager to recognize our students and faculty for their valuable work at NSU"

English 1010 and 1020 faculty are

encouraged to nominate the best essays submitted in their classes during the academic year. A small committee from the department selects winners in two categories: Best Narrative Essay and Best Research Essay. This year's winners were notified by e-mail and will receive a certificate and monetary prize.

More information on the Department of English, Foreign Languages, & Cultural Studies is available at english.nsula.edu.

Joy installed as international Phi Beta Delta president

Dr. Sharon Joy, associate professor of music at Northwestern State University, was installed as the international president of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars this week during the 35th Annual Conference of the Phi Beta Delta. Joy has served as the Phi Beta Delta chapter president and coordinator at NSU for 11 years and has served on the international board for two years as southwest regional vice president and most recently as president-elect.

This past week Joy coordinated and chaired the annual international online conference that included over 30 presentations of research by international and domestic university faculty, staff and students.

“It is a pleasure and an honor to work with these dedicated people from many institutions around the globe, united in their commitment to international education and global awareness,” she said.

Phi Beta Delta is the first honor society in the United States to recognize scholarship achievement in international education. It was established in 1987 and has chartered over 200 chapters at universities in the United States and around the world. Its goals are to increase the recognition, credibility and importance of the international experience and create a catalyst for international academic-based programming on college campuses while providing support and recognition to those individuals on campuses who are involved in international endeavors.

Joy was inducted as a member of Phi Beta Delta at the University of Houston in 2001. In 2005, at the annual conference in Washington, D.C., she was awarded the Phi Beta Delta Yvonne Captain Faculty Award for Outstanding Contribution to International Education, primarily for her work founding, facilitating and participating in Palestinian-Jewish Dialogue groups in Houston and in Israel/Palestine.

“I remember receiving that award in 2005 and thinking that I had only begun my work in this area,” she said.

She has attended and presented at many of the annual PBD conferences since that time and shared research as diverse as “The Music of Al Andalus,” “Music and Theater Arts in the Palestinian-Israeli Peace Process,” “International University Partnerships at NSU” and “The Arava Institute of Environmental Sciences: An Educational Oasis for Israel/Palestine/Jordan.”



Joy

Joy has lived abroad and traveled extensively throughout Europe, the Middle East and Latin America. She is fluent in Hebrew, speaks some French and Spanish and is learning Arabic and Korean.

There was no Phi Beta Delta chapter at NSU when she arrived in 2005. With the support of then Provost Dr. Lisa Abney and President Dr. Randy Webb, Joy gathered like-minded individuals that included the late Dr. Jean D’Amato-Thomas of the Louisiana Scholars’ College, Dr. Greg Granger, Dr. Steve Horton and library director Abbie Landry. The Northwestern State University Eta Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Delta received its charter in April 2010 with the induction of 25 faculty, staff and student members. “When we sit around the table at a board meeting or other function, we have the opportunity to form relationships that transcend disciplinary and university ‘roles,’” she said. “There is a camaraderie in working together on this human level that exemplifies our support of collaboration in our diverse world.”

Northwestern State University had been scheduled to host the 2021 Annual Conference, but the in-person conference was moved to a virtual format due to COVID-19 protocols.

“NSU will host the 36th Annual Phi Beta Delta Conference May 20-21, 2022. For more information about Phi Beta Delta, contact Joy at joys@nsula.edu.

McDermott co-authors article for prestigious Dictionary

Northwestern State University Professor of Flute and Coordinator of Graduate Studies in Music **Dr. Dennette Derby McDermott** was recently asked to co-author an article in the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians. This 29-volume music encyclopedia is the largest and most respected reference work for the subject of music in the world. Each article is written by a recognized scholar in their area of research, and every entry is reviewed by a board and subject to approval.

The New Grove Dictionary was originally published in 1878, the last printed edition was published in 2001, and is now available online by subscription. The article that McDermott co-authored is a result of over 20 years of research on the neglected 18th Century Czech composer, Jiri Čart (Georg Zarth).

