



NSU News

A Publication for the Northwestern State University Faculty & Staff

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PEOPLE

NSU Instructor **Christine Ferrell** and Assistant Professor **Dr. Benjamin Forkner** attended the Louisiana Foreign Language Teachers' Association Conference Jan. 10-11 in Natchitoches. The event featured a variety of workshops and presentations for instructors of French, Spanish and Latin. Forkner presented three sessions on the topic of Applied Foreign Languages discussing the practical purpose of learning a foreign language in a professional context: Spanish for nursing, French for tourism etc.

Dr. Thomas Reynolds attended the University of Louisiana System's 3rd annual For Our Future Conference at ULM Jan. 30-31. The conference encourages collaboration among the nine universities in the ULS. Reynolds served as moderator. He is quoted in the ULM Hawkeye online article ulmhawkeyeonline.com/26630/feature-stores/ulm-hosts-ul-system--conference-on-campus.

Brought to you
by the letter

Thursday, March 12

5:30 pm at the
Orville Hanchey Art Gallery

THE 2020 SPRING READ

Art and poetry will highlight Spring Read March 12

Northwestern State University's Department of English, Foreign Languages and Cultural Studies, in partnership with the Department of Fine and Graphic Art, will bring Louisiana Poet Laureate Darrell Bourque and artist Bill Gingles, an NSU graduate, to this year's Spring Read.

Spring Read will begin at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12 in Orville Hanchey Gallery. Bourque and Gingles will offer an hour-long workshop on collaboration

prior to Spring Read. The workshop will be from 4-5 p.m. in Room 206 above the Gallery. A reception and book signing will follow Spring Read. The theme for this year's read is "Brought to you by the Letter 'M.'"

For more information, contact **Rebecca Macijeski**, creative writing program coordinator and assistant professor of English, at macijeskir@nsula.edu.

ULS collecting supplies for Cradle to College pipeline

The University of Louisiana System's Student Advisory Council is collecting donations to support a service learning project and Northwestern State University's Student Government Association is coordinating local efforts.

The Children's Defense Fund's Cradle to College Pipeline Campaign is a national and community crusade to engage families, youth, communities and

policy makers in the development of healthy, safe and educated children.

The UL System is participating in this project by collecting school supplies and books for children Pre-K through 3rd grade. Drop off location for NSU is in the Student Government Association Office located on the first floor of the Student Union, Room 100.

Requested items

include pencils, washable markers/crayons, colored pencils, crayon sharpeners, erasers, round-tip scissors, glue sticks, plastic folders, construction and drawing paper, notebooks, bound composition notebooks, wide-lined loose-leaf paper, backpacks and books.

For more information, contact SGA President Jacob Ellis, jellis067345@nsula.edu or (318) 532-1229.

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).



The 2020 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival will be July 24-25.

41st annual Folk Festival issues call for volunteers

The Natchitoches-Northwestern Folk Festival is seeking volunteers for this year's event, which will take place July 24-25. Every year the festival relies on dozens of volunteers to help with various components and positions as needed.

Volunteers will work inside air-conditioned Prather Coliseum and will be needed from 3-10 p.m. Friday, July 24 and 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, July 25. In addition to listening to great music and meeting interesting people, volunteers receive free admission to all events on the day

they work and receive a free commemorative t-shirt for working five hours or more. Volunteers need not be a resident of Natchitoches or affiliated with NSU to participate.

"The Festival would not be a success without the valuable and deeply appreciated help of our volunteer corps," said **Dr. Shayne Rasmussen**, event director and director of the Louisiana Folklife Center, which annually hosts the event.

For more information, job descriptions, shifts and how to become a volunteers, email folklife@nsula.edu or call (318) 357-4332.

Child Development Center applications due March 20

Applications for the Northwestern State University Child Development Center draw for the 2020-21 school year are due at noon Friday, March 20.

Applications can be picked up the school office or are available upon request by emailing **Faith Stanfield** at

stanfieldf@nsula.edu. When applications are submitted, proof of child's birthdate is required.

NSU's Marie Shaw Dunn Child Development Center is a preschool program for three- and four-year-old children. The center is a Tier III preschool center that is accredited by the

National Association for the Education of Young Children. The center is dedicated to providing parents, children, and university students with the best early learning environment possible.

For more information, contact Stanfield at stanfieldf@nsula.edu or (318) 357-6860.



ADVANCE 2020 will be July 5-25.

NSU dependents receive reduced tuition for ADVANCE

Northwestern State University will host the 32nd session of the ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars (ADVANCE) July 5 – 25. Children or dependents of NSU faculty and staff from all campuses are eligible for a \$250 tuition reduction.

