

2009 CALENDAR  
May

**General Faculty Meeting**  
**Aug. 12, 2009**  
**10 a.m.**  
**Baker Auditorium**

**Audrey Film to Premiere on Campus**  
McNeese will play host to the film premiere of a new documentary, "All Over But to Cry," filled with stories of people who survived Hurricane Audrey, at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 30, in F.G. Bulber Auditorium. The McNeese Banners Cultural Series is among the many partners bringing this film to Lake Charles.  
Free tickets are available at the McNeese Connection. The documentary brings to life true stories of several survivors of the night Hurricane Audrey rushed ashore in 1957, tremendously impacting families and friends with the tragic loss of life in Cameron Parish.  
Frazar Memorial Library is creating an exhibit to accompany the film, which will be on display in Bulber Auditorium the night of the premiere and then will move to the library for display through Sept. 1. The library is asking people who have original photographs and would like to donate them to the McNeese archives for this exhibit to contact Pati Threatt at ext. 5731 or by e-mail at pthreath@mcneese.edu.



**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
**President's Hotline** ..... Ext. 5587  
**Web Site Information**  
*Group Benefits Program* ..... [www.groupbenefits.org](http://www.groupbenefits.org)  
*State Travel Regulations* ..... [www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/travel/traveloffice.htm](http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/travel/traveloffice.htm)  
*University of Louisiana System* ..... [www.uls.state.la.us](http://www.uls.state.la.us)  
*Louisiana Board of Regents* ..... [www.regent.state.la.us](http://www.regent.state.la.us)

**MCNEESE UPDATE**

McNeese Update is published four times a year by the Office of Public Information and Communications to provide information to University faculty and staff regarding news and events. Correspondence should be directed to: Editor, McNeese Update; MSU Box 92695; ext. 5635; fax 5637; e-mail ctownsen@mcneese.edu.  
Editorial Staff: Candace V. Townsend, Renee LeLeux Graphic Design: Anne Cobb  
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|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 16.....          | Commencement  |
| 21-22.....       | Bookstore Inventory   |
| 22.....          | Master Plan Deadline  |
| 25.....          | Memorial Day Holiday  |
| 27.....          | Fall Freshman Orientation Conference A                        |
| <b>June</b>      |   |
| 4.....           | Summer Orientation  |
| 4.....           | Fall Freshman Orientation Conference B                        |
| 5.....           | Late Summer Registration Begins for All Sessions              |
| 8.....           | Regular and 1 <sup>st</sup> Mini-Session Summer Classes Begin |
| 16.....          | Fall Freshman Orientation Conference C                        |
| 18-21.....       | Theatre<br><i>Fuddy Meers</i>                                 |
| 25.....          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Mini-Session Classes End                      |
| 25.....          | Fall Freshman Orientation Conference D                        |
| 26.....          | 1st Mini-Session Final Exams                                  |
| 26.....          | Kodaly Performance  |
| 29.....          | 2nd Mini-Session Classes Begins                               |
| <b>July</b>      |   |
| 3.....           | Independence Day Holiday                                      |
| 8.....           | Fall Freshman Orientation Conference E                        |
| 10.....          | Fall Registration Ends  |
| 17.....          | Regular and 2nd Mini-Session Classes End                      |
| 20.....          | 2nd Mini-Session Final Exams                                  |
| 20-21.....       | Regular Session Final Exams                                   |
| <b>August</b>    |   |
| 12.....          | Freshman Orientation  |
| 12.....          | General Faculty Meeting                                       |
| 13.....          | Late Fall Registration Begins                                 |
| 17.....          | Fall Classes Begin  |
| 17-21.....       | Howdy Rowdy Week  |
| 28-Sept. 25..... | Annual Faculty Art Exhibition                                 |
| <b>September</b> |   |
| 7.....           | Labor Day Holiday   |
| 21.....          | Career Fair   |
| 30-Oct. 4.....   | Theatre<br><i>The Imaginary Invalid</i>                       |
| <b>October</b>   |   |
| 1.....           | Wind Symphony Concert   |
| 8.....           | Chamber Singers Concert                                       |
| 11-17.....       | Homecoming Week   |
| 15.....          | Homecoming Parade, Pep Rally, Fireworks                       |
| 17.....          | Cowboy Q&A Day  |
| 22.....          | Jazz Concert  |
| 26.....          | Teacher Fair  |
| 28.....          | Percussion Concert  |

