

Mary Joyce Bryan

Loyalty

Personal Statement

I am a proud alumnus of Louisiana Tech University having received my degree in Elementary Education over fifty years ago in November 1967. This just so happens to be the very first quarter ever at Louisiana Tech University. Prior to Fall 1967 the university had been on the semester system. 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 completed his degree at Tech 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 transferred to Louisiana Tech University in July 1992 and worked in the Electrical Engineering Department. That Department was comprised of Electrical Engineering and Electrical Engineering Technology. Later I assumed the duties for Computer Science as well. During my time as the program secretary for these programs, I began to complete the degree audits for graduation for the seniors. As a result, Dr. Jim Nelson, the Associate Dean at the time, asked me to apply for the opening in the Undergraduate Studies Office in the summer of 1999. I am happy to say that I now been in this position twenty-one years. I check all COES degree candidate files and clear each for graduation. 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 that the site visitor for each program will review.

I will be retiring on May 31, 2021 and will have 30 years in the civil service system. To stay in a job this long you have to enjoy what you do. Working at Louisiana Tech means that 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 am happy to say that both of my daughters are alumni of Tech and that my first grandson will graduate this spring. I am also proud to say that I have two granddaughters who will start as freshmen this Fall.

I have loved my time here at Tech and Dr. Tims told me when I gave him my retirement letter "Joyce, the hardest thing for you when you retire will be NOT WORKING!"

I want to thank all within the College of Engineering and Science as well as across the campus setting that I have had the opportunity to work with during my time here. I have been so blessed to have had the opportunity to work with so many wonderful and caring people.



April 27, 2021
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 9 years.

As far back as I can remember, even during my time as a student, Joyce has been a staple of the College of Engineering and Science. Her knowledge and experiences from her over 25 years of employment have become an invaluable asset for the College. For example, when a question arises, it is a habit for many of us within the College to first reach out to Joyce for guidance.

Not only is Joyce's vast knowledge indispensable, but her work ethic and attention to detail are impeccable. In the College of Engineering and Science, our enrollment has grown to a point where Joyce, in one of her many responsibilities, verifies that students meet the requirements for graduation. For Spring Commencement alone Joyce checks over 300 students' records. This task is extremely tedious and is critical for our College's accreditation, and Joyce performs this task each quarter above reproach.

In addition to ensuring students meet the requirements for graduating, Joyce also ensures incoming transfer students start their college career at Louisiana Tech University on the right foot by conducting thorough transcript evaluations for these students, another task that requires an acute attention to detail. Additionally, Joyce assists them with advising and scheduling courses, ultimately setting these students on the correct course to graduation.

At the end of this May, Joyce will be retiring from Louisiana Tech University. We will miss her dearly, but we are so excited for Joyce to embark on the next chapter of her life – retirement. Joyce is most deserving of this award, and without hesitation, I would recommend Joyce Bryan for the Loyalty Award, the perfect recognition that epitomizes her devotion to and career at Louisiana Tech University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Allie DeLeo-Allen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Allie DeLeo-Allen, PhD
Director of Enrollment Management & Employer Relations
College of Engineering and Science
Louisiana Tech University



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

April 28, 2021

University Senate
Louisiana Tech University
RE: Loyalty Award – Joyce Bryan

Dear Awards Selection Committee:

It is my pleasure to offer a letter of support in recommending Joyce Bryan for the University Senate Loyalty Award for classified staff. Joyce has been providing exceptional service to the College of Engineering & Science (COES) for decades. She has served in multiple areas within the COES during her Tech career but is probably best known for the dedicated service she has provided in our Undergraduate Studies Office. For a brief period, I was Joyce's direct supervisor when I served as Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies for COES so I have directly observed and experienced her work ethic and dedication to her job. In my 25+ years at Tech, I can say without exception I have not seen a staff employee that is more committed to doing their job than her. She is known for working evenings and weekends to catch up on evaluating transfer student transcripts as well as doing graduation curriculum checks. She is extremely detailed oriented in ensuring that we do not miss anything in approving a student for graduation and ensuring that all of our documentation is in order so that we have no transcript issues with any of our accreditation agencies. She has probably interacted with almost every academic department across the entire campus from the many transfer transcripts she has evaluated over the years. She clearly meets and exceeds all of the criteria identified for this award:

- Goes above and beyond standard responsibilities to deliver quality service to faculty, staff, and students
- Shows excellence in service and loyalty to the university
- Collaborates with other departments on campus
- Committed to meeting the needs of students, faculty, and staff
- Exudes Louisiana Tech pride

I cannot imagine that there is a more worthy recipient on campus than her for this award, and I strongly support recognizing Joyce Bryan with the University Senate Loyalty Award.

Sincerely,

Hisham Hegab, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean & Max Watson, Sr. Professor of Mechanical Engineering



LOUISIANA TECH
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

April 23, 2021

Dear Award Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Joyce Bryan for the University Senate Loyalty Award. I have known Joyce for many years. When I was a student in COES, I had the opportunity to work with her and also interacted with her as she helped to check graduating student files. When I was a new faculty member, she was a constant source of support and help in trying to navigate the University academic world, and when I became an administrator I was able to work directly with her in the Undergraduate Studies Office.

It is common knowledge among faculty that when it came to who to approach for student help, she was one of your first stops. In our college, we regularly run into situations with students that require help or assistance. Joyce is an amazing resource and is very helpful in finding solutions that will assist students. The amazing thing about her is that most students and faculty have no idea what all she is doing behind the scenes to make their jobs easier and to help them. They just know it is fixed.

Having known Joyce for many years, and having directly worked with her for the last five years, I can truly say that there is no other person I can think of that puts in the effort that she does. She is truly the definition of Loyalty. She is loyal to the students, the faculty, and the University. She puts in countless hours, well beyond what is expected or required to help take care of others. She truly cares about people, and will do whatever it takes to care for them and help the university move forward. Joyce has been with Louisiana Tech for 27 years, and has been serving in her current role for 22 years. Her efforts, which typically go unnoticed, are what help so many students to be retained and ultimately receive degrees from Tech. There is no way of knowing the number of students that would have never graduated had it not been for her personal efforts to help them. I highly recommend her to you. If you have any further questions with regard to her impact on Louisiana Tech, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Heath Tims, PhD
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies, COES
Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering
Endowed Cajun Contractors Professor