

Mary Joyce Bryan

Loyalty

Personal Statement

I am a proud alumnus of Louisiana Tech University having received my degree in Elementary Education fifty years ago in November 1967. This just so happens to be the very first quarter ever at Louisiana Tech University. I was able to teach at Cypress Springs Elementary School for a year and a half while my husband finished his degree here as well. After he graduated he was commissioned as an officer in the U. S. Navy. He was in the Navy for approximately ten years. We returned home and I was fortunate enough to work for Commercial Union Life Insurance Company until December of 1990 when the Life Company was sold.

I then began my civil service career at Grambling State University in May of 1991 and worked there until July of 1992. I was offered a position at Louisiana Tech University in July 1992 working in the Electrical Engineering Department. That Department was comprised of Electrical Engineering and Electrical Engineering Technology. The College of Engineering and Science later changed the structure and eliminated Department Heads and set up a structure of Academic Directors, who were in charge of several programs. I was asked to take on the responsibility for the Computer Science Program which I did.

In the summer of 1999 Dr. Jim Nelson asked that I apply for a position that was opening in the Undergraduate Studies Office. I did apply and was hired and have now been in this position nineteen years. Until a year or so ago I was in charge of the scholarship awards and am still helping with the knowledge I have regarding certain scholarships. I check all COES degree candidate files and clear each for graduation. This spring quarter we currently have 307 students registered for graduation. Of these there are 6 earning dual degrees! Over the years I have been in charge of the student workers in our office. I help with Orientation and advising of students. I also help with the routine advising and have advised a few thousand students during my time here at Tech. I complete all transfer evaluations for COES.

COES is ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) accredited and this accreditation has to be renewed approximately every six years depending on the number of years for which each accreditation is awarded. I work behind the scenes in helping get all of the information together for the files of the students to be reviewed at each accreditation visit for each of our programs being reviewed. The University also comes up for review for our SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) and I am responsible for seeing that our quarterly reports for our Roster of Instructional Staff are correct when submitted to Dr. Shoemaker. These reports are used in helping with our accreditation reviews.

I will have been at Louisiana Tech University twenty-six years this July. To stay in a job this long you have to enjoy what you do. In this case no day is ever the same and you have to care about the person you are dealing with at the time. I have always told my daughters that you never know what the other person is going through and to be kind. I also believe that when you are assigned a task you work until that task is finished, and you do the best job you can. My Dad taught me that....not by telling me; but, by example.

I have loved my time here at Tech and when the insurance adjuster came to my house yesterday he said, "I love your mat!". Of course it was a Louisiana Tech University door mat!

I met Joyce Bryan in 1994 when I began working for Louisiana Tech University with the Institute for Micromanufacturing. She was the program secretary for Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and located in Nethken Hall. She was overseeing the office and assisting faculty and students, as well as advising and clearing students in those areas for graduation prior to the position she now holds in the College of Engineering and Science Undergrad office today.

During these past 24 years, she has been a valuable asset to me with her knowledge of the procedures, policies, and “how do I” questions, whenever I needed assistance. In my earliest years, I learned much of what I know from Joyce relating to creating and setting up courses for the upcoming quarters, assigning faculty teaching the courses, what does this student need to do, where do I send them, 9th day rosters, grades, student forms, the CICS screens I’d need to access, etc. Although I rarely assist in these procedures today, I readily admit I could not have learned, nor retained this knowledge, without Joyce’s assistance in the beginning. However, when someone asks me about these things, I do my best to assist them, but always, always tell them; “there is someone in Bogard Hall that knows much more than I about this, and can assist you much better than I can, and that is Joyce Bryan”.

What I know today, and some recently learned, is that Joyce is receptive to change, adaptive to new requirements in protocols and procedures, changes in programs such as CICS, Moodle, software programs, etc. These attributes are what has sustained her through the many years of change in her positions, as well as the policies and procedural changes required to do our jobs.

When I ask what being loyal meant to Joyce, and kept her loyal, sustaining her over all; her response was, “I have always believed that when you are assigned a task, that you work until that is finished, and that you do the best job you can...”. But underlining all the attributes that represent Joyce and the quote above, I believe the quote that follows and that benefits her and those she helps, she brought with her, learned from an early age when she added; “my Dad taught me...not by telling me, but, by example!”

This is how I perceive Joyce. She teaches by example, and taught me; shows by example, so that we can learn and show others; and lives as an example to follow. One may not come together often with their co-workers outside the office, but in the office, we are family and anyone that has met, conversed with, and needed assistance from, can testify that Joyce is loyal and true to all that’s met her through the years. And, what is also important to know; “she’d do it all over again.”

If anyone can be lifted up as loyal to her co-workers, her program, the students, her college, her school; it is truly Joyce Bryan. She has earned the right, and is deserving to be a nominee for the “Loyalty Award”.



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

May 3, 2018

To the senate members of the selection committee:

I nominate Joyce Bryan for the Loyalty Award for classified personnel. As a new member of the classified staff, Joyce has been an invaluable source of information and direction for me. She always has the university's best interests at heart, and has served the school for many, many years. Her coordination with other departments, such as the registrar's office, or HR, is exemplary. The woman knows her stuff! She certainly demonstrates her loyalty to Louisiana Tech every day by the way she performs her job, whether it is helping students register for classes, or coordinating paperwork involving faculty, or helping new staff members like me learn the ropes. On a personal note, I love it when I see Ms. Joyce wearing her Loyal Blue colors, or her jewelry that reflects Tech Pride. For these reasons, I nominate her for the Loyalty Award.

Respectfully,

Sue Antony
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LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

May 3, 2018
University Senate
Louisiana Tech University

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Joyce Bryan

Selection Committee:

It is my pleasure to recommend Joyce Bryan for the University Senate Loyalty Award. Joyce has been loyally serving Louisiana Tech University for over 25 years. She currently serves as the Administrative Coordinator 4 for the Undergraduate Studies Office in the College of Engineering and Science, where I have had the pleasure of working with her for 6 years.

Saying that Joyce is an asset to the College of Engineering and Science is an understatement. When questions arise, the first person who most people will reach out to for guidance and an answer is, hands down, Joyce. With her over 25 years of employment at Louisiana Tech University, Joyce's knowledge and experiences are invaluable to her co-workers and other faculty and staff at this University.

Joyce's attention to detail and work ethic are impeccable. One of her many responsibilities is clearing students for graduation. With enrollment growing each year, Joyce is now clearing over 300 students for spring graduation alone. This task is very critical and tedious, and Joyce has performed it each quarter above reproach.

Not only does Joyce assist students with graduation, she also assists incoming transfer students with advising and scheduling courses. By conducting transcript evaluations for these students, another task that requires an acute attention to detail, Joyce helps start these students on the right track towards a degree and, ultimately, graduation.

These are just a few of the many examples of Joyce's loyalty to the University. Joyce is most deserving of this award, and without hesitation, I would recommend Joyce Bryan for the Loyalty Award.

Sincerely,

Allie De Leo
Director of Enrollment Management & Employer Relations
College of Engineering and Science
Louisiana Tech University

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