



**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Articulation Agreement Gives Healthcare Students More Options**

**Baton Rouge, LA** – More south Louisiana students pursuing healthcare careers can complete preliminary coursework near home and have a clearer path to obtaining a professional degree as the result of a recent agreement between two regional institutions of higher education.

In an effort to maximize opportunities for students and to help build a larger nursing and health profession workforce for south Louisiana, an articulation agreement was formalized between Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University (formerly known as Our Lady of the Lake College) in Baton Rouge and Northshore Technical Community College (NTCC) in a ceremony held at the University in December. The ceremony was attended by a number of faculty and administrators from both institutions. The articulation agreement takes effect immediately for students applying for summer and fall 2017 admissions.

“The agreement provides undergraduate students with an opportunity to enter healthcare professions that may not be offered in their community,” explained Susan Steele-Moses, DNS, Interim Dean of the School of Health Professions at the University.

The core of the agreement is to allow students of NTCC (which has locations throughout the greater northshore region) who have completed the agreed upon 30 credit hours in general science, business and liberal studies to enroll into healthcare profession degrees at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University. Students may transition into one of seven undergraduate programs at the University: Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Nursing, Physical Therapist Assisting, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Therapy, Health Service Administration, and Biology (pre-professional human medicine track).



“Transfer pathways in high demand fields are essential to the success of our students,” explained NTCC Chancellor William Wainwright. “These agreements solidify progressive avenues for students to advance a continuum of learning leading to success and employment.”

As graduates, they may expect ample employment opportunities. The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment of healthcare occupations is projected to grow 19 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations, adding about 2.3 million new jobs. This growth is expected due to an aging population and because federal health insurance reform should increase the number of individuals who have access to health insurance.

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University President Holland underlined the significance of the articulation agreement between the two institutions. “It is crucial that all of us in higher education, both public and private, collaborate in meaningful ways. This agreement is a perfect example of how we can work together to efficiently and effectively meet some of the greatest needs in Louisiana.”

**Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University** is a four-year, independent institution, providing a strong foundation in the liberal arts and continuing its highly-regarded health sciences and nursing programs. Established in 1923 by the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady (FMOL), the institution offers doctoral, master’s, baccalaureate, and associate degrees and holds to a Franciscan tradition of service, providing a healing and spiritual presence for the community and especially those most in need.

**Northshore Technical Community College** (NTCC) is a comprehensive community college with a rich history of providing workforce training and academic pathways to regional universities for the greater Northshore region. The 2010 National Center for Higher Education Management Study acknowledged the increasing demand on the Northshore area for higher education infrastructure specific to the fields of STEM, resulting in legislation to establish state-of-the-art facilities in Lacombe, Louisiana. In 2015, NTCC was recognized by the Brookings Institute as the first in the nation for economic value of its graduates. Community College Week Publication recognized NTCC in 2015 as sixth in the nation for fastest growth among community colleges of its size. As an ACT College and Career Readiness Exemplar, NTCC continues to provide relevant programs and timely responsiveness to local and regional industries.



For additional information about the articulation agreement, please contact Elaine Crowe, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University Communications, at 225-768-1700.

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The Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady announced on October 4, 2016 that Our Lady of the Lake College would change its name to Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University. The announcement of the new name kicks off a transition that will include a re-branding, and full implementation of the new name will take up to a year to complete.

To learn more about our institution please visit [www.ololcollege.edu](http://www.ololcollege.edu) .

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