

# INSIGHT TODAY

Official Magazine of the  
College of Education  
"The First College for News, Events, and Information"  
Grambling State University

**SECOND EDITION**

## **OUR HONOR STUDENTS**

College of Education  
students well-represented  
on all honor lists and rolls

## **AWARD WINNERS**

Alumni Named  
Educators of the Year

## **FACULTY HONORED**

University recognizes  
College of Education Faculty  
for contributions to teaching,  
research, and service

## **CLASS OF 2013**

Commencement, Pomp,  
and Circumstance

## **BONA FIDE EXCELLENCE**

COE Stand-out Students  
Make Nationwide  
Acclaim Look Easy

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Cultural Symposium  
LA Gear Up

**Marquesha Joann Dashanay Moore**

*Highest Ranked College of Education Graduate, Class of 2013*

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE GRADUATE**



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE  
*College of Education*  
GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRAMBLING, La.

Producing Knowledgeable, Skilled, and Compassionate Educators and Other Skilled Professionals

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- DR. JANET GUYDEN**  
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- DR. LARNELL FLANNAGAN**  
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Interim Head, Curriculum and Instruction
- DR. VICKI BROWN**  
Interim Associate Dean, College of Education
- DR. OLATUNDE OGUNYEMI**  
Interim Head, Educational Leadership
- DR. OBADIAH SIMMONS**  
Head, Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure Studies

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- DR. PAMELA PAYNE**  
Principal  
Grambling High School  
Grambling Middle Magnet School
- MS. ROSALIND RUSSELL**  
Principal  
Alma J. Brown Elementary School

*Insight Today*

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Insight Today follows the Associated Press Style for newswriting; however, we reserve the right to use courtesy titles in general, not only in special instances, before the names of educators, education administrators, and other persons of authority. This publication also utilizes the Oxford comma.



All of us know, not what is expedient, not what is going to make us popular, not what the policy is, or the company policy - but in truth each of us knows what is the right thing to do. And that's how I am guided. —Maya Angelou



A publication for faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the College of Education at Grambling State University

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 4 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
Dr. Cynthia Warrick
- 5 OFFICE OF THE DEAN**  
Dr. Larnell Flannagan
- 6 OUR HONOR STUDENTS**  
President's List | Dean's List  
University Honor Roll  
Earl Lest Cole Honors College  
School of Graduate Studies  
Fraternal, College, Association Honors
- 12 FACULTY MEMBERS HONORED**  
Contributions to research, service, teaching
- 13 FORMER PROVOST AWARDED LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL**
- 14 INFORMATIONAL SESSION AND CULTURAL SYMPOSIUM**
- 15 PUBLICATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
- 16 COVER STORY**  
Marquesha Moore:  
The Personification of Excellence
- 18 JONATHAN WASHINGTON**  
Student Teacher of the Year
- 20 BONA FIDE EXCELLENCE**  
Shining Student Scholar Stars
- 25 FACULTY/STAFF PROFILE**  
Ms. Genevia Jones
- 26 ALUMNI NEWS**  
Ashley Floyd-Talbert, Teacher of the Year  
Lawrence Rocque, Admin. Promotion  
Kiana Carr Johnson, Teacher of the Year
- 31 NEWS AND NOTES**
- 32 FACULTY PROFILE**  
Dr. Vernon Farmer
- 34 COMMENCEMENT SERVICES**  
Spring and Fall 2013
- 38 LA GEAR UP SUMMER CAMPS**  
Program changes focus to ACT prep for 2013
- 39 DEAN SELECTS BRYANT FOR AWARD**  
J. D. Bryant, recipient, Certificate of Excellence

# FORMER PROVOST AWARDED LEGION OF HONOR MEDALLION BY REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

*Dr. Lamore Carter, former provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, awarded Legion of Honor medallion on 70th Anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 2014, for his contributions to liberate the Republic of France from Nazi occupation in the events of World War II. Full story on page 13*



**About the Legion of Honor Medallion:** The Legion of Honor Medallion was created to honor extraordinary contributions to the Republic of France; it is France's highest distinction. American veterans who risked their life during World War II to fight on French territory may be awarded this distinction. Those selected are appointed to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honor. The Legion of Honor medal is not awarded posthumously. To be considered, veterans of all armed forces must have fought in at least one of the three main campaigns to liberate France: Normandy, Provence/Southern France, or Northern France, and subsequently honorably discharged. Military actions in Belgium, Germany, Italy, or any other neighboring European country are not taken into consideration.

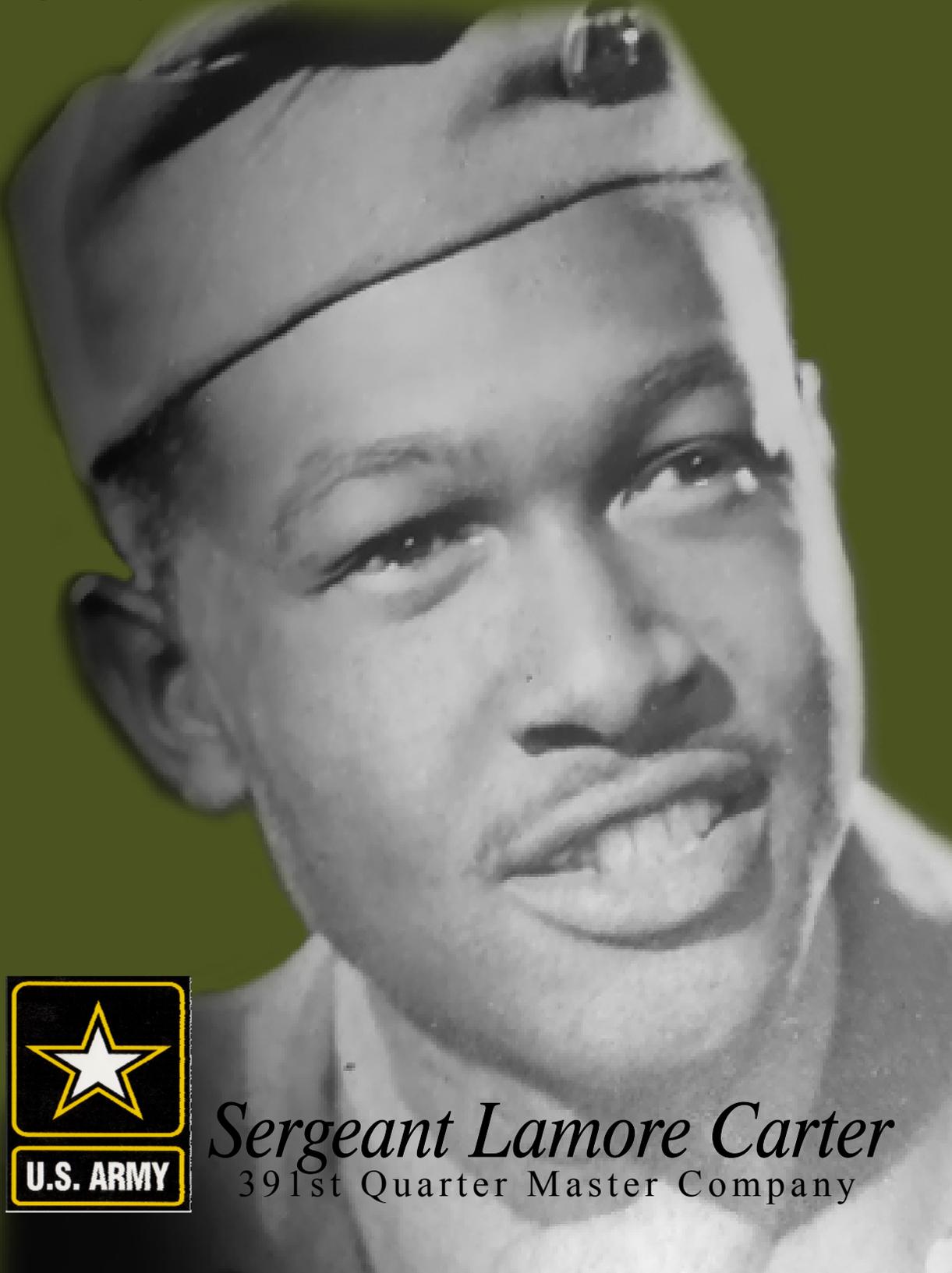
## D-Day June 6, 1944

During World War II (1939-1945), the Battle of Normandy, which lasted from June 1944 to August 1944, resulted in the Allied liberation of Western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. Codenamed Operation Overlord, the battle began on June 6, 1944, also known as D-Day, when some 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of the heavily fortified coast of France's Normandy region. The invasion was one of the largest amphibious military assaults in history and required extensive planning. Prior to D-Day, the Allies conducted a large-scale deception campaign designed to mislead the Germans about the intended invasion target. By late August 1944, all of northern France had been liberated, and by the following spring the Allies had defeated the Germans. The Normandy landings have been called the beginning of the end of war in Europe.

(History.com)



*Sergeant Lamore Carter*  
391st Quarter Master Company





## *Office of the President*

### **DR. CYNTHIA WARRICK**

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#### **Our GSU Renaissance: The Revival of Greatness**

I have recently completed the first 90 days of my tenure as Interim President of Grambling State University. Many students, faculty and staff have commented on the numerous changes that have been made as a result of my leadership. Significant change was needed and more change is coming. Grambling State University is at a juncture in its history where change is required for this institution to remain relevant and viable in the future.

You will see that a number of administrative functions have been combined to provide greater efficiency and accountability and to save resources. New activities have been added, but we must get our fiscal house in order before we can advance our efforts to enhance STEM and Workforce Development academic, research, and training initiatives. One new function that was

not operational in previous administrations is Economic Development. Through this activity, GSU is partnering with the City of Grambling and other local, state and federal agencies to create economic opportunities for the university and the community because new resource streams are necessary for our future growth and sustainability. Through these efforts, a number of projects are being

developed for GSU's West Campus with revenue potential (recycling company partnership, business incubators, greenhouse and organic farming, biotechnology summer camps, and more).

This administration is currently addressing issues relating to various academic program challenges (Nursing, Laboratory Schools, Low Producing Degree Programs, etc.) that must be fixed for accreditation, licensing, and appropriate outcomes. We are working closely with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and the Nursing Department regarding the extremely low pass rate of GSU graduates on the NCLEX licensing exam. A clear understanding of this program's outcome will be known later this month. We are also partnering with the Grambling High School Foundation to support their application to the Louisiana Board of Education to convert the laboratory schools into a K-12 charter school. The Division of Academic and Student Affairs is conducting an academic program review to determine the degree outcomes that provide students with the best career and job opportunities now and in the future.

Grambling State University's goals today are the same for 1901: recruitment, retention, graduation and placement – that's our business. However, the current culture must be changed for these goals to be met. Students, parents, alumni, faculty, staff and stakeholders are our customers. We must provide outstanding customer service and treat everyone how you expect to be treated. We must conduct business in a professional manner – answer the phones, return phone calls, return emails, solve student problems and go the extra mile to assist our customers. It is everyone's job to recruit and retain students by being caring and courteous. We must treat our students and wish for them what we want for our children. Because while students are away from their homes and families, they are "ours" and we must give them respect, honesty and guidance so that they can become successful citizens. These acts ensure Grambling remains the place where "Everybody is Somebody."

Sincerely,

Cynthia Warrick, Ph.D.  
Interim President



Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University



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**COE: DEDICATED TO PRODUCING  
COMPETENT, CREATIVE, AND  
CONFIDENT STUDENT  
SCHOLARS AND LEADERS**

This issue of Insight Today is in recognition of our outstanding students and teacher education candidates. We wish to salute all College of Education students and teacher education candidates who were recognized for high academic excellence during Grambling State University's (GSU) spring-fall 2013 honors day convocation March 25, 2014, in the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center. We are very proud of our undergraduate students who earned a place on The President's List, The Dean's List, University Honor Roll, and induction into the Earl Lester Cole Honors College. We are equally proud of our graduate students, and I commend them for their superior scholarship in the School of Graduate Studies.

I wish to congratulate Marquesha Moore, who is featured on the cover, for an exceptional academic career. She is one of only four College of Education students to graduate summa cum laude since fall 2009. As she goes forward, we anticipate a continuum of greatness in the workplace and classroom. Additionally, Jonathan W. Washington (Minden, La.) was given The Outstanding Student Teacher Award, Breonna M. Ward (Grand Prairie, Texas) was given The Outstanding Academic Performance and Outstanding Undergraduate Service Awards, and Jessica T. Tisdale (Monroe, La.) and Kelly W. Hall, Jr. (Cullen, La.) were presented with The Outstanding Teacher Education Scholars Award.

Along with the aforementioned honors, fifteen teacher education candidates were inducted into the Iota Tau Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education; and nine kinesiology, sport and leisure studies students were initiated into Phi Epsilon Kappa International Honor Fraternity. The Department of Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure Studies presented Certificates of Academic Excellence to Tracey L. Minor for General Recreation (Monroe, La.), Breonna J. Jones (Alexandria, La.) and Steven Caldwell (Ruston, La.) for Therapeutic Recreation, Christopher Pruitt (Simsboro, La.) and Michaela Hooks (Heartland, Texas) for Health Promotion, Ashley McDonald (New Orleans, La.) for Pedagogy, as well as Brianna Phillips (Fairfield, Calif.), Karlin Gray (Memphis, Tn.), and Jarreau Brown (Riverdale, GA) for Sport Management.

Now, it is my pleasure to extend a special tribute to four students/teacher education candidates for exemplary academic achievements for spring and fall 2013. These students/teacher education candidates are featured in the fold in this issue of Insight Today: Karlin Gray, Kelly Hall, Jr., Jessica Tisdale, and Breonna Ward. These students have excelled in multiple areas, and we are very proud of the scholarly accomplishments and self-motivation they have demonstrated. Karlin, Kelly, Jessica, and Breonna represent some of the best and brightest in the College of Education. I am appreciative to our faculty and staff for providing a challenging, and caring environment for all students/teacher education candidates to strive for academic excellence. Thus, it is my privilege to share with you some of the "shining stars" who are beneficiaries of quality teaching that GSU's College of Education affords students and teacher education candidates.

Please enjoy perusing the June 2014 issue of Insight Today magazine!

**PRESIDENT'S LIST:** full-time undergraduate students that earned a minimum 3.5 semester GPA (grade point average)

**DEAN'S LIST:** full-time undergraduate students that earned a 3.2 — 3.49 semester GPA (grade point average)

**UNIVERSITY HONOR ROLL:** full-time undergraduate students that earned a 3.0 — 3.19 semester GPA (grade point average)

**EARL LESTER COLE HONORS COLLEGE** (fall only): ELCHC inductees full-time undergraduate honor students and over the course of their academic career works to enhance social and leadership skills, encourage the pursuit of academic excellence, provide opportunities for intellectual achievement, and develop productive citizenship.

**SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES:** full-time graduate students that a minimum 3.8 semester GPA (grade point average)



