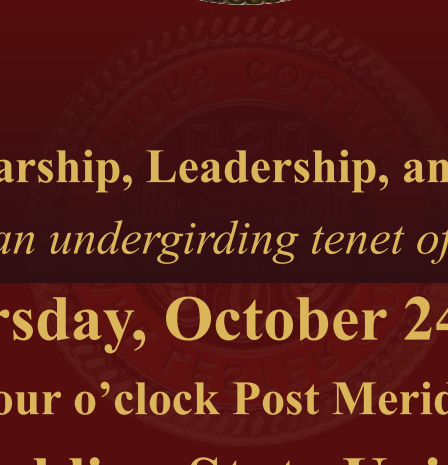




**Senior Scholars' Jacket Award Ceremony  
and  
35th Induction Ceremony  
of  
The Earl Lester Cole Honors College**



**Motto: "Scholarship, Leadership, and Comradeship"**

*"with an undergirding tenet of service"*

**Thursday, October 24, 2024**

**Four o'clock Post Meridiem**

**Grambling State University**

**School of Nursing Auditorium**

**Grambling, Louisiana**



### ***Our Mission***

The Earl Lester Cole Honors College was established in 1990 to increase challenges for academically talented students, who desire additional intellectual and unique educational experiences, and who show readiness to take greater individual responsibility for extending their academic, personal, and social development while completing requirements in their chosen degree.

### ***Our Method***

The Honors College enhances self-development by offering challenging Interdisciplinary Seminars that promote leadership, cultural diversity, career and graduate school preparation. Through a variety of related experiences that are implemented through non-traditional modes of teaching and learning students become trailblazers who promote scholarship, leadership and comradeship. In addition, the Honors College paves the way for students to become productive citizens by engaging them in service-learning and research opportunities.

### ***Our Pledge***

Members of the Honors College are keenly aware of their personal and academic obligation to be exemplary scholars, leaders, and role models. They pledge to take advantage of and pursue every opportunity to grow, develop, and excel. Members of the Honors College always try to be an inspiration to others. They take this pledge without coercion or reservation and faithfully and enthusiastically accept the challenge inherent in becoming a member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College. The ultimate goal for a member of the Honors College is to distinguish himself/herself and Grambling State University with honor.

The students, faculty, and staff of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College would like to express our sincerest appreciation to individuals and businesses that have supported the college over the years. We encourage others to join this effort. Please continue to support the Honors Collège by sending your financial donations to:

**Earl Lester Cole Honors College  
Grambling State University  
GSU Box 4208  
Grambling, Louisiana 71245**

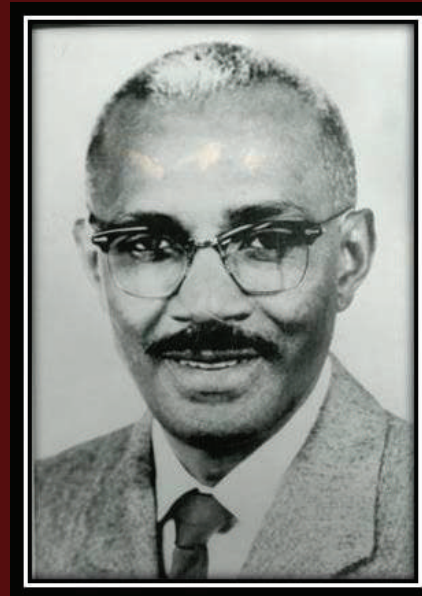


## Dr. Earl Lester Cole

Former Vice President for Whom the Honors College is Named

Dr. Earl Lester Cole was one of the great pioneers whose exemplary years of service as an educator at Grambling State University spanned nearly half a century. Earl Lester Cole's tenure at Grambling began in 1936 as a science teacher; advancing through the ranks of the faculty, becoming dean in 1946 and was appointed vice president in 1969.

"Dean Cole" as he was affectionately called even after assuming the vice-presidency, can be remembered for his active involvement in implementing curriculum which is considered to be the cornerstone to courses now being offered at Grambling State University. Even after his retirement in 1977, Earl Lester Cole continued to advise members of the faculty and administrators.



Dean Cole was highly respected by his former colleagues and students and is described as a true professional, a good administrator, and a truly outstanding man who is credited for the positive influence in the educational advancement of his former students. Honesty and a fullness of integrity were accolades from those who knew him well. Over the years, he had been recognized for his numerous contributions to Grambling, culminating in the naming of the university's honors college, the Earl Lester Cole Honors College.

His influential involvement in the community brought several businesses to the university and as an active member of New Rocky Valley Baptist Church, "Dean Cole" was instrumental in the construction of a building for the church.

