




# College of Education

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Research Symposium**  
**"Improving Rural Life and Education"**



**Favrot Student Union**  
**March 26-27, 2009**  
**Grambling State University**  
**Grambling, Louisiana**



## Dean's Welcome



Greetings,

Welcome to the College of Education's 3rd Annual Research Symposium. The theme of this year's symposium is on Improving Rural Life and Education. The field of urban education has garnered quite a bit of attention in the past two decades, as it relates to how school and human services personnel are trained. With rapid demographic, technological, and now economic changes and challenges in our society, rural education has emerged as the new area of salience in education.

This year we invited scholars, practitioners, educators, and students from both urban and rural education fields to come together to exchange and disseminate ideas from their respective points of view to inform, enhance, and explore best practice in education and social service.

Ultimately, the research symposium seeks to provide opportunities for the field of education and ancillary fields/professions to create greater meaning and insight through interchange, dialogue, and engagement. This notion is an exciting and encouraging one; it may possibly serve as a model for other symposia with aspirations of broadening its perspective or disciplinary outlook. And, at the end of the day, this is what a research symposium should be: forward-thinking, rigorous, and challenging.

So, join us as we explore new and provocative concepts and ideas aimed at improving the social and educational condition in rural settings in this our 3rd Annual Research Symposium. You won't regret it.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean S. Warner".

Sean S. Warner, Dean  
College of Education



March 12, 2009

Welcome to Lincoln Parish!

On behalf of the Ruston Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau we thank you for attending the College of Education Research Symposium at Grambling State University.

We truly hope that each of you will enjoy your visit to Grambling. While you are here, we encourage you to take advantage of the many wonderful aspects of Ruston and Lincoln Parish, from the wonderful food to the attractions and some of the best shopping in the South. It is all here for your enjoyment!

Again, thank you for taking the time to visit our part of Louisiana. The CVB invites you to come back often and spend a little time soaking up the beauty and charm of Lincoln Parish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy P. Bush".

Timothy P. Bush  
Director of Sales and Marketing  
Ruston Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau

# Keynote Speaker



Shannan Magee

Shannan “Akosua” Magee graduated from the University of Massachusetts of Amherst where she received an undergraduate degree from the W.E.B. DuBois Afro-American Studies Department and a Master’s in Secondary Education. In 2003, she received an Education Specialist Degree in Education Administration & Leadership and became a Fulbright Scholar. In 2006, her research provided the foundation for the opening of the Girls Institute of Science & Technology (GIST); an NGO school located in rural Agogo, Ghana. Twenty-four (24) months later GIST morphed into what is now called YIST: the Youth Institute of Science & Technology (YIST). YIST serves more than 200 students from Agogo and the surrounding areas.

YIST-Agogo is the first of several model schools Akosua and collaborators are launching in Africa. Each YIST school focuses on a different renewable energy. Students at YIST-Agogo focus on Bio Diesel where they partner with Helporg.Inc. to produce Bio diesel fuels from local Palm Fruit.

Akosua Boateng is now preparing for the launch of two additional schools in Ghana: YIST-Ablekuma, an Islamic school with a focus on Solar Energy scheduled to open in September 2009 and GIST-Ejisu, an all girls school with a focus on Rain Water Harvesting and Organic Agro-processing. On the horizon, are the 2010 openings of YIST-Abidjan in Cote Dvoire and YIST-Kampala in Uganda.

Akosua and her team are dedicated to exposing children to science at an early age, and they are providing a curriculum along with teaching practices she hopes others will adopt.

Shannan “Akosua” Magee has always been about the business of teachable moments both in Ghana, where she has been living for months at a time since founding a school in the village of Agogo, and at home in Atlanta, Georgia where she trains teachers and advises independent schools.

Additionally, Magee, serves as a consultant for Atlanta parents who have chosen to home-school their children. Her consultancy primarily focuses on developing primary and secondary resources for curricula that infuse Africa and African history.

Ultimately, Akosua is an idea-woman and she hopes that her ideas on curriculum, teacher-training, and science education inspire her colleagues and students on both sides of the Atlantic to be fervent about educating all children, particularly those of African-descent.