McDermott's research began in 1997 when a Czech professor at the Janáček Academy of Music, Arnošt Bourek, gave her manuscript copies of Čart's unpublished flute sonatas. She conducted a sort of, "treasure hunt" for more original 18th-century manuscript copies by this composer held by libraries in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy, and Sweden. This involved writing to each library and requesting a copy which was available in either paper or electronic format.

In 2010, she traveled to The Royal Library in Copenhagen, and not only saw original manuscripts, but was also able to identify two of the composer's works which were labeled as "Anonymous." This research yielded important updates on Čart to RISM (Repertoire International des Sources Musicales), a worldwide library reporting system of musical manuscripts and early editions.

In 2016, McDermott organized and published the first "Thematic Index" of this composer's works. These works are mainly sonatas and concerti for flute or violin. Jiri Čart was a Bohemian flutist and violinist who worked at the courts of Dresden, Berlin and Mannheim. The various spellings of his name in various languages (Czard, Czarth, Qchart, Schart, Szarth, Tzarth, and Zardt, to name a few) may have contributed to him being somewhat forgotten.

McDermott is the 2021 recipient of the Magale Endowed Professorship, which will be used to record several of these flute sonatas on replica period instruments.

In the past six years, she has learned to



McDermott

play the one-keyed, 18th-century wooden flute in order to have a better understanding of this composer's music. Her studies on this period instrument has led to instruction with some of the world's leading baroque flutists and scholars, such as Bartold Kuijken, Wilbert Hazelzet, Claire Guimond, Jed Wentz and Janet See. She also recently uploaded some of these manuscripts to IMSLP (International Music Score Library Project) and hopes to soon add a recording so Čart may receive the appreciation that he deserves.

McDermott has taught at Northwestern State since 1990. She has performed in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, England, Canada, Honduras, Russia, Spain and throughout the United States, including numerous performances at National Flute Association Conventions.

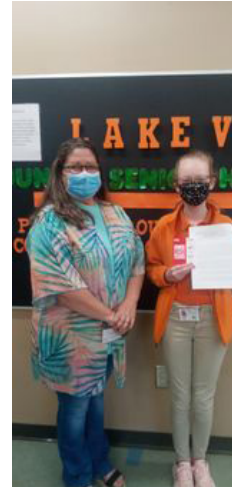
She participated in the Twin Cities Baroque Music program in 2016 and 2017. In 2019, McDermott was selected from an audition to participate with The American Bach Soloists Academy in San Francisco where she studied with Sandra Miller. McDermott plays baroque flute with the Austin Baroque Orchestra, a period music ensemble that specializes in music of the renaissance, baroque and classical periods. In 2020, she performed with the Ritornello Baroque Collective of San Diego. She holds degrees from Michigan State University (BM), The University of Michigan (MM) and The University of North Texas (DMA).



Third place winner in the K-third category was Andi Carney of Provencal Christian Academy. Also shown are teacher Shontell Coe, left, and NSU English Dept. Administrative Service Coordinator Scarlett Vasocu, right.



Bronson Raines was the third place winners from Marthaville Elementary/Jr. High. He is shown with teacher Tammy Brazil.



Department Administrative Services Coordinator Scarlett Vasocu awarded Lakeview Jr. High student Talyn Loftin the first place writing award.



Winners and school representatives from Provencal Elementary/Jr. High, from left, are Principal Jennifer Martin, teacher Miss Adams, third place Saydi Loftin, first place Karen Cedars, second place Aubrie Hinds, Mrs. Brown, and Vice Principal Dwayne Poe.



Fairview Alpha winners and teachers included Mrs. Franks, third place winner Nevaeh Revels, first place winner Taylor Stewart, Mrs. Dowden, second place winner Connor Franks, and Mrs. Crawford.

English Dept. sponsors writing, coloring contests at local schools

Northwestern State University's Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Cultural Studies encouraged literacy at parish schools this spring by sponsoring two contests. Students in grades K-five participated in an Easter writing and coloring contest. Sixth-eighth graders entered the St. Patrick's Day creative writing contest.

