



NSU News

A Publication for the Northwestern State University Faculty & Staff

VOLUME 44 No. 5 MAY 2020



Dr. Patrice Moulton

Moulton named state Fulbright pres

Dr. Patrice Moulton, a professor of psychology at Northwestern State University, has been named president of the Louisiana Fulbright Chapter. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government.

It is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

The Fulbright program provides participants who

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Virtual commencement ceremony May 8

Northwestern State University will honor Spring 2020 graduates with a virtual commencement ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. Friday, May 8. The virtual ceremony will include many elements of NSU's traditional graduation ceremonies with messages from NSU President **Dr. Chris Maggio**, college deans and university officials. The name of each graduate will be read aloud.

"Although unexpected circumstances have required that all of us make changes in our lives and habits, we believe that our graduates deserve to be recognized and we plan to do exactly that with all the traditions that make commencement special," Maggio said. "Family and friends will be able to join the celebration from the safety of their homes and memories can be shared on social media and other platforms. Northwestern State

University's Spring 2020 commencement will be remembered as an unprecedented event during unprecedented circumstances."

Students are invited to submit photos of themselves on campus, graduation photos in caps and gowns, gathering with friends and/or at NSU events to be included in a slideshow that will be featured at the end of the virtual commencement celebration. To be included in the slideshow student should submit photos to marketing at marketing@nsula.edu by 5 p.m. Friday, May 1.

NSU alumna Holli' Conway will be commencement speaker. Conway is a 2016 magna cum laude graduate of NSU who was Miss Louisiana 2018 and second runner-up in Miss America 2018. A

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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, Catherine Fauchaux, at 318-357-4460.

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

Virtual Freshman Connection starts May 21

Northwestern State University's Office of First Year Experience is planning to transition the first two sessions of Freshman Connection to an online format. The NSU leadership will continue to monitor the COVID -19 situation to determine the course of all other sessions of orientation. Students will be notified via email of all changes.

"Freshman Connection is an opportunity for incoming students to meet people who will help make the transition to college a successful one. That won't change," said **Van Erikson**, director of First Year Experience and Leadership Development. "The Class of 2024 will still be able to meet people, visit with their academic advisors, learn about the resources available and how to be a successful first-year Demon.

Incoming students will be able to participate in a series of engaging virtual small group sessions where they will meet classmates and get questions answered. Academic advising and registration will be designed with each student's individual goals in mind. By the end of Freshman Connection, participants will be ready for the fall semester.

Dates for virtual Freshman Connection are May 21-22 and May 28-29. Dates for Freshman Connection on the Natchitoches campus, which is subject to change, are June 17-18 and July 9. Additional sessions are planned for the Alexandria campus on Tuesday, June 23, at the Shreveport campus on Thursday, June 24 and at the Leesville campus on Tuesday, June 30. All



are subject to change, Erikson said, and more information is forthcoming.

The orientation and first-year transition fee will be used in the same manner as always - to develop and implement the orientation program and to create Demon Days Welcome in the fall, Erikson said. Students already registered for Freshman Connection should be checking emails for information and announcements regarding Freshman Connection.

"Our traditional Demon Days Welcome will now incorporate expanded opportunities for our new students with their success in mind," Erikson said. "And we're looking forward to welcoming you to campus a little earlier in the fall."

Incoming freshman can also sign up at www.nsula.edu/fye/freshmanconnection. Sessions are filling up quickly, Erikson said.

For more information, contact Erikson at eriksonv@nsula.edu

Virtual Commencement ... Continued from Page 1

graduate of NSU's Department of Theatre and Dance, Conway made her Broadway debut last fall in "Tina – The Tina Turner Musical."

In addition to the virtual ceremony, a traditional graduation program is being planned for spring graduates on Aug. 8. This date is contingent on health and safety guidelines that are in effect at that time. Students will have the option to participate in the August 8 ceremony or Fall Commencement on Dec. 18.

Administrators encourage graduating seniors to participate

in the virtual ceremony and submit their photos for the slideshow.

"I love commencement day. It is one of the happiest and most meaningful moments of the college experience," said Dean of Students **Frances Conine**. "It's a time to say good job, good luck and goodbye. I wouldn't miss it for anything."

"Commencement is one of academia's most treasured ceremonies and traditions and one that allows us, as a community, to celebrate our graduates and wish them well

as they continue to move on into their professions," said **Dr. Greg Handel**, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs and dean of the Graduate School. "While a virtual ceremony cannot replace an in-person ceremony, please rest assured that we are working to create a unique and special experience that highlights and celebrates the extraordinary accomplishments of our graduates throughout a difficult time. Also, you are invited back to campus to participate in a later ceremony of your choice -- either in the summer or fall."

