Happy spring to everyone! Living in Louisiana it is only spring for a day or two and then it turns right into summer. This spring semester is a great time for the Radiologic Sciences Program at NSU. As always, we are staying very busy—and I imagine all of you are as well. In May, we will have 27 BSRS students from the Shreveport and Alexandria campuses graduating. Also, we will have 5 technologists completing the RT to BSRS program. Since the RT to BSRS program is completely online, technologists can complete it from anywhere in the country. The students graduating this time range from Louisiana to Ohio. We can’t wait till the summer and fall semesters when we will have our first MSRS students graduating.

As all of us in the imaging sciences know, technology is constantly changing. One of the biggest challenges we face when we are teaching students is keeping up with the current technology that is being used in clinical facilities. Many times the equipment is so expensive that we are not able to have the actual equipment. All we can do is explain how it works to students and depend on their clinical experiences for the rest. So, we are very excited that we recently received a federal grant to purchase a new DR room. We are adding another energized laboratory at the Warrington building on the Shreveport campus. The Shreveport campus will have a CR and DR room and the Alexandria campus has a CR room. We can’t wait for the project to be finished!

Don’t forget that we have a Facebook page that we use to keep in touch with all of you. If you are not on Facebook (like me), you can send us your email address so that we can contact you about jobs we hear about or to let you know when the newest edition of *Image Makers* is posted. You can send your email address to haynesc@nsula.edu and we will add that information to our database.

I hope you all enjoyed the first electronic version of *Image Makers* in the fall last year. If you have any ideas or have something you would like to see in the newsletter, please let us know. We would love to hear from you about what is happening in your life or anything else you would like to share!

As always, if I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me (carwilel@nsula.edu).

Hope you all have a great summer!
Stacie Petrolia Boudreaux – 2006 Alumni Spotlight

Since graduating from NSU, Stacie moved to Houston and worked nights for a year at Conroe Regional Medical Center. Stacie then worked for a company called CMMS Mobile X-ray for a year. She performed portable x-ray throughout the Houston area. The skills she learned in school on how to maneuver the tube in VERY small areas and the critical thinking skills that her degree helped to develop were an extremely crucial part of this job according to Stacie. “I think doing mobile x-ray helped me become a better “outside of the box” thinker. It was also rewarding being able to bring the x-ray machine to people who weren’t able to leave their homes because they were too ill.” After a year of driving around in the Houston traffic, Stacie was offered a job at MD Anderson. Having a Bachelor's degree has really helped her maneuver through the MD Anderson institution and has widened her opportunities. She started out as a scheduler there for a GU medical oncologist and urologist. Knowing her medical terminology and being familiar with x-ray procedures helped her be successful in this position. From there, Stacie used her degree to be promoted to a Data Analyst who developed the electronic order sets that are used by the doctors to order chemotherapy regimens for patients. Without a bachelor's degree I would not have been able to move up into that position which enabled me to broaden my knowledge of chemotherapy drugs and regimens. Currently she works in a department at MD Anderson called The Clinical Center for Targeted Therapy. This facility is a place for patient's who have exhausted all other treatments and where research is focused on heavily. “Some people we treat are expected to live a month, but continue coming to our center for years and our treatment is essentially keeping them alive.” Stacie handles the insurance portion of it, financially counseling patient's whose insurance will not cover clinical trials, preauthorizing their scans, etc. “It's interesting because it's a department where you can meet people of all age ranges who are desperate for the chance to prolong their lives somehow. It feels great to be able to help these patients in anyway I can to make things a little easier on them and ease their worries when I'm blessed with the opportunity to do so.” Since school she realized how important having an education is and how lucky she is to be so healthy! Stacie graduated in 2006, married in 2008 and is working toward exploring other opportunities at MD Anderson.