The events were advertised to local schools with 234 students in lower grades and 100 students in upper grades from six different local schools entering. Participating schools

were Provencal Elementary and Jr. High, Marthaville Elementary and Jr. High, NSU Elementary Lab School, NSU Middle Lab School, Fairview Alpha Elementary, Lakeview Jr. High and Provencal Christian Academy.

K-three winners were: first place Taylor Stewart from Fairview Alpha Elementary, second place Aubrie Hinds from Provencal Elementary and third place Andi Carney from Provencal Christian Academy.

Winners in grades four-five were: first place Karen Cedars from Provencal, second place

Conner Franks from Fairview Alpha and third place Saydi Loftin from Provencal.

Sixth-eighth grade winners were: first place Talyn Loftin from Lakeview Jr. High, second place Grace Smith from NSU Middle Lab, third place Nevaeh Revels from Fairview Alpha and honorable mention Bronson Raines from Marthaville.

Department Administrative Service Coordinator **Scarlett Vasocu** was the lead organizer and presented the awards to winning students. Several department faculty and staff assisted with judging.

ET's annual STEM Robotics Camp will be held virtually

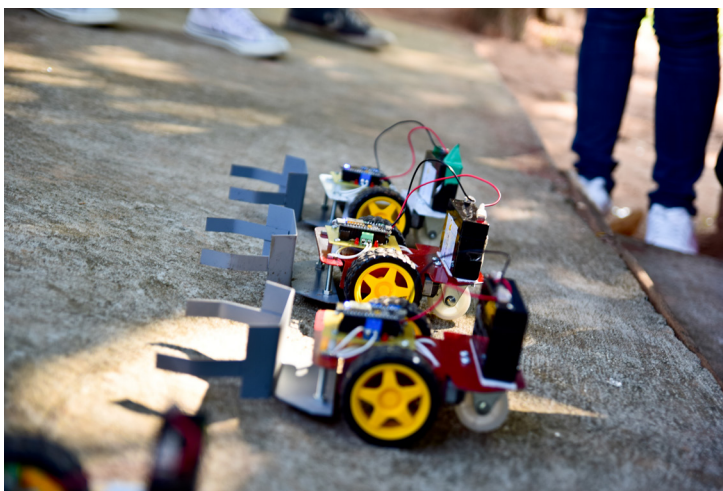
Northwestern State University's Department of Engineering Technology will host ASTRO STEM Robotics Camp this summer. The Virtual Astro Camp will take place June 14-18 and will be conducted remotely with synchronous and asynchronous activities and for children ages 8-14.

If needed, in-person interaction and live training will be conducted at the Natchitoches Public Library.

Registration is free and will be held June 1-June 4 at noon. To register and to get more information, visit the department website at <https://engrtech.nsula.edu>. Due to space limitations, only the first 25 applicants will be accepted.

The mission of the camp is to generate interest among youngsters in STEM-related fields and prepare them for the workforce of the future, according to **Dr. Jafar F. Al-Sharab**, head of NSU's Department of Engineering Technology. This program is sponsored by the A+ Coalition, the Engineering Technology Department and STEM Pioneers Organization.

To learn more, contact Al-Sharab at jafar@nsula.edu or (318) 357-6751 or **Curtis Desselles** at dessellesc@nsula.edu or email the department at engineering@nsula.edu.



Destination Science Camp set for June 21-25

Northwestern State University's School of Biological and Physical Sciences will host Destination Science Camp June 21-25. The camp is intended to be an immersive experience that will provide workshops in anatomy, physiology, microbiology, chemistry, physics, veterinary technology, drone technology and natural science.

The camp is for fifth-eighth grade students ages 10-14 and 9-year-olds heading to fifth grade.

"The camp will have some formal instruction, laboratory time and structured activities, but at the end of the day attendees will unwind by competing in quiz bowls, playing board games, eating snacks, and watching movies," said **Dr. Chris Lyles**, department head.