## Our Honor Students

*President's List, Spring 2013*

ABNEY, GINGER	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Arcadia, LA	MEADOWS, LADONNA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Asheville, NC
BARNES, DILLONDRIA	Senior	Elementary Education	Benton Harbor, MI	MEREGINI, JENNIFER	Junior	Music Education	Moreno Valley, CA
BARRIS, JOHNATHAN	Senior	Elementary Education	Atlanta, GA	MERGERSON, ERICKA	Junior	Kinesiology	Sylmar, CA
BAUTISTA, RICHARD	Senior	Kinesiology	Houston, TX	MILLER, JUSTIN	Freshman	Kinesiology	Louisiana
BELTON, ZAHIRA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Jonesboro, LA	MILLER, LAPORSHA	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Arcadia, LA
BORDERS, KATRINA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Desoto, Texas	MILLICAN, SHANICE	Senior	Leisure Studies	Oakland, CA
BOSTON, GARICA	Senior	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA	MOORE, DOMINIC	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Humble, TX
BRADFORD, JORDAN	Senior	Music Education	Dallas, TX	MURRAY, DONALD	Senior	Leisure Studies	Tallulah, LA
BRAGG, CHESTER	Senior	Kinesiology	Spearsville, LA	MURRY, MIA	Senior	Art Education	Carson, CA
BRIGGS, JANET	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Ruston, LA	O'NEAL, MORGAN	Junior	Kinesiology	La Mesa, CA
BROOKS, BRANDON	Freshman	Kinesiology	St. Francisville, LA	OSBORNE, ANNESHA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Quitman, LA
BROWN, JARREAU	Senior	Kinesiology	Riverdale, GA	PAGE, JORDAN	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
BROWN, SHARION	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA	PANTALLION, ANDRE'	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Alexandria, LA
BROWN, VERONICA	Senior	Leisure Studies	West Monroe, LA	PEARSON, HAZUKI	Freshman	Elementary Education	Gibbsland LA
BURTON, RYAN	Freshman	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA	PEOPLES, BENNIE	Junior	Kinesiology	Vicksburg, MS
CARAWAY, ASHIA	Junior	Social Studies Education	Mesquite, Texas	PHILLIPS, BRIANNA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Vacaville, CA
COLEMAN, KNAKITA	Junior	Leisure Studies	Minden, LA	PIERCE, JASMINE	Freshman	Kinesiology	Pensacola, FL
COPELAND, DANIELLE	Senior	Special Education	Plano, TX	PRATT, JIMMIA	Senior	Music Education	Riviera Beach, FL
COUSIN, LELA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Lacombe, LA	PRICE, JERRICA	Junior	Leisure Studies	Jonesville, LA
COX, KIMBERLY	Senior	Music Education	West Covina, CA	PRUITT, CHRISTOPHER	Senior	Kinesiology	Simsboro, LA
DANRIDGE, STEVEN	Junior	Kinesiology	Dolton, IL	QUARLES, JAS'RAYEAL	Senior	Leisure Studies	Harvey, LA
FERGUSON, JASMA	Senior	Kinesiology	Houston, TX	RAWLINGS, LYDIA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Lithonia, GA
FONTILLAS, ALYSSA	Freshman	Kinesiology	McKinney, TX	RICHARDSON, TIFFANY	Junior	Leisure Studies	Covington, LA
FORTUNE, BETTY	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Brandon, MS	RIVERS, JOHN	Junior	Leisure Studies	Birmingham, AL
GANT, LATIA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Coushatta, LA	ROBINSON, ARSENEAUX	Senior	Elementary Education	Clairton, PA
GARNER, ADRIENNE	Senior	Kinesiology	New Orleans, LA	SCOTT, DANIZA	Senior	Music Education	El Dorado, AR
GARRISON, JAMECA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Ferriday, LA	SHAW, KAYTLIN	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Richton Park, IL
GILL, ILISCIA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Rayville, LA	SHELLING, CRYSTAL	Freshman	Biology Education	Monroe, LA
GOINS, CEDRIC	Senior	Kinesiology	Richwood, LA	SMITH, IAN	Senior	Leisure Studies	Winnfield, LA
GOODIN, CAMILLE	Senior	Kinesiology	San Diego, CA.	SMITH, NAQUAN	Senior	Kinesiology	Atlanta, GA
GOULD, BIONCA	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Pittsburgh, PA	SMITH, NICHOLAS	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA
GRAY, KARLIN	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Memphis, TN	SPEARS, ELLIS	Senior	Kinesiology	Zachary, LA
GUY, KEANAU	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA	SPENCER, MONICA	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Tacoma, WA
HAMPTON, RAVEN	Freshman	Elementary Education	Gibbsland, LA	STEELE, EBONY	Senior	Social Studies Education	Epps, LA
HARRIS, STANLEY	Senior	Music Education	Monroe, LA	STEVENS LA'TOYA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Lawrenceville, GA
HAYES, SALEA	Senior	Elementary Education	California	STONER, DERRICK	Senior	Music Education	Houston, TX
HOOKS, MICHAELA	Junior	Kinesiology	Heartland, TX	THIBODEAUX, TRAVIS	Senior	Kinesiology	Opelousas, LA
HUDSON, JERKISHA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Arcadia, LA	THOMAS, CEDRIC	Senior	Kinesiology	Logansport, LA
HUNLEY, MARCUS	Senior	Leisure Studies	Lee's Summit, MO	THOMAS, CHUNTELL	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA
JACKSON, SHAKETHA	Senior	Elementary Education	Bienville, LA	TISDALE, JESSICA	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Monroe, LA
JAMES, OPHELIA	Senior	Music Education	Shreveport, LA	TURNER, DAMARION	Senior	Kinesiology	Monroe, LA
JOHNSON, PAIGE	Freshman	Elementary Education	Ponchatoula, LA	TURNER, DAMIANE	Senior	Music Education	El Dorado, AK
JOHNSON, SAUNDREA	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Minden, LA	VANBUREN, PHANTESIA	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Monroe, LA
JONES, BREONNA	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Alexandria, LA	VERNON, ANDRE	Senior	Elementary Education	Arcadia, LA
JONES, JOY	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Las Vegas, NV	WAGNER, LAKEYSHA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Dallas, TX
JONES, KEIONTAY	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA	WASHINGTON, DAISHA	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Lake Providence, LA
KEYS, CORTNEY	Senior	Kinesiology	Lake Providence, LA	WASHINGTON, KANESHIA	Senior	Elementary Education	Louisiana
LARS, SHATASHA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA	WASHINGTON, LUCAS	Senior	Leisure Studies	Clayton, LA
LAUDERDALE, AMBER	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Kennedale, TX	WASHINGTON, MURIDIA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Pensacola, FLA
LEWIS, ANTWANETTE	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA	WHITCOMB, SHELBI	Senior	Elementary Education	Grambling, LA
LEWIS, KALEISHA	Senior	Elementary Education	Lake Providence, LA	WHITE, CHARLES	Senior	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA
LOGAN, KIMYRA	Sophomore	Elem Ed & Spec Ed	Mesquite, TX	WILLIAMS, CARVELL	Senior	Music Education	Shreveport, LA
LOUIS-JEAN, NYOMI	Junior	Elementary Education	Milwaukee, WI	WILLIAMS, MICHAEL	Senior	Music Education	Shreveport, LA
LOVE, KELLIE	Senior	Elementary Education	Simsboro, LA	WILSON, LYKEDRIA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Bossier City, LA
MARTIN, LEMESHA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Lake Providence, LA	WOODS, ALYXANDREA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Ruston, LA
MATTHEWS, LAKEITHA	Senior	Kinesiology	New Orleans, LA	WOODS, LAQUISHA	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA
MAYFIELD, ANGEL	Senior	Music Education	Grambling, LA	YOUNG, JACQUE	Freshman	Kinesiology	Arcadia, LA
MAYWEATHER, DORKEITRA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Mansfield, LA				

# Our Honor Students

## President's List, Fall 2013



7 Insight Today

JUNE 2014

<b>AJUMESI, FIJI</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Bamenda	<b>JAMES, OPHELIA</b>	Senior	Music Education	Shreveport, LA
<b>AKHIGBE, ESEOSA</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA	<b>JOHNSON, JESSICA</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA
<b>ALVAREZ, RAMIRO</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Fontana, CA	<b>JOHNSON, SHANTEL</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA
<b>ANDERSON, SCHYLER</b>	Junior	Elementary Education	Shreveport, LA	<b>JOHNSON, TRACI</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Delhi, LA
<b>AYATEY, JASMINE</b>	Freshman	Elementary Education	Natchitoches, LA	<b>JONES, BREONNA</b>	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Alexandria, LA
<b>BARNES, DILLONDRIA</b>	Senior	Early Childhood	Benton Harbor, MI	<b>JONES, KEIONTAY</b>	Junior	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
<b>BARNETTE, KRISTY</b>	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Simsboro, LA	<b>LARS, SHATASHA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA
<b>BAUTISTA, RICHARD</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Houston, TX	<b>LAUDERDALE, AMBER</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Kennedale, TX
<b>BELL, DIAMONDIQUE</b>	Junior	Leisure Studies	Minden, LA	<b>LEWIS, KALEISHA</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Lake Providence, LA
<b>BELL, DORENE</b>	Freshman	Elementary Education	Monroe, LA	<b>LOGAN, KIMYRA</b>	Sophomore	Elementary and Spec. Ed	Mesquite, TX
<b>BEN, TREVOR</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA	<b>LOVE, KELLIE</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Simsboro, LA
<b>BENNETT, BRE'YAUN</b>	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Crowley, TX	<b>MANNING, NAKIA</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Grambling, LA
<b>BERRY, ERIKA</b>	Senior	English Education	Lafayette, LA	<b>MARTELLY, RUFUS</b>	Junior	English Education	Saint Lucia
<b>BOWMAN, PRESTON</b>	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Jonesville, LA	<b>MATTHEWS, LAKEITHA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	New Orleans, LA
<b>BRAGG, CHESTER</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Spearsville, LA	<b>MCCARTHY, JUSTIN</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Nevada
<b>BRIGGS, JANET</b>	Junior	Early Childhood	Ruston, LA	<b>MEREGINI, JENNIFER</b>	Senior	Music Education	Moreno Valley, CA
<b>BROOKS, BRANDON</b>	Freshman	Kinesiology	St. Francisville, LA	<b>MERGERSON, ERICKA</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Sylmar, CA
<b>BROWN, ISOKE</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Dallas, TX	<b>MILLICAN, SHANICE</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Oakland, CA
<b>BROWN, JARREAU</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Riverdale, GA	<b>MINOR, TRACEY</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA
<b>BROWLEE, KYERRA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Memphis, TN	<b>MOORE, DOMINIC</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Humble, Texas
<b>BUTLER, JANEIKQUA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Violet, LA	<b>MORRISON, NAKEYA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Bastrop, LA
<b>CALLOWAY, AVINUS</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Bernice, LA	<b>MOUTON, CHRISTIE</b>	Junior	Kinesiology	Louisiana
<b>CARAWAY, ASHIA</b>	Junior	Social Studies and Spec. Ed	Mesquite, TX	<b>ODUMS-CAMPBELL, ENID</b>	Senior	English and Special Ed	Minden, LA
<b>CHAMPION, TEVIN</b>	Junior	English Education	Arcadia, LA	<b>PANTALLION, ANDRE'</b>	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Alexandria, LA
<b>COLEMAN, KNAKITA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Minden, LA	<b>PAYNE, ANTOINETTA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Opelousas, LA
<b>DAYE, EARLEXSIA</b>	Freshman	Kinesiology	Louisiana	<b>PERRY, ALEXANDRA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA
<b>DIXON, LASADIE</b>	Freshman	Elementary Education	Baton Rouge, LA	<b>PHILLIPS, BRIANNA</b>	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Vacaville, CA
<b>DIXON, LATROCHILLIA</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Louisiana	<b>PIERCE, JASMINE</b>	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Pensacola, FL
<b>EARLY, FAITH</b>	Freshman	Kinesiology	Zachary, Louisiana	<b>PITRE, DOMINIQUE</b>	Freshman	Kinesiology	Missouri City, TX
<b>EDAH-DIKE, ISI</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	New Orleans, LA	<b>PROVOST, CEDRIC</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Moreno Valley, CA
<b>ELLIS, SHANEICE</b>	Senior	Special Education	Shreveport, LA	<b>RANDOLPH, GIOVANNI</b>	Junior	Kinesiology	Navaree, FL
<b>ELLIS, SHANELLE</b>	Senior	Elementary and Special Ed	Detroit, MI	<b>RAWLINGS, LYDIA</b>	Junior	Leisure Studies	Lithonia, GA
<b>EPTING, MASHI</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA	<b>ROBINSON, ARSENEAUX</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Clairton, PA
<b>FENCEROY, ALEXANDREA</b>	Senior	Special Education	Forney, TX	<b>SCOTT, DANIZA</b>	Senior	Music Education	El Dorado, AR
<b>FOOTMAN, KAYLIN</b>	Junior	Elementary Education	Los Angeles, CA	<b>SHEPHERD, ERIC</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Leesville, LA
<b>FORD, TAE LURR</b>	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Ruston, LA	<b>SIMON, MORGAN</b>	Junior	Leisure Studies	Lake Charles, LA
<b>FORD, TRA'DERRIC</b>	Freshman	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA	<b>SMITH, HANNAH</b>	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Calhoun, LA
<b>FORTUNE, BETTY</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Brandon, MS	<b>SMITH, TYLER</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Muskogee, OK
<b>FRAZIER, DEBORAH</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Bastrop, LA	<b>SPENCER, MONICA</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Tacoma, WA
<b>GANNAWAY, SAVANNA</b>	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Powder Springs, GA	<b>STAPLETON, CURTIS</b>	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Troy, AL
<b>GILL, ILISCIA</b>	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Rayville, LA	<b>STEELE, EBONY</b>	Senior	Social Studies and Spec. Ed	Epps, LA
<b>GOINES, TABITHA</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Keithville, LA	<b>STEVENS, LA'TOYA</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Lawrenceville, GA
<b>GRAHAM, AQUILLA</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Rayville, LA	<b>STEWART, BRIANNA</b>	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
<b>GRAY, KARLIN</b>	Junior	Kinesiology	Memphis, TN	<b>STONER, DERRICK</b>	Senior	Music Education	Houston, TX
<b>GREENE, RAINAH</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Antioch, CA	<b>TERRY, EDWARD</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	DECATUR Georgia
<b>GUNN, AUDRIANNA</b>	Junior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA	<b>THOMAS, CHUNTELL</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA
<b>HALL, KELLY</b>	Senior	Music Education	Louisiana	<b>TISDALE, JESSICA</b>	Junior	Elementary Education	Monroe, LA
<b>HAMPTON, RAVEN</b>	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Gibbsland, LA	<b>TURNER, CABRAYANA</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Austell, GA
<b>HARRIS, ADRIANNE</b>	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Country Club, IL	<b>TURNER, DAMARION</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Monroe, LA
<b>HATTER, TAMEKIA</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA	<b>UNDERWOOD, KAYLA</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Jamestown, LA
<b>HEIMS, BREIANNA</b>	Sophomore	Social Studies and Spec. Ed	Houma, LA	<b>VANBUREN, PHANTESIA</b>	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Monroe, LA
<b>HEWITT, DONOVAN</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Paradis, LA	<b>VERNON, ANDRE</b>	Senior	Elementary Education	Arcadia, LA
<b>HICKS, DESHONTE</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Chatham, LA	<b>WALLACE, JONATHAN</b>	Freshman	Kinesiology	Rayville, Louisiana
<b>HOLMES, JASMINE</b>	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Marksville, LA	<b>WARD, BREONNA</b>	Freshman	Elementary Education	Grand Prairie, TX
<b>HOOKS, MICHAELA</b>	Senior	Kinesiology	Heartland Texas	<b>WASHINGTON, JONATHAN</b>	Senior	Biology Education	Minden, LA
<b>IGLEHART, RAYFORD</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Baton Rouge, LA	<b>WASHINGTON, LUCAS</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Clayton, LA
<b>JACKSON, BETHANI</b>	Senior	Leisure Studies	Baytown, TX	<b>WASHINGTON, MURIDIA</b>	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Pensacola, FL

*President's List, Fall 2013*

WATKINS, PAYTON	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Desoto, TX	WILSON, LYKEDRIA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Bossier City, LA
WHITE, JUSTIN	Senior	Elementary Education	Merrillville, IN	WOODARD, KAYLEE	Freshman	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
WILLIAMS, AMBER	Junior	Elementary Education	Jonesboro, LA	WOOLFOLK, NIKITA	Senior	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA
WILLIAMS, MARIELLE	Senior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA	WRIGHT, JEREMY	Senior	Kinesiology	Oakland Park, FL
WILLIAMS, MICHAEL	Senior	Music Education	Shreveport, LA	YOUNG, DONIKIA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Baton Rouge, LA
WILLIAMS, TIAESHA	Junior	Elem and Spec Ed	Texas				

*Dean's List, Spring 2013*

ALLEN, VEANDA	Junior	Music Education	Lancaster, TX	LOUIS, BALDWIN	Senior	Music Education	Grambling, LA
ANTHONY, RYAN	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Unknown	MAIDEN, BRIANNA	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
BELL, DIAMONDIQUE	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Minden, LA	MANNING, NAKIA	Junior	Elementary Education	Grambling, LA
BERRY, ERIKA	Senior	English Education	Lafayette, LA	MARTELLY, RUFUS	Sophomore	English Education	Castries, Sr. Lucia
BLACKMON, JOSHUA	Senior	Kinesiology	Hueytown, AL	MASON, MICAYLA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Shreveport, LA
BOWMAN, PRESTON	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Jonesville, LA	MCCARTY, BRITNEY	Junior	Elem and Spec. Ed	Ruston, LA
BRADLEY, CLARISSA	Junior	Kinesiology	Houston, TX	MCCOWAN, TAYLOR	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Marshall, TX
BROWN, JAMARION	Senior	Kinesiology	Alexandria, LA	MORRIS, LADERRICKA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Bogalusa Louisiana
BURCH, SIERRA	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Farmerville, LA	MOSLEY, COURTNEY	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Shreveport, LA
CATO, MICHALYN	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Gibbsland, LA	MURPHY, LACRYSTAL	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA
CHAMPION, TEVIN	Junior	English Education	Arcadia, LA	MUSE, CHELSEA	Junior	Kinesiology	Katy, TX
COLEMAN, MIRANDA	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Shreveport, LA	NICHOLS, IVORY	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Palestine, TX
COMBS, EUGENE	Junior	Leisure Studies	Oak Ridge, LA	ODUMS-CAMPBELL, ENID	Senior	English and Spec. Ed	Minden, LA
CONNER, ERMIA	Senior	Leisure Studies	New Orleans, LA	ORISAKWE, UGOEZE	Junior	Kinesiology	Pearland, TX
DAVIS, BRITTANY	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Beach Park, IL	PATTERSON, IESHEA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Ruston, LA
EARLY, FAITH	Freshman	Kinesiology	Zachary Louisiana	PAYNE, ANTOINETTA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Opelousas, LA
GILLIAM, SHELBY	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Shreveport, LA	PERRY, ALEXANDRA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA
GILMORE, AUSTIN	Senior	Kinesiology	MONROE Louisiana	PITRE, DENISHA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Opelousas, LA
GRAY, MARGEOAL	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Grambling, LA	SMITH, HANNAH	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Calhoun, LA
HALL, KELLY	Junior	Music Education	Louisiana	SMITH, TYLER	Senior	Kinesiology	Muskogee, OK
HEIMS, BREIANNA	Freshman	Social Studies and Spec. Ed	Houma, LA	SPEARMAN, DYLAN	Freshman	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA
HOLMES, JASMINE	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Marksville, LA	THOMAS, KIERA	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Dallas, TX
JOHNSON, BRIANNA	Senior	Kinesiology	Pleasant Hill, LA	WASHINGTON, JONATHAN	Senior	Biology Education	Minden, LA
JOHNSON, JESSICA	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA	WHITAKER, BRANDON	Sophomore	Music Education	Texas
JOHNSON, SHANTEL	Senior	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA	WHITE, JUSTIN	Senior	Elementary Education	Merrillville, IN
JONES, LYNTONETTE	Sophomore	Early Childhood Education	Bunkie, LA	WILEY, PRINCETON	Junior	Kinesiology	Little Elm, TX
KELLUM, KRYSTLE	Junior	Leisure Studies	Keatchie, LA	YOUNG, ADONTUS	Junior	Music Education	Dallas, TX
KINCAID, DEANNA	Junior	Early Childhood Education	Monroe, LA	YOUNG, DAVID	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Lake Providence, LA
LEWIS, GANARD	Senior	Kinesiology	New Orleans, LA				

*Dean's List, Fall 2013*

ALLEN, VEANDA	Junior	Music Education	Lancaster, TX	JOHNSON, ERIK	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Lancaster, TX
BARRIS, JOHNATHAN	Senior	Elementary Education	Atlanta, GA	JOHNSON, PAIGE	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Ponchatoula, LA
BELTON, ZAHIRA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Jonesboro, LA	JONES, JOVAN	Senior	Leisure Studies	Natchitoches, LA
BONNER, CHARMARINE	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Detroit, MI	KASSIM OLU, ATOMISIN	Senior	Kinesiology	Hampton, Ga.
BROOKS, AMBER	Freshman	Kinesiology	Princeton, LA	KELLY, JESTIN	Freshman	Kinesiology	Baton Rouge, LA
BUFFINGTON, SEARA	Junior	Math and Spec. Ed	Gainesville, GA	KEYS, COURTNEY	Senior	Kinesiology	Lake Providence, LA
BULLOCK, JOHNEDEA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Alexandria, LA	MANGHAM, QUINTON	Junior	English and Spec Ed	Ruston, LA
CAMARA, KHADY	Junior	Kinesiology	Indiana	MCCONNELL, SABRINA	Junior	Leisure Studies	Chatham, LA
COPELAND, DANIELLE	Senior	Special Education	Plano, Texas	MCCOWAN, TAYLOR	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Marshall, TX
COX, KIMBERLY	Senior	Music Education	West Covina, CA	MOSLEY, COURTNEY	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Shreveport, LA
CURRY, ZOE	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Smyrna, DE	MURRY, MIA	Senior	Art Education	Carson, CA
CUTNO, EDWARD	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA	MUSE, CHELSEA	Senior	Kinesiology	Katy, Texas
DAVIS, VINCENT	Junior	Kinesiology	Duncanville, TX	MYERS, GEORGE	Freshman	Kinesiology	Hephzibah, GA
FONTILLAS, ALYSSA	Sophomore	Kinesiology	McKinney, TX	NASH, CAUSEY	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Shreveport, LA
GANT, LATIA	Junior	Leisure Studies	Coushatta, LA	NASH, JASMINE	Senior	Kinesiology	Jonesboro, LA
GOREE, CHASITY	Senior	Leisure Studies	Grambling, LA	NEWSOME, TROYAN	Junior	Leisure Studies	Ruston, LA
GRAHAM, WILLIE	Senior	Kinesiology	Bastrop, LA	PHLEGM, ASHLEY	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Houston, TX
HALL, JONATHON	Junior	Leisure Studies	West Monroe, LA	RICHARDSON, TIFFANY	Senior	Leisure Studies	Covington, LA
HOLLOWAY, KEANA	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Winnfield, LA	ROACH, TJASIA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Houston Texas
HOUSE, CEONT'E	Senior	Kinesiology	Chase, VA				