Northwestern Faculty Highlights

- Laura Aaron has been named to the JRCERT Board of Directors, she was sworn in at a meeting in Chicago, IL.
- Becky Britt & Kelli Haynes presented, “Radiography from Every Angle,” in Shreveport and Dallas, which was sponsored by Advanced Health Education Center.
- Joel Hicks presented “Diagnosis and treatment of critical limb ischemia” at Louisiana Society of Radiologic Technologists mid-winter seminar in Monroe, La.
- Joel Hicks published “Leader communication styles and organizational health.” in The Health Care Manager in the spring of 2011.
Waylon Malmay–2007
Alumni Spotlight

Waylon is a 2007 graduate from NSU’s radiologic science program. He chose to further his education by enrolling in the Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute (CARTI) radiation therapy program in Little Rock, AR graduating with the class of 2008. He is currently employed at Overton Brooks VA medical center as a radiation therapist. He really enjoys treating the veteran patient population, “they are the reason this country is free” he says. Prior to his employment at Overton Brooks he began employment at the Willis-Knighton oncology center in Shreveport. He maintains his licensure with the ARRT in radiography (R) and therapy (T). He has also contemplated furthering his education at NSU with pursuing his masters degree in the M.S.R.S program.
Make a Lasting Impression

The beautiful brass Friends of Nursing & Radiologic Sciences Donor Tree at the Northwestern State University Nursing Education Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, provides a unique opportunity for you to establish a permanent memorial to those you love or wish to honor and to support the College of Nursing & Radiologic Sciences.

Your generous gift will be used to support the outstanding programs of the College of Nursing and to provide scholarships for Nursing and Radiologic Sciences students.

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Leaf (250 available) - $100.
Foundation Stone (14 available) - $1,000.
Honor Bench - $2,500.

I wish to reserve the following item(s):

Leaf  Foundation Stone  Honor Bench

Name:
Address:
City, State, Zip Code:
Contribution Amount Enclosed:

Make your check to: NSU Foundation / Nursing Support Fund

Your donation is tax deductible -501(c)(3). Donors will receive written acknowledgement of their donation.

Please mail your check and this form to:

NSU Foundation/Nursing Support Fund
c/o Laura Aaron
1800 Line Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71101

Each brass leaf can be engraved with up to 20 spaces per line including blank spaces and a total of three lines. Each brass stone can be engraved with up to 30 spaces per line and a total of 5 lines. Indicate the information for your leaf, foundation stone, or honor bench below:


Do you enjoy receiving this newsletter?  
Do you find it informative?  
Do you want to know more about your fellow graduates?  

You can help support this newsletter and other worthy projects within the Radiologic Sciences Department of Northwestern State University.

Radiologic Sciences Support And Scholarship Fund

The Radiologic Sciences Support and Scholarship Fund helps maintain the day-to-day excellence of the Radiologic Sciences Program by making a difference in every aspect of life at NSU. Because needs and opportunities differ over time, it is important to have a robust Support Fund each academic year to afford vital resources and to seek additional ones. In light of the ongoing limitations in State funding, we must look to private donations and the community for this support.

Your support and positive representation of the Radiologic Sciences Program is appreciated and critical to our continued success! We invite you to select one of the Levels of Donation and Support below.

Radiologic Sciences Program Support and Scholarship Levels

- Roentgen Donor — over $100.00
- Gamma Donor — $51.00 - $100.00
- Beta Donor — $26.00 - $50.00
- Alpha Donor — $1.00 - $25.00

Thank you for your tax-deductible contribution to NSU, Radiologic Sciences Program. We greatly appreciate your support.

Make your check to: NSU Foundation / Radiologic Sciences Support Fund

Please mail your check and this form to:
NSU Foundation, Radiologic Sciences  
Attn: Laura Aaron  
1800 Line Avenue  
Shreveport, LA  71101  
Call 318–677–3100 for additional information
Brandy (Blair) Bruce graduated from the BSRS program in 2004. After graduation, she worked as a staff technologist at LaSalle General. After leaving from there, she went to Open Air MRI in Alexandria where she obtained her certification in CT. It was during this time that she became interested in what goes on behind administrative doors and to know more about how a radiology department functions. She then decided to fulfill her personal goal of obtaining her Master’s Degree. “I had the feeling that NSU would implement a master’s program in radiologic science and I had such a wonderful experience at NSU while pursuing my bachelor’s that I could not pass up the opportunity to earn a master’s degree from my alma mater.”