ADVANCE is a three-week residential program that academically challenges and socially engages gifted, honors, or talented students who are currently in 7th – 11th grades.

Admittance to ADVANCE is based on minimum ACT or SAT scores. If students have not

taken an ACT or SAT, or their scores do not meet or surpass ADVANCE’s eligibility criteria, they may apply through the program’s Alternate Admissions Policy.

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. The residential assistants (RAs) offer a wide variety of social and recreational activities to assist students in forming lasting friendships, strengthen the ADVANCE community, and help all students have a great time.

Applications are now being accepted. For further information visit <http://advance.nsula.edu>, call (318) 357-4500, or email palmerh@nsula.edu.

Elementary Lab kindergarten applications due March 20

Applications for the NSU Elementary Lab School kindergarten draw for the 2020-21 school year are due at noon Friday, March 20.

Applications are available at the school office. A current utility bill showing proof of residency is required with the application.

Tuition for NSU Elementary Lab is \$2,200 annually and must be paid by April 30 of the attending school year. A \$100 supply fee is due upon enrollment.

For more information, contact **Kellie Cedars**, school secretary, at (318) 238-6385.

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

Ms. Anna Dugas, School of Biological and Physical Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, received notification of a \$42,900 subaward from Delgado Community College through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for “Curriculum: Louisiana Advanced Manufacturing Progress.” **Ms. Maggie Welch** is collaborator.

Dr. Donald Johnston, College of Nursing, College of Nursing and Allied Health, received notification of a \$15,000 award from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing through funding from the National Institute of Health for “NIH/AACN All of Us Research Grant.”

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Jafar Al-Sharab, Department of Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, submitted a proposal to Louisiana Space Grant Consortium (LaSPACE) for “Hands-on Experience at NASA Wallops Flight Facility.”

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, submitted proposals to both the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission and the Cane River National Heritage Area entitled “41st Annual Natchitoches – NSU Folk Festival.”

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, LA Folklife Center, submitted a proposal to the Cane River National Heritage Area entitled “12th Annual Louisiana Studies Conference.”

Bezoari, student researchers published in peer-reviewed journals

Dr. Massimo D. Bezoari (Richard Lounsbury Professor of Chemistry) was the senior author of two papers recently published in international peer-reviewed journals.

Glendalyn Boothe, who graduated from the Scholars’ College in 2019, was co-author of the paper

“Determination of Potential Multi-Target Inhibitors of Alzheimer’s Disease *In Silico*,” in the *Journal of Undergraduate Chemistry Research* **2019**, 18(4), 21-29.

Carly Bourgeois, who graduated from the Scholars’ College in 2018, was co-author of the paper

“Conformational Analysis of Selected [2.2]Heterophanes: A Comparison of Stereochemical Switching Via Computational Chemistry,” in the *International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities* **2020**, 12(1), 1-13.

4th annual LitCon is cross-curricular celebration of the humanities

Northwestern State University will host its fourth annual LitCon April 17-18 and invites submission of proposals for single-person readings, presentations, performances, panel presentations, workshops and tables for the book and art fair hosted across both days in and around the Orville Hanchey Gallery.

LitCon is a two-day celebration of the humanities, which highlights the interconnectedness of academic and artistic disciplines. Humanities is defined broadly

to include many facets of film, literature, music, writing, pop culture, theater, visual arts, etc. and the appreciation of their value to students, academics, and community members.

Started in 2017, this conference seeks to bring together and feature academics, artists, makers and thinkers from the local community and beyond. LitCon offers a playful environment for artists and academics where participants encourage and learn from each other.

At its core, LitCon is a

hybrid event bringing together elements of the traditional academic conference and the popular culture convention.

Organizers are especially interested in seeing crafting, cross-curricular and collaborative work, digital culture, drama, film, gaming, literature, music, new thinking in academia, poetry, pop culture, theater, visual art, writing other humanities-related subjects.

NSU LitCon is free and open to the public.



“He Just Couldn’t Shake the Feeling.”

Yankowski print selected for two competitions

A print by Northwestern State University Professor of Art **Michael Yankowski** was accepted into two national print competitions. His limited edition, hand-drawn lithographic print is entitled “He Just Couldn’t Shake the Feeling.” Entries from across the nation in a variety of print media were juried into the exhibitions. Only 50 works were accepted into each show.

The print depicts a lone figure entering an aging forest as a murder of crows assemble on the treetops.

“The image is an expression of anxiety and what the future may hold. Its stark use of black and white gives the idea an ominous vibe” said Yankowski. “I was quite surprised to have the same print selected for two national shows at the same time. It is a bit unusual. Luckily it is an edition of five.”