Earl Lester Cole succumbed after a prolonged illness at the age of 89. He can be remembered as a man who gave much to the field of higher education at a historically black university, always exuded a commanding presence during his lifetime.

*U. S. House of Representative Julian C. Dixon California 32nd District (1993-2000) Capital Words*

## Greetings from the Dean

October 24, 2024

Greetings:

This occasion has been set aside so that we can celebrate the Earl Lester Cole Honors College seniors' scholar jacket recipients and inductees for their commitment to academic excellence. Our growth over the years is a direct reflection of the product we produce. Our success is predicated on the accomplishments of numerous graduates, dedicated faculty, staff, and several academically driven students.

This afternoon, we are pleased to add yet another wonderful class of scholars who have distinguished themselves because of their leadership, scholarship, comradeship, and dedication to service. By applying and being accepted for induction, the students have committed to taking additional classes offered through the Honors College that will help enhance their ability to compete in an ever-changing society. Their induction signals that they are not considered a new cohort, but are considered family members in an organization that thrives on the fact that *"we are one."* Our quest is to ensure that our students acquire the desire to make certain that when it comes to pursuing and achieving excellence, *"nobody does it better."*



In addition, this celebration is especially significant for our seniors who will receive their scholars' jacket. These scholars have proven that throughout their tenure at the University, they have continued their quest for academic excellence and service. They have represented the University at academic conferences and through other scholarly activities. Their leadership, service, and academic achievement has positioned them for greatness and made them worthy recipients of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College Scholars' Jacket. Their scholastic activities have captured the attention of business, industry, faculty, staff, alumni and their peers. Truly they are academic ambassadors,

scholars who have maintained an overall grade point average of 3.5 or above and have completed the required coursework for Earl Lester Cole Honors College distinction.

To our parents and caregivers, permit me to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing us to have the opportunity to be a part of your child's educational journey. Your child is a direct reflection of the motivation and support you have provided for them over the course of their lives. We are building on the foundation that you and others have helped them form as we endeavor to make certain that your child is equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to compete against their peers and become more productive citizens. They are stars in their respective fields.

Inductees, Senior Scholars, and other members of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College, may success come to your doorsteps as you open the door of opportunity and greet the world. I wish you well as we build on the foundation of *"Dear Ole Grambling"* together.

Sincerely,

*Ellen D. Smiley, Ed.D.*

Dean, Earl Lester Cole Honors College &  
Professor of Education

# History of the Honors College

The Honors College was established in 1990 in response to a verbal directive from the third president of Grambling State University, Dr. Joseph B. Johnson. President Johnson selected Dr. Helen L. Richards-Smith to plan and implement the Earl Lester Cole Honors College with the designated title of Associate Dean of Academic Administration and Director of the Honors College. The assignment was given, fall 1989; the Inauguration was held Fall 1990. After the Honors College was established, Dr. Helen Richards-Smith became the first Dean of the Honors College. In 1991, Dr. Ellen D. Smiley was selected to assist Dr. Richards-Smith with strengthening the Honors College. The Honors College was chiefly funded through Title III and soon became institutionalized throughout the university. When she retired, Dr. Richards-Smith was named Dean Emeritus of the Honors College. Dr. Ellen D. Smiley is currently serving as the second Dean to lead the Earl Lester Cole Honors College.

Dr. Earl Lester Cole served Grambling State University for over forty-one years. Grambling State University was honored and given due deference to the distinguished scholar, educator, administrator, gentleman and humanitarian by naming the Honors College, The Earl Lester Cole Honors College. Dr. Cole's career and legacy set the standards by which others were measured.

Undergraduate students who have an overall grade point average of 3.5 or above and who have the ability to successfully complete 3 honors college seminar classes excluding HON 110 are eligible to apply for induction. At the level of induction, students are given the honors college badge (pin).



(Pictured left to right – Mrs. Garnett Cole, Dr. Earl Lester Cole, Mrs. Lula Johnson and Dr. Joseph B. Johnson)

In 2015 Prentiss Smiley, then president of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College Student Organization, led an initiative that supported senior members of the Honors College who qualified to receive the Scholars' Jacket. Thus, seniors who are members of the honors college who maintain an overall grade point average of 3.5 or above, complete 3 honors college seminar classes excluding HON 110 and are in good standing with the University receive the scholars' jacket. Smiley, who had played football in junior high and high school recognized that athletes are

Stephanie O. Yakubu - *Pre-Nursing*

Lagos, Nigeria (Freshman)

Nana Y. Yamoah-Tuffour – *Criminal Justice*

Kumasi, Ghana (Freshman)