## Dean's List, Fall 2013

ROBINSON, MIYA	Junior	Leisure Studies	Ruston, LA
SHAW, KAYTLIN	Sophomore	Elementary Education	Richton Park, IL
SMITH, JAMAL	Senior	Leisure Studies	Los Angeles, CA
SMITH, NICHOLAS	Junior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA
SMITH, REGINALD	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Columbia, LA
SMITH, TEIA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Baton Rouge, LA
STROMILE, JA'MARREI	Freshman	Kinesiology	Louisiana
STRONG, SHAKA	Senior	Kinesiology	Lake Charles, LA

TIBBS, NEKEBRIA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Arcadia, LA
WALLACE, ARMON	Junior	Social Studies Education	Dubberly, KY
WASHINGTON, KANESHIA	Senior	Elementary Education	Louisiana
WEST, TAHIR	Junior	Elementary Education	Wilmington, DE
WHITAKER, BRANDON	Junior	Music Education	Texas
WHITCOMB, SHELBI	Senior	Elementary Education	Grambling, LA
YOUNG, DAVID	Sophomore	Kinesiology	

## University Honor Roll, Spring 2013

BANKS, DE'ANDRIA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Sacramento, CA
BOWMAN, TERRY	Senior	Elementary Education	Grambling, LA
BRIGGS, KETRYN	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Houston, TX
BROWNLEE, KYERRA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Memphis, TN
BURLEIGH, JOHN	Freshman	Kinesiology	Ville Platte, LA
CAMPBELL, JAYADRA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Lake Providence, LA
COWAN, WILLIAM	Freshman	Kinesiology	Alexandria, LA
CUMMINGS, DEMARIO	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Forest Park, GA
DAVIS, VINCENT	Junior	Kinesiology	Duncanville, TX
DE LEON, JOEL	Junior	Kinesiology	Houston, TX
DREXLER, EDWIN	Junior	Kinesiology	Jeanerette, LA
DUNCAN, SHONESHA	Senior	Elementary Education	Houston, TX
EPTING, DOHARAM	Junior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA
EPTING, MASHI	Senior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA
FENCEROY, ALEXANDREA	Junior	Special Education	Forney, TX
FERGUSON, DARIUS	Senior	Kinesiology	Tamarac, FL
GRAHAM, WILLIE	Senior	Kinesiology	Bastrop, LA
GRIFFIN, TYLER	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Columbia, LA
HART, JAMEA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA
HATTER, TAMEKIA	Senior	Elementary Education	Ruston, LA
HORNSBY, WILLIAM	Freshman	Kinesiology	Lacombe, LA
JACKSON, KATRINA	Sophomore	Kinesiology	West Monroe, LA
JAMES, ALAYSIA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Farmerville, LA
JEFF, JONATHAN	Senior	Music Education	Norcross, GA
JENKINS, CHARLIE	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
JOHNSON, CURTIS-EDWARD	Senior	Edu/Non-degree/Certifying	Shreveport, LA
JOHNSON, DESIREE	Senior	Leisure Studies	Oak Grove, LA
JOHNSON, JA'REN	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Ruston, LA
JONES, JOVAN	Senior	Leisure Studies	Natchitoches, LA

JONES, MARQUITTA	Senior	Elementary Education	Vidalia, LA
MCCLELLAN, KAYLA	Sophomore	Social Studies and Spec Ed	Kansas City, MO
MCCONNELL, SABRINA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Chatham, LA
MCDONALD, ASHLEY	Junior	Kinesiology	Marrero, LA
MC GEE, KEILA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Farmerville, LA
MINTER, AARON	Freshman	Kinesiology	Birmingham, Al.
MOORE, CRYSTAL	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Minden, LA
MOORE, LAKECIA	Senior	Early Childhood Education	Jonesboro, LA
MORRISON, NAKEYA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Bastrop, LA
NELSON, JARMICHAEL	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA
PALMER, SIGOURNEY	Sophomore	Music Education	Shreveport, LA
PLAYER, TORY	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
RABB, DE-MONTAE	Junior	Music Education	Los Angeles, CA
ROBERTS, KAYLON	Junior	Leisure Studies	Lake Charles, LA
ROBINS, TOMMIE	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Marrero, LA
SMITH, DEKLON	Senior	Biology Education	Ruston, LA
STEWART, ANGELIA	Senior	Elementary Education	Jonesboro, LA
STEWART, BRIANNA	Freshman	Kinesiology	Shreveport Louisiana
STRINGFELLOW, NATOYA	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Ruston, LA
STRONG, SHAKA	Senior	Kinesiology	Lake Charles, LA
THOMAS, LAKRYSTAL	Senior	Elementary Education	Shreveport, LA
THOMAS, MARVIN	Senior	Leisure Studies	Compton, CA
TOLBERT, KEIARRA	Senior	Kinesiology	MONROE Louisiana
TRAYLOR, JALENDRA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Balch Springs, TX
TURNER, CABRAYANA	Senior	Kinesiology	Austell, GA
WALKER, LYNETTE	Freshman	Elementary Education	Louisiana
WATKINS, TYRRA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Bastrop, LA
WILLIAMS, CHAQUARIUS	Senior	Kinesiology	Minden, LA

## University Honor Roll, Fall 2013

AVERY LAURETTA	Senior	Music Education	Alamogordo, NM
BAINES D'COREY	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	La Verne, Calif.
BELL TINISHA	Senior	Kinesiology	Bienville, LA
BOWMAN TERRY	Senior	Elementary Education	Grambling, LA
BRADLEY CLARISSA	Junior	Kinesiology	Houston, Texas
BROWN KEATRICE	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Vidalia, LA
BURCH SIERRA	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Farmerville, LA
BURTON RYAN	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA
BUTLER DERWIN	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Hephzibah, Ga.
COPELAND LARRY	Freshman	Kinesiology	Georgia
DEJOHNETTE DARRYN	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Bastrop, LA
DUNCAN SHONESHA	Senior	Elementary Education	Houston, Texas
FOSTER LOUQUYHANT'A	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Ruston, La
FRAZIER KIRKLAND	Junior	Music Education	Waskom, Texas

GREEN DANIELLE	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Dallas, Texas
GRILLOT ADRIAN	Senior	Health & Physical Ed	Ruston, LA
HART JAMEA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Monroe, LA
HONEYCUTT QUINSHAYLA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Tallulah, LA
HOPKINS JABRINA	Freshman	Leisure Studies	Baytown, Texas
HURT REGINA	Sophomore	English Education	LaPorte, In.
JOHNSON BRIANNA	Senior	Kinesiology	Pleasant Hill, LA
JONES CHARDUNAE	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA
JONES JACOBY	Junior	Physics Education	Louisiana
JONES MARQUITTA	Senior	Elementary Education	Vidalia, LA
JONES SHADARRIA	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Ruston, LA
JORDAN ALEXIA	Freshman	Elementary Education	Beaumont, Texas
MACKAY ANTOINETTE	Senior	Leisure Studies	Jonesville, LA
MCDONALD ASHLEY	Junior	Kinesiology	Marrero, LA



## University Honor Roll, Fall 2013

MCGARITY, CHELSEA	Freshman	Kinesiology	San Antonio, TX	SWAFFORD, DAJON	Junior	Kinesiology	Jonesboro, LA
MCKNIGHT, SHALILLIAN	Junior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA	THOMAS, BRENTON	Senior	Kinesiology	Logansport, LA
MOORE, CRYSTAL	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Minden, LA	THOMAS, ME'GAN	Senior	Elementary Education	Tallulah, LA
MOORE, KEAREA	Freshman	Early Childhood Education	Ruston, LA	TOLBERT, KEIARRA	Senior	Kinesiology	Monroe, LA
NELSON, JARMICHAEL	Sophomore	Kinesiology	Grambling, LA	TRAYLOR, JALENDRA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Balch Springs, TX
PARM, ERIN	Senior	Elementary Education	Monroe, LA	VICK, MANASHA	Sophomore	Edu/Non-degree/Certifying	Baton Rouge, LA
PEOPLES, LAKIKA	Senior	Leisure Studies	Bastrop, LA	WEBB, DEWAYNE	Senior	Kinesiology	Baldwin, LA
ROBINSON, JEREMIAH	Freshman	Kinesiology	West Monroe, LA	WHITE, LATYSHANIQUE	Sophomore	Leisure Studies	Lake Providence, LA
ROBINSON, XAVIERKEAN	Freshman	Kinesiology	Bastrop, LA	WHITE, LE CORDEZ	Freshman	Health & Phys Ed	Ruston, LA
SALDANA, ASHIA	Junior	Leisure Studies	Shreveport, LA	WILSON, CHARLES	Freshman	Kinesiology	Shreveport, LA
SPEARS, ELLIS	Senior	Kinesiology	Zachary, LA				

## ELC Honors College Inductees

FONTILLAS, ALYSSA      Sophomore      Kinesiology      McKinney, Texas

## School of Graduate Studies, Spring 2013

ADAMS, LAJACKLYN	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Gibbsland, LA	HUANG, YUFENG	Curriculum and Instruction	Fuzhou, China
AGBOR, ROSEMARY	Developmental Education	Acworth, GA	HUDSON, DEVARIA	Developmental Education	Grambling, LA
ALBRITTON, JAMICIA	Developmental Education	Ruston, LA	HUNTER, LAKELEE	Social Sciences	Louisiana
ALLEN, CARLEVER	Social Sciences	Arcadia, LA	JACKSON, SHALONDA	Social Sciences	Hodge, LA
ALLEN, CHRISTY	Developmental Education	Winnsboro, LA	JOHNSON, AUTHURA	Social Sciences	Louisiana
ATKINS, LAKISHA	Social Sciences	Louisiana	JOHNSON, DAVARIKA	Developmental Education	Crowley, TX
BAILEY, SUZAN	Developmental Education	Louisiana	JOHNSON, JACQUELINE	Developmental Education	Louisiana
BEASLEY, TERI	Developmental Education	Waynesboro, VA	JONES, ERNIE	Educational Leadership	Ruston, LA
BRADLEY, SHAQUONDRA	Developmental Education	Buffalo, NY	JONES, GAYBRIELLE	Developmental Education	Birmingham, AL
BRADLEY, VALENCIA	Social Sciences	Jonesboro, LA	JONES, LEAH	Developmental Education	North Carolina
BROWN, CHASSITY	Developmental Education	Shreveport, LA	LARD, NIKELYIA	Developmental Education	Bienville, LA
BROWN, SONJI	Developmental Education	Shreveport, LA	LEE, PAMELA	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Shreveport, LA
BURCHAM, ROBIN	Educational Leadership	Homer, LA	LEWIS, DARRELL	Social Sciences	Shreveport, LA
BURRELL, MYSTEE	Developmental Education	Louisiana	MCMILLIAN, LASHONDRA	Developmental Education	Wyoming
CAREY, BRANDY	Curriculum and Instruction	Shreveport, LA	MILLSAP-WHITE, TOMICA	Social Sciences	Louisiana
CARR, MEREDITH	Developmental Education	Alabama	MITCHELL, CARLA	Educational Leadership	Louisiana
COLEMAN, EDDIE	Developmental Education	Warren, AR	OZZ, ROBIN	Developmental Education	Phoenix, AZ
COLLINS, NORA	Developmental Education	Louisiana	PATTON, KARLOS	Developmental Education	Ruston, LA
COSTA, KATHERINE	Developmental Education	Hollis, NH	PIERRE, GERMAINE	Developmental Education	Vieux-Fort
CRAWFORD, SANDIE	Developmental Education	Macedonia, OH	PLEASANT, KENDRICK	Developmental Education	Louisiana
CROWE, KARMYN	Curriculum and Instruction	Ruston, LA	RELIFORD, NATASHA	Social Sciences	Shreveport, LA
CROWE, KATINA	Developmental Education	Louisiana	ROBERTSON, SHERITA	Developmental Education	Ruston, LA
CROWE, TAMIKA	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Ruston, LA	ROBINSON, ANDRE	Developmental Education	Birmingham, AL
CROWE-GARNER, CYNTHIA	Developmental Education	Shreveport, LA	ROBINSON, LATISHA	Special Education	Simsboro, LA
CURRY, CRYSTAL	Social Sciences	Jonesville, LA	SCOTT, SHANNON	Social Sciences	Grambling, LA
CURTIS, CHERYL	Developmental Education	North Carolina	SMITH, BOBBIE	Developmental Education	Grambling, LA
DAYS, YANISE	Social Sciences	Grambling, LA	SMITH, LEMETRIA	Social Sciences	Ruston, LA
DOUGLAS, CATHY	Social Sciences	Simsboro, LA	STEVENS, MARTEZ	Educational Leadership	Mobile, AL
EDWARD, SARAHLEE	Special Education	Grambling, LA	SWEET, CHAE	Developmental Education	New York
ELLIS, RUDOLPH	Developmental Education	Unknown	THORNTON, RHONDA	Social Sciences	Alexandria, LA
FIELDS, ISAAC	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Lake Providence, LA	TOOKES, MARQUITA	Educational Leadership	Louisiana
FLEMING-ANDERSON, RASHAWNA	Social Sciences	Shreveport, LA	WALKER, JOHNNY	Developmental Education	Louisiana
FLOYD, ASHLEY	Curriculum and Instruction	Los Angeles, CA	WESLEY, MELISSA	Social Sciences	Louisiana
GEORGE, GLORIA	Developmental Education	Louisiana	WESTBROOKS, ZANDRIA	Curriculum and Instruction	Bastrop, LA
GERDES, MICHELLE	Developmental Education	New York	WHITE, SHARONA	Developmental Education	Grambling, LA
HARPER, ANGELA	Social Sciences	Ruston, LA	WHITE, TYESHA	Social Sciences	Ruston, LA
HICKS, JOEL	Developmental Education	Louisiana	WILLIAMS, TERESA	Social Sciences	Belcher, LA
HILL, SHAKEYDRA	Curriculum and Instruction	Homer, LA	WOOD, BENJAMIN	Developmental Education	Louisiana
HOBBS, KHRISTOPHER	Social Sciences	Ferris, TX	WORTHAM, BRENDA	Curriculum and Instruction	Dubach, LA
HOSKIN, BRITTANY	Developmental Education	Louisiana	ZACHARY, BRANDON	Developmental Education	Beaumont, TX

## School of Graduate Studies, Fall 2013



AGBOR, LOVELYNE	Developmental Education	Austell, GA	FISHER, SEFORA	Developmental Education	Natchitoches, LA
AGBOR, ROSEMARY	Developmental Education	Acworth, GA	FLOYD, ASHLEY	Curriculum and Instruction	Los Angeles, CA
ALLEN, CARLEVER	Social Sciences	Arcadia, LA	GERDES, MICHELLE	Developmental Education	New York
ALLEN, CHRISTY	Developmental Education	Winnsboro, LA	HAGGARD, KENDRA	Developmental Education	Park Hill, OK
AMOS, ROSHAWNA	Social Sciences	Ruston, LA	HENDERSON, GINA	Developmental Education	Florida
ATKINS, LAKISHA	Social Sciences	Louisiana	HICKS, JOEL	Developmental Education	Louisiana
BAILEY, SUZAN	Developmental Education	Louisiana	HODGES, CHERI	Developmental Education	Raleigh, NC
BIAS, CASSANDRA	Educational Leadership	Oakdale, LA	HUNTER, MARK	Developmental Education	Grambling, LA
BRADLEY, VALENCIA	Social Sciences	Jonesboro, LA	JACKSON, PATSY	Curriculum and Instruction	Athens, LA
BURKS, LATORY	Developmental Education	Monroe, LA	JOHNSON, JACQUELINE	Developmental Education	Louisiana
CALANDRINO, CONSTANCE	Developmental Education	New Jersey	JONES, LEAH	Developmental Education	North Carolina
CANIGLIA, JOSEPH	Developmental Education	New Jersey	LEWIS, DARRELL	Social Sciences	Shreveport, LA
CAREY, BRANDY	Curriculum and Instruction	Shreveport, LA	LIVINGSTON-MATHIS, DAPHNE	Special Education	Ruston, LA
CARR, MEREDITH	Developmental Education	Alabama	MANUEL, DARLENE	Developmental Education	Columbus, GA
CARTER, CHRISELA	Developmental Education	Ruston, LA	OZZ, ROBIN	Developmental Education	Phoenix, AZ
CHAMBERS, DESHANDLYN	Social Sciences	Louisiana	PATTERSON, VIOLA	Developmental Education	Shreveport, LA
CHEATHAM, JORDAN	Curriculum and Instruction	Park Forest, IL	PETTIGREW, SHELETHIA	Curriculum and Instruction	Arcadia, LA
COCKERM, STEPHANIE	Developmental Education	Louisiana	PHILLIPS, VAN	Special Education	Irondale, AL
COLLINS, NORA	Developmental Education	Louisiana	PIERRE, LATOYA	Social Sciences	Lake Providence, LA
COSTA, KATHERINE	Developmental Education	Hollis, NH	PLAYER, BARBARA	Developmental Education	Shreveport, LA
CROWE, ARMYN	Curriculum and Instruction	Ruston, LA	PROUDIE, RAYCHEL	Developmental Education	Ferguson, MO
CROWE, KATINA	Developmental Education	Louisiana	ROBINSON, CARKINDA	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Bastrop, LA
CROWE, TAMIKA	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Ruston, LA	STAFFORD, CHRISTINA	Developmental Education	Ringgold, LA
CURRY, CRYSTAL	Social Sciences	Jonesville, LA	SWEET, CHAE	Developmental Education	New York
CURTIS, CHERYL	Developmental Education	North Carolina	TAYLOR, PHYLSHA	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Ruston, LA
DAVENPORT, SHIELA	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Louisiana	WEST, KENDRA	Special Education	Dallas, TX
DOUGLAS, CATHY	Social Sciences	Simsboro, LA	WILEY, SUSAN	Developmental Education	Grambling, LA
EDWARD, SARAHLEE	Special Education	Grambling, LA	WILLIAMS, ROBBIE	Elem Ed and Spec Ed	Bienville, LA
ELLIS, RUDOLPH	Developmental Education	Belize	WILLIAMS, TERESA	Social Sciences	Belcher, LA
FINDLEY, CONNIE	Curriculum and Instruction	Ruston, LA	WOOD, BENJAMIN	Developmental Education	Louisiana