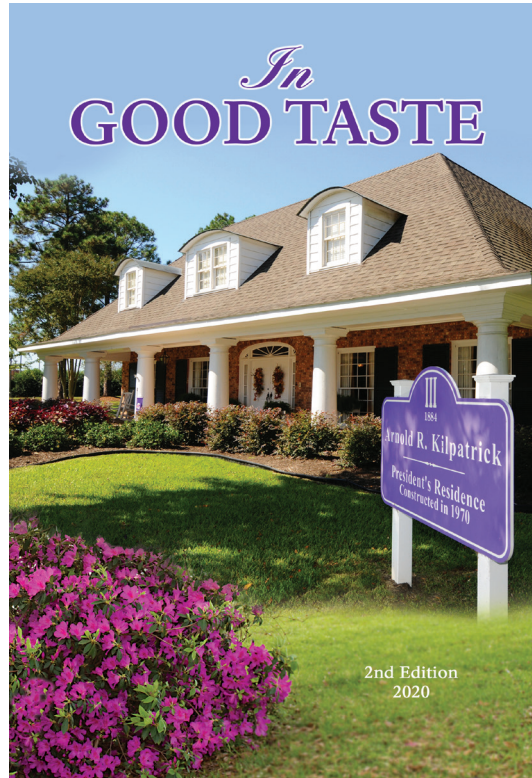
Campus Women's cookbook available online

Northwestern State University First Lady **Jennifer Maggio** is introducing the second edition of "In Good Taste," the popular cookbook produced by the Campus Women's Organization in 1989.

The 2020 edition of "In Good Taste," features an updated cover design by NSU's retiring Director of Publications Beth Mann and recipes from recent first ladies Brenda Webb, Tonia Henderson and Maggio. NSU alumna Cheryl Gianforte designed the original cover and produced the drawings found within the cookbook.

"Thirty years ago, the NSU Campus Women's Club created the cookbook, 'In Good Taste.' This was the heartfelt labor of so many NSU faculty, staff and alumni. It is full of amazing recipes," Maggio said. "I received the cookbook as a wedding gift many years ago. You can see which recipes are my favorite by the food stains on the pages. We hope to continue the legacy of the Campus Women's Club with this second edition printing."

The cookbook is available for purchase online at <http://www.northwesternstatealumni.com/ingoodtaste/> at an introductory cost of \$25 with a \$3 shipping and handling fee. Proceeds will support scholarships for students.



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are chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential the opportunity to study, teach, conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Moulton received a Fulbright Award in 2017 for her work in Nepal, where she served as a consultant and cultural ambassador while launching the country's inaugural degree program in counseling psychology.

In addition to Moulton, the Louisiana Fulbright executive board includes Dr. Harald Leder, Louisiana State University; Dr. Charlotte Maheu-Vail, Tulane University, and Dr. Richard Shrubbs,

Louisiana Tech University.

As president of the Louisiana chapter, Moulton will serve on the Fulbright Association Chapter Advisory Board, lead the executive board for the state of Louisiana, develop membership, administer the social media communication tools of the Fulbright Association and direct activities in Louisiana for networking, service and education related to Fulbright initiatives.

"Being chosen as a Fulbright Specialist has been the highlight of my career," Moulton said. "It is an honor to be associated with the caliber of professionals that Fulbright brings together across the

world. Fulbright has provided a global experience and a global perspective to my work."

Moulton served as a Fulbright Specialist to Nepal in 2018 and has been a member of the Fulbright Association since her return as a Fulbright alumna.

She recently traveled to Thailand to serve as a Fulbright representative and will be working as liaison to the Fulbright Association housed in Washington D.C.

State chapters provide Fulbright alumni and visiting Fulbrighters with diverse opportunities for networking, professional development, mentoring, cultural enrichment, and community service.



‘Remembering Louisiana’ essay contest guidelines revised

The Louisiana Folklife Center at Northwestern State University has revised guidelines for the 2020 Louisiana High School Essay Contest due to social distancing challenges. The 2020 Contest theme is “Remembering Louisiana.”

“Entrants may interview any member of their family or surrounding community as long as their interviewee is at least one generation older than themselves, such as, for example, their parents or guardians,” said **Dr. Shane Rasmussen**, director of the Louisiana Folklife Center. “As well, we encourage entrants to consider remote interviewing methods such as by phone, WebEx, etc., that enable them to converse while still practicing safe social distancing. Entrants may include information from multiple interviewees in their essays if they so choose.”