## Fall 2024 - Scholars' Jacket Recipients

Keanna N. Connor - *Criminal Justice*

Vicksburg, MS

Korde K. Cortez - *Social Work*

Arcadia, LA

Aaliyah M. Harris - *Criminal Justice*

Monroe, LA

Lea E. Hebert - *Biology*

Limon, Costa Rica

Ashanti S. Hicks - *Marketing*

Monroe, LA

Trinity S. Jackson - *Criminal Justice*

El Dorado, AR

Kennedy Lewis - *Social Work*

Arcadia, LA

Makayla A. Meredith - *Mass Communication*

Akron, OH

Diamond R. Moore - *Kinesiology*

Minden, LA

Emireka A. Moore - *Social Work*

Lake Charles, LA

Demaria C. Ross - *Kinesiology*

Dallas, TX

Ashlyn T. Simmons - *Mass Communication*

Forney, TX

Janaiya A. Smith - *Biology*

Palmetto, LA

Natoria M. Tarrant- *Management*

Lancaster, TX

Chardae S. Varnado – *Elementary Education*

Violet, LA

Jaylie C. White – *Psychology/Sociology*

Monroe, LA

Aaron X. Younger - *History*

Grambling, LA



## *Fall 2024 – Inductees Continued*

Jalen A. Peel - *History*

Bethany G. Peoples – *Business Management*

Katelyn R. Polidore - *Criminal Justice*

Zie Nia O. Rice - *Chemistry*

Shakera S. Smith - *Business Management*

Oluwafayemida E. Sowemimo- *Computer Science*

Valliery U. Stanton - *Biology*

Aidan J. Starling - *Kinesiology*

Justice K. Sullivan - *Pre-Nursing*

Troi K. M. Sullivan - *Elementary Education*

Trinity A. Tatney - *Kinesiology*

Ayaree M. Taylor - *Business Management*

Braye K. Therence - *Kinesiology*

Janiah E. Tims - *Criminal Justice*

Samuel F. Torto - *Math & Physics*

Tatyana K. Wade - *Psychology*

Tatianna T. Watkins - *Psychology (General)*

Jazlynn M. West - *Social Work*

Kamaurre D. White - *Nursing*

Kaylen C. White - *History*

Asia K. Williams - *Marketing*

Heather N. Williams – *Computer Science*

Imani A. Wilson - *Child Development & Early Literacy*

Janae A. Woods - *Criminal Justice*

James R. Woody, II - *Engineering Technology*

Grand Prairie, TX (Sophomore)

Calumet City, IL (Sophomore)

New Iberia, LA (Sophomore)

Desoto, TX (Sophomore)

Baton Rouge, LA (Sophomore)

Osun, Nigeria (Sophomore)

Gretna, LA (Freshman)

Manhattan, KS (Sophomore)

Little Elm, TX (Sophomore)

Little Elm, TX (Sophomore)

Brusly, LA (Junior)

St. James, LA (Senior)

Vacherie, LA (Sophomore)

Bastrop, LA (Sophomore)

Jos, Nigeria (Sophomore)

Monroe, LA (Sophomore)

Bastrop, LA (Sophomore)

Dallas, TX (Freshman)

Cypress, TX (Freshman)

Bastrop, LA (Junior)

Los Angeles, CA (Sophomore)

Lake Charles, LA (Sophomore)

Grambling, LA (Junior)

Chicago, IL (Senior)

Ridgeland, MS (Sophomore)

awarded with shirts and letterman jackets for their success and recognized throughout the campus. His concept was to bring greater recognition to students who achieved greatness in the world of academe scholastically. He referred to these students as being “academically nasty”, a phrase that he coined from one of his mentors, Dr. Ronnie L. Davis. Academically nasty means that the student works hard in the classroom and is committed to learning and studying in order to move to the next level.

Finally, at graduation, members of the Honors College who have maintained an overall grade point average of 3.5 or above, completed 3 honors college seminar classes excluding HON 110 and are in good standing with the University receive the Honors College Medallion of Distinction. The levels are gold, silver, or bronze depending on the level of engagement (service) and overall grade point average.

### **Inaugural Scholars’ Jacket Recipients**



Prentiss Smiley pictured front row in the center

# Program

*Presiding Officer.....Dr. Ellen D. Smiley, Dean  
Earl Lester Cole Honors College &  
Professor of Education*

*Greetings.....Larriel Turner, President  
Earl Lester Cole Honors College Student Organization  
Braithwaite, Louisiana  
Major: Criminal Justice*

*Entrance of Honorees.....Soft Music*

## Induction Ritual Ceremony

*Administering of the Honors College Oath .....Dr. Connie Walton, Provost &  
Vice President for Academic Affairs*

## Scholars’ Jacket Ritual Student Introductions and Scholars’ Jacket Ceremony

*Presentation of the Scholars’ Jacket.....Dr. Rory L. Bedford, Director  
Office of Continuing Education and Service-Learning*