### *Fraternal Honors*

#### THE IOTA TAU CHAPTER OF KAPPA DELTA PI INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN EDUCATION AWARD

Fenceroy, Alexandra	Forney, TX
Green, Alexandra	Monroe, LA
Gunn, Audrianna	Ruston, LA
Jones, Lyntoinette	Bunkie, LA
King, Tracie	Walls, MS
Lane, Quinterio	Wisner, LA
Lauderdale, Amber	Houston, TX
Lewis, Baldwin	
Mason, Micayla	Shreveport, LA
Mayfield, Angel	Grambling, LA
Stevens, Latoya	Lawrenceville, GA
Strong, Shaka	Lake Charles, LA
Tisdale, Jessica	Monroe, LA
Turner, Damiane	El Dorado, AR
Williams, Amber	Jonesboro, LA

#### THE PHI EPSILON KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONOR FRATERNITY AWARD

Caldwell, Steven	Ruston, LA
Hart, Jamea	Monroe, LA
Jones, Barbara	Alexandria, LA
Minor, Tracey	Monroe, LA
Outley, Brandi	Ruston, LA
Perry, Alexandria	Shreveport, LA
Richardson, Tiffany	Covington, LA
Washington, Muridia	Pensacola, FLA
Willis, Christopher	Homer, LA

### *College and Association Honors*

**THE OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AWARD:** *This award recognizes excellence in academic performance, intellectual creativity, and quality of work.*

**Breonna Monique Ward** Grand Prairie, Texas

**THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT TEACHER AWARD:** *This award is given to a graduating senior (honor student) in recognition of leadership, communication skills, professionalism, and enthusiasm demonstrated during student teaching.*

Jonathan William Washington Minden, LA

**THE OUTSTANDING TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARS AWARD:** *This award is given to teacher education majors who demonstrate outstanding scholarship and who are recognized by the Department, College, University, or outside agencies for their dedication, hard work, and professional contributions to the school and community.*

Jessica Tierra Tisdale Monroe, LA

Kelly Warren Hall, Jr. Cullen, LA

**THE OUTSTANDING OUTSTANDNG UNDERGRADUATE SERVICE AWARD:** *This award is given to the undergraduate student who had demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the University community while maintaining strong and consistent academic performance.*

Breonna Monique Ward Grand Prairie, Texas

**THE LOUISIANA RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION (LRPA) SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:** *The LRPA recognizes outstanding students who have achieved excellence in the field of recreation, park, sport and leisure. Students recognized for the award must be members of LRPA, have achieved the prescribed GPA of at least 2.9, and serve as an advocate in the profession and in the community.*

Tracey L. Minor	Monroe, LA
Breonna J. Jones	Alexandria, LA
Steven Caldwell	Ruston, LA
Christopher Pruitt	Alexandria, LA
Michaela Hooks	Heartland, TX
Ashley McDonald	New Orleans, LA
Brianna Phillips	Fairfield, CA
Karlin Gray	Memphis, TN
Jarreau Brown	

General Recreation
Therapeutic Recreation
Therapeutic Recreation
KNES, Health Promotion
KNES, Health Promotion
KNES, Pedagogy
KNES, Sport Management
KNES, Sport Management
KNES, Sport Management



# Faculty Members Honored

The University recognized the following faculty members for their exemplary performance in research, service, and teaching at the Honors Convocation on March 25, 2014, Fredrick Hobby Assembly Center. Photographs courtesy of Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University

## Research



Dr. Christina Gipson



Dr. Carolyn Jackson



Dr. Loretta Jagers

## Service



Dr. Martin Ayim



Dr. Vicki Brown



Dr. Patricia Johnson

## Teaching



Dr. Elaine Foster



Dr. Obadiah Simmons



Dr. Daphne Williams



## CARTER REWARDED FOR HONORABLE SERVICE AS MEMBER OF FAMED REDBALL EXPRESS IN WORLD WAR II

BY JANET D. BRYANT

Dr. Lamore Carter was part of the famed Red Ball Express, the moniker for the massive convoy system that supplied the Allied Forces during World War II. On June 6, 1944, Allied Armies hit the shores of Normandy and advanced rapidly, however as their supplies depleted, it significantly slowed their pace as some tanks and other equipment grinded to a complete halt. According to historians, it was the creation of the Red Ball Express that made the difference during those weaning days of the war. The Red Ball Express was created during a 36-hour brainstorming session specifically convened to address these deficiencies. "Without the Red Ball Express the campaign in the European Theater might have dragged on for years with the mobility of the allied forces greatly diminished," as stated by The Price of Freedom, Americans at War exhibit. "The Red Ball Express was one of the most important factors in the rapid defeat of the German Army."

Although it lasted only three months, August 25 to November 16, 1944, the men of the Red Ball Express, who were nearly 75% African American, played a crucial role in the eventual victory. These brave men, who served in a segregated United States Army, won the kind of acclaim on the ground that the Tuskegee Airmen won in flight. "Red Ball Express was the Army code name, and the route stretched from Saint Lo in Normandy to Paris and eventually to the front along France's northeastern borderland," writes Rudi Williams, American Forces Press Service. "The route was marked with red balls. On an average day, 900 fully loaded vehicles were on the Red Ball route round-the-clock with drivers officially ordered to observe 60-yard intervals and a top speed of 25 miles per hour." However, at the peak of its operation, the men of the Red Ball Express transported 12,342 tons of supplies in 5,938 vehicles to northern drop-off points each day.



Mr. Jean-Claude Brunet, Consul General of France in New Orleans, presents Dr. Lamore Carter the Legion of Honor, one of the most prestigious decorations in France, with the rank of Chevalier at the WWII Museum on June 6, 2014



Dr. Carter with Sen. Mary Landrieu at the WWII Museum on June 6, 2014



Soldiers of Red Ball Express load trucks with rations bound for frontline troops



Red Ball Express patch: The name for the Red Ball Express came from a railroad symbol meaning "express freight". Unofficial shoulder patches, like the one to the left were worn by some soldiers. Each truck in the convoy was marked with a red disk at least 6 inches in diameter (US Army Transportation Museum)

Dr. Carter and his unit, the 391st Quarter Master Company, were essential for the operation. "I was a platoon sergeant with the 391st Quarter Master Company, having arrived in France (UTAH Beach) in early October 1944," said Carter. "My unit was part of the Red Ball Express soon after arriving. The 391st was part of the Red Ball Express from its beginning until it ended after the Battle of the Bulge. The 391st QMTC was assigned to the 3rd Army (General Patton's army) and wore the 3rd Army shoulder patch and the Red Ball Express patch on our jacket sleeves. It was our job to supply General Patton's 3rd army tank corps with what they must have to move toward the German offensive in France and eastern Belgium. We supplied gasoline, oil, ammunition, and cigarettes, for example—all kinds of assets for his forces."

Seventy years later, the French Republic, on behalf of the French people officially commemorated Dr. Carter's military service that so greatly benefited them. In a poignantly worded email, Carter learned that he was a Legion of Honor medal recipient. "I am very pleased to express my true congratulations for this distinction whereby the French government pays tribute to your honorable participation during World War II, and whereby the French people express gratitude for your contribution to the liberation of our country (from the Nazis)," said Jean-Claude Brunet, Consul General of France in New Orleans. "I will be honored to bestow upon you the medal of Legion of Honor."

At an official ceremony at the World War II Museum in New Orleans, La, on June 6, 2014, Carter was awarded the Legion of Honor medal with the rank of Chevalier. "This is the greatest honor I have ever received in my 90 years," Carter said. "It surpasses everything I've ever been awarded, and I am humbled by it. It is particularly significant in that this is the actual 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day."



## INFORMATIONAL SESSION FOR TEACHER CANDIDATES

Dean Larnell Flannagan (above) and Dr. Raunda Williams (below) speak with potential teacher candidate students to explain the prerequisites and rules governing Seminar, a mandatory education course.

## INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL SYMPOSIUM

The International Cultural Symposium is an annual event hosted by the College of Education, Curriculum and Instruction, to promote knowledge and understanding of diverse nationalities and cultures. This year's event included student exhibitions representing Israel, Mexico, Ethiopia, France, China, and Japan. Attendees were given informational items such as brochures and flyers; authentic music was played at each exhibition, and food native to the country was served.

Dr. A. K. Nur-Hussen, professor and event organizer, is an Ethiopian native. He and Dr. Kathryn Newman, who has visited Ethiopia, explains the Ethiopian alphabet to attendees visiting the exhibition. Nur-Hussen offered to demonstrate an example of a native Ethiopian dance, but later decided to save it for next year.

The event was well attended, and participating students received extra credit for their exhibits. "Overall, I am really happy and pleased with how it turned out," Nur-Hussen said. "The students deserve a lot of credit for their hard work and creativity."



Israel



Mexico



Ethiopia

Janet D. Bryant for  
College of Education



France



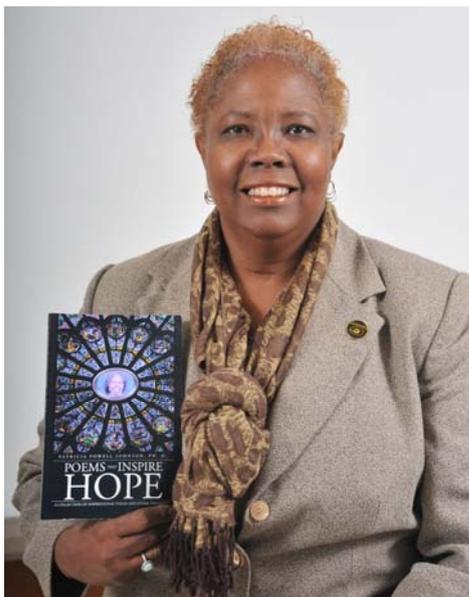
China and Japan



## JOHNSON KEEPING HOPE ALIVE IN NEW BOOK OF POETRY

*Johnson's new poetry collection offers readers hope, encouragement, inspiration, and humor to face life's challenges*

BY JANET D. BRYANT



Dr. Patricia Johnson, director, Office of Professional Laboratory Experiences (OPLE), pictured with her new book of poetry, *Poems that Inspire Hope*

Poems that Inspire Hope gives a moving testimony to the power of God's love in all areas of life. Patricia Powell Johnson, Ph.D., offers a compelling message of hope that encourages readers to put faith into action. Johnson's life experiences are the driving force behind the poems, and she writes openly about her thoughts, emotions, beliefs, conflicts, hopes, and dreams.

Ultimately, her work is about giving encouragement and inspiring readers to find a new way of looking at their own lives. "The book is about life, faith, family, friends, and the future God has in store for you," Johnson writes. "The poems inspire you to cast aside worries and to trust God more. They inspire hope in the reader for a better today, a better tomorrow, and a better future."

The poems are diverse in subject matter and

in their approach to enlightened hope and inspiration; you will be moved to smile, laugh, and cry; you will find purpose in pain and inspiration to lean forward through challenging times. In *Love*, she uses the voice of wisdom undoubtedly seasoned with the salt of experience. In *Natural Woman*, she uses the voice of a grateful daughter that has witnessed the feats of great, godly women. In *A Visit from the NCATE Board of Examiners*, she uses the voice of humor to describe the rigors and stress involved with accreditation. It is a must-read, must-have!

*Poems the Inspire Hope* is published by iUniverse, and can be purchased on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and iUniverse.com.

A book signing is schedule for Saturday, July 12, 2014, 12-2pm, Holiday Inn West, 5555 Financial Plaza, Shreveport, La.

## CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION PARTNERS WITH SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP TEACHERS



Dr. Mary Ghongkedze, coordinator, Professional Development, works with teachers; Mr. Taylor, professor of mathematics, shares methods to effectively teach math; teachers in the classroom for professional development; Dr. Patricia Johnson, former interim head, Curriculum and Instruction, with in-service teacher, and Dr. Mary Ghongkedze, coordinator, Professional Development, Curriculum and Instruction

College of Education's Department of Curriculum and Instruction partners with area schools to continuously provide teachers with the best practices for their classrooms based on evidence gathered from the latest research.

In 2013, Dr. Larnell Flannagan, dean, College of Education, reviewed and modified the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), with Coleman School, Gibsland, La, and Mooretown Professional Development School, Shreveport, La. As a result of the modified MOU and the advent of common core state standards, the goal has been to have an even greater commitment to developing teachers by increasing their understanding of the standards and how it incorporate them into their classrooms. The common core standards are designed to be robust, rigorous, and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. Research suggests that the best classroom teachers know how to motivate and engage students, and our professional development sessions are designed with such concepts in mind.

Professional development offered by Curriculum and Instruction includes ongoing opportunities for teachers to read and reflect on current research topics of interest that are consistent with state and local school improvement priorities. Since 2012, the following topics have been offered: (1) Strategies to help struggling readers, Dr. Elaine Foster; (2) Overview of Common Core State Standards, Dr. Patricia Johnson; (3) Reading in Content Areas, Dr. Mary Ghongkedze; (4) Math Strategies in Elementary and Secondary Students, Mr. Eugene Taylor; (5) Adapting the Common Core Standards in English Language Classes, Dr. Payne Pamela; (6) Differentiating Instructions, Dr. Patricia Johnson; and (7) Reading/Writing Connections, Dr. Loreta Jagers.

Dr. Mary Ghongkedze is the coordinator of professional development.



## THE PERSONIFICATION OF EXCELLENCE

# Marquesha J. D. Moore

BY JANET D. BRYANT

Laugh



Love

Dream



“Although I did not begin college at Grambling State University, I couldn’t have chosen a better alma mater”

says Marquesha Moore.

“It was there that I matured, gained lifelong friendships, and solidified the beginning of my career as an educator.”

### “From the Heart”

I was born in Portland, Ore., and lived with my mother, her husband, and my four brothers. We moved to New Orleans, La., in 2003, to live near family who had previously moved there. I am the oldest and only girl, so I took the role of being my brothers ‘second mom’ and ‘teacher’. It’s possible that my desire to teach manifested from me playing those roles growing up. As I leave my alma mater and take my place in the classroom, I would like to tell all my fellow undergraduates at GSU and any other institution that if you have a passion for something keep at it because there is nothing like living your dreams and changing the lives of children and their parents. It is important to study hard and make great GPAs, but what truly matters is the person you become and the knowledge you actually use. I am forever grateful for the support of God, my family, friends, and GSU faculty and peers. The cripture that I held on to, the one that pulled me through was Deuteronomy 31:6, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.” (NIV). The Lord has truly been with me every step of the way.

# Her Story

If Marquisha Moore were a Roman emperor, she could have stood victoriously on the steps of Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center and announced, "Veni, vidi, vici," a Latin phrase reportedly used in a letter from Julius Caesar to communicate the dominance of the his army over the forces of Pharnaces II for control of what is modern day Turkey. Veni, vidi, vici, is commonly interpreted to mean, I came, I saw, I conquered.

Indeed Moore did. She conquered the curricula, the standardized tests (Praxis), the distractions, the extra curricular activities, the discouraging moments, the temptations to give into the seedier side of college life, the urge to settle for mediocrity, and the ladder of matriculation that challenges anyone who dares to take on its climb. And she did it all with her patented smile.

Moore graduated summa cum laude, which means she walked across the stage and received her diploma with at least a 3.9 cumulative grade point average on a maximum scale of 4.0. The College of Education has only witnessed that four times since fall 2009. That is some feat. "My academic success has been phenomenal," Moore said. "I worked hard, asked many questions during class and in my professors' offices, and collaborated with my peers. I've always taken my education serious because I knew upon graduation, I would be responsible for someone else's education."

During her undergraduate career, Moore balanced her academic pursuits with extra curricular activities. She served as president and intake coordinator of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education in 2011; secretary of Iota Alpha Mu Christian Sorority, Inc. in 2011; member and children's ministry teacher of The Church of the Champions in 2011; and secretary of Association of Women in Communications in 2010. "It was difficult at times to stretch myself between classes, assignments, and extracurricular," Moore said. "But the nonacademic activities tied

into my passion for education and Christ, so I was able to balance it all with the hope that I would become a well rounded individual."

Moore purposely worked to build good relationships and rapport with College of Education professors and others university wide. She credits many of them for her success as a student. "My most memorable professors were Dr. Katheryn Newman, because she specialized in Special Education and pushed me to do well in my courses but also as a woman; Dr. Nur and Dr. Foster because they were my advisors for Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education. They gave me the freedom and guidance to develop leadership skills, and Dr. Himaya and Ms. Cassandra Hendrix, in the physics department, because they provided me with a job and loved me even though I wasn't a science major," Moore said.

Dr. Elaine Foster describes Moore as a capable and cooperative student. "Marquisha showed great initiative in her roles with Kappa Delta Pi," says Foster. "Once I told her what needed to be done, she would set the plan in motion to accomplish the goal."

Ironically, all of this may have never happened. Moore initially chose and attended Bethune Cookman University, but for circumstances in Grambling State University's favor, she was unable to pay and continue there. "I chose Grambling State University because my uncle, Darwin Demery, attended in 1994," said Moore. "He told me how great the education program was. I also liked that I was only five hours away from home in New Orleans."

The College of Education proved to be a right fit for Moore, because she had long settled on teaching as her vocation. She was the eldest child and assumed the role, as most eldest children, of second-in-command and teacher. "Education as a major was thoughtless," said Moore. "I always enjoyed school and helping others. I chose Special Education, because I was told it was a high needs area and a grant was being offered."

Moore's matriculation through the College of Education curricula was steady, step by step. She successfully completed Seminar; she excelled at student teaching; and she passed the requisite and much ballyhooed Praxis examinations. She is an example of the popular phrase: Success happens when preparation meets opportunity.

Although she understands that no institution of higher learning can prepare students for every circumstance they may encounter in the workplace or classroom, it is that training in knowing how to approach and resolve challenges that matters most. "The education system is forever changing, but I do feel confident in teaching because of my college education," said Moore. "I did encounter some things that I wasn't prepared for, but I know that everything cannot be taught; some things have to be learned through experience."

Moore has not been disappointed by the actual teaching experience; it is everything and more that she expected it to be. The transition from teaching candidate, to student teacher, to actual teacher has been an exciting and eventful transformation.