## Guest Speaker



Janet A. Guyden

Dr. Janet A. Guyden is the Associate Vice President for Research and Dean for the School of Graduate Studies and Research at Grambling State University, Grambling, Louisiana. She has served as a professor of educational leadership in the Department of Educational Leadership and Human Services at Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida, where she was actively involved in teaching, research, grant writing, and service and served as the Principal Investigator for the FAMU Teachers for a New Era (TNE) Project from 2003 to 2005. She currently serves as a member of the National Academy of Science/Nation Research Council Leadership Summit to Effect Change in Teaching and Learning.

She received her B.A. degree in English from Howard University, her M.Ed. degree in counselor education from Worcester State College, and her Ph.D. in educational leadership from Georgia State University. Dr. Guyden has been a secondary school teacher, the coordinator of an adult education program, and a counselor in both clinical and educational settings.

At Paine College in Augusta, Georgia she served as director of the college counseling center and as dean for admissions, recruitment, and financial aid. Dr. Guyden joined the faculty in the Department of Educational Policy Studies at Georgia State University in 1992 where she coordinated the Ph.D. program in higher education. She joined the faculty in the Department of Educational Leadership and Human Services at Florida A&M University in July 1997 where she has served as interim department chair, coordinator of the educational leadership doctoral program, and the associate chair of the department. Dr. Guyden served as the interim dean for the College of Education from March 2001 to March 2003. Dr. Guyden began her work at Grambling State University in August 2005. Her research interests include the impact of organizations on individual functioning with specific interest in Historically Black Colleges and the teacher education reform.

**Contact Information:**

Janet A. Guyden, Ph.D.

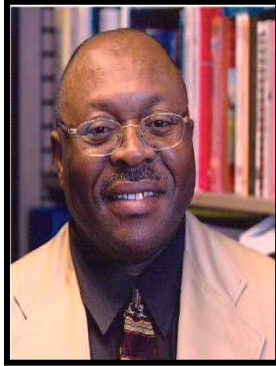
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## Guest Speaker



Festus E. Obiakor

Dr. Festus E. Obiakor is a Professor in the Department of Exceptional Education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. His research interests include multicultural psychology and special education, self-concept development, crisis intervention, educational reform/program evaluation and comparative/international education. He is a renowned scholar and has published several books and journal articles.

Dr. Obiakor serves on the editorial boards of many refereed journals, including *Multiple Voices* and *Multicultural Learning and Teaching* — he currently serves as co-editor of both journals. He has presented papers at national and international levels. In addition, he is a frequent speaker on college campuses; for example, he has served as an Invited/Visiting Scholar at Frostburg State University, Marquette University, Hendrix College, St. Xavier University of Chicago, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Hampton University, Portland State University, University of Georgia, West Virginia University, Eastern Illinois University, University of North Texas, Brigham Young University, Illinois State University, Tennessee State University, Morgan State University, Abilene Christian University, Grambling State University, and Indiana University-Purdue University. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Dr. Obiakor continues to prescribe a Comprehensive Support Model (CSM) which connects the self, the family, the school, and the community, in providing learning opportunities and choices for all students. From his perspective, “one cannot climb a tree without support.”

**College of Education**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Research Symposium**  
**"Improving Rural Life and Education"**

Registration  
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Pre-symposium Workshops**  
Thursday, March 26, 2009

**9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

**Location: Lincoln (242)**

Moderator

**Workshop A**

*Research Soup to Nuts*

Janet A. Guyden, Associate V. P. & Dean  
School of Graduate Studies & Research  
Grambling State University

William G. White, Professor  
Grambling State University

**12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**12:30 pm – 2:00 p.m.**

**2:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Location: Lincoln (242)**

Moderator

**Roundtable Discussions**

*Lunch on Your Own*

**Workshop B**

*Catching the Research & Writing Bug*

Festus E. Obiakor, Professor  
Department of Exceptional Education  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Wilton A. Barham, Professor  
Grambling State University

**College of Education**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Research Symposium**  
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**Roundtable Presentations**

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday, March 26, 2009

**Location: Rapides Room (234)**

***Recruitment of African American Male Teachers: The Missing Role Models***

Sharon Ford-Dunn, Associate Professor  
Grambling State University

Sherlynn H. Byrd, Associate Professor  
Alcorn State University

Moderator

Marianne Giorlando-Fisher, Professor  
Grambling State University

**Location: Ouachita Room (243)**

***Androgogy: Using Distance Education to Balance Professionalism and Personalism***

Tireka Cobb  
Louisiana State University

Moderator

Andolyn B. Harrison, Professor  
Grambling State University

**Location: Lafayette Room (244)**

***Creating a positive learning environment: How not to leave rural children behind***

A. K. Nur-Hussen, Associate Professor  
Kathryn Newman, Professor  
Grambling State University

Diseree Smith-Clark, Teacher  
Rhonda Jones, Teacher  
Cassandra Johnson, Teacher  
Alma J. Brown Elementary School  
Grambling State University

Moderator

Charles Pinckney, Assistant Professor  
Livingstone College



**College of Education**  
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Registration  
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Concurrent Sessions**  
Friday, March 27, 2009

**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**Session A (Panel)**

**Location: Lincoln Room (242)**

*Math Anxiety: Enabling Student  
Numerical Capabilities*

Gregory Battle Associate Professor  
Grambling State University

Kenneth Boatner  
Cambridge College

Lloyd Edwards  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Frederick Gibson  
Morehouse College

Nara Martirosyan, Doctoral Student  
Grambling State University

Moderator

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

**Session A**

**Location: Rapides Room (234)**

*Culturally Responsive College  
Readiness for All Students: CSI  
Grambling*

Loretta Walton-Jaggers, Professor  
Elaine Foster, Associate Professor  
Nanthalia McJamerson, Professor  
Grambling State University

Moderator

Caroyl Townsend, Doctoral Student  
Grambling State University

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

**Location: Ouachita Room (243)**

Moderator

**Location: Lafayette Room (244)**

Moderator

**10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

**Location: Ouachita Room (243)**

Moderator

**Location: Lafayette Room (244)**

Moderator

## **Session A (cont.)**

*Closing the Knowledge Gap through the Mass Media*

Gaylon E. Murray, Professor  
Grambling State University

Bennie R. Lowery, Professor  
Grambling State University

*Contemporary Solutions: Bridging Mental Health, Business, and Technology in Rural Areas*

John L. Monroe, CEO  
Spencer Simmons  
Contemporary Services, Inc.

Willie Daniel, Head KSLs  
Grambling State University

## **Session B**

*The Economic Impact of the Recession on Southern Rural Schools*

Sean S. Warner, Dean-COE  
Matthew Uwakonye, Interim Dean-COB  
Grambling State University

A. K. Nur-Hussen, Associate Professor  
Grambling State University

*Infectious Diseases Epidemiology Update about Infectious Diseases in Louisiana (A Book Presentation)*

Martin Ayim, Professor  
Grambling State University

Elise Reed, Doctoral Student  
Grambling State University

**10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

## **Session C (Panel)**

**Location: Lincoln Room (242)**

*Assistive Technology: What are the Best Ways to Assess Uses and Impact in K-12 Settings?*

Yolen K. Lemelle, Teacher  
Joanie Lemelle, Educator-in-Training  
Advance Baton Rouge

Moderator

Pamela Payne, Assistant Professor  
Grambling State University

**11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

## **Session D**

**Location: Ouachita Room (243)**

*Parental Perceptions Among Rural African-Americans: Regarding Home Internet Access*

Jeananne Oldham Smith, Teacher  
Lincoln Parish Schools

Bennie R. Lowery, Professor  
Grambling State University

Moderator

Kathryn Newman, Professor  
Grambling State University

**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

## **Session E**

**Location: Lafayette Room (244)**

*Assessing the Emotional Baggage of the Hip-Hop Generation College Student*

Charles Pinckney, Assistant Professor  
Livingstone College

Moderator

Reubenson Wanjohi, Assistant Professor  
Grambling State University

**College of Education**  
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**“Improving Rural Life and Education”**

**Session F**  
**Luncheon**

Black & Gold Room

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 27, 2009**

Presider	Sean S. Warner, Dean College of Education Grambling State University
Welcome	Wilton A. Barham, Professor Department of Educational Leadership Grambling State University
Invocation	Kevin Sly, Instructor College of Business Grambling State University
Greetings	Robert M. Dixon, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Grambling State University
Introduction of Keynote Speaker	William G. White, Professor Department of Educational Leadership Grambling State University
Keynote Address	Shannan Magee, Founder & Director Youth Institute of Science & Technology
Closing Remarks	Sean S. Warner, Dean College of Education Grambling State University

## Concurrent Sessions

Friday, March 27, 2009

**2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

**Location: Lincoln Room (242)**

Moderator

### **Session G (Panel)**

*Collaborative Initiatives in Rural Ghana:  
Advancing Education, Research, and  
Sustainable Development*

Shannan Magee  
Shaneka Davis  
Pamela Flores  
Cashawn Myers  
Youth Institute of Science & Technology

Limbikani Kamlongera, Doctoral Student  
Grambling State University

**2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Location: Rapides Room (234)**

Moderator

### **Session G**

*Improving Education in Rural Areas Through  
Technology Usage*

Reubenson Wanjohi, Assistant Professor  
Grambling State University

Nara Martirosyan, Doctoral Student  
Grambling State University

Olatunde Ogunyemi, Head EDL  
Grambling State University

**Location: Ouachita Room (243)**

Moderator

*Childhood Neglect and Its Impact on Student  
Violence*

Mildred Delozia, Assistant Professor  
Grambling State University

Christine Crowder, Doctoral Student  
Grambling State University

LaKeisha Jenkins, Instructor  
Grambling State University

**2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Location: Lafayette Room (244)**

Moderator

## **Session G (cont.)**

*Stimulating Rural Education*

Brett Sims, Head-Mathematics  
Grambling State University

LaWanda Sykes, Instructor  
Grambling State University

**3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.**

**Location: Lafayette Room (244)**

Moderator

## **Session H (Panel)**

*The 2005-2008 LA GEAR UP Summer Learning Camps: The Impact of the GSU LA GEAR-UP Preparation/Training Model on Positive Camper Outcomes*

Loretta Walton-Jaggers, Professor  
Ronnie Davis, Professor  
Elaine Foster, Associate Professor  
Nanthalia McJamerson, Professor  
Grambling State University

Shem Beroo, Master's Student  
Louisiana Tech University

**3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Location: Ouachita Room (243)**

Moderator

## **Session H**

*The Challenges of Preparing Educational Leaders for Rural Educational Contexts*

Patricia P. Johnson, Assistant Professor  
Vicki R. Brown, Professor  
Grambling State University

Nicole Boatwain, Master's Student  
Grambling State University

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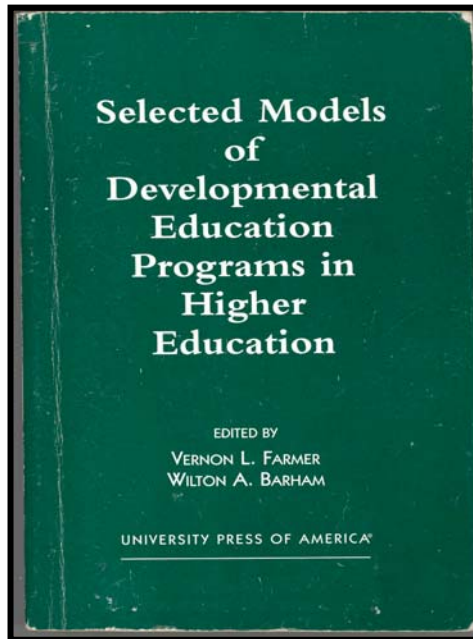
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*University Press of America Announces New Book in Developmental Education*



*Selected Models of Developmental Education Programs in Higher Education*  
**Vernon L. Farmer and Wilton A. Barham, Editors**

We are pleased to inform you that the book, *Selected Models of Developmental Education Programs in Higher Education* [ISBN: 0-7618-1991-6 (paperback at \$66.50)]; [ISBN: 0-7618-1713-1 (clothbound at \$86.50)], is available for ordering. To purchase your copy, please contact University Press of America, Inc., 4720 Boston Way, Lanham, MD 20706 or [www.univpress.com](http://www.univpress.com). The book may also be purchased at amazon.com.

