

Live from Shreveport: New Era in Continuing Education



Course attendees view the presentation in Shreveport from the LSUSD auditorium in New Orleans.

For the first time in the 40-year history of continuing education at LSUSD, a course was transmitted live and electronically from Shreveport to New Orleans. The history-making class originated from a classroom on the campus of LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport and was sent

electronically to Auditorium B in New Orleans. That auditorium has just gone through a \$1.6 million renovation and now features the very latest in communication technology.

Dr. Henry Gremillion was instructor of the course entitled, "The Many Faces of Orofacial Pain."

"Distance learning opens up a whole new way to provide continuing

education to the nearly 3,000 practicing dentists around the state," said Dr. Gremillion. "This new technology allows us to break through geographic barriers. We can now offer added convenience and accessibility."

In 2010, more history will be made when courses are held in seven Louisiana cities: Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans and Shreveport. More than 53 courses will be presented. Of this total, there will be three courses in Shreveport, a series of courses for general dentists in Baton Rouge, and a radiology course in New Orleans and Baton Rouge for dental assistants. Plans are in development for a two-day forensics course in New Orleans. Thirteen EDDA courses will be offered, including six in New Orleans, four in Baton Rouge and three in Lafayette.

Like traditional learning, the new method allows for student-teacher interaction and provides students with timely feedback.

Since the LSUSD continuing education program was started in 1969, 52,086 have attended 997 classes. The CE infrastructure at the dental school includes a "hands on" bench-top simulation lab that accommodates 30 participants.

"Being a dentist means a lifelong commitment to top-quality patient care," said Dr. Gremillion. "That means a lifelong commitment to learning."

Students Give Thanks



From left, Brandon Mack, Nicole Russo and Tony Hammack

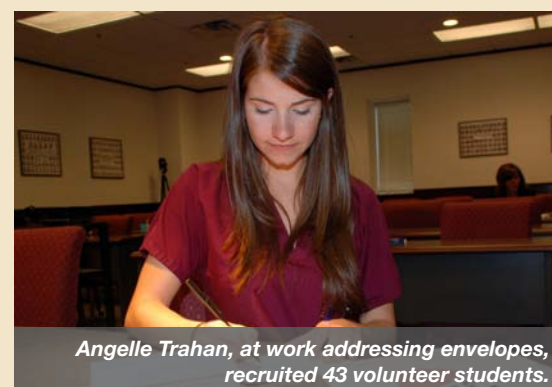
Forty-three student volunteers recruited by dental student leader Angelle Trahan (2010) sent out more than 600 holiday thank-you notes to alumni and friends who recently contributed donations to the dental school.

"Giving is a selfless act that contributes to the greater good...and thanking those who give is equally important," said Joanne Courville, director of alumni affairs. "I think the students felt that they were part of a team and the gesture also helped them to understand the importance of giving back."

The event is called a "thank-a-thon" and is held each year just before the Thanksgiving holidays.

Angelle Trahan said she had no difficulty recruiting volunteers. "Once I explained, they were happy to help." Angelle is secretary of the Student Government Association.

Several of the students also signed up for an ongoing committee to thank donors. Private gifts allow the school to improve its facilities, fund important student activities and enhance the educational programs at LSUSD.



Angelle Trahan, at work addressing envelopes, recruited 43 volunteer students.



From left, Jonathan Glass, Matt Ganey and Tad Beene