President's Corner

Willie D. Larkin, Ph.D.
President

During one of my recent trips, a Grambling alumnus engaged me in a long and deep conversation, where he suggested that Grambling should get fit. When I inquired further about the meaning of his comment, he proceeded to tell me that I needed to launch several fitness campaigns. He suggested that being fit in body, mind and soul will help us to perform better in our daily and professional lives. On that note, I am going to extend a challenge to all of our constituency groups to retool and become physically fit. To that end, I will lead the way and begin a personal fitness program (read more).

Grambling University Foundation is dedicated to raising even more money for Grambling State University in the upcoming year. “Our goal this year was to raise enough funds to give back to the university $100,000, (read more)

Grambling State University has received a $100,000 donation for student scholarships and university programs from Grambling University Foundation at the Red River Classic Gala on Nov. 6 in Shreveport.

“I would like to thank the members of Grambling University Foundation for this generous donation,” said President Willie Larkin. “I am truly grateful to the Foundation and all the members of the Grambling family for giving back to this great and venerable institution. It is my vision to see Grambling restored to its former glory, and this money will help support student scholarships and fund new programs as our students fulfill their dreams of a college education.”

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Grambling State clinched its first Western Division Championship since 2011 with a 49-31 win at the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff Saturday afternoon. With a win over Southern in the Bayou Classic, GSU can be the first team with a perfect conference record since they accomplished that feat in 2008.

Leading 14-3 late in the first half, GSU (8-2, 8-0) forced a punt to get the ball back with just 1 second left. Rather than kneeling on it, Williams found Verlan Hunter for a 41-yard score as time expired. Jateri Pouncey returned an interception for a 22-yard score on UAPB’s first possession of the second half, and Williams hit Hunter for nine yards 55 seconds later to build the Tigers’ lead en route to clinching the West Division title.

GSU Receives $100,000 from Grambling Foundation

Tigers Win SWAC West Division Championship
Grambling Honors 2015 Outstanding Alumnus and Beacon Award Winners

Grambling University Foundation and Grambling State University honored nine extraordinary individuals with awards at the Red River Classic Gala in Shreveport on Nov. 6. Mildred Gallot, professor and head emerita of history at Grambling State University, received the 2015 Outstanding Alumnus Award.

The Beacon Award winners include Pam Atchison, arts and culture; Lamore Carter, education; Theodis Goree, education; Robert Clark, community service; Jerry Jones, community service; James Davison, business and industry; Mayor Jamie Mayo, public service; and Bonnie Moore, public service. The Beacon Awards recognize individuals and organizations for their outstanding commitment to leadership, excellence and philanthropy in the categories of arts and culture, education, community service, business and industry, public service and community development. (read more)

Mass Communication Graduate Class Holds Student Empowerment Workshop

The Mass Communication 540 Media Management Graduate Class organized a student workshop entitled "Empower Students with Knowledge Regarding Their Future Career" on Nov. 11. Speakers discussed topics on how to stay disciplined in college, the importance of multimedia use in journalism, wisdom to guide a successful career and the importance of speaking up for yourself.

Special guest speakers include Brian Lowe, founder of Teamup Sports Consulting, Murray Fortner, chair and professor of psychology and sociology at Tarrant County College, Douglas Thurman, news producer at KTBS, and mass communication students Candice Dixson and Jordan Wynn!
Grambling Announces the Winners of the 2015 Founder’s Week Photo Contest

Congratulations to the winners of the Grambling State University Founder’s Week #GramCapture Photo Challenge! The winners include Brittany Hoskin, first place; E’Vonne Gipson, second place; and Jordan Cameron and Katrina Jordan, third place.

Brittany Hoskin, an instructor in Grambling’s First Year Experience, submitted photos of her class taking a tour of Grambling’s historical sites.

“I teach the First Year Experience, so I have an entire section dedicated to Founder’s Week,” said Hoskin, who won a coffee date for her and a guest with President Willie Larkin for her winning entry. “It is important for our students to learn the meaning of the institution. This is the place where everybody is somebody, and that is important to know.”