Entrants are invited to discuss how Louisiana has changed over the interviewee’s lifetime. What do they feel are the most significant changes they have experienced over their lifetime? Personal reflections and experiences are perfectly valid as part of the essay content. Essays may be

in narrative form if the student chooses.

Submissions for the 12th annual Louisiana High School Essay Contest will be accepted through June 1. The essay contest is open to all Louisiana students in grades 9-12 regardless of type of school institution, including students in all types of private educational environments, as well as home schooled students.

Essays should be 1,000 – 2,500+ words, should have titles and should be typed (double spaced, 12-point font, standard margins). Entries should include a cover sheet with the student’s name, school affiliation, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address and the title of their entry. Entries may be submitted via e-mail to Dr. Shane Rasmussen, rasmussens@nsula.edu, or mailed to the Louisiana Folklife Center, NSU Box 3663, Natchitoches, LA 71497. The subject line of e-mails should be “2020 NSU Louisiana High School Essay Contest.” Prize-winning students will be notified by July 15, 2020.

The prizes for the contest winners are \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place and \$50 for third place. In addition, essay contest winners will

receive a \$200 per semester NSU scholarship with a value up to \$1,600 if they attend NSU for four years.

This award is in addition to other scholarship awards that the student may receive from Northwestern State University. Winners must have at least a 20 ACT composite or 950 on the SAT, as well as at least a 2.0 GPA to be eligible. Essay winners need to submit proof of the award.

Winning essayists will be invited to read their paper at the 12th annual Louisiana Studies Conference held at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches on Saturday September 19. The top three winning entries will also be published in the Louisiana Folklife Journal. Submission of an entry to the Contest entails granting permission to publish the essay in the Louisiana Folklife Journal. Entries may be subject to minor revision prior to publication.

Additional information is available on the website for the Louisiana Folklife Center at Northwestern State University: <https://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu> and at <http://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu/2020-high-school-essay-contest/>.



Phi Beta Delta HONOR SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

Phi Beta Delta inducts new members via Zoom, invites participation in virtual conference May 14-15

Northwestern State University's chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars held a virtual welcome session for new members and general membership meeting April 19 in lieu of the Eta Mu chapter's annual induction program.

A special guest at the Zoom meeting was Winnie Brophy, a representative of the National Phi Beta Delta board. Brophy is director of the Center for Global Engagement at the City University of New York-College of Staten Island.

Members of Phi Beta Delta include faculty, staff and students who are selected on the basis of their international orientation, scholarship accomplishment and/or contribution to international exchange.

"While the formal induction will take place in the fall semester when school reopens, the NSU Phi Beta Delta Board wanted to honor the eight new members and welcome them into this international honor society," said **Sharon Joy**, president and chapter coordinator.

New faculty/staff members are **Dr. Sarah McFarland**, professor of English; **Dr. Karen Walker**, assistant professor in Child and Family Studies; **Leah Jackson**, director of Public Information and Media Relations; **Dr. Terrie Pohl**, associate professor in curriculum and instruction, College of Education, and **Terrie Marshall**, instructor and advisor in Student Support Services. New student members include graduating senior in Business Technology Jared Boystun, Aura Hernandez Canedo of Colombia, a graduate student in music, and Isabelle Ming Lao Vivien of China, a fine and graphic art major.

Phi Beta Delta's 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.

The Northwestern State University Chapter of Phi Beta Delta was chartered in April 2010 with the mission of supporting international students, domestic students who are interested in international travel and affairs and faculty and staff who engage in international research and travel.

Phi Beta Delta is interdisciplinary in nature and includes individuals from all content areas. The chapter awards an annual scholarship for international and domestic students.

Earlier this year Phi Beta Delta hosted Chinese and Hindu language and culture lecture series with proceeds benefiting the scholarship.

Joy encouraged members to participate in this year's international Phi Beta Delta annual conference that was already scheduled to be held online May 14-15. The conference website is: <http://www.phibetadelta.org/conference/2020/conference2020.php>

"Several of our NSU faculty will give presentations at this conference," Joy said. "This conference will include Phi Beta Delta news, an interesting keynote speaker and many fascinating presentations from university faculty and researchers from around the globe. I serve on the conference proposal submission committee and I am impressed with the diversity of topics on the theme

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Anna Dugas, professor of physics at Northwestern State University, demonstrates the features of a Personal Protective Equipment facial shield she designed and fabricated. Dugas' PPEs were donated to Natchitoches Regional Medical Center. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, professor of engineering technology at Northwestern State University, demonstrated a 3D printed example of a face shield he designed and printed. Hossain's Personal Protective Equipment takes 70 percent time less to 3D print than other PPEs. He is working on additional features.