Mrs. Tasha Heard, Executive Director  
for Title III Programs & Strategic Planning

*Remarks, Recognition, and Announcements .....Presiding Officer*

## Host and Hostesses

*Miss Alexandria Martin  
Miss Tianaye White  
Mr. Bennie Ferguson, III  
Miss Jackie Newsome  
Mrs. Miloni Perera  
Ms. Nadia Johnny*

*The Earl Lester Cole Honors College is partially supported with Title III Funds*

# Fall 2024 – Inductees Continued

Jalen M. Kennedy - <i>History</i>	Bastrop, LA (Sophomore)
Ny’Lah A. King-Baker - <i>Social Work</i>	Greenwood, LA (Junior)
Dionne K. Lacking - <i>Psychology/Criminal Justice</i>	Los Angeles, CA (Freshman)
Chukwuebuka C. Law-Biaduo - <i>Computer Science</i>	Owerri, Nigeria (Sophomore)
Life K. Makarudze - <i>Biology</i>	Bulawayo, Zimbabwe (Sophomore)
Augustine Manu-Frimpong - <i>Computer Science</i>	Malden, MA (Sophomore)
Paul O. Martin - <i>Engineering Technology</i>	Buford, GA (Sophomore)
Alyssa T. Mayo - <i>Psychology</i>	San Diego, CA (Junior)
Keshyla S. McHenry - <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Strong, AR (Sophomore)
Savion I. Moon - <i>Biology</i>	Glassport, PA (Sophomore)
Tanatswa S. Mujumi - <i>Biology</i>	Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe (Freshman)
Flyness P. Namatama – <i>Computer Science</i>	Monze, Zambia (Sophomore)
Breanna M. Neal - <i>Kinesiology</i>	Sulphur, LA (Sophomore)
Lillian M. Nelson - <i>Nursing</i>	Alexandria LA (Sophomore)
Grace Ngoma - <i>Computer Science</i>	Lusaka, Zambia (Freshman)
Delight Nyanhete - <i>Computer Science</i>	Harare, Zimbabwe (Freshman)
Waunyell E. O’Connor - <i>Business Management</i>	New Orleans, LA (Junior)
Jessica C. Offordum - <i>Chemistry</i>	Abuja, Nigeria (Freshman)
Daniel O. Ogwala - <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Liberty, MO (Freshman)
Emmanuel O. Oladele - <i>Engineering Technology</i>	Olympia Fields, IL (Freshman)
Ojuolape E. Onatola - <i>Pre-Nursing</i>	Lagos, Nigeria (Sophomore)
Daniel N. Osuoha- <i>Computer Science</i>	Grand Prairie, TX (Freshman)
Enoch O. Owoade - <i>Engineering Technology</i>	Ile-Ife, Nigeria (Freshman)
Lawrence Owusu - <i>Computer Science</i>	Canton, MI (Freshman)
Melvin-Damian U. Ozoke – <i>Pre-Nursing</i>	Enugu North, Nigeria(Sophomore)



## *Fall 2024 – Inductees Continued*

Michael Dozier - *History*

Nonso N. Duaka - *Math & Physics*

Nonso N. Duaka - *Math & Physics*

Adriel T. Dube - *Computer Science*

Ngaatendwe W. Dumbarimwe - *Computer Science*

Eniola O. Farinde - *Computer Science*

Tereik P. Faulknor - *Computer Science*

Clariona A. Foxworth - *Social Work*

Sinaya J. Gaston - *Accounting/Business Management*

Heathrebka B. Gayetaye - *Criminal Justice/Psychology*

Elexie A. Graves - *Kinesiology*

Paul I. Guillory III - *Biology*

Nyla Z. Helaire - *Pre-Nursing*

Christalyn C. Higgins - *Kinesiology*

Alexis M. Hope - *Biology*

Ugochukwu C. Igweagu - *Computer Science*

Brooke M. Ina - *Social Work*

Eniola E. Irinoye - *Engineering Technology*

Honore Jabiro - *Computer Science*

Shanya L. Jefferson - *Psychology*

Mosopefoluwa A. John - *Biology*

Eva D. Johnson - *Elementary Education*

Genesis I. Johnson - *Business Management*

Joshua E. Johnson - *Kinesiology*

Chiara D. Jones - *Nursing*

Homer, LA (Sophomore)

Jos, Nigeria (Sophomore)

Jos, Nigeria (Sophomore)

Harae, Zimbabwe (Freshman)

Manicaland, Zimbabwe (Freshman)

Waterford, MI (Sophomore)

Columbia, SC (Sophomore)

Franklinton, LA (Sophomