



Dates set for spring Grad Fest

Dates have been set for Northwestern State University's Spring 2021 Grad Fest for graduating seniors.

Grad Fest will take place on NSU's Shreveport campus from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, March 15 on the second floor of the main building. Due to COVID, capacity will be 15 individuals.

Grad Fest will take place on the main campus in Natchitoches from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, March 16 in the Student Union Ballroom. Due to COVID, capacity will be 50 individuals.

Grad Fest will take place on the Alexandria campus from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, March 19 in the Cenla campus library. COVID capacity will be 15 individuals.

NSU will adhere to current state health guidelines in limiting capacity at each facility with social distancing and other safety precautions in place.

Students will be

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Haynes will be recognized as ASRT Fellow

Dr. Kelli Welch Haynes, professor and director of the Radiologic Science program at Northwestern State University, will be elevated to Fellow of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) at the upcoming ASRT annual meeting in June.

To be recognized as a Fellow of the ASRT is one of the highest honors a radiologic technologist can receive, and only a fraction of the 225,000 radiologic technologists in the United States receive this honor.

"It is truly an honor to be recognized by our national society," Haynes said. "This has been a professional goal of mine for a few years and I am truly humbled to be in the company of people who have inspired me, who have helped shape my thinking and who have helped me realize the potential of our profession to truly make a difference. Thanks to the ASRT, I am fortunate to consider so many members friends. I feel it is important to be involved in your profession and do so by volunteering with our professional organizations. They need us."

To be considered for this status, the recipient must have made outstanding contributions to the radiologic science profession and the ASRT through research (podium presentations and writing) and service to the profession. As a scholar, Haynes has written multiple textbooks and textbook chapters, numerous refereed articles and has presented over 100 presentations at the state, national and international levels. In service, she has chaired and co-chaired numerous radiologic science committees at the local, state and national level.



Haynes

"Without a doubt, Dr. Haynes' example of professionalism and service to the radiologic science profession has served as a positive example for students and faculty, and her contributions have brought recognition to the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health," said **Dr. Joel Hicks**, interim dean of NSU's College of Nursing and School of Allied Health. "NSU is one of only a handful of institutions in the nation that can boast having two fellows as part of their faculty, with Dr. Laura Aaron receiving this honor in 2013."

Haynes graduated from NSU in 1995 and practiced as a radiologic technologist for five years before she began teaching at NSU. She has been part of the NSU faculty for 20 years,

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Northwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, pregnancy or parenting status, and veteran or retirement status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies (i.e., Title IX): Employees/Potential Employees - Veronica M. Biscoe, EEO Officer (318-357-6359) or Students - Frances Conine, Dean of Students (318-357-5286).

For Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) concerns, contact the Disability Support and Tutoring Director Randi Washington, at (318) 357-4460.

*Inquiries regarding employment applications should call Business Affairs (318-357-5446).



Phi Beta Delta language and culture series continues this month

Northwestern State University's chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars will host the third group of lectures in its Language and Culture Lecture Series on Thursday March 4 and 11 at 5:30 p.m.

The lectures featuring Professor of Computer Information Systems **Dr. Begoña Perez-Mira** on March 4 and Assistant Professor of French and Spanish **Dr. Benjamin Forkner** on March 11 will be offered via Zoom. Participants will receive the zoom link upon registration. The registration fee is \$5 per lecture for NSU, LSMSA and BPC@NSU students and \$20 per lecture for all other participants. All proceeds will support scholarships for NSU students participating in international studies.

Perez-Mira will speak about Spain and Spanish culture and Forkner will speak about France and French culture. Phi Beta Delta's lecture series offers insights into world cultures and includes greetings, a taste of the language and information about the culture. Previous editions

Haynes... Continued from Page 1

beginning as an instructor and, after earning a doctorate, achieved full professor. She currently holds the Pauline Uli Zysek Endowed Professorship that has allowed her to attend conferences and participate in research.