Science and technology students and faculty use biomedical and software skills during pandemic

Science and engineering technology students and faculty at Northwestern State University are lending their expertise to help healthcare providers and the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Anna Dugas, an assistant professor of physics, created a COVID-19 face shield and requested permission to use university's Lutzbot Taz 6 3-D FDM printer to print 28 face shields,

and more as needed, to donate to Natchitoches Regional Medical Center. Dugas, a biomedical engineer, has designed medical equipment in the past and intends to recruit others in the NSU community to expand production of the masks.

Since joining the faculty at NSU four years ago, Dugas established the Biological & Electrical Applied Physics (BEAP) lab in the

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'International Education in Our Changing World.'"

NSU's Phi Beta Delta board voted to pay a chapter registration fee for the conference, which will allow members, students and anyone in the NSU community to attend, Joy said. Those who plan to participate should notify Joy so she can include all names on the Eta Mu access list.

"If faculty teach a course with an international focus, they may want to encourage their students to participate, even though May 14-15 is after our school semester ends. This is a wonderful opportunity for our NSU community," Joy said.

To cover the conference fees, the Phi Beta Delta board members created a MobileCause system to provide an optional donation portal. The

portal allows users to make a donation for the conference or scholarship fund and members to pay renewal dues. Donors can also text PHIBETADELTA to 91999.

For more information about Phi Beta Delta or supporting the Eta Mu Scholarship, Joy at joys@nsula.edu or (318) 357-5754. Information on the 2020 conference can be found at <http://www.phibetadelta.org/>.

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School of Biological & Physical Sciences where she works with science and engineering technology students to explore sensor-human interfaces, robotic applications and space/atmosphere-exploration payload design.

“While at home with my two small boys (three and eight years old), I wanted to do a project with them that could help people, and to show them that we can all make a difference, even at home,” Dugas said.

Dr. Francene Lemoine, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, collected the three dozen shields Dugas made and delivered them to Natchitoches Regional Medical Center April 30. Dugas hopes to make more in the upcoming weeks and make them available to any clinic in Natchitoches with a need.

Meanwhile, students in the biomedical instrumentation course, part of the engineering technology curriculum, were assigned projects related to understanding ventilators and asked to propose designs to accommodate more patients.

Maleik White of St. Martinville, who was also an intern at Natchitoches Regional Medical Center, is working with biomedical staff to better understand the ventilator and possible modification.

“Biomedical concentration graduates are prepared to excel in the expanding medical technology field that explores the interface between man and machines used in healthcare facilities,” said **Dr. Jafar Al Sharab** said, head of NSU’s Department of Engineering Technology.

Students were also



Danna Allen and Tracy Maricle of Natchitoches Regional Medical Center accepted a donation of face shields designed and fabricated by Anna Dugas, a professor of physics at Northwestern State University. Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dr. Francene Lemoine, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, delivered the masks April 30.

challenged to design and fabricate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including face shields. **Dr. Shahriar Hossain**, a new professor in industrial engineering technology, utilized his expertise in technical drafting to design a face shield that takes 70 percent time less to 3D print than other PPEs.

Two students, Daniela Forero Saldeco and Devin Reyes, utilized software skills to design gaming experiences designed to educate users about the coronavirus and encourage them to use PPEs.

The games are intended to provide useful information and alleviate stress for remote learners who have plenty of spare time.

“We tried to encourage ET faculty and students to help with this crisis, each one according to his or her capacity,” Al Sharab said. “All the information is available for free for anyone who is willing utilize them and benefit from them at <https://engrtech.nsula.edu>.

[edu](https://northwesternalumni.com/donations/biology/). We are planning to make this on-line depository location where other relevant 3D models can be shared. We encourage other faculty members and staff to contact me if they have any relevant design to be shared.

“These are simple examples from ET department, however, it shows that both students and faculty care and try to help with this global issue each one according to his/her capacity and within their area of expertise,” Al Sharab added.

“We appreciate our faculty so very much for this incredible outreach. I continue to be amazed at the work of our faculty. This is yet another example of NSU’s great partnership and collaboration of our community,” said NSU President **Dr. Chris Maggio**.

Anyone who would like to make a contribution towards purchasing materials and printers to make more face shields can do so through the NSU Foundation by visiting <http://northwesternalumni.com/donations/biology/>.