“Under Pressure” is a National Printmaking Exhibition at the Lincoln Center in Fort Collins, Colorado, which run through April 11. “Ink Matters”, also a national competition, will be on display at the University of Indiana Kokomo Art Gallery, March 6-21.

Yankowski is a senior faculty member in the Department of Creative and Performing Arts. More of his work can be seen at the Carol Robinson Gallery in New Orleans and on-line at MichaelYankowski.com



Yankowski



2020 Louisiana Studies Conference 'Losing Louisiana' Sept. 18-19

Call for Conference Papers: Deadline is June 1

The Louisiana Studies Conference committee has issued a call for papers for the 12th annual conference that will be held Sept. 18-19 at Northwestern State University.

The 2020 conference theme, "Losing Louisiana," is dedicated to exploring the ways in which Louisiana's cultures, environment, languages and peoples are facing threats to their survival on a variety of fronts.

Presentation proposals on any aspect of this theme, as well as creative texts and performances by, about, and/or for Louisiana and Louisianans, are sought for this year's conference, said **Dr. Shane Rasmussen**, director of the Louisiana Folklife Center, which sponsors the conference, along with NSU's Department of Fine and Graphic Arts and the College of Arts, Sciences, Graduate Studies and Research.

"Although we are especially interested in

proposals that deal with the theme of 'Losing Louisiana,' all papers, creative writing and short performances (dance, music, or theatrical) that address any aspect of Louisiana studies are welcome," Rasmussen said.

Proposals are being solicited for 15-minute presentations from scholars at all career stages as well as graduate students.

Creative work (film, creative non-fiction, short fiction and poetry) is welcome. Undergraduates are invited to submit, provided they are working with the guidance of a trained scholar.

All undergraduate presenters under 18 years of age must be accompanied to the conference by a parent or legal guardian.

Conference registration is free for all faculty, staff and students affiliated with Bossier Parish Community College, the Louisiana Scholars'

College, the Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts, the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training and Northwestern State University, as well as State and National Park Service personnel situated in Natchitoches Parish.

Abstracts of 300 words maximum for scholarly proposals, creative writing, films and short performances (dance, music, or theatric) should be sent as e-mail attachments to Rasmussen at rasmussens@nsula.edu. Presentations should run no longer than 15 minutes. Proposals should briefly detail the audio/visual tools (laptop, projection screen, data projector, DVD player, etc.) or space your presentation will require, if any. The stage in Magale Recital Hall will be provided for short performances.

Proposals should include

Continued on page 7

Christmas Program ... Continued from Page 6

a separate cover page with name, affiliation, mailing and e-mail address and the title of the presentation. E-mails should be entitled Louisiana Studies Conference Submission. The committee will send an e-mail acknowledgement receipt of each abstract within one week. If no acknowledgment is received, submissions should be resent.

The deadline for submissions is June 1. Accepted presenters will be notified via e-mail by June 15, if not before.

This interdisciplinary conference will be accepting proposals from the following disciplines: American studies, anthropology, architecture, archival studies, communications, craft, creative writing, criminal justice, cultural studies, cultural tourism, dance, design, education, English and literary studies, environmental studies, ethnic studies, fashion design, film studies, fine arts, folklore, gender studies, geography, heritage resources, history, interior design, journalism, linguistics, media studies, museum studies, musicology, music performance, philosophy, photography, political science, preservation studies, psychology, queer studies, religious studies, Romance languages, social work, sociology, theatre and vernacular architecture.

Read broadly, proposals should consider the following possibilities for presentation topics relating to the theme “Losing Louisiana.”

“Louisiana, its cultures, history, literature, peoples, places, etc. should be an intrinsic aspect of the proposed presentation,” Rasmussen said. “For example, ‘thematic motifs in Southern literature’ in itself would not be an appropriate presentation topic proposal for the Louisiana Studies Conference, while ‘thematic motifs in 21st century Louisiana short fiction’ or ‘thematic motifs in the contemporary legends of Evangeline Parish’ would both be appropriate.”

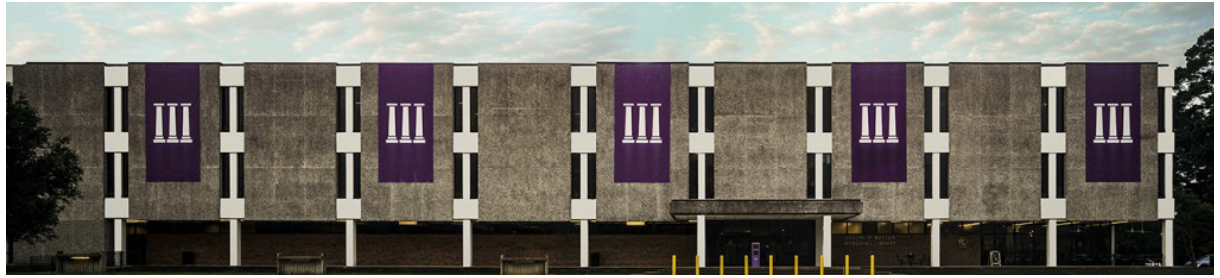
The following list of suggestions is not meant to be comprehensive.

