

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Louisiana Studies Conference will be held September 23-24, 2011 at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The Conference is co-sponsored by the Folklife Society of Louisiana, the Louisiana Folklife Center, and the NSU College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies and Research.

The Conference Committee is now accepting presentation proposals for the upcoming conference. This interdisciplinary conference will be accepting proposals from the following disciplines: American studies, anthropology, communications, creative writing, criminal justice, cultural studies, cultural tourism, English and literary studies, environmental studies, ethnic studies, film studies, fine arts, folklore, gender studies, geography, heritage resources, history, journalism, linguistics, musicology, philosophy, political science, psychology, queer studies, religious studies, Romance languages, social work, sociology, and vernacular architecture. The theme of this year's conference is "Louisiana Fictions." Acclaimed Louisiana poets Catharine Savage Brosman, Julie Kane, and David Middleton will be the keynote speakers.

Although we are especially interested in proposals that deal with Louisiana fictions, **all papers or creative work that address any aspect of Louisiana studies are welcome.** Proposals are being solicited for fifteen minute presentations from scholars at all career stages as well as graduate students. Creative work (creative non-fiction, short fiction, and poetry) is most welcome. Undergraduates are invited to submit, provided they are working with the guidance of a trained scholar. Proposals for panels and roundtable discussions are welcome. Registration for Conference attendees will be \$25.

Abstracts for scholarly proposals (300 words max.) as well as complete texts of short creative works (15 minute presentation time) should be sent as e-mail attachments to Dr. Shane Rasmussen, rasmussens@nsula.edu. Briefly detail the audio / visual tools (laptop, projection screen, data projector, DVD or VCR player, etc.) your presentation will require, if any. Please include a separate cover page with your name, affiliation, mailing and e-mail address, and the title of your presentation. E-mails should be entitled: Louisiana Studies Conference Submission. We will send an e-mail acknowledgement of having received each abstract within one week of having received it. If you do not receive an acknowledgment please resend your submission as we may not have received it. **The deadline for submissions has been extended to July 15.** Accepted presenters will be notified via e-mail by July 30, 2011.

Read broadly, consider the following possibilities for presentation topics relating to Louisiana Fictions. (Note: The following list of suggestions is not meant to be comprehensive.)

Louisiana Literatures

Louisiana Histories

Louisiana Mythologies

Mental Geographies of Louisiana

Louisiana Poetries

Louisiana Gossip

Louisiana Writers

Louisiana Folktales and Tall Tales

Louisiana's Saints, Heroes, Outlaws, Hucksters, and Tricksters

Emic vs. Etic Views of Louisiana

Louisiana Visions

Louisiana Laws and Lawbreakers

Louisiana Lies

Louisiana Landscapes

Louisiana Legends

A selection of scholarly and creative work presented at the conference will be solicited for publication in *Louisiana Folklife*, a peer reviewed academic journal produced by the Louisiana Folklife Center, Northwestern State University, General Editor, Dr. Shane Rasmussen.

Additional information is available on the website for the Louisiana Folklife Center at Northwestern State University: [www.nsula.edu/folklife](http://www.nsula.edu/folklife).

Dr. Lisa Abney, Provost, Vice President for Student and Academic Affairs, and Professor of English, Northwestern State University (co-chair)

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, Director of the Louisiana Folklife Center and Assistant Professor of English, Northwestern State University (co-chair)