Founded in 1920, the mission of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists is to advance and

elevate the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession and to enhance the quality and safety of patient care. ASRT strives to be the premier professional association for the medical imaging and radiation therapy community through education, advocacy, research and innovation.

"I am grateful for NSU for supporting and

have introduced the cultures of China, India, and Latin America. Organizers hope these short classes will expand attendees' knowledge and understanding of world cultures and will encourage interest in international study and travel.

Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars has goals 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 involved in international education. The Northwestern State chapter, Eta Mu, was established in 2010 and continues to sponsor campus-wide activities and scholarships on the NSU campus. The chapter was awarded the 2020 Eileen Evans outstanding Chapter Award last May at the organization's annual conference.

To register online visit <https://pbdspain-andfrance.eventbrite.com> or access registration through the QR code below.

encouraging professional involvement. This honor will motivate me to continue make positive contributions to our profession," Haynes said.

Information on radiologic science and other degree programs offered through Northwestern State's School of Allied Health is available at <https://nursing.nsula.edu/allied-health-programs/>.

NSU will honor alumni with named facilities

Northwestern State University is naming three campus facilities in honor of individuals who played important roles in the institution's development and history.

The stage on the Iberville Green will be named the Seven Oaks Stage in honor of the first seven Black students to attend Northwestern State, Steve Jackson, June Cofield, Doris Ann Roque-Robinson, Hyams J. Baptiste, James Johnson, Johnnye Britton-Paige and Pearl Jones-Burton.

A meeting space on the first floor of the Friedman Student Union will recognize the late Dean of Women Lucille Mertz Hendrick.

The Academic Success Center in Watson Library will be named for former State Sen. Gerald Long and his wife, the late Rose Long.

Dedication programs for each facility will be held later this year.

The Seven Oaks Stage is on the site of the former Sabine Hall. Plans were developed over five years with input and support from several

student organizations. NSU was awarded \$10,000 from the Patrick F. Taylor Foundation following a Lunchtime Likes competition in 2014. Students voted to use the award as seed money to develop an outdoor venue for concerts and other performances and chose the location at Iberville Green, a wide plateau next to Iberville Dining Hall conveniently close to university residence halls.

Hendrick was assistant dean of women at Northwestern from 1959 until 1963 and was dean of women from 1963 until her retirement in 1974. A 1929 graduate of Louisiana State Normal, Hendrick was a charter member of Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority and remained active until her death. During her tenure as a college administrator, she was named Outstanding Dean of Women for Louisiana.

Gerald and Rose Long celebrated his Northwestern State Golden Jubilee and their golden wedding anniversary with a \$600,000 gift to the NSU Foundation that supports

the Academic Success Center along with scholarships and professorships.

Gerald Long served three terms as state senator for District 31, which included all of Sabine and Red River parishes, a majority of Natchitoches Parish and parts of Grant, Winn and Rapides parishes.

He was Senate president pro tempore in his final term. Gerald Long was elected to the State Senate in 2007 and re-elected without opposition in 2011 and 2015.

Mrs. Long touched many lives through her civic involvement, through leading Bible studies and engagement with child and family resource centers throughout Louisiana. The Longs mentored many middle school, high school and college students and coaches through Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She chaired the Louisiana Legends committee for Louisiana Public Broadcasting, and was recognized as the Public Broadcasting System's Grassroots Advocacy National Volunteer of the Year.

Grad Fest... Continued from Page 1

required to purchase their own cap and gown prior to attending Grad Fest in order to take cap and gown photos. Due to Covid-19, sample caps and gowns will not be provided. Jostens, NSU's official partner for graduation regalia, is working with the NSU Marketplace so that inventory is available and in the hands of students before Grad Fest takes place. Candid Campus Photography will send an email

to each student scheduled to graduate with instruction on how to set up an appointment for cap and gown pictures.

Only one representative from each academic department will be allowed to set up a table at Grad Fest, due to capacity restrictions. If departments typically hand out flyers with instructions for graduates, those can be distributed without a representative present but

materials must be provided no later than Thursday, March 11. Arrangements can be made to have them picked up by contacting Danielle Cobb, associate director of Alumni Affairs, at cobbd@nsula.edu.