- Archaeology
- Architecture (including Vernacular Architecture)
- Archives
- Borders
- The Brain Drain Crisis
- Built Environments
- Cemeteries and Graveyards

- Climate Change
- Coastal Erosion
- Conservation
- Crafts
- Cultural Drift
- Dancehalls
- Disruptions
- Documentation
- Economies (including cultural economies)
- Ethnicities
- Foodways and Folkways – Past, Present, Evolving
- Frontiers (cultural, geographic, musical, mythic, narrative, etc.)
- Historical Landmarks and Sites
- Language Loss
- Legacies
- Literatures
- Louisianan Identities
- Main Streets
- Monuments
- Murals
- Native American Spaces
- The Neutral Strip
- Preservation
- Raising Consciousness
- Religion and Spirituality
- Solutions
- State and National Parks
- Traditions
- Unsustainability

A selection of scholarly and creative work presented at the conference will be solicited for publication in the *Louisiana Folklife Journal*, a peer reviewed academic journal produced by the Louisiana Folklife Center. Additional information is available on the website for the Louisiana Folklife Center: <https://louisianafolklife.nsula.edu/>.

Conference co-chairs assisting Rasmussen are **Dr. Lisa Abney**, faculty facilitator for academic research and community college outreach and professor of English at Northwestern State University; Jason Church, materials conservator, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training; **Dr. Charles Pellegrin**, professor of history and director of the Southern Studies Institute at Northwestern, and **Sharon Wolff**, CA, assistant archivist at the Cammie G. Henry Research Center.



News from the Cammie G. Henry Research Center



Mary Linn Wernet and Sandy McNeely

Archivists speak to history group, joining planning of fall conference

Mary Linn Wernet delivered a presentation on the various collections held by the Center during the North Louisiana Historical Association's Feb. 9 meeting at the Cammie G. Henry Research Center.

Assistant Archivist **Sharon Wolff** discussed the current exhibit, "Glimpses of Shreveport," loaned to the Center by Ed Chopin, and Wolff and Wernet gave tours of the Center to the members.

On Saturday, February 15, Wernet gave a short presentation on Louis Juchereau de St. Denis and his importance to Natchitoches before

the Natchitoches Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

As newly-elected vice president of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscript Association, Wolff is hosting the annual conference on the NSU campus in mid-September. The meeting will be held on September 18 in conjunction with the Louisiana Studies conference on campus. Sharon has also recently become a member of the Louisiana Studies Conference Committee, along with the Louisiana High School Essay Contest Committee.

Jenson mentors University of Utrecht graduate student



Richard Jensen, Louisiana Scholars College (retired), participated in the defense and graduation ceremonies of his Dutch graduate student Wouter Klem at the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands, on Feb. 10.

Klem and Professor Beatrice de Graaf invited Jensen to serve as co-promoter (advisor) for Klem because of his expertise on the subject of 19th century anarchist terrorism. According to Prof. de Graaf “having the world’s most famous academic authority on anarchist terrorism in our midst was a true honour.”

Jensen began to work with Klem in November 2018 when, after a formal invitation from NSU, Klem flew to Louisiana for a month to consult with Jensen.

“Although I am retired, I still carry with me the identification of Northwestern State University whenever I participate in professional functions,” Jensen said. “I believe this helps to spread awareness and the prestige of Northwestern.”



Dragon Boat races return to Cane River Saturday, April 4

Northwestern State University’s Office of First Year Experience will host the fifth annual Dragon Boat Races Saturday, April 4 on the riverbank in downtown Natchitoches. Races will begin at 9 a.m. and will run through about 4 p.m. Spectator admission is free and open to the public.

Each dragon boat team consists of 20 paddlers (a

minimum of eight must be female) and one drummer. The helmsman will be provided. There will be a practice session for each team during the week preceding the event.

To register as a competing team, choose the “Boat Team” Ticket, and complete the registration and payment forms at checkout.

“There will be a festival atmosphere around the races with vendors, music and more,” said **Vanner Erikson**, director of First Year Experience and Leadership Development. “It makes for a great day of good spirited racing and a great time on and off the water.”

Registration is now open and will close April 1. To register, visit [nsudragonboats.eventbrite.com](https://www.nsudragonboats.com).