According to Northwestern’s proposal, information provided by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing indicates that APRNs in north and central Louisiana tend to leave Louisiana to enroll in DNP programs out of state.

“We are grateful to members of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System for their support of the DNP, following an extensive review by their staff,” said Northwestern State President Dr. Randall J. Webb. “Because of our leadership role in the state in online education, the Supervisors’ action includes collaboration with public universities in south Louisiana in offering core courses for the degree electronically. Considering Northwestern’s prominent role in nursing education for over 60 years and the emphasis on quality health care in our region, we feel offering the DNP is a logical progression for our program.”

The University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors approved requests for a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program at Northwestern State University.

The program, which will be the only doctoral degree program offered at Northwestern, next goes to the Board of Regents for final consideration. The proposed DNP program is a practice-focused, rather than research-focused doctorate that is designed to prepare nurses for careers as advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs).

“There is a demonstrated need for nurses with this higher level of education in North Louisiana and throughout the nation. Northwestern is the largest single university producer of nurse practitioners in Louisiana. It makes sense that these students would come here to further their education,” said UL System Interim Provost Richard Hansen.

Northwestern’s graduate nursing program has been the only graduate nursing program in Louisiana to be ranked among the top 100 programs in the nation by U.S. News and World Report (2011).

The university will be the latest partner in an Inter-Institutional Collaboration with the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Southeastern Louisiana University, Nicholls State University, McNeese State University, Grambling State University, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana State University to offer a DNP program.

The University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors approved requests to grant honorary doctorates to six individuals for their contributions to UL System universities, their regions and the state of Louisiana.

According to Board Rules, honorary degrees may be awarded to “persons who have made substantial achievements in literary, artistic, scientific, or technical fields of endeavor.”

The following honorees will receive their degrees at fall commencement exercises: French Ambassador Francois Delattres, New Orleans developer Pres Kabacoff, Monroe businessman Tex Kilpatrick, former college coach George Luffey, geology pioneer John McCarter, and “Good Morning America” co-anchor Robin Roberts.

Photos and biographical information about each honoree follow.
The Board of Supervisors for the University System of Louisiana approved the following requests:

**ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS**

- **McNeese:** request to eliminated the Associate in Science degree program in Nursing (ASN) effective Fall 2014.
- **Northwestern:** request for approval to request for approval of an Affiliation Agreement between Louisiana Tech University and Louisiana Tech Alumni Association, Inc.
- **Louisiana Tech:** request for approval of an Affiliation Agreement between Louisiana Tech University and the University of New Orleans.
- **Nicholls:** request for approval to combine (1) Contractors Educational Trust Fund Endowed Professorship in Manufacturing Technology; (2) Contractors Licensing Board Endowed Professorship in Manufacturing Technology; and (3) The Contractors Educational Trust Fund Endowed Professorship in Geomatics/Surveying into The Contractors Educational Trust Fund Super Endowed Professorship in Geomatics/Surveying.
- **UNO:** request for approval of a new policy, AP-ME-41.1, relating to authorizing contracts between the university and a member of the research staff, or coaching staff, or a company in which the employee has an interest under specified circumstances.
- **UL System:** request for approval of the 2013-14 Tuition Plan.
- **ULM:** request for approval to authorize contracts between the university and a member of the research staff, or coaching staff, or a company in which the employee has an interest under specified circumstances.
- **Northwestern:** request for approval of a contract with Mr. Scott Stover, Co-Head Women’s Basketball Coach, effective May 1, 2013.
- **ULM:** request for approval of a contract with Mr. Walt Williams, Men’s Head Golf Coach, effective August 25, 2013.
- **UNO:** request for approval of a contract with Mr. Ronald Maestri, Head Baseball Coach, effective July 8, 2013.

**FINANCE**

- **Grambling:** request for approval of a resolution amending a resolution adopted on August 20, 2013, for bond issuance.

**ATHLETIC**

- **LA Tech:** request for approval of a contract with Mr. Tommy H. McCarter, LA Tech’s Men’s Basketball Coach.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

- **Northwestern:** request for approval of a contract with Mr. Christopher “Jay” Artigues as Director of Athletics effective October 14, 2013.
- **UL System:** Personnel Actions.