Brandy keeps a positive balance to her life by prioritizing her responsibilities of home, school and work. She focuses on family first and when things are taken care of there, she can focus more on school. Completing her master’s degree is the most important goal in her life presently. She has found that procrastination just leads to increased stress, so she sets aside a few hours each night to work on her school work.

When asked about her experiences in the Master’s program she had this to say. “I would highly recommend the NSU masters program to anyone looking to gain more knowledge on the administrative or education side of radiological science. I have already been able to put to use many things I have learned throughout the program. The faculty are extremely knowledgeable and so encouraging. They make sure you know how much they want you to succeed. They also are very good at calming down overly stressed grad students!”

Brandy has recently accepted a position at VA Medical Center in Alexandria and is looking forward to working closely with our current students.
Lisa Aguirre graduated from NSU in 2007 in the RT to BSRS program. In 1991, Lisa had graduated from the LSUMC Radiologic Technology program. Lisa worked in the heart cath lab, both at Bossier Medical Center and Willis-Knighton Medical Center after her LSU graduation. In 2004, however, Lisa decided that she wanted to continue her education, so she chose to enroll in the RT to BSRS program at NSU. Lisa said that she enjoyed her time at NSU and really appreciated the Radiologic Science faculty, as they were always willing to help her along the way. After obtaining her BSRS degree in 2007, Lisa said that new opportunities began to present themselves almost immediately. Lisa left the hospital to begin working in the medical device industry. Her first job in this new industry was as a clinical education consultant for arterial closure devices used in the heart cath lab. After several years in this position, Lisa was able to obtain another position as a clinical consultant for a cardiac assist device, instructing physicians in the proper implementation of this life-saving device. After a couple of more years, Lisa was able to secure her most recent promotion as a sales representative with Medtronic, one of the leading medical device companies. In her new position, Lisa is responsible for providing sales support for all of the devices used in both diagnostic and interventional heart catheterization. Lisa says that she is extremely happy that she made the decision to continue her education. She feels that it is because of her BSRS degree that she has been able to achieve so many advances in her career in such a short amount of time. Lisa also says that she is one of the programs biggest cheerleaders, encouraging every technologist she meets to continue their education at Northwestern State University.

Anthony McClendon graduated from Northwestern State University’s Radiologic Science Program in 2005. One of his most memorable times in x-ray school was during a state conference when the disk jockey for the student social did not show up and Anthony volunteered to be the DJ for the night. He claims that he did not know what he was doing but everyone seemed to have had a blast. Upon graduation, Anthony secured a job at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center located in Shreveport, Louisiana. Anthony excelled as a staff radiographer and was later promoted to his current position as PACS administrator and lead technologist. Anthony enjoys serving the United States veteran patients and treats each one as if they were his father because his father is a veteran. In addition, Anthony is a clinical instructor for Northwestern State University’s program. He takes pleasure in being a role model. He looks forward to interacting with different personalities and staying current on everything he learned in radiography school. Anthony feels that his BS degree in Radiologic Science has afforded him to advance in his career quicker by demonstrating to his administrative staff that he was dedicated and worked hard to receive his education. On a more personal note, Anthony has been happily married for the past two years and has plans on expanding his family is the next upcoming year. Anthony McClendon would like to encourage others to take pride in their work because it is a reflection of who you are.
Students in the Radiologic Science Program are involved in their community. As a means to increase their communication skills, the students are serving as tutors for afterschool programs, working with autistic children and equine therapy, serving at the Red Cross blood donation center, helping out at the Providence House and serving in other facilities in our area. Way to go Rad Sci students!!!