Students who are registered to graduate should receive an email with more information.

For more information about Grad Fest, contact Cobb at cobbd@nsula.edu.



NSU alum Mike Knotts presented a \$10,000 donation to NSU Food Pantry student volunteers during Wednesday’s basketball game. From left are Director of Student Affairs Reatha Cox, Andrell Green, Sheridan Duet, NSU President Dr. Chris Maggio, Nick Knotts, Mike Knotts and Jessica Mullican.

NSU Food Pantry gets big donation from alumnus

The Northwestern State University Food Pantry received a huge boost of support from a Northwestern graduate, whose \$10,000 donation will fund the purchase of non-perishable food items, toiletries, cleaning supplies, kitchen tools, cutlery, sanitizer and support materials for the Food Pantry, which serves all NSU and BPCC@NSU students free of charge.

Mike Knotts, a 1986 graduate, is a long-time supporter of Northwestern, having served as NSU Foundation board member and committee chair. For many years, he hosted NSU’s Bossier Parish recruiting receptions for incoming students and their parents. He is a member of the NSU Columns Fund and a contributor to the Mack & Jonell Knotts Annual Scholarship and other special projects for the NSU Foundation.

Knotts’ son, Nick, a first year NSU student, was present for the surprise presentation at Wednesday night’s basketball game.

“Mr. Knotts took a tour of the pantry on one of his recent visits to campus and was moved by what our students are doing for their

fellow students,” said **Reatha Cox**, director of Student Affairs, who coordinates volunteer and community impact projects. “He is also proud of his son, Nick, who volunteers and assists with pantry projects.”

The NSU Food Pantry was established by social work students in 2015 to address food insecurity on campus. The food pantry is staffed by more than 50 student, faculty and staff volunteers who participate in training to teach the importance of courtesy and confidentiality.

“Many college students are first-generation students with families of modest incomes,” said **Denise Bailey**, professor of social work and faculty advisor for the Food Pantry. “Our mission is to combat food insecurity at NSU by providing temporary emergency assistance in the form of healthy, culturally appropriate non-perishable food items to students in need. Our vision is that no student at NSU be impacted by hunger due to the lack of ability to afford food.”

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Student volunteers Bailey Willis of Opelousas and Mariah Cadour of Oscar stocked shelves at the NSU Food Pantry, which is open to all NSU and BPCC@NSU students. In addition to food items, the pantry also provides toiletries, cleaning supplies, sanitizer, kitchen tools and cutlery at no charge.

Food Pantry ... Continued from Page 4

The Food Pantry has been a vital resource, especially in light of events over the last year when students were financially affected by COVID-19, multiple hurricanes, the recent winter storm, and other unexpected expenses, Cox said. During university breaks and other closures, prepackaged bags were placed for collection

outside the Food Pantry, which is located on the south side of Trisler Power Plant across from Magale Recital Hall on NSU's Central Avenue. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon Friday.

Bailey said she was amazed by the donation.

"The ongoing generosity of those who understand the need

for and support of the NSU Student Food Pantry is always appreciated," she added.

Donations to the Food Pantry are always welcome. To obtain a list of needed items, donors should Cox at coxr@nsula.edu or Bailey at garlandd@nsula.edu. Monetary donations are also accepted through the NSU Foundation.

4th Annual Universities of Louisiana For Our Future Conference will be March 18-19

Registration is still open for the [4th Annual Universities of Louisiana For Our Future Conference](#), scheduled for March 18-19. There will be exciting professional development and networking opportunities at the event.

Currently, more than 500 faculty and staff from University of Louisiana System schools have registered for the conference. While

the conference will assemble virtually, there will be creative ways that participants will work together to ensure that components of the conference allow for individuals to come together in order to share the experience as well as collaborate.

Please take this opportunity to join colleagues from throughout our system for this program.