**MCNEESE UPDATE**



**Kaufman Renovations to Begin**

The \$5.9 million Kaufman Hall renovation and improvement project is scheduled to begin in August. The first phase will involve the west side and south wing of the building. The second phase will include the center-central section of the building and the east wing. Faculty, staff and department offices will be relocated during the renovation project.  
Renovation and repairs will include new ceilings, lighting, HVAC (air conditioning and heating) system, fire alarm system, ADA upgrades and improvements, patching and painting of walls and new flooring throughout the three-story building. Repairs to the window joints and waterproofing of the exterior will protect the interior finishes from future moisture intrusion.  
The first phase should be completed during fall 2009 and the second phase in fall 2010. Telephone numbers for most offices will remain the same. Information regarding office relocations will be posted at the entrances to the open section of the building.  
The new Shearman Fine Arts addition will be completed during fall 2009 and renovations and repairs to the old section of the building will begin after offices and classrooms are moved into the new section.

**Recycling Team Wins National Awards**

McNeese's Blue and Gold Goes Green recycling team is No. 1 among the more than 500 universities and colleges from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada who took part in the 2009 national RecycleMania competition.  
The MSU team, a first time participant, captured the prestigious Stephen K. Gaski Per Capita Classic—the collection of the largest amount of recyclables per capita—and the Corrugated Cardboard awards. The team ranked second in the Bottles and Cans category and fifth in the Paper category.  
McNeese's performance was noted as "impressive" in that its recycling program is entirely student organized. John O'Donnell is the current president of the organization.



The 4.7 million students and 1.1 million faculty and staff on the competing campuses collectively recycled or composted just over 69 million pounds of waste over a 10-week period of competition.  
MSU's Blue and Gold Goes Green team collected recyclable materials, including cardboard, white paper, aluminum and plastic, and dropped the items at recycling trucks.  
The Blue and Gold Goes Green organization intends to start up the program again in the fall semester.

**Visual Arts Programs Accredited by NASAD**

The Department of Visual Arts' programs have been granted initial accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. NASAD has been granting accreditation to qualified programs since 1944.  
The visual arts programs passed the accreditation process in the first attempt. The accreditation is an indication that the programs meet the demanding standards established by NASAD and that McNeese visual arts students are graduating from a quality program.  
The NASAD report cited several of the department's strengths—"strong support of the university's administration," "dedicated faculty who work well with each other" and "who are very involved in the whole university," "leadership of the last three chairs of the visual arts department," "the competence of its students, as seen in the quality of their work," "a well-written self study" and "a well thought-out curriculum."  
The report also pointed out students' satisfaction with their education at McNeese and praise for the art faculty as well as their excitement about the new facilities and renovations currently under construction for the Shearman Fine Arts Center.

## Robertson to Be Honored as Distinguished Faculty Recipient at Commencement

Dr. Betty Robertson, service-learning coordinator and associate professor of nutrition and family studies, is the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Faculty Award presented each spring by the McNeese Alumni Association.

Robertson was selected from a field of professors nominated by their academic departments and she will be honored during spring commencement at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 16, in Burton Coliseum. She recently received an endowed professorship in science to develop an interdisciplinary McNeese Council on Family Relations and Scholarly Forum.



## Pinnacle Award Winners

Seven faculty members received the 2008-09 Pinnacle Excellence Awards recognizing the best teaching professor in each college. The awards are accompanied by \$5,000 stipends and this year two faculty members from the Burton College of Education shared that college's award. This year's proposals centered on the improvement of student retention and graduation rates.