E’Vonne Gipson, a senior mass communication major, entered pictures of herself with pictures of her hero, Charles P. Adams, the founder of Grambling State University. (read more)

Senior Art Exhibition Held for Sivram Jackson

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Grambling State University hosted a senior exhibition for Sivram Jackson, entitled “Classically Blind Vision,” in Dunbar Gallery from Nov. 2-12.

Jackson’s exhibition encompasses graphic designs for use on clothing. Jackson begins with sketches, which he scans and digitizes in Adobe Illustrator. He then adds color in Photoshop for a crisp look that he believes will appeal to Generation X.

"The work I do is empowered by the friends that I have had in my life and the artists that I have come to adore," said Jackson. "I believe that today’s world should place more value on the unique, rather than following trends."
Eight Grambling State University students shared their internship experiences, challenges and offered their advice during a panel discussion moderated by Greta Carter, director of the Center for Student Professional Development, on Oct. 29 in Grambling Hall.

From left to right are: Raven Croft, software development intern with Caldwell Banker Richard Ellis Real Estate Group in Dallas; Kenneth Tanner, sales and event marketing intern with Walt Disney Studios in Burbank, California; Nadisha Guavo, corporate management intern with KPMG in Houston, Texas; Joshua Anderson, business analyst at J.P. Morgan Chase in Monroe; Jharrayne McKnight, biology and chemistry intern in the Department of Biological Chemistry at UCLA; Qudus Oduniyi, a programmer/analyst intern with Tyson Foods in Springdale, Arkansas; Jordan Wynn, a business intelligence intern at Tyson Foods; and Dominique Wilson, a service consultant at CenterPoint Energy in Houston, Texas.

KOUS Live 96.3 Staff Dish with GSU Students

The staff at Monroe’s KOUS Live 96.3 spoke to Grambling State University students on Tuesday to give exceptional advice and provide internship and career opportunities in the broadcast and engineering technology industries.

“I was elated to come to Grambling State University to speak to all the students about the various opportunities in the broadcast field,” said Augusta Turner (Lady A), chief executive officer of KOUS. “However, I wanted to see more ladies in the room because there is a need for more females in the broadcast industry.”

Turner began working in the broadcast industry 15 years ago and has been affiliated with, (read more)
Lamore Carter Reflects on Half a Century in Higher Education

Lamore Carter has long believed that education can empower a person’s life for the better. He has held this belief close to his heart as he dedicated half a century to service in higher education. He spent four decades of that time at Grambling State University, serving many roles from psychologist to professor to provost and vice president of academic affairs.

For a man who is so dedicated to higher education, Carter’s initial journey into the heyday of college life was interrupted by a call to serve his country. Carter completed his elementary and secondary education in Beaumont and Galveston, Texas, but was drafted to serve in World War II immediately upon his high school graduation as valedictorian at Central High School in Galveston in 1943. He was awarded the Legion of Honor medal along with 16 other World War II veterans by the French consul general in 2014 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

Carter’s three years in the U.S. Army did spark a love of travel to foreign countries, which he described as the “single most educational activity that one can engage in.” He later traveled extensively throughout his academic career to recruit international faculty and negotiate exchange agreements with universities abroad.

Upon his return from the war, Carter diligently returned to his studies, earning a bachelor’s degree in zoology from Fisk University in Nashville, a master’s degree in educational psychology and science methods from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and a doctorate in psychology from the State University of Iowa in Iowa City. He also completed post-doctoral research in higher education management at Harvard University.

Grambling College was the first college to answer his letters inquiring about college teaching positions. When Carter arrived in Grambling by train on a lonely Sunday in 1952, he was greeted enthusiastically by President R.W.E. Jones.

Grambling was a far different place more than 60 years ago. Carter made $2,800 a year teaching psychology courses as an assistant professor of biological sciences and coordinator of human growth courses through the College of Education, because a psychology department had yet to be established. After four years at Grambling, he spent two years as a research assistant.

Giving back is your best gift, donations accepted here.

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