

## **Statement of Policy and Responsibility**

Revised January 2011

Northwestern State University's commitment to promote safe work practices and a safe working environment in accordance with the Louisiana Office of Risk Management guidelines is detailed in the following statement for safety policy and responsibility. This policy should be read and its principles practiced by each NSU faculty and staff member. NSU's positive response to occupational safety and health is the commendable result of efforts by all faculty and staff to minimize the frequency and severity of accidents.

1. All levels of management are responsible for the safety and health of employees. This responsibility is met by continuous effort from everyone to implement safe working practices through maintaining property and equipment in a safe working condition, through quality project planning and execution, and by ensuring full compliance with applicable rules, requirements, and regulations.
2. All employees will as a condition of employment accept the responsibility to conduct their work in a safe and healthful manner, since basic responsibility for employee health and safety rests with each individual.
3. Work practices should be based on the principles of least acceptable risk as defined by the Loss Prevention Section of the Office of Risk Management.
4. All university programs and activities should maintain a continuous identification and evaluation of employee health and safety risks by familiarization inspections, and coordination with the Environmental Health and Safety Office.
5. The university is committed to the control and reduction of employee exposure to known, evident or suspected occupational health and safety risks by attempting to lower exposure levels as quickly as governmental regulation, technology and economic feasibility allow.

The above statement was issued in August of 2002 by President Randall J. Webb. A signed copy of the statement can be found in the Environmental Health & Safety Office.