Recipients and their colleges are: Dr. Seung Hwan Kim, assistant professor of accounting, College of Business; Dr. Brett Welch, assistant professor of education, and Dr. Dustin Hebert, assistant professor of education, Burton College of Education; Dr. John Griffith Jr., professor of chemical engineering, College of Engineering and Engineering Technology; Dr. Derek Blakeley, assistant professor of history, College of Liberal Arts; Amy Bufford, assistant professor of nursing, College of Nursing; and Dr. Jay L. Comeaux, assistant professor of biological science, College of Science.

## Emergency Communications

Current information about a potential threat, such as Swine Flu or an approaching hurricane, will be posted on the Campus Status and Emergency Preparedness page at [www.mcneese.edu/emergency](http://www.mcneese.edu/emergency).

This page provides information and resources about the University's emergency preparedness and response plans in the event of a serious campus emergency or weather-related emergency event that results in the closing of the campus. A link to this page is also at the bottom of the McNeese home page.

Located on this page are useful Web sites for weather and local media, and links to local, state and national homeland security information. With the beginning of hurricane season just three weeks away (June 1), there are also helpful tips and checklists for

hurricane preparedness and disasters.

Communication about any situation that impacts the safety of the campus will continue to be provided by the Office of Public Information and Communications as soon as it is available.

OPIC uses the Campus Status and Emergency Preparedness page, as well as the McNeese home page, portal and blackboard, e-mail, FirstCall, the campus information line, outdoor public address and siren systems, to notify the campus community.

Depending on the emergency, one or more of these communication tools may be used.

Testing of FirstCall and other emergency communications methods will take place in late May.

## First Call

## Benefits Fair Held

Over 250 employees attended the annual Benefits Fair sponsored by the Human Resources Office in March.

Approximately 25 vendors that provide benefits for McNeese employees participated in the Benefits Fair. Employees received valuable information regarding health insurance, accidental death insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, annuities, optional retirement and banking.

Free blood pressure and diabetic blood testing were provided by the College of Nursing and Christus St. Patricks Hospital.

Door prizes were awarded and the following employees were winners: May Gray, Yvonne Jacobs, Robert Deboest, Mary Partin, Becky Williams, Tammy Guillory, Melissa McRight, Betty Isbell, Lisa LaCombe, Rita Cooke, Cheryl Sensat, Mary Bertrand, Linda Naquin, Kelly Reed, Robert Voight, Kelly McGough, Amy Veuleman, Cassandra Herman and Linda Cole.



## LabView Course Offered

The College of Engineering and Engineering Technology will offer a free, five-day LabVIEW course May 20-22, plus two additional consecutive days to be announced, for McNeese engineering, engineering technology and science faculty interested in learning about LabVIEW programming and the fundamentals of PC-based data acquisition and signal conditioning for scientific experimental work.

The hands-on format of the course enables participants to quickly apply skills and become productive with LabVIEW. Lab-orientated experiments include data acquisition hardware installation and configuration, transducers and data analyses such as FFT, filters and statistics.

This course is limited to 10 people and instructor is Dr. Zhuang Li. For more information, contact Li at ext. 5869 or by e-mail at [zli@mcneese.edu](mailto:zli@mcneese.edu).

Pre-registration is requested and name, department and phone number can be e-mailed to Dr. Nikos Kiritsis at [nikosk@mcneese.edu](mailto:nikosk@mcneese.edu).



Several activities are offered for children during the summer months on the MSU campus.

The **McNeese Swim Program** will offer two sessions this summer for students ages 3-17. Classes are scheduled at 9, 10 and 11 a.m. and session dates are as follows: June 1-12, Session I; and June 15-26, Session II. Cost is \$45 per student. For information about registration, contact program coordinator Pat Pickett at ext. 5455.

The **McNeese Summer Reading Clinic** will be offered from 9-11:30 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays, June 8-July 2, for students entering grades 1-6. The fee is \$175. For more information or to request an application, call the Department of Teacher Education at ext. 5404.

