President’s Corner

Mardi Gras translated from French means "Fat Tuesday." It became a legal holiday in Louisiana in 1875. Its roots came from festivals in ancient Rome that were adopted by Christians as a celebration before Lent (between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday), a period of fasting for 40 days. Traditionally, Christians make sacrifices and "give up" something during Lent. Usually, I give up chocolate (that's really hard for me) and eat only fish or vegetables on Fridays. This year I'm asking all Gramblinites to "Give up a Meal for Grambling" during Lent. GSU needs your donations because the public dollars from the State of Louisiana are getting smaller. Most of us eat out at least once per week; lunch, dinner, even breakfast. Any amount you pay for any meal will be greatly appreciated. You can give by mailing a check to the President's Office payable to Grambling State University; or on our website at www.gram.edu and click the donate button under Connect to GSU. Your contribution helps us raise funds from other donors; knowing that our Alumni and Friends give to Grambling; even though they pay state and federal taxes. Please join me to "Give Up a Meal for Grambling" today!

Texas Southern University
02.14.15
3:00 P.M. & 5:00 P.M.
Grambling State University
403 Main Street
Grambling, Louisiana 71245
Phone: 318.247.3811 Toll Free: 800.569.4714

Financial Aid Department Receives Customer Service Award

Upcoming 2014-15 SWAC Men and Women Basketball Home Games

Prairie View A&M University
02.16.15
5:30 P.M. & 7:30 P.M.

Members of the Grambling State University Financial Aid Office received the Outstanding Customer Service Award for the month of January by Interim President Dr. Cynthia Warrick. Financial Aid Director Gavin Hamms said his department was honored to receive the award. "We are glad to be commended for our customer service, because we are definitely trying to do better. We also feel compelled and inspired to do even better in the future. We value our students, and we want our students to know we value them," Hamms said.

When Frank Kelly, Jr. was a child, he loved to draw, but his family did not have enough money to buy him art supplies. "My mom would be in the grocery store in Safeway, and she would sometimes say, Frank, I want to buy you that, art materials, but we can't. We need to buy food," he said. Kelley, who was one of 10 award winners at the fourth annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Distinguished Leadership Awards Luncheon on February 5, thanked Grambling State University for giving him the opportunity to pursue his passion for art. "Without Grambling, I wouldn't be standing here, and I mean that literally because I went to a small school where there wasn't any art available, but there were people who believed in me, who gave me an opportunity to study," he said. (read more)
GSU ALUMNUS DONATES SECOND AFRICAN ART COLLECTION

Ira Wayne McConnell, a managing partner at the accounting and consulting firm McConnell & Jones, and his wife Judy, have donated a second African art collection to Grambling State University. The collection was valued at $238,000 and is currently being reviewed by members of the University’s Art Department. The art will be displayed in the A.C. Lewis Memorial Library.

A former GSU football player, Ernest “Ernie” Ladd, will be posthumously inducted into the 2015 Black College Football Hall of Fame. Ladd, also known as “The Big Cat,” began his career at Grambling State University on a basketball scholarship before playing football for the school under legendary coach Eddie G. Robinson. Ladd was a standout player for Grambling and was eventually drafted into the American Football League’s San Diego Chargers in 1961.

Van A. Phillips, Jr. was nominated for a National Association for Alternative Certification (NAAC) scholarship award by the staff of the Alternative Teacher Certification Project at Grambling for his dedication to the field of education. The scholarship recognizes interns’ successful classroom teaching and contributions to the field in their early years as educators.

A Grambling State University College of Business seminar about employment opportunities and successful job search strategies was held on February 10 in the Jacob T. Stewart Building.

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