The cost is \$125 per attendee. Registration includes lab coat and safety goggles. Campers must bring their own lunch, but the camp will provide an afternoon snack. Attendees can be dropped off starting at 8:30 a.m. in the lobby of Bienvenu Hall and picked up in Room 211 between 5 – 5:30 p.m. in Bienvenu Hall.

For more information or to request a camp registration packet email Lyles at lylesc@nsula.edu or Whitney Golden at goldenw@nsula.edu. The camp is hosted by the NSU chapter of the American Society of Microbiology and sponsored by the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center Foundation and the Natchitoches Area Jaycees.



Resources and Assistance

For assistance in seeking information about funding opportunities, preparing proposals or administering projects, contact the Office of Sponsored Programs by phone, 357-5222; e-mail at orsp@nsula.edu, or visit the OSP website at <http://www.nsula.edu/orsp>.

OSP Staff

Carla Howell
Director

Alysia Jones
Associate
Director

Office of Sponsored Programs

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Curtis Penrod, School of Business, College of Business and Technology, received notification of a \$30,366 award from the LA Board of Regents/Cybersecurity Education Management Council for “Central Louisiana Cyber Security Work-Based Scholarship Program.”

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, received notification of four awards from the Louisiana Department of Education and they are listed as follows:

“Statewide Early Learning and Child Care Scholarship Program – Amendment 1” for \$161,340,

“Childcare Screening and Consultation for Choice Neighborhood Project” for \$13,500,

“Statewide Early Learning Career Development Program – Amendment 1” for \$367,873, and

“Statewide Early Learning and Child Care Scholarship Program – Amendment 2” for \$2,023,859.

Dr. Michelle Brunson, College of Education and Human Development, received notification of a \$2,000 award from the Central Louisiana Community Foundation for “Preschool Family Literacy.”

Dr. J. Mark Thompson, School of Creative and Performing Arts/Music, College of Arts and Science, received notification of a \$110,228 award from the LA Board of Regents Support Fund Departmental Enhancement program for “Enhancement of Methods Course Offerings through the Acquisition of Musical Instruments.”

Dr. Xinjia Chen, Department of Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, received notification of a \$28,075 award from the LA Board of Regents Support Fund Departmental Enhancement program for “Enhancement of Automation, Robotics and Operation Research Infrastructure for Engineering Technology.”

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, College of Arts and Sciences, received

notifications of a \$3,500 award from The Cane River National Heritage and a \$4,000 award from the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission for “2021 NSU Folklife Concert Series.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Michelle Brunson,

College of Education and Human Development, submitted a proposal to the Dollar General Literacy Foundation entitled “Supporting the Cradle to College Pipeline.”

Dr. Daniel Rivera-Vasquez, School of Biological and Physical Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation entitled, “STEM Scholars for Biological and Physical Science Majors at NSU.” **Drs. Christopher Lyles, Billy Culver** and **Yohaselly Santiago-Rodriguez** are collaborators.

Dr. Zidong Li, Department of Health and Human Performance, College of Education and Human Development, submitted a proposal to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration entitled, “The Potential Effect of Irisin on Ameliorating Skeletal Muscle Disuse Atrophy in vitro.”

Ms. Nancy Alexander, Child and Family Network, College of Education and Human Development, submitted a proposal to the LA Department of Education entitled, “Playground Enhancement.”

Dr. Daniel Rivera-Vasquez, School of Biological and Physical Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to the Sloan Scholars Mentoring Network entitled, “Modification of Activated Carbon for Wastewater Treatment and Desalination.”

Mr. Jason Church and **Mr. Kevin Ammons**, National Center for Preservation, Technology, and Training, submitted a proposal to the National Park Service entitled, “Tenant Cabin Documentation Project.” **Ms. Sreya Chakraborty**, **Ms. Ina Sthapit** and **Ms. Isabella Jones** are collaborators.