Dwindling educational funding, increasing child-teacher classroom ratios, mandates from state and federal governments, privatization pressures from parochial and other school systems, charter school initiatives, increased dependence on standardized testing, and a plethora of other issues and challenges are all a part of today's teaching landscape.

This daughter of Grambling State University drives away from her alma mater to conquer the classroom and all its challenges with the view of her always in the rear view mirror. Having overcome and conquered the challenges of academic life, how will she fare in conquering the challenges of today's teaching professional?

Taking her record into consideration, she will more than fare well under these conditions. She will conquer them, at least in her corner of the world—her classroom.

## Cover Story



17 Insight Today

JUNE 2014



18 Insight Today

JUNE 2014

# Student Accomplishments



# JONATHAN WASHINGTON

*Student Teacher of the Year, 2013-2014*

Washington helps students, Shemerik Brown and Tyrek Mitchell, execute a science experiment during his student teaching experience at Grambling Laboratory High School.

# Student Accomplishments

## In His Own Words

The first few semesters I was unsure if I had made the right decision choosing education, but the College of Education professors helped me feel more at ease with my decision. I have always been a nerd, so the class work was not an issue. The high standards set by my professors carried over into the amount of work I did while student teaching. The GSU professors are one of the biggest resources I had as a novice educator.

During their seminars and classroom management classes, I did not hesitate to ask questions; I was a sponge and did not feel ashamed to ask for help, and, luckily for me, they were almost always able to offer valuable advice.

Initially, going into student teaching, I had hoped to be placed closer to home in Minden, La., but Ms. Williams was unable to find any available schools and was eventually placed at Grambling's lab schools. Honestly, I was not overly thrilled.

On my first day, Ms. Gaulden, my cooperating teacher, was absent, and that did not ease my nervousness at all. Each class period, students looked in my direction, and I could feel their stares asking, "who is guy?" Because there was a substitute, the students were a bit excited.

The following day was a Friday, and Ms. Gaulden. That morning, she and I reintroduced ourselves to each other, having observed her classroom before. We reviewed the curriculum and expressed the expectations we had for each other. During every class, Ms. Gaulden formally introduced me as the new student teacher and outlined her exceptions for their behavior. By the end of the day, my nervousness was pretty much gone, but Ms. Gaulden then dropped a bomb on me: she wanted me to begin teaching the following week. In hindsight, it turned out to be a great advantage, because it helped me be classroom management wise while student teaching. I was able to explicitly lay out my four rules and exceptions for each student in my class. My rules were simple: (1) Remain in your seat unless given permission; (2) Do not talk over the instructor during instruction; (3) Respect the rights of the teacher, others, and most importantly yourself; and (4) Be on task at all times. Initially, some students who were not pleased with my rules, however, with time they grew to understand them.

When entering the classroom, I made it my duty to say "hello or good morning" to all students no matter how good or bad I felt. Being a science educator, group work and lab experiments are a major part of my instructional method. The first lab activity we did involved chicken eggs and sugar/salt solutions. To my surprise, the students were excited and actively engaged during the

activity. I did not think they would enjoy the activity as much as they did. Although I did not have an abundance of technology, I made due with my personal laptop, a 20 foot internet cable, and an inFocus projector. We did a host of other physical and virtual labs.

One statement from a presenter during our seminars will always ring true, "you have to spend the time effectively planning." Students can tell when your just winging it or pulling a lesson out of thin air. If you do not care about the lesson, why should they? Spending an hour or two everyday on the upcoming week's lesson will only strengthen its effectiveness and decrease potential disruptions.

My experience was not without any hitches; after the "honeymoon phase" some students true personalities began to show. About a month in, some students were beginning to take their time entering class and waiting before they would begin writing their objectives and bell ringers. To remedy this I began timing the students from bell to bell. Students were given seven minutes, five minutes between each bell and two minutes after the tardy bell to have both the objective and bellringer written or he/she would lose their daily participation points. That simple trick worked perfectly and majority of students spent less time in the hallways, and came in ready to write.

Overall, I never had any major disruptions. For the few tiffs, I calmly diffused the situations by remaining calm, neutral, and consistent. Following my professors' advice, I maintained a neutral tone 99% of the time. Whenever the students did well I rewarded them with praise, bonus points, five minutes of notes on a quiz, or free time after a quiz or test. It was a conscious decision not to reward the students with candy for two reasons: I was an unemployed college student commuting everyday, and I did not want their efforts or behavior to be dependent on whether or not they would receive candy. As it turned out, I really did enjoy my time at Grambling's Lab High and Middle Magnet. I can honestly admit that student teaching was the spark I needed to ignite my passion for teaching. Like most education undergrads, I became a tad overwhelmed my last few semesters, but once I finished student teaching, the effort was really worth it.

The two biggest pieces of advice I can offer an upcoming student teaching candidates are: set your rules and expectation from day one and plan, plan, plan! Don't waste your planning period; make the most out of it. Then too, if you are a nerd like myself, you will enjoy searching for lesson resources anyway.



### GSU NAMED IN TOP 10 NATIONWIDE FOR PRODUCING MALE TEACHERS

Early Childhood Teacher researched the best colleges and universities for men who aspire to be teachers, and published the findings. Grambling State University was named in the top ten. While there were many notable schools worthy of inclusion, the final results of the study represent universities that excel in important areas such as:

—U.S. News & World Report's 2013 annual rankings of over 270 national colleges and universities, which rates everything from the university's reputation to GRE scores to faculty resources. Some schools in the list did not have a national rank. In those cases, their U.S. News & World Report regional rank (e.g., north, south, Midwest, etc.) was included.

—The 2013 National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) Teacher Prep Review, which rates teacher education schools based on 18 standards that cover how the school selects its students, how the courses prepare teachers to work in different subject areas, the number of practice teaching opportunities, and institutional outcomes.

—The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), which is managed by the National Center for Education Statistics (US Department of Education), and provides large amounts of data on individual colleges and universities. Early Childhood Teacher looked specifically at their 2012 statistics concerning the number and percentages of male and female graduates in teacher education majors from different universities across the United States.

To view the full list, go to:  
[www.earlychildhoodteacher.org/certification/20-top-education-colleges-men/](http://www.earlychildhoodteacher.org/certification/20-top-education-colleges-men/)



# Bona Fide Excellence

## RECOGNIZING FOUR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION SHINING STUDENT SCHOLAR STARS

BY JANET D. BRYANT | PHOTOGRAPHY BY GLENN LEWIS



Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University

Jessica Tisdale, Karlin Gray, Kelly Hall, Jr., and Breonna Ward dressed in Grambling State University colors, black and gold, relaxing and enjoying one another's company during their photo session at Conrad Hutchinson Performing Arts building.

### Jessica Tisdale

*Recipient*

MARTHA FONDEL-SMITH  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Recipient*

COE OUTSTANDING TEACHER  
EDUCATION SCHOLAR AWARD

### Karlin Gray

*Honoree*

OUTSTANDING STUDENT  
DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY

*Recipient*

LRPA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD  
KNES, SPORT MANEGEMENT

### Kelly Hall, Jr.

*Recipient*

TOM JOYNER FOUNDATION  
HERCULES SCHOLAR

*Recipient*

COE OUTSTANDING TEACHER  
EDUCATION SCHOLAR AWARD

### Breonna Ward

*HCBU All-Star*

WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON HISTORICALLY  
BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUs)

*Recipient*

COE OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AWARD  
COE OUTSTANDING UNDERGRAD SERVICE AWARD



## Karlin Gray



Living the student life: Karlin Gray at her photo session, in her GSU cheerleading gear, and as a volunteer soccer coach.

Karlin Gray is a sport management major from Memphis, Tn. She was recommended by Dr. Willie Daniel, head, Department of Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure to be recognized as a College of Education shining scholar star. Within the department, she has distinguished herself academically and won the respect of her professors by demonstrating high academic excellence and integrity. "Karlin is task-oriented relative to completing short/long-term assignments," said Dr. Obadiah Simmons, associate professor, Robert L. Piper endowed professor, Department of Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure. "Karlin works extremely well in group settings and has the ability to engage in fruitful dialogue with her peers. She has demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and communicates well with multiple audiences. Karlin is a very conscientious student and has displayed a sincere compassion for improving the quality of life of people".

From the start of her academic career, she has maintained an impressive grade point average and proven to be among the highest caliber of students.

Gray has a winning personality and attitude. She is humble and respectful, cooperative and willing, flexible and friendly—exactly the kind of student that Grambling State University (GSU) seeks. "I appreciate whatever opportunities are

granted to me," Gray said. "I'm honored that my teacher/advisor and department head thought of me to accept this award. It reminds me that the path I'm taking and the effort I'm giving is not in vain. It pushes me to maintain and to work harder."

Gray made the President's List both spring and fall 2013. This means her semester grade point averages were at least 3.9 out of a possible 4.0. If she maintains this pace, she should graduate summa cum laude. Additionally, she was awarded the Louisiana Recreation and Park Association Scholarship Award for sport management at the Honors Convocation, March 25, 2014, in the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center.

Ironically, growing up, Gray had not heard of GSU. She was introduced to the university by her current roommate whose father attended. They brought her to Homecoming and brought her back the following April when she learned the history and legacy that is GSU. "I believe the prestigious name that Grambling has earned attracted me more than anything," Gray said.

Gray is also a GSU cheerleader. She is a volunteer soccer coach for Ruston Parks and Recreation. She is a member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College and Favrot Student Union Board (FSUB), 2011-14. She is a former member of the GSU Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program, 2013-2014.

Currently, she is focused on completing

the requirements to graduate. "I could possibly graduate in December, a semester earlier than planned," Gray said. "I am going to continue cheerleading and join FSUB again. Summer school is a possibility, and I am also looking into applying for various summer internships."

As her undergraduate career nears its completion, Gray plans to return to Memphis, Tn., to attend graduate school at the University of Memphis. She understands the challenges and has already formulated a plan of action for her graduate studies. "I am hoping to land an internship this summer that could grant me an actual job opportunity after college, because I plan to work while in graduate school."

Gray is also a young lady faith, substance, and service. "Lately, it's been on my heart to invest in my ministry more than I have which is praise dance," she said. "I want to start a young women's dance ministry here on GSU's campus. It's just a thought now, but I will prayerfully follow as God leads and guides me to bring that thought into fruition."

Whatever course of action Gray decides to take, success is sure to follow, because she demonstrates the attributes of an effective student scholar: organized, committed, focused, confident, willing to work and face challenges, willing to ask for help when necessary, eager to make connections, creative, and varied, balanced interests.



## Student Accomplishments

## Kelly Hall, Jr.



Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University



*"I came to GSU to participate in the best band in the nation," says Hall. "And I plan to one day be the director of the famed Tiger Marching Band."*

Kelly Hall Jr., a senior, music education major began his undergraduate academic career at Louisiana Tech University but later transferred to Grambling State University in 2010 to pursue a familiar dream—joining the internationally famed Tiger Marching Band. "I came to Grambling State University, because I wanted to participate in the band," Hall said. "My hometown of Springhill is only about an hour's drive from here, and Grambling has the best band in the nation. I also was excited about the music department.

Subsequently, Hall secured a position with the band and marched with distinction until 2013. "I was a student leader, drill sergeant, and section leader over the tuba section," Hall said. He has been a member of Strong Tower Gospel Chorale, a local group, since 2010, is an active member of the university wind ensemble, and was a member of the Symphonic Band, 2010-104.

Hall is the epitome of what a shining student scholar star should be. In addition to all the activities that involve his first love, music, he has maintained a high grade point average and is a member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College. He has been a member of Alpha Sinfonia 2013.

His academic excellence was nationally recognized by The Tom Joyner Foundation when he was named a Hercules Scholar during the fall 2013 semester. Tom Joyner, a nationally syndicated talk show host, established the foundation to honor his father, Hercules Joyner, and his commitment to education and to help students at historically black colleges and universities. The Tom Joyner Hercules Scholarship considers grade point average and participation in extracurricular activities as determining factors. "I was honored to be chosen as a recipient of this award," Hall said. "And I used the scholarship money to help purchase some of my books for the past semester."

Ms. Genevia Jones, who interacts daily with undergraduate students, described Hall as a likeable and dedicated student. "Sometimes he's harder to track down than President Obama, but he's a good kid," Jones said.

Additionally, Hall made the Dean's list, spring 2013 and President's List, fall 2013. He is a member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College; and his is the recipient of the College of Education Outstanding Teacher Education Scholars Award presented at the Honors Convocation in the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center on March 25, 2014.

Hall looks forward to receiving a bachelor of science degree in instrumental music, and he has an ambitious well thought out career plan. Following his successfully executed undergraduate career, Hall plans to attend Northwestern State University to pursue a master's degree in instrumental conducting. He then plans to teach at a local, preferably Springhill, junior/senior high school for no more than 20 years while he simultaneously works toward earning a doctoral degree in either music education or educational leadership. To conclude his most probable illustrious career, he plans to return to the place where it all started to begin with, Grambling State University. "I then plan, at that time, to come back to Grambling," Hall says. "I want to teach music here and eventually be the director of the famed Tiger Marching Band." If all goes according as planned, Hall will graduate in the fall 2014, and begin his most excellent journey that will lead him back to his alma mater in 2034.

As he goes, he carries with him lessons, memories, experiences, and characters that are unique to Grambling State University: his classmates, fraternity brothers, Tiger Marching Band comrades, special professors, and staff.



## Jessica Tisdale



Jessica Tisdale at photo session in Conrad Hutchinson Performing Arts building and with Martha Fondel-Smith Scholarship committee members on the evening that she was formally announced the scholarship winner.

Jessica Tisdale is a junior from Monroe, La. She made the President's List, fall and spring 2013, which means that her semester grade points averages were at least 3.9 out a possible 4.0; she is the vice president for Louisiana Association of Educators student program; she is a member of Kappa Delta Pi National Honors Society in Education; and she was awarded the College of Education Outstanding Teacher Education Scholars Award at the Honors Convocation, March 25, 2014, in the Fredrick C. Hobby Assembly Center.

For Tisdale, Grambling State University (GSU) was the natural choice. "I chose to attend Grambling because of its rich tradition," Tisdale says. "Both of my parents graduated from Grambling, and I always said that I would attend, too. GSU has a great reputation for producing great educators, and I wanted the best preparation."

From the tender age of four, Tisdale has known that she wanted to teach. "I made the definite decision to major in elementary education after assessing my strengths and weaknesses," says Tisdale. "I realized that I would make a great teacher. My life has been touched by so many great teachers, so I wanted touch the lives of others in the same way my life has been touched."

Martha Fondel-Smith was one of those teachers who influenced her life, albeit indirectly. Fondel-Smith was an outstanding educator and former Miss Grambling State University. A memorial scholarship was established in her honor, and Tisdale was the chosen recipient. "I was honored to apply for the scholarship, because I had heard so many great things about Martha-Fondel Smith," said Tisdale. "I had the privilege of meeting her when she taught my brother in first grade. I didn't know her personally, but it was something about her spirit and smile that stuck with me. You could tell that she had a genuine love for teaching."

The scholarship committee was equally impressed with Tisdale. "From her application to the way she presented herself before the committee when we first met her, Miss Tisdale demonstrated a passion and commitment to teaching," says Debra L. James, 2013 Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Zeta Phi Omega Chapter of AKA Sorority, Inc. "She was our unanimous choice. There was no doubt. She represents the kind of young lady we wish to be in association with as we go forward in our endeavors to support teaching majors."

The scholarship was officially presented to Tisdale by James and committee members in

the fall 2013 semester at an official ceremony at the Holiday Inn, Monroe, La. In addition to the notoriety and a handsome plaque, Tisdale received a monetary award. "The monetary gift was a tremendous blessing; it helped me pay for books and so many other things necessary to complete the semester."

Following a successful academic year, Tisdale looks forward to tackling the challenges of her second semester junior year. She will be taking the Praxis II examination: Content knowledge this semester and applying for seminar, a course mandated for all teacher candidates. Passing the Praxis examinations and the seminar course are prerequisites for graduation.

Post graduation, Tisdale plans to teach in the Monroe or Ruston area and continue her education. "After I graduate, I plan to pursue a master's degree during the summer months at the University of Louisiana Monroe in educational counseling or at Louisiana Tech in speech pathology," she said. "I hope to someday become a school counselor or speech therapist after I do my time in the classroom."

Tisdale is determined, accomplished, mature; she is excellent example of what it means to be a College of Education shining student scholar star.



# Breonna Ward

*"I have been invited to Washington D.C. in September to be honored and receive my award," says Breonna Ward.*



Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University

**HBCU ALL-STAR  
WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON HISTORICALLY  
BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**



Ward is active in student government; she was elected secretary of her freshman class and continues to be involved as she approaches her sophomore year.

Breonna Ward is a freshman elementary education major from Grand Prairie, Texas, and a granddaughter of Grambling State University. Her parents, Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Sandra Ward, are both Grambling State University graduates, in addition to several cousins and other relatives. However, it was not the family connection alone that persuaded her to choose her parents' alma mater. "I chose Grambling State University, because the school has a sustained tradition of excellence in academics and is full of rich history," Ward said. "Because my parents attended GSU, I was able to walk on parts of the campus several times while I was still in high school. When I took the official tour, everyone I met was very friendly and made me feel welcome. I also love the size of the campus. It is large enough so I don't feel trapped, but small enough where I don't just feel like a number. My largest class has only 80 students, and I love that. So overall Grambling was the perfect school for me."

Ward began her undergraduate academic career in the fall 2013 and promptly landed on the President's List and elected freshman class secretary in the same semester; she is also a university flag runner. Again, in the same semester, she was nationally recognized for academic excellence by President Barack Obama when she was named an HBCU All-Star, White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

To apply, Ward was required to submit an instructor's recommendation/nomination, an essay entitled "What Makes Me an HBCU All-Star", her official transcript, and resume. This capable and confident first-semester freshman more than made the grade and won. "I was chosen as an HBCU All-Star because of my strong leadership role on campus, my strong work ethic, and my strong academic performance by earning a spot on the president's list for my 3.81 grade point average," Ward said. "Since being recognized as a HBCU All-Star, I have had the pleasure of

meeting with several leaders in Grambling's Department of Education. I have also had the opportunity to speak with Vice President Biden during a teleconference with other HBCU All-Stars. Finally, I have been invited to Washington D.C. in September to be honored and receive my award."

Ward decided to make education her academic home, because she believes that teachers create opportunities by educating students. She was awarded the Outstanding Academic Performance Award in recognition of her excellence in academic performance, intellectual creativity, and quality of work at the Honors Convocation in Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center on March 25, 2014.

