

TIGER HAPPENINGS

"Where everybody is somebody."



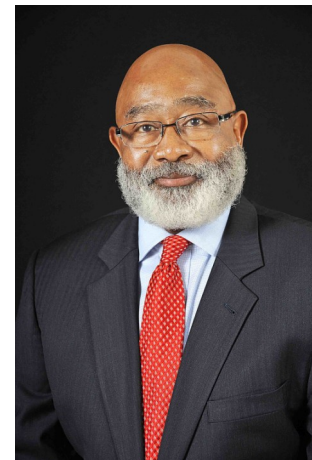
GSU Among Universities Awarded \$20 Million Grant

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The National Science Foundation has awarded a group of five Louisiana universities, including Grambling State University, a five-year, \$20-million Research Infrastructure Improvement grant to build a national consortium to support advanced manufacturing research.



Pedro Derosa, an associate professor of physics, and Naidu Seetala, a professor of physics, will serve as the co-principal investigators on behalf of Grambling's part in a \$20-million NSF grant.



Willie D. Larkin, Ph.D.
President

The consortium includes Grambling, Louisiana Tech, the University of New Orleans, Southern University, and

Louisiana State University. At Grambling, Pedro Derosa, a computational physicist, is the principal investigator and also serves on CIMM's leadership team. Naidu Seetala, an experimental physicist, is the co-principal investigator for Grambling.

The grant will be used to establish the Consortium for Innovation in Manufacturing and Materials (CIMM). CIMM researchers will engage with Louisiana students to encourage them to explore disciplines in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Outreach activities will range from hands-on public demonstrations to summer research experiences with university mentors. CIMM researchers will focus on broadening the participation of underrepresented minorities in STEM.

President's Corner

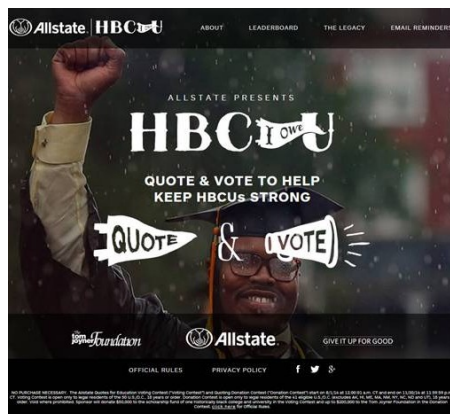
As Grambling State University confronts challenging and extraordinary times, we will, inevitably, come upon a fork in the road. One path can take our beloved Grambling down the rabbit hole, fraught with peril, uncertainty and hard times. Another path can challenge us to excellence, passion and excitement.

When I think about these pathways - this fork in the road - it becomes clear to me that Grambling's pathway to ultimate success hinges on all of Grambling's employees delivering the highest level and highest quality of customer service and professional development. ([read more](#))

GSU Leading in the Allstate Fan Favorite HBCU Contest!

Grambling State is currently in first place in the Allstate Quotes for Education fan vote for school pride contest. The HBC-I-Owe-U program provides financial support for students of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

The HBCU who receives the most votes will receive a \$50,000 donation for student scholarships. You can vote every day until the program ends on Nov. 30 at www.allstatequotesforeducation.com/home.



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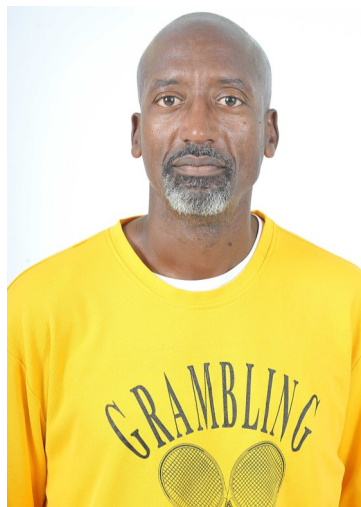
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Two Coaches at GSU Receive Coach of the Year Awards

Head Football Coach Broderick Fobbs was recognized as the 2014-15 recipient of the Eddie Robinson Award at the Greater New Orleans Sports Hall of Fame annual awards banquet on Aug. 8 at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. The award is presented annually to an athlete, coach, team or athletic administrator in Louisiana who demonstrates the qualities most associated with Grambling legend Eddie Robinson.



Kenneth Myers



Broderick Fobbs

Meanwhile, Head Women's Tennis Coach Kenneth Myers was also named the 2015 HBCU Coach of the Year Aug. 8 at the 98th American Tennis Association (ATA) National Tennis Championships in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Grambling Laboratory Schools Approved to Become Charter School

The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved Grambling High Foundation's plan to convert the three Grambling Laboratory Schools into a Type 2 charter school on Aug. 12.

"I feel terrific," said Gordan Ford, the president of the Grambling High Alumni Association and the Grambling High Foundation. "This vote secures the long-term future of this school. It makes sure that the school is no longer in danger of closing and ensures its funding for next year and beyond."

Ford said the next step for the Grambling High Foundation is to work with the Louisiana Department of Education to create an initial contract to spell out how the school will be operated, which the Foundation is hoping to complete by the end of 2015.

For the 2015-2016 school year, Grambling High Foundation has entered into an operating agreement with Grambling State University to fund and operate the laboratory schools for the upcoming school year, but the Foundation is still working to raise the \$700,000 needed to operate the schools for this year. If you would like to donate or help, please visit www.gramblinghighalumni.org for more information.

Grambling Fan Fest/Media Day Set for August 22

The 2015 Grambling State University Athletics Fan Fest/Media Day will be held Saturday, Aug. 22 at Eddie G. Robinson Memorial Stadium from 12 to 2 p.m. Fans are invited to arrive early to watch the football team in an open scrimmage beginning at 9:30 a.m.

The football team will scrimmage from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and then meet with student-athletes from other Grambling sports teams. This event is a great opportunity for fans to meet the coaches and players from Grambling State University. Tiger Fans of all ages are encouraged to attend Fan Fest/Media Day. Fan Fest admission and parking is FREE of charge.

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Grambling Alumnus Finds Success at CenturyLink



Toby Shoulders was always a hard worker, but he often wonders if a bit more hard work at Grambling State University would have saved him from the years he spent working in a job that was far removed from his college education.

“Setting goals and knowing what you want to do is a good thing,” said Shoulders, who is now an information technology engineer at CenturyLink in Monroe. “It’s best to start early. If you wait until the senior year of college (to network), it’s going to be hard to make it. If I had done an internship, I may have gotten a full-time job sooner.”

After graduating from Wossman High School in Monroe in 2002, Shoulders enlisted in the U.S. Army and started attending classes at Louisiana Tech and later Grambling State University. In 2004, he left for a 13-month deployment in Afghanistan. He returned to Grambling in 2007 and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in computer information systems in 2010.

Like many recent college graduates, Shoulders had difficulty finding work in his major. He became the manager of Journeys Shoe Store in Monroe to support his growing family. He and his wife, Ashley, have three young daughters: Abriana, Corinthian and Ashlyn.

“Like everyone else, I always wanted a dream job, but it wasn’t easy,” Shoulders said. “I ended up becoming a store manager at a shoe store, and I climbed as high as I could. That wasn’t the path that I was looking for, but at the time I had to settle for what I could find, because I had a wife and kids, and I had to put food on the table.”

However, Shoulders never gave up on his dream of working in information technology. ([read more](#))

E’Vonne Gipson is the Winner of the A.C. Lewis Memorial Library Contest!

E’Vonne Gipson is the winner of the A.C. Lewis Memorial Library Contest. Gipson, a senior in mass communications, successfully answered all of the library research questions and comprehensively articulated on the importance of using authoritative research resources.

For her outstanding work, Gipson was presented a certificate and earned the following prizes: a \$50 Walmart gift card, a \$50 Bestway gift certificate, two \$12 RocketFast Car wash coupons, and a coffee cup and a bag of gourmet coffee from Starbucks.

Students, be on the lookout for the next Library Contest! You may be the next winner!



Giving back is your best gift, [donations accepted here.](#)

Questions, additions or comments? Contact mediarelations@gram.edu or call 318-274-2866.