The College of Engineering and Engineering Technology will offer a **summer engineering academy** from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday June 8-19 for high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing science and engineering careers. May 22 is the registration deadline. Classes will use Lego Mindstorms NXT robotics kits to discover basic principles and concepts associated with robotics. Cost is \$350 and includes textbooks, materials, snacks and a T-shirt. Lunch is not included. For more information, call Dr. John Li at ext. 5869 or by e-mail at [zli@mcneese.edu](mailto:zli@mcneese.edu).

The **MSU All-Star Summer Band Camps** will be held June 14-18 for high school drum majors, colorguard, twirlers and drumline. For more information, call the Band Office at ext. 5004.

**Aerospace Adventures**, a day camp for students going into grades 4-7, will be offered from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 6-10. Students will study flight theory and the benefits of the space program. Hands-on activities will include kites, tissue paper hot air balloons, paper airplanes, model rockets, model lunar bases and a model rocket launch. Registration is \$45 by June 15 and \$50 after that date. For more information, contact Dr. Sandra Leder at ext. 5470 or by e-mail at [sleder@mcneese.edu](mailto:sleder@mcneese.edu).

The second annual **Cowboy Camp** will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 9 for those first-time freshmen and transfer students attending McNeese this fall who want "to become a part of the tradition." Students will take a crash course on the history and traditions of McNeese, and before they leave campus, those students will understand what it means to become a McNeese Cowboy. The camp is limited to the first 100 students and cost is \$20 per student, which includes lunch, a T-shirt and the chance to win cash and prizes. For more information about Cowboy Camp, contact the Student Union Office at ext. 5609.

The **Cowgirl Kicker Kutie Summer Dance Camp** will be held Aug. 3-7 for

## In Briefs

### Enrollment Deadline Approaches

May 15 is the deadline to enroll for supplemental benefits and flexible spending accounts. For more information, contact Yvonne Jacobs at ext. 5105.

### Bookstore Inventory

The bookstore will be closed Thursday and Friday, May 21-22, for annual inventory.

### Master Plan

The deadline for completion of the 2009 Master Plan Report is May 22. Plans should be e-mailed to Dr. Tom Dvorske at [tdvorske@mcneese.edu](mailto:tdvorske@mcneese.edu). If you have any questions, call ext. 5512. Forms and instructions can be found on the Institutional Effectiveness Web site at [www.mcneese.edu/ie](http://www.mcneese.edu/ie).

### Upcoming Holidays

Memorial Day holiday is Monday, May 25.  
Independence holiday is Friday, July 3.  
Labor Day holiday is Monday, Sept. 7.

### Summer Work Hours Set

Effective Tuesday, May 26, all university offices will operate under summer work hours—7:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Regular working hours, which are from 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m., will resume on Monday, July 20.

### Fall Freshman Orientation

Many new students will be on campus for Freshman Orientation Conferences on the following dates: May 27, June 4, June 16, June 25 and July 8.

### Safety Meeting Sign-In Sheets Due

Departmental sign-in sheets for the second quarter 2009 safety meeting are due in the Safety Office by May 29.

Safety meeting information and the downloadable form can be found online at: [www.mcneese.edu/administration/vpba/safety](http://www.mcneese.edu/administration/vpba/safety). For more information, call ext. 5270.

girls age 5-12. The camp will be offered from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Burton Coliseum. Participants will learn about jazz, hip-hop dance, tumbling, pom dance, modeling and etiquette. Cost is \$150. For more information or a registration form, call Paige Harkins-Caldwell, Cowgirl Kicker adviser, at ext. 5604.

The **MSU Leisure Learning** office also offers numerous classes this summer for children of all ages—classes in guitar, cooking, digital photography, cello, painting, golf, forensic science, line dancing, math and so much more. For more information about classes, call ext. 5616 or go online at [www.mcneese.edu/conted](http://www.mcneese.edu/conted).

Various **athletics camps** are also offered during the summer. For more information about these programs, go to [www.mcneesports.com](http://www.mcneesports.com) and on the left select Athletics Dept. and scroll down to Camps.