Ward's career plans include certification in elementary education (endorsements in special education and early childhood education). After which she will pursue a master's degree in elementary education. "Teachers pave career paths for students," Ward said. "I take great pride in knowing that in the near future I will be a teacher."



## Faculty/Staff Profile



25 Insight Today

JUNE 2014

### *SHE'S GOT* **THE RIGHT STUFF**

*How one of the college's  
hardest working colleagues  
impacts and influences lives  
on campus and beyond*

BY JANET D. BRYANT



Jones, in a familiar stance, on the telephone exchanging information

Officially, Ms. Genevia Nicholas Jones is the director of the C.A.R.E. Center, Centralized Advisement, Referral, and Evaluation, an auxiliary in the department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education. However, in reality, to the thousands and thousands of students that have crossed her path since 1989, she is so much more than that. She is an instructor, advisor, admissions counselor, record keeper, computer operator, registration specialist, second mom, mom-away-from-home, negotiator, liaison, recruiter, cheerleader, friend, and mentor.

Jones, an army of one, interacts with students each day—on the phone, by email, and in face-to-face sessions. From the point of admission to graduation, it is her responsibility to assist teacher candidates by navigating them through the multifaceted matrix of standards, prerequisites, and certifications that govern College of Education and university curricula.

Additionally, Jones is charged with maintaining accurate and up-to-date records for: (1) College of Education degree programs, (2) Praxis examinations, (3) curriculum contracts, (4) transcripts, (5) guidelines from Board of Regents, Louisiana Department of Education, Bureau of Higher Education and Teacher Education, NCATE, and SACS, and (6) all pertinent data on teacher candidates housed in two extensive databases. In short, Jones and the CARE Center act an essential

recordkeeping apparatus for the College of Education that synthesizes the methodology to keep students on-task and the college in compliance with the specified guidelines of teacher education organizations and associations as well as the state of Louisiana department of education.

It is a mammoth undertaking, not meant for the faint of heart; it is a tough job that requires a soft touch. It requires consistency, patience, commitment, and diplomacy. To be successful, it requires skillful bridge-building rapport between students, faculty, staff, and administrators. It requires walking a tightrope made of three separate professions: instructor, administrator, and advisor. "I have found Ms. Genevia Jones to be very detail-minded and to always work efficiently," said Jones' immediate supervisor, Dr. Patricia Johnson, interim head, Curriculum and Instruction. "She is professional, has leadership qualities as she chairs and serves on a number of departmental committees. She uses creative thinking and sets personal goals and meets them. She constantly tries to improve in her area of expertise."

Jones has the right stuff for the job, and she is making the right kind of difference. Somehow, somehow, she manages to pull it off. And she does it all with her patented smile and southern charm. She can disarm even the most strident person with her even temperament and the consoling way that she says baby, honey, or sugar. "I come to

work each day and do my best to make the College of Education work successfully," said Jones. "Even during those times when I feel overwhelmed, I keep the students and our responsibilities to them in the forefront of my mind, and that helps me move forward."

The relationships Jones has consistently established with students over the years are a testament to and reward for her dedication and loyalty; she has made a lasting difference in the lives of many students. She has impacted and influenced their lives to the point that many of these students continuously stay in contact with her, becoming a friend, mentor, and mom for life.

Jared Oubre, alumnus and Teacher of the Year, 2012-2013, described Jones as his second mother. Lawrence Rocque, alumnus featured in this edition, includes Jones in his "Women of Grambling State University" list, his coined phrase to describe faculty and staff who had the biggest impact on his life and taught him important lessons regarding academics and life during his undergraduate career. "Ms. Jones taught me to never give up," Rocque said.

This kind of communication with College of Education alumni is crucial for the flow of information, and Jones voluntarily serves as an unofficial liaison for Insight Today by forwarding emails with news and updates and providing background information such as graduation dates, majors, and on-campus activities and associations.

*(Continued on page 39)*



Floyd-Talbert, seated wearing the Dr. Seuss hat, can best be described as an instructional drum majorette. With cadence, energy, and creativity she leads her very ready band of students through an educational wonderland of teaching techniques, tools, and technology; it's learning on steroids. Standing are Rose Lloyd and Linda Willis, classroom helpers.

## MRS. ASHLEY FLOYD-TALBERT

### Teacher of the Year 2013–2014

Lincoln Parish Early Childhood Center | Ruston, La.

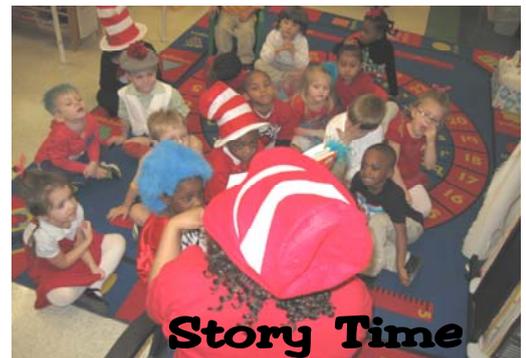
STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY JANET D. BRYANT



**Rhyming Word Connections**



**Calendar Time**



**Story Time**



# Alumni News



27 Insight Today

JUNE 2014

Walk through the door of Mrs. Ashley Floyd-Talbert's pre-k classroom, and it becomes readily obvious why she was selected Teacher of the Year in only her fourth year of teaching. Her classroom is a virtual cornucopia of learning utensils, from the themed Dr. Seuss Week to the exceeding abundance of learning centers everywhere the eyes fall. Dr. Seuss Week is celebrated annually to commemorate his birthday. It is a thematic unit used to teach counting, colors, and literacy exercises.

Throughout her classroom, there are a plethora of stacked plastic bins filled with blocks, shapes, crayons, glue, scissors, kiddie journals, puzzles, farm animals, dinosaurs, seashells, spiders, construction paper, felt paper, numbers, and alphabets. There are all kinds of colorful shapes and banners hanging from the ceiling. There are shapes, numbers, crayons, and the children's completed projects posted on the walls. Look to the left, and you'll find a giant tree with all kinds of information on it. Look to the right, and you'll see an extravagant, very creatively constructed cabana. And if that were not enough, there are learning stations all over the place. There is a station for reading giant books, a station for writing, a station for word scramble, a science discovery center, a calendar station, and a station with a television for video viewing. There is a station with a bird and birdcage and one that includes a fish.

Floyd-Talbert's approach to teaching is to make it fun. "I teach on their level but not to the point that I dumb things down," she says. "I treat them like little people, and we respect each other. As long as we are having fun and respecting each other, I think that creates a great learning environment."

In a series of maneuvers that could easily lead one to believe that Floyd-Talbert missed her calling as a Grambling State University drum majorette, she leads her eager students through high-energy participatory learning exercises; they dance, they jump, they swing their partners, they sing, they clap, and they kiss their brains in response to answering questions correctly, an Floyd-Talbert original. "Kiss your brain is a reward," she says. "Because I am not big on giving candy, stickers, and material rewards, I encourage my students to give credit to the thing that is helping them be smart. Kiss your brain, treat your brain well."

Floyd-Talbert has designated one main area for corporate learning which includes a giant rug for the children to sit on, a special chair for story time, and a Smart Board. Technology is one of Floyd-Talbert's favorite strategies to teach. "I am very enthusiastic about using it any and every where that I can, but I don't over use it, she says. "That's the major thing I try to steer away from. I try to use it as a tool to teach rather than a major means of teaching."

Floyd-Talbert has an open door policy for parents. They work cooperatively together knowing the other's expectations. "In order for their children to have the best learning environment and grow as students, they must be involved," she says. "My parents are amazing and are constantly in and out of my classroom volunteering, and they make good use of the observation window." The observation window is a two-way window that can be viewed in but not out; it was instituted by Lincoln Parish School Board to promote an open exploratory environment.

Floyd-Talbert credits her alma mater for much of her success in the classroom. "Grambling has been a major source of strength going back to my freshman year," she says. "Initially, I did not fully understand what it meant to be a teacher, but as I matriculated through the schedule and established relationships with professors, I gained an in-depth understanding as to how education touches not only the students in your classroom but the surrounding community and the world overall."

Grambling State University professors, particularly those in the College of Education, have been invaluable assets, and she remains in close contact with the majority of them. She writes/emails them, invites them to visit her classroom, and refers other students to them for advice and counsel. She is especially grateful to Dr. Kathryn Newman, professor, Curriculum and Instruction, who she describes as her mentor. "She has been an inspirational figure throughout my academic career," she says. "She encouraged me through the down times when the Praxis test was a challenge and has always been in my corner."

Mrs. Kathy Pesnell, director, LPECC, describes Floyd-Talbert as an energetic competent teacher who is more than aptly prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century student and classroom.



## Music and Movement



With Kathy Pesnell, Director, LPECC



## **MIND OVER MATH**

*Lawrence Rocque IV's teaching strategies net impressive results in helping students master the pink elephant in the curriculum while maximizing their potential, confidence, and ability to succeed in the world of mathematics and science*

Lawrence Rocque IV with his diverse mathematics class at Westfield High School, Spring Independent School District in Houston, Texas

BY JANET D. BRYANT

In the five years since Lawrence Rocque IV graduated from Grambling State University, he has established himself as an exceedingly distinguished educator with an unusually effective, yet gracious ability to communicate with students and faculty alike to affect and promote an optimum learning environment. This grandson of Grambling State University (GSU) has parlayed his communicative skills and natural ability to lead into an impressive streak of promotions—four in the past five years.

In his most recent promotion, Rocque was recruited and hired to serve as a math content specialist for the Pasadena Independent School District, Pasadena, Texas, on January 20, 2014. He was hired in response to the school district receiving a “needs improvement” rating from the State of Texas. “Lawrence was hired into the district as a specialist

based on his track record of success in the previous district and ability to verbalize his beliefs, which are in line with the district’s philosophy and objectives,” said Richard Yoes, director, curriculum and instruction, Pasadena Independent School District, Pasadena, Texas. “Lawrence uses data to help teachers individualize instruction and spend class time where it matters most. The team goes so far as to regroup students based on the data, and this approach has paid off, as exhibited by student success on the Algebra I EOC.”

In this capacity, Rocque is an administrative and faculty member. As an instructor, which comprises about 70% responsibilities, he is in charge of nearly 3,000 students and 24 math instructors. He is the liaison between his campus and the school board. “I observe,

coach, and help teachers interpret curricula,” Rocque says. “I also write assessments for all levels of math, and analyze data to determine how we’re doing, what we need, and what type of resources will help us.” The other 30% of his job is on the district level. He writes curricula, analyzes data, and cultivates avenues and methods for professional development. “Lawrence presents information based on evidence and keeps conversations centered around students,” says Yoes. “This approach helps prevent adult issues from becoming an obstacle and make him a successful liaison between the district and campus.”

Rocque was recruited from Westfield High School, Spring Independent School District, Houston, Texas. At Westfield, Rocque blossomed as an instructor and administrator. From classroom instructor, he was promoted to team



leader, then department chair, and lastly instructional math coach, departmentally responsible for 3,300 students and 19 teachers. Under his leadership, the math department went from last to first and was recognized in the top 25% for growth by the state of Texas. And the percentage of students passing the STAAR exam increased from 68% to 87%; STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness) is a standardized state examination administered at the end of course.

To his credit, the valedictorian was one of his students and she is on her way to Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a full scholarship; another one of his students is a Nordstrom's Scholar and on his way to University of Texas at Austin with a full scholarship; and yet another is on her way Baylor University with a full scholarship.

Rocque began his teaching career with the Midland Independent School District, Midland (MISD), Texas. Although he only taught in the district for a year, MISD representatives avoided the subsequent and inevitable competition for his teaching services; they had him under contract before he even started student teaching.

Rocque credits his alma mater for outstanding teaching success. GSU, he says, taught him to be over prepared. "It was difficult getting into Seminar, but by the time I did I had already passed the Praxis exams, so it all worked out for me," Rocque says. In particular, he credits a special group of faculty and staff members that he has dubbed, "The Women of Grambling", for much of his personal development as an education. "I established very intense relationships with them; they refused to let me quit" he said. "Dr. Nanthalia McJamerson is my cognitive mom; Dr. Jagers taught me the value of being on time and being flexible; Dr. Vicki Brown was gracious to let me tutor and serve as a volunteer basketball coach at Grambling Middle Magnet School; Dr. Kathryn Newman helped me over the special education hump; Ms. Melanie Monroe, licensed records certification (LRC) specialist, was especially helpful, and Ms. Genevia Jones, director, CARE Center, is my lifetime advisor."

Other professors who influenced Rocque are Dr. Parashu Sharma, Dr. Leummim Yao, Dr. Arvine Strong, Dr. Benny Miles, and Mr. Eugene Taylor,

professor of mathematics. "I use many of the teaching methods employed by Mr. Taylor in my own classroom," says Rocque. "It impossible to over emphasize how important a role Mr. Taylor has played in my teaching career."

The sentiments are mutual. "I am very proud to have taught Mr. Rocque," says Taylor. "He was an excellent student and is now an excellent teacher. He was very studious and sincere about learning. He was always willing to share his knowledge with others, and I could see the teacher in him as he helped fellow students understand math concepts and explain where their errors were." Ms. Genevia Jones adds: "I was amazed at his ability to help others learn and how much he enjoyed it. Lawrence is successful, because he is a lifelong learner."

In a previous career life, Rocque worked as deputy sheriff for Orleans Parish Prison and a deputy for Bienville Parish.

Rocque hails from a distinguished family with deep Grambling roots. **"I tell people all the time that I am from a mixed family," Rocque says. "My mother's side of the family graduated from Grambling, and my father's side of the family graduated from Southern."** Seven close relatives graduated from GSU: his mother, Mrs. Louise Wright Rocque, four maternal aunts, two maternal uncles; and Mrs. Mary Breaux Wright, GSU graduate and current Zeta Phi Beta president, is married to one of his uncles. He is also a distant relative of Dr. Mildred Gallot, former GSU professor and head of the history department; his stepfather, Mr. Curtis Willis, is a former professor, director of the GSU Symphonic Band, and assistant director of the Tiger Marching Band; and his childhood pastor, Reverend E. W. McCall has close association with GSU and urged him to attend.

Rocque graduated from Grambling State University in 2008 with a bachelor of science degree in mathematics, minor in computer science; in 2012, he earned a master of arts degree, University of Phoenix, Houston, Texas. He is currently pursuing a doctorate degree.

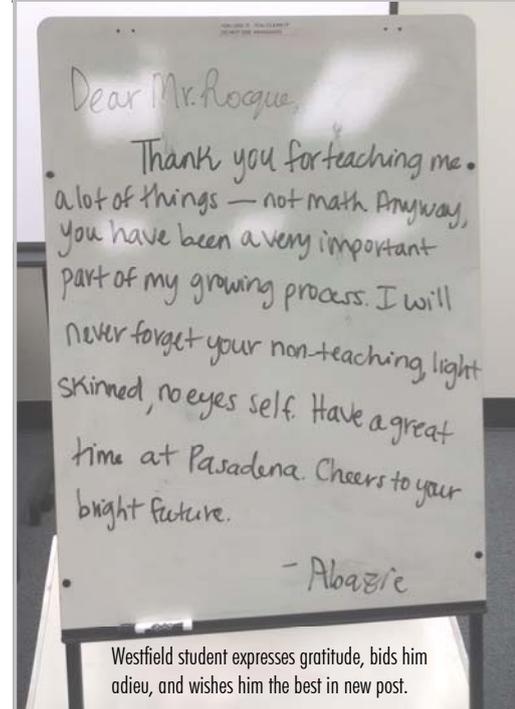
He is married to Mrs. Angela Rocque, and the couple have one child, Lawrence John Rocque V, who is seven years old.



Rocque with three of his most outstanding students:  
 (1) Class valedictorian, full scholarship to MIT;  
 (2) Full scholarship to UTA, Nordstrom's Scholar;  
 (3) Full scholarship to Baylor



Nordstrom's Scholar holding \$10,000 check



Westfield student expresses gratitude, bids him adieu, and wishes him the best in new post.



Rocque and his team of math instructors.



## FORMER COE STANDOUT NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR THE SECOND TIME IN FIVE YEARS

BY NINFA SAAVEDRA

COURTESY OF MEDIA RELATIONS, GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY



### Kiana Carr Johnson

Valentine's Day was extra special for Kiana Carr Johnson this year. She received an extra special valentine as she was named teacher of the year at Betty & Jean Schmalz Elementary School in Katy, Texas. "Teachers felt like I was the best teacher and had done the best work," said Carr Johnson, 27, a Grambling State University alumna who attributes her classroom success to what she learned at her alma mater.

One of 53 teachers at her school, and one of eight finalists for the special recognition, Carr Johnson was surprised by the school's principal and assistant principal when they showed up in her classroom with a bouquet of flowers. "In the middle of teaching I found out I had won the award for teacher of the year," she recalled. "I was extremely surprised..."

Carr Johnson was born in Germany. Her father, Marvin Carr, served in the military for most of her childhood, and the family moved constantly. She received her bachelor's in elementary education at GSU then stayed in Grambling to earn a master's in curriculum and instruction.

Carr Johnson has been teaching at

Schmalz Elementary School for only two years and she has made a tremendous impact on the children and community according to her school's principal, faculty and staff. "Kiana was an outstanding teacher candidate while completing her undergraduate program at Grambling State University in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction," said Loretta Walton Jagers, professor of education at GSU. "Specifically, she was a very conscientious student who always demonstrated outstanding knowledge, skills and dispositions."

In Carr Johnson's diverse classroom of 21 students, she tailors instruction for individual student needs in all subject areas, usually focusing lessons for seven to 10 minutes at a time. "My goals for my students are for them to be highly motivated and confident, to improve their reading skills, because reading is the foundation in all subjects ...," said Carr Johnson.

She said she uses what she learned at GSU about child development, reading practices, children's literature and technology. During a telephone interview, Carr Johnson said many of her college professors taught beyond the book, making it easier to understand the complex world of education.

"My professors were very knowledgeable and encouraged me to learn as much as I could," she said. "My professors supported my growth and gave me positive feedback throughout my journey."

Carr Johnson said having the opportunity to work closely with future college students in the LA Gear UP program, as a counselor was invaluable. The LA Gear Up Program is a grant-funded program

focused on giving middle school and high school students hands-on experiences much like those experienced by college students.

Students stay on the GSU campus during the summer, take college classes, and visit the financial aid office, among other things.

"She demonstrated very excellent skills and abilities as she worked with all staff members during the planning and implementation of the GSU LA GEAR UP Summer Learning Camps," recalled Jagers. "She was always admired by her students and colleagues that she worked with at the on-sight partnership school where she was completing her field-based experiences"

Carr Johnson has been teaching for more than five years, and she plans to become a college reading professor.