*Notes About the Editors*

**Vernon L. Farmer** is professor of Educational Leadership at Grambling State University and was Acting Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research at Grambling State University. Dr. Farmer was also Head of the Department of Educational Leadership and Director of Doctoral Programs in the College of Education at Grambling State University. He earned the A.B., A.M. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

**Wilton A. Barham** is professor of Educational Leadership and Arlynne Lake Cheers Endowed Professor of Education in the College of Education at Grambling State University and was Head of the Department of Educational Leadership and Director of Doctoral Programs in the College of Education at Grambling State University. He earned his B.S. in secondary mathematics from the State University of New York at Oneonta; the M.P.H. in biostatistics and the Ph. D. in educational research methods and statistics from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.



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Monday	9:00a - 5:30p
Tuesday	2:00a - 5:30p
Wednesday	9:00a - 5:30p
Thursday	Closed
Friday	9:00a - 5:00p
Lunch	12:00p - 2:00p

**Dr. Doris Williams-Smith**  
**Head of the Curriculum & Instruction Department**  
**&**  
**Director of NCATE**



**Salutes**  
**The College of Education**  
**on its**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Research Symposium**

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Grambling State University  
Laboratory Schools  
Dr. Sean S. Warner, Dean

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Grambling Middle School - Principal Ronnie Harrison  
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*III John 2 "Beloved, I wish all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health,  
even as thou prosperth."*

Dean Sean Warner  
Congratulations  
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at  
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**ricky caples, d.d.s.**  
**chris robinson, d.d.s.**  
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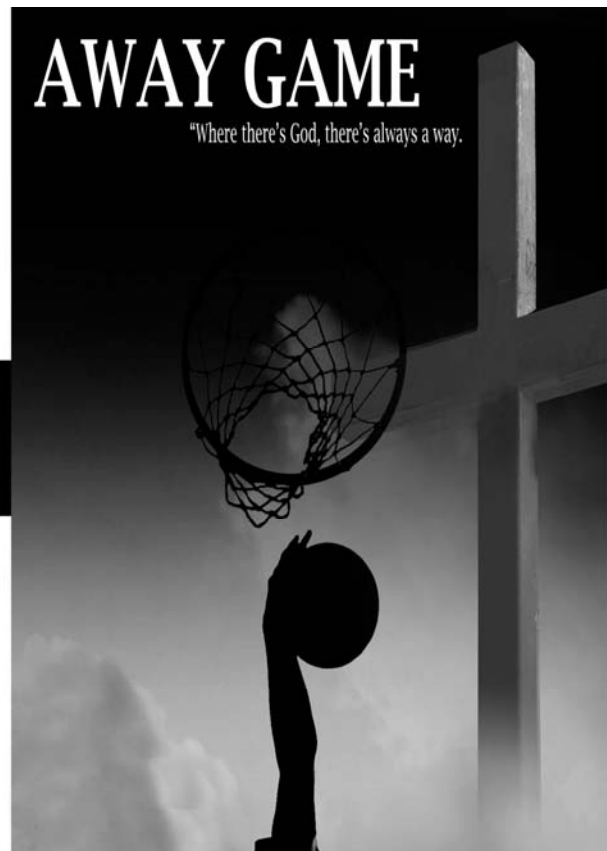
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Willie Daniel  
Marianne Giorlando-Fisher  
Andolyn B. Harrison  
LaKeisha Jenkins  
Limbikani Kamlongera  
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Elise Reed  
LaWanda Sykes  
Caroyl Townsend  
Reubenson Wanjohi  
William G. White

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Shakeydra Johnson

Brytni Jones  
Gabrielle Jones  
Limbikani Kamlongera  
Nyomi Lytle  
Dominique Reynolds  
Leah Smith  
Samyra Spivey  
Christopher Wiggins  
Dawn Wilson

# 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

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# Notes

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