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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GSU's African American History Month Kick-Off

Inaugural Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Leadership Awards Luncheon

GRAMBLING, LA (January 13, 2012) – Grambling State University president, Dr. Frank G. Pogue, will host the university's first *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Leadership Award Luncheon* on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. in the Black and Gold Room of Favrot Student Union.

The *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Leadership Award* recognizes and honors persons who, through their service to Grambling State University, the state, region and country, exemplify the character, leadership and selflessness of Dr. King and other noted African American leaders.

This year's awards will be presented in the following categories: *Fannie Lou Hamer Political Award* recipient, Louisiana Representative Patricia Haynes Smith, District 67 of Baton Rouge and *Madame C. J. Walker Business Award* recipient, Mr. Kerry Joe Briggs, alumnus, businessman and philanthropist of Houston, Texas.

A limited number of tickets are available at \$10 per person and may be purchased by contacting the Office of Institutional Advancement, 100 Robinson Street, on the Grambling campus (across from the Army ROTC Building) or by calling (318) 274-2217.

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About Grambling State University

Grambling State University, located in Grambling, Louisiana, is an Historically Black College and University founded in 1901. The University has been accredited by 13 accrediting associations and holds accreditations in all programs required by the Louisiana Board of Regents. The 433-acre campus offers 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including the nation's only doctoral program in Developmental Education. Grambling State University is a member of the University of Louisiana System.