Carr Johnson, who is married to Jonathan Johnson, a Grambling State University alumnus working on a master's in psychology at Prairie View A&M in Texas, has won many awards, including another teacher of the year award in 2010 at Carver Elementary in Arcadia, La.

"I reached a goal and I have set more goals for myself," said Carr Johnson, noting that she is not satisfied because her work has been recognized. "All of my goals are geared toward my students and how I impact them. Receiving this award has made me feel more confident about my teaching."

Jagers is as proud as a mother: "This accomplishment truly reflects her exemplary skills, talents, hard work, professional attitude and the commitment that she consistently demonstrates toward promoting academic excellence."



## MCJAMERSON RETIRES AFTER 33 YEARS OF EXCELLENT SERVICE



Dr. Nanthalia McJamerson is pleasantly surprised as she realizes invitation the to lunch is actually her surprise retirement party sponsored by curriculum and instruction. Ms. Melanie Monroe, the college "cake boss", made a specialized cake in her honor. Attendees included longtime colleagues and friends: Dr. A. K. Nur-Hassen, Dr. Elaine Foster, Dr. Loretta Jagers, Ms. Genevia Jones, Ms. Gloria Rabon, and Dr. Kathryn Newman.

## EDUCATION MAJOR HELPS GSU QUIZ BOWL TEAM PLACE AND WIN \$6,000



*Alexandria Fenceroy*



Alexandria Fenceroy, senior, special education major, helped the Grambling State University Quiz Bowl Team finish an all-time best 12th place and win \$6,000 in prize money at the recent 25th Annual Honda Campus All-Star Challenge in Torrance, Calif.

Fenceroy and the team faced tough competition from Southern University, Jackson State University, Howard University, Hampton University, Spelman, Clark Atlanta University, and others. Earlier this year, the team finished fourth out of 15 teams at the Qualifying College Bowl

Tournament held at Prairie View A&M University in Texas.

Fenceroy is an honor student from Forney, Texas. She made the President's List for fall 2013. She is a member of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society, and works as a counselor for the LA Gear Up summer program.

## OPENING DOORS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH PROMOTION MAJORS



Dr. Owens, Director, Health Equity, Directors of Health Promotion and Education (DHPE), Washington D. C. with Dr. Martin Ayim (far left) and Health Promotion majors, Department of Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure Studies (KSLS) following his presentation

Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure Studies hosts informational session to inform students of paid internships for minority students for health promotion majors.

The session was coordinated by Dr. Martin Ayim, endowed professor and academic advisor for health promotion.

"There is a need for minorities to join and provide leadership in health promotion in their communities and nation," advised Dr. Owens, the featured presenter. "Thanks for taking time to meet with me and providing a forum to speak with your health promotion students. I truly

enjoyed my trip to Grambling State University and speaking with the faculty and students. I am excited to see the enthusiasm and interests from your students for the internship program and hope the students apply for the internship program."

Owens' presentation was met with enthusiasm. "We are happy for this presentation and thankful to our academic advisor for taking interest in our careers," said Kadaren Walker.

Students presented Owens with Grambling State University memorabilia to show their gratitude.

## WILLIAMS-SMITH EMPLOYS MONETARY MOTIVATION FOR STUDENTS



Dr. Doris Williams-Smith uses every motivational tool at her disposal, including money, to energize students at key testing times. The student with the highest test score is handsomely rewarded with \$40.00, and classroom recognition.

According to Williams-Smith, the objective is not to pay students to do well, but to reward them for doing well. "As an instructor, I enjoy doing that little extra something that rewards my best-performing students while motivating others to do better," Williams-Smith said. "After all motivation is a key component to learning."

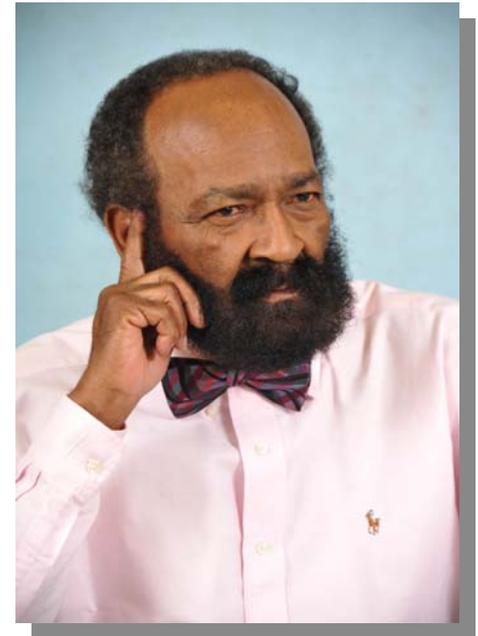




# Farmer Building Scholarly Legacy, Eyes Even Greater Heights

BY JANET D. BRYANT

*In nearly 25 years of service to Grambling State University, Dr. Vernon Farmer has distinguished himself as a true teaching professional by being an effective conduit for student matriculation, a capable administrator, an active participant in governance, and a studious creator of scholarly publication*



## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Mich.	Master of Arts University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Mich.
Doctor of Philosophy Center for the Study of Higher Education University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Mich.	

## TEACHING

Professor, Department of Educational Leadership  
Major Professor for more than 25 doctoral students  
Developed and presented teleconferences on developmental education via satellite  
Taught courses via satellite, compressed video, and online to students nationwide

## LEADERSHIP

Former Head, Department of Educational Leadership  
Former Director, Doctoral Studies, College of Education  
Former Acting Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs  
Former Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research

## GOVERNANCE

Former President, Faculty Senate  
Former Chair, University Promotion and Tenure Committee  
Former Presiding Officer, Graduate Council  
Former Member, Council of Academic Deans  
Former Member, President's Council  
Member, American Council of Graduate Schools  
Member, Conference of Southern Graduate Schools  
Member, Council of Historically Black Graduate Schools  
Member, American Association of Higher Education  
Member, The Research Association of Minority Professors  
Member, National Association of Developmental Education  
Member, Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists

## SERVICE AND ASSOCIATION

Moderator, Undergraduate and graduate research symposia  
Member, National Board of Directors  
Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, 2014-

## PUBLICATION AND RESEARCH

Farmer, in the past two decades, has served as follows:

Member, Editorial Board  
Journal of Learning Improvement, 1992-1995  
Guest Editor  
Journal of Research in Developmental Education, 1997  
Member, Editorial Review Board  
Educational Research Quarterly, (formerly at University of Southern California, now housed at Grambling State University), 1997-1998  
Member, Advisory Board  
Journal of Developmental Education, 1994-1997  
Member, Advisory Board  
Journal of Educational Reform (formerly at University of Western Kentucky, now housed at Grambling State University), 2002-2005  
Member, Editorial Board  
Journal of Research Association of Minority Professors, 1998-2003 and 2005-2008

Farmer has published numerous reference books, book chapters, monographs, and journal articles. Collaboration has been the cornerstone of Farmer's publications. He believes that as a senior professor, one of his roles is to help faculty enhance their research agenda. He has published with colleagues at Grambling State University and across the nation. In particular, he included Dr. Wilton Barham (1949-2010), professor, department of educational leadership, Grambling State University; Dr. Evelyn Wynn, assistant professor, department of English and foreign languages, Grambling State University; and Dr. Lisa-Pertillar-Brevard, professor of English, Walden University. Farmer has also developed a scholarly network with his former students to help them develop their research and publishing agenda.

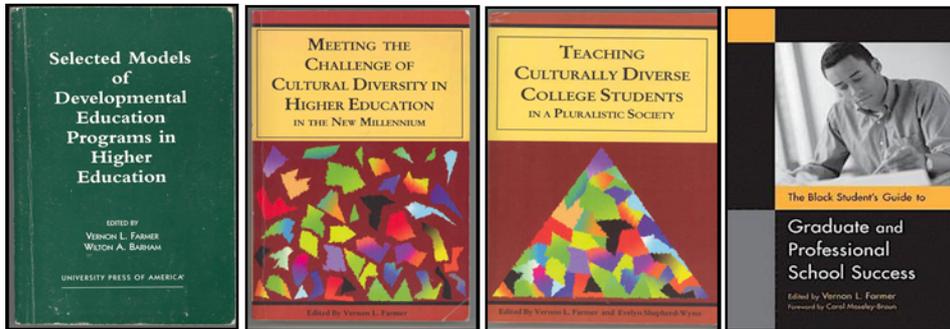
The following excerpts are from the publishers of Farmer's selected books:

# Faculty Profile



33 Insight Today

JUNE 2014



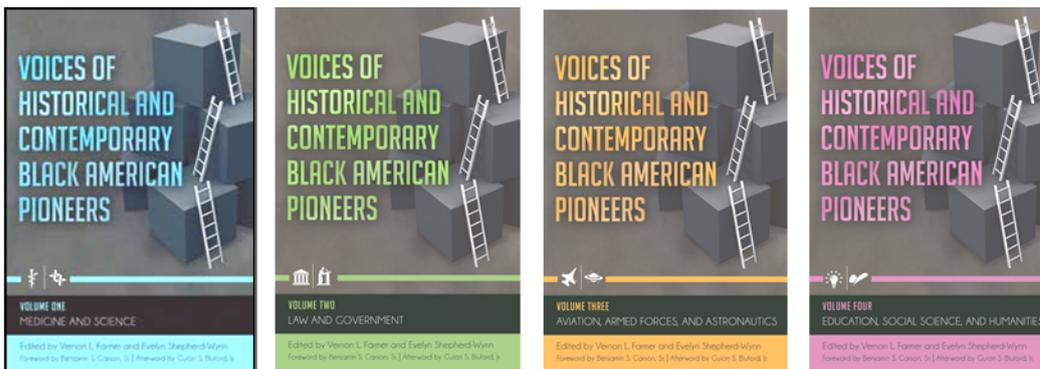
Left: Dr. Farmer collaborates with Dr. Brevard and Dr. Wynn in Ronoake, VA.  
Right: Dr. Farmer with the late Dr. Wilton Barham

**Selected Models of Developmental Education Programs in Higher Education** (2001) is a book of developmental models that are based on defensible theories about how students grow and develop at all levels of the learning continuum. These models emphasize the theories and concepts that underlie developmental education as a field of practice and research with a theoretical foundation in developmental psychology and learning theory. The theory-based models consist of methods and techniques for implementing developmental education activities and ways of creating environments intended to improve developmental students' learning outcomes. These models include a rationale, a theory that justifies the models and an explanation of how the models are designed. The rationale is supported by empirical evidence that the models work. These models were selected because they represent varied frames of reference toward educational goals and objectives. Therefore, this book is a valuable resource for scholars, researchers, educators, and practitioners seeking to improve developmental students' learning outcomes in developmental education programs, in institutions of higher education.

**Meeting the Challenge of Cultural Diversity in Higher Education in the New Millennium** (2002) is an important and significant contribution to cultural diversity in the field of higher education. This book is included in Wyndham Press' The Rhodes-Fullbright International Library Series. The insightfulness of the authors takes us into the new millennium. The challenge of higher education in the new millennium to meeting the needs of culturally diverse students may be difficult for some to understand and even more difficult for others to accept. The works of these authors provide us with a means to analyze, discuss, reflect, and generate a new vision for the 21st century.

**Teaching Culturally Diverse College Students in a Pluralistic Society** (2002) is a book tailored designed to help teachers meet the challenges of cultural diversity in higher education. Teaching culturally diverse students in a pluralistic classroom is perhaps a more formidable challenge for faculty than at any time in our history. This book is included in Wyndham Press' The Rhodes-Fullbright International Library Series. The book offers answers to the complex issues of access, admission, retention and graduation of culturally diverse students. With the rapidly growing body of research of what works with culturally diverse students on college campuses, the works of these authors offer valuable teaching and learning approaches to meet the needs of this new student population.

**The Black Student's Guide to Graduate and Professional School Success** (2003) is designed to help black students be successful in graduate and professional school. What are the models of success for black students in graduate and professional school careers? What should be expected and prepared for? What struggles lie ahead, and how have others overcome the obstacles? This guide is designed to help black students prepare for standardized tests, negotiate admissions, find a faculty mentor, choose a field of study, select the best curriculum, adjust to the campus, master technology, engage in research and publishing, secure graduate assistantships, develop a global identity, maintain black pride and self-esteem, and interact with other cultural groups.



Dr. Farmer with students

**Voices of Historical and Contemporary Black American Pioneers** (2012) is an extraordinary four-volume work which is the first of its kind - a comprehensive exploration of the obstacles black men and women, both historic and contemporary, have faced and overcome to succeed in professional positions. *Voices of Historical and Contemporary Black American Pioneer* includes the life and career histories of black American pioneers, past and present, who have achieved extraordinary success in fields as varied as aviation and astronautics, education, social sciences, the humanities, the fine and performing arts, law and government, and medicine and science. The set four volumes cover well-known figures, but is also an invaluable source of information on lesser-known individuals whose accomplishments are no less admirable. Arranged by career category, each section of the work begins with a biographical narrative of early black pioneers in the field, followed by original interviews conducted by the editors or autobiographical narratives written by the subjects. In all, more than 150 scholars and professionals share inspiring insights into how they persevered to overcome racism and succeed in an often-hostile world.

## FUTURE ASPIRATIONS AND GOALS

Farmer's forthcoming books are Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Diversity in Higher Education; Critical Race Theory in Higher Education; A Prelude to Developing Logical Thinking Skills; History and Philosophy of Developmental Education; Intellectual Ability and Academic Skills of High Achieving Black Americans; Fundamentals of Developmental Education: New Imperatives for Teaching and Research; and The Black Student's Guide to Graduate and Professional School Success (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). In addition to Farmer's book collection, is housed in the A. C. Lewis Memorial Library, Mary Watson Hyman Afro-American Resource Center, he also hopes to house his book collection in the proposed Center of Excellence in African American Studies if it is approved.



# Commencement Services, Spring 2013

Photographs courtesy of Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University



Dr. Vernon Farmer

## *Lunes Gassant*

Ruston, LA

B.A.: UNIVERSITY OF VERSAILLES, 2000  
M.B.A.: UNIVERSITY OF VERSAILLES, 2002

Dissertation Title:  
"Assessing Cultural Validity in  
Standardized Tests in STEM Education"

VERNON FARMER, PH.D.  
Major Professor



Dr. Reubenson Wanjohi

## *Nara Martirosyan*

Ruston, LA

B.S.: TATEV UNIVERSITY, 1999  
M.S.: GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, 2007

Dissertation Title:  
"The Relationship Between Selected  
Satisfaction Measurement Dimensions  
And Student Satisfaction in  
Armenian Higher Education"

REUBENSON WANJOHI, ED.D.  
Major Professor



Dr. Ellen Smiley

## *Lawanda L. Sykes*

Collinston, LA

B.S.: GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, 2001  
M.P.A.: GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, 2003

Dissertation Title:  
"The Predictability of Demographic, Academic,  
and Institutional Factors on the Persistence and  
Academic Achievement Among Developmental  
Education Students"

ELLEN D. SMILEY, ED.D.  
Major Professor

# Commencement Services, Spring 2013

Cum Laude: 3.5-3.69 Magna Cum Laude: 3.7-3.89 Summa Cum Laude: 3.9-4.0



35 Insight Today

JUNE 2014

Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University



Jubilance in the Fredrick K. Hobdy Assembly Center: Graduates enthusiastically celebrate with confetti and joyful screams following the pronouncement that their class is officially graduated. The graduates' celebration was greeted with thunderous applause from the audience filled with their family members and friends.

## *Master of Education*

**CAREY, BRANDY LILLIAN**; Shreveport, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2010

## *Bachelor of Music Education*

**GOINS, QUATIARA A.**; Ruston, LA  
**SIMS, DILLIARD SR.**; Tallulah, LA

## *Bachelor of Science*

**BORDERS, KATRINA SIMONE**; Desoto, Texas  
**BROWN, VERONICA SHERRI**; Monroe, LA  
**CONNER, ERMIA LOUISE**; New Orleans, LA  
**GARNER, ADRIENNE LYNETTE**; Ruston, LA  
**GARRISON, JAMECA REBECCA**; Ferriday, LA  
**GOINS, CEDRIC D'SHAWN**; Monroe, LA (cum laude)  
**GOODIN, CAMILLE NADIRCEH**; San Diego, Calif.

**GRAY, COURTNEY NICOLE**; Grambling, LA  
**HAYES, SALEA PATRIE**; Santa Monica, Calif.  
**HUNLEY, MARCUS LOUIS**; Lee's Summit, Mo.  
**MCMURRAY, PARIS RA'CHELL**; Simsboro, LA  
**MOORE, MARQUESHA J. D.**; New Orleans, LA (summa cum laude)  
**MURRAY, DONALD DEWAYNE**; Tallulah, LA (cum laude)  
**OSBORNE, ANNESHA SHE'RAE**; Quitman, LA  
**PETTIGREW, SHELETHIA V.**; Arcadia, LA  
**SMITH, IAN SHANE**; Ruston, LA  
**SMITH, NAQUAN QUENTIN**; Atlanta, Ga.  
**STEWART, ANGELICA LATRICE**; Jonesboro, LA  
**TAYLOR, BRITNY TAYONE**; Minden, LA  
**THOMAS, CEDRIC DEON**; Logansport, LA  
**WESTBROOK, CANDACE TANIEKA**; Little Rock, AR  
**WHITE, CHARLES ONEAL**; Ruston, LA



# Commencement Services, Fall 2013

Photograph courtesy of Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University



Dr. Ellen Smiley

Glenn Lewis for Grambling State University

## IN HER OWN WORDS

This journey to earn my doctorate degree has been eventful to say the least. It is defiantly not for the faint of heart. It has taken much self-determination and inner strength to remain focused on this purposeful accomplishment.

While pursuing my doctorate degree, I have gotten married, moved across the country, and had two beautiful active little girls. Time stops for no one and life happens. This degree was of the utmost importance to me, and I had to always keep that in the front of my mind, even when I had to attend to other responsibilities.

Along with the academic achievement, this has also taught me life lessons. Sometimes people and situations are put in your life to throw you off track, however when the going gets tough those same people and situations become hurdles that you must conquer. This has made me a stronger person and academic professional with clearer discernment. The result was my graduation in fall 2013 with my doctorate in Developmental Education with a concentration in Student Development and Personnel Services.

I am so grateful to my family, friends and colleagues for all of their assistance and encouragement.

Watch out world, here comes Dr. Raunda Williams, and I am so excited to see what happens next!

Thank you, Lord.

B.S.: GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, 1995  
M.P.A.: NICHOLS STATE UNIVERSITY, 2001

*Raunda Ashner Williams*  
Houma, LA

Dissertation Title:  
"Effects of Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Factors on the Retention Rate of Freshmen College Students Attending a State University in the Southern Region of the United States"

ELLEN D. SMILEY, ED.D.  
Major Professor

# Commencement Services, Fall 2013

Cum Laude: 3.5-3.69 Magna Cum Laude: 3.7-3.89 Summa Cum Laude: 3.9-4.0



37 Insight Today

JUNE 2014

## *Master of Education*

**FLOYD-TALBERT, ASHLEY NICOLE**; Ruston, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2010

**HILL, SHAKEYDRA EYVETTE**; Homer, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2009

**HUANG, YU FENG**; Fu Zhou, China  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2011

**JONES, ERNIE TERRELL**; Ruston, LA  
B.S.: Louisiana Tech University, 1998

**LIVINGSTONE-MATHIS, DAPHNE**; Ruston, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2011

**MCCONNELL, NICHOLAS VASHUN**; Monroe, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2007

**MOODY, ROBERT M., III**; Keithville, LA  
B.S.: University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 1995

**ROBINSON, LATISHA EVETTE**; Simsboro, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2003

**STEVENS, MARTEZ DEJUAN**; Monroe, LA  
B.S.: Grambling State University, 2006

## *Bachelor of Arts*

**MURRAY, MIA SYMONE**; Carson, CA\* (cum laude)

## *Bachelor of Music Education*

**SCOTT, DANIZA RAECHELLE**; El Dorado, AR

**STONER, DERRICK GERARD**; Houston, TX

## *Bachelor of Science*

**AKHIGBE, ESEOSA BLESSING**; Dallas, TX

**ALVAREZ, RAMIRO**; Grambling, LA

**BAUTISTA, RICHARD**; Houston, TX

**BEARD, DESHON L.**; Euless, TX

**BELTON, ZAHIRA**; Jonesboro, LA\* (cum laude)

**BOATNER, JACARA JONNA**; Monroe, LA

**BONNER, CHARMAINE CHRISTINA**; Detroit, MI

**BROWN, JARREAU EVANS**; Fayetteville, GA

**BROWNLEE, KYERRA LASHUN**; Memphis, TN

**BUTLER, JANEIKQUA ROLAYNE**; Violet, LA

**CALLOWAY, AVINUS D.**; Bernice, LA

**COLEMAN, KIMBERNIQUE SHANESE**; Springhill, LA

**COLEMAN, KNAKITA SHANTTEL**; Minden, LA\*\* (magna cum laude)

**COPELAND, DANIELLE AMANDA**; Plano, TX\* (cum laude)

**DIXON, LATROCHILLIA ANQUNETT**; Alexandria, LA

**EDAH-DIKE, ISI ASUA**; New Orleans, LA

**ELLIS, SHANEICE JASMINE**; Shreveport, LA

**EPTING, MASHI PEREZ**; Monroe, LA

**FANIEL-JONES, CAMERON D.**; Los Angeles, CA

**GARRISON, JAMECA REBECCA**; Ferriday, LA

**GRAHAM, AQUILLA MICHELLE**; Ruston, LA

**GRAHAM, CARITA LATRICE**; Minden, LA

**GREENE, RAINAH LYNNAI**; Hercules, CA

**HEWITT, DONOVAN CHARLES**; Paradis, LA

**HICKS, DESHONTE LEJUAN**; Chatham, LA

**IGLEHART, RAYFORD THOMAS II**; Baton Rouge, LA

**JACKSON, BETHANI LEANN**; Las Vegas, NV

**JOHNSON, SHANTEL D.**; Raceland, LA

**JOHNSON, TRACI LATRICE**; Baton Rouge, LA

**JONES, MARQUITTA M.**; Vidalia, LA

**MATTHEWS, LAKETHA RESHEAY**; New Orleans, LA

**MAYWEATHER, DORKEITRA RACHELE**; Mansfield, LA

**MCCARTY, JUSTIN A.**; Grambling, LA

**MOSLEY, COURTNEY DANIELLE**; Shreveport, LA

**PEOPLES, BENNIE LEE JR.**; Vicksburg, MS

**PHILLIPS, VICTOR G.**; Birmingham, Al.

**QUARLES, JAS'RAYEAL KATESSA**; Harvey, LA

**RIMMEY, ERICA P.**; Ruston, LA

**SANDERS, ANGELICA DOMINIQUE**; West Monroe, LA

**SHEPHERD, ERIC DEVELL**; Leesville, LA

**SMITH, NATHANIEL NEE JR.**; Live Oak, Fl.

**SMITH, TYLER B.**; San Antonio, TX

**STEVENS, LA'TOYA MONIQUE**; Lawrenceville, GA

**THIBODEAUX, TRAVIS K.**; Opelousas, LA

**THOMAS, BRENTON B.**; Logansport, LA

**THOMAS, CHUNTELL K.**; Ruston, LA

**TURNER, CABRAYANA NICOLE**; Austell, GA

**TURNER, DAMARION MARTEZ**; Monroe, LA

**WASHINGTON, JONATHAN WILLIAM**; Minden, LA

**WASHINGTON, LUCAS ALCANTARA**; Clayton, LA

**WHITCOMB, SHELBI REANN**; Omaha, NE\*\* (magna cum laude)

**WHITE, JUSTIN LOUIS**; Merrillville, IN

**WICKS, COURTNEY DE'JUAN**; Ruston, LA

**WOODS, ALYXANDREA L.**; Ruston, LA

**WRIGHT, JEREMY B.**; Fort Lauderdale, FL





Above: Dr. Pamela Payne, ACT English instructional specialist, engages students to learn conventions of standard written English



Above: Mr. Eugene Taylor, ACT math instructional specialist, helping students demystify algebra, geometry, and trigonometry concepts

## LA GEAR UP 2013 CHANGES FOCUS TO ACT PREPARATION

BY DR. LORETTA JAGGERS

The Grambling State University 2013 Summer Transition Program academic component was designed to provide a one-week College Readiness and ACT prep program for students entering 11th and 12th grades. The program was designed to focus on the theme, "College Success Scholars: Pathways to ACT Mastery." Program activities included interactive sessions on the College Readiness Standards for English, math, reading, and science. These activities and resources were directly related to the Common Core Standards and ACT's College and Career Readiness System.

The instructional specialists provided diverse activities and resources that related to the Common Core Standards and ACT's College and Career Readiness System. The four ACT Prep instructors are specialists in their specific focus area, and they designed and used ACT Prep Instructional Modules to guide the implementation of activities for their specific focus area according to the description outlined in the reference, "Alignment of Common Core and ACT's College and Career Readiness System, June 2010". (<http://www.act.org/commoncore/pdf/common>).

The project director and the ACT instructional specialists met continuously in April, May, and June to plan and prepare activities and resources for the ACT Prep Instructional Modules. The four ACT Prep sessions follow:

- 1) ACT: Pathways to English Mastery;
- 2) ACT: Pathways to Science Mastery;
- 3) ACT: Pathways to Reading Mastery;
- 4) ACT: Pathways to Math Mastery.

The instructional specialists provided content-based instruction and related test-taking strategies to help promote mastery on the ACT and enhance self-confidence. The ACT prep sessions also included multimedia interactive activities that provided opportunities for the students to apply and transfer the knowledge and skills presented in the content-based standards for each focus area. Each student was given an ACT prep study Packet to use during the ACT prep sessions and for review after the program ends.

The ACT prep experiences started for the LA GEAR UP participants on the day they arrived at Grambling State University. On arrival day (July 14, 2013), they completed the ACT Pre-test. The following day, (July 15, 2013), they completed the ACT On-Line Prep Diagnostic Test. After completing that test, each student printed out their ACT Study Path. The ACT Prep experiences continued as they actively participated in the Pathways to ACT Mastery Workshops throughout the week. On July 20, 2013, they completed the ACT Post-test prior to leaving GSU to return home.

The tutoring component in the afternoon served to reinforce the basic concepts presented during the morning session and provide opportunities for participants to apply test-taking strategies to the actual style of the test. To address diverse learning needs and provide accommodations, differentiated instructional strategies and materials were incorporated into the tutorial sessions led by Dr. Elaine Foster, tutoring coordinator.

Other components of the program included Pathfinder/Financial Assistance Workshop activities presented by State LA GEAR staff and representatives from the GSU Admissions and Financial Aid Offices. The leadership component provided participants opportunities to identify and discuss specific skills and characteristics important to build successful leaders.

Students had a variety of opportunities to experience college life as they lived in the dormitories, ate in the dining hall, and participated in multi-media Pathways to ACT Mastery workshops. These workshops were taught in University labs and university classroom settings by university professors and/or public school teachers. They also had an opportunity to experience various career opportunities as they participated in diverse multi-media activities during the Explorer's Club component. The Pathfinder activities also served to provide additional information about successfully preparing to attend college. These activities focused on admission requirements for GSU and ways to secure financial aid to assist in attending college. The program activities were also designed to promote effective leadership skills through participation in interactive role-play activities that were designed to emphasize strong leadership characteristics. There were various recreational activities culminating with a tour of the Eddie Robinson Museum on Friday morning followed by a field-trip to Sciport, Shreveport, La. The transition program ended with a graduation dinner/dance later that evening.

# DEAN FLANNAGAN SELECTS BRYANT TO RECEIVE UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

BY DR. NANTHALIA MCJAMERSON



Bryant with GSU president, Dr. Frank Pogue.

For years Ms. Janet Bryant has used the art of journalism to celebrate, pay homage to, and acknowledge the work of members of the College of Education faculty and staff. It is her turn. Often great powerhouses are fueled and sustained by quiet, unsung currents, and Ms. Bryant is one of those. First, we can acknowledge her varied professional tasks. As Coordinator of the Educational Resource Center, she is

supervisor of two computer laboratories, assisting both faculty and students. She coordinates the Resource Center and the Library Resource Center, massive undertakings. Initially, she was charged with creating a conducive learning environment after an influx of new materials and upgraded resources. Several faculty members commented on her patient and meticulous transformation of the space. It is a source of pride for the College.

Bryant is also charged with the care and maintenance of the computers and office equipment. She is sometimes labeled a “stickler” because of her efficiency with those responsibilities. She makes the connection between handling business detail and providing excellent service to faculty, undergraduate, and graduate students.

In addition to the supervisory, organizational, and maintenance responsibilities, she seems to take great care in her publication roles. As publisher for the College of Education magazine, *Insight Today*, in particular, Ms. Bryant has displayed a mastery of the English language, professional and poetic, in reporting the important work of the College.

Wearing many “hats” such as photographer, typist, writer, and editor, she has produced excellent work that makes all of us “look good”. For the *LaGEAR UP Magazine*, Bryant has brought acclaim for Grambling State University at the state level for years.

In addition to quality production and a strong work ethic that keep her at work for many hours beyond the call of duty, the manner in which she does the work is impressive. When she publishes the various newsletters and magazines, the recognitions are all-inclusive. No one is left out. Her words elevate us and validate our achievements. Finally, Bryant is deserving of this recognition because her visual skills, strategies, and gifts make her work not only speak but also inspire!

## JONES CONTINUED

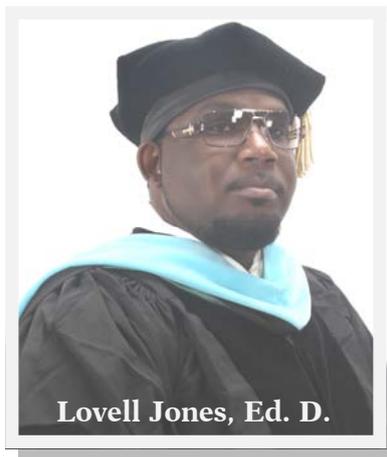
Jones’ service reaches beyond the confines of the campus and its institutions. She was recently a guest at a National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) meeting in Monroe, La. “There is a thrust to get more personnel from Louisiana colleges and universities involved, so that more students can be aided,” Jones said. “There were testimonies of how legislators have been proactive in procuring medications for patients in Louisiana that were formerly not available. There was extensive discussion concerning the legislation that was passed to combine mental illness and substance abuse under the same umbrella. I agreed to notify Grambling State University’s Counseling Center, School of Social Work, College of Education, and Department of Psychology of upcoming events.”

Jones earned a bachelor of arts degree in social welfare from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in 1973; a master of education in guidance and counseling from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in 1986; and worked toward a doctor of education degree in developmental education with a specialization in student development and personnel services, 1987-

1991, completing all required work except dissertation and doctoral comprehensive.

Before becoming a full-time employee in 1989, Jones worked as a graduate assistant in 1987 and was a participant in the Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship Program, 1988-1989.

In 1991, Jones also served as a summer intern for the GRE Program Direction sponsored by Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, N.J. She assisted in the development of a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test preparation workshop slide presentation, reviewed and reacted to pertinent GRE published research documents, attended seminars regarding all facets of operations of ETS.



Jones is the mother of three: two daughters and one son; she has one grandson. The late Janell LaShea Jones, daughter, graduated from Grambling State University in 1987. Her son, Lovell Jones, Jr, Ed.D., attended Grambling State University briefly in 1995 before joining the United States Navy. Lovell Jones earned a bachelor’s degree from University of Maryland University College in 2005; a master’s degree from American InterContinental University in 2008; and doctor of education degree from Argosy University in 2014—“Blue to Grey: An Exploratory Study of Military vs. Civilian Leadership” was his dissertation title. Most of his education was pursued simultaneously with his military service.

Today, Lovell Jones serves the Battle Watch Analyst for Command, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, Region Operations Center, in Naples, Italy. He is a senior Battle Watch Supervisor providing oversight for the Battle Watch Team that supports seven Navy installations in five countries. He is also a member of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in the field of Education.

Ms. Geneviva Jones, it appears, has the right stuff in the home as well as on the job.



Feedback about 2010-2012 follow-up edition

Kudos to the College of Education! Wonderful magazine, very interesting with many well deserved accolades for your faculty, students, staff, and alums! Sorry to see many of your excellent faculty have retired, such as Dr. Nanthalia McJamerson and of course the loss of Dr. Jimmy McJamerson. The M and M duo will certainly be missed. Please keep us informed on the good works of the COE and its students. You make GSU proud.

Carolyn Collier  
Interim Director, Alumni Affairs  
Grambling State University

The COE Magazine is indeed a scholarly masterpiece! It is an excellent body of work that shows a great deal of time and effort went into the publication. Keep up the good work. Ms. Bryant, congratulations on a job well done!

Evelyn Wynn, Professor of English  
Grambling State University

Insight Today is one of the most intuitive and inspirational magazines that I have read in a long time. I've even shared it with my co-workers. Thank you very much for sharing it with me.

Edith Robinet  
Modesto, Calif.

After reading the College of Education's beautiful scholarly magazine, I congratulate you on your Magnum Opus!

Vernon Farmer, Professor of Education  
Grambling State University

## Special Thanks to

**Ms. Greta Carter**

Daughter of Dr. Lamore Carter

**Ms. Sarah Hassen**

Acquisitions Librarian/Assistant Professor

A.C. Lewis Library

**Mrs. Patricia Jenkins-Hutcherson**

University Registrar

**Mr. Glenn Lewis**

University Photography/Yearbook

**Mrs. Li Wang**

University Information Technology

## OUR LAB SCHOOLS: ALMA J. BROWN ELEMENTARY



**BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB FIELD DAY**, Ruston, La.: Students participated in races, relays, obstacle courses, sack races, three-legged races, and egg-in-spoon races. Sonic provided water for the students.



**ALMA J. BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD DAY:** (1) Field Day was dedicated to the memory of our late great coach, Eddie "Coach Rob" Robinson, who is the second winningest football coach in NCAA, division one history, with a 408-165-15 record, spanning 57 years (1941-1997). (3) Coach Rob's grandson, Eddie Robinson, III, was the special invited guest. The younger Robinson stayed for the entire event, talked to the students, and answered questions. (2) Subsequently, students toured the Eddie Robinson Museum on the campus of Grambling State University, and learned the history of the celebrated coach. Field Day activities were officially co-hosted by Mrs. Wilson and sponsored by Dr. Rhonda Pruitt, True Care Dental, Grambling, La., and Community Trust Bank; Mr. Joshua Jason, Heavenly Hands Barbershop, provided meals for teachers, staff, and volunteers. (8) Students majoring in Kinesiology and others served as volunteers and assisted with activities.



**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** (4) Mrs. Sheila Moore was selected as Alma J. Brown's volunteer of the year. Malone served in various of voluntary positions, and as an educator continues to be a great resource, such as tutor, teacher program assistant, after-school program assistant, and bulletin board developer.



**SATURDAY MATH ACADEMY:** (5) Sessions were held on Saturdays from 9AM to 12PM and targeted to help students who had deficient math scores on standardized tests. The academy proved to be quite successful, because parents sacrificially ensured their children's attendance, and the children were very eager to learn. Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc., members volunteered their service. Dr. Rhonda Pruitt, True Care Dental, Grambling, La., provided pizza, juice, and dessert on the final Saturday.



**SCHOOL GARDEN:** Students planted a garden on campus.

**GO GREEN AWARD:** Sponsored by Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Adopt-a-School program, the award was given in recognition of the school garden; students planted and have harvested collard greens, carrots, and kale. In addition to the recognition, the school was given a plaque and gift card. Dr. Rhonda Pruitt, True Care Dental, Grambling, La, provided inspiration by visiting the school garden.



**DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education):** (6) Fifth grade students participated in Dare graduation exercises, sponsored by Lincoln Parish Deputy Hoenke, and Dr. Rhonda Pruitt, True Care Dental, Grambling, La.

**DONATIONS:** (7) Dr. Evelyn, professor of English, Grambling State University, donated books, works of art, and videos. Wynn's daughter, Jordan, is a graduate of Grambling State University Laboratory schools.



**FIELD TRIP:** At the invitation of Grambling State University art department, students viewed exhibits featuring high school student artists. Alma J. Brown students were extremely excited to see work from artists that actually know.

## OUR LAB SCHOOLS: GRAMBLING HIGH SCHOOL



### SUMMER ROBOTICS PROGRAM

Four Grambling State University Laboratory School (GSULS) juniors participated in the on-campus Minority Research Project. The program, made possible by a grant awarded to Dr. Y. B. Reddy, provided teachers and students with an opportunity to build, program, and present information about Vex Robots.

Jalen Ferguson, Jonathan Antee, Trace Payne, and Psnefra Wills (above) represented GSULS; Melanie Colvin and Candace Westbrook, teachers at GSULS, also participated.



### SOAR 1 PROGRAM

Demarious Combs, junior, Grambling Laboratory High School, was accepted to Xavier University's SOAR1 program. The Stress On Analytical Reasoning (SOAR1) program prepares students in analytical reasoning and provides early exposure to science/health careers. Demarious will be staying on Xavier University's campus in New Orleans, La, in July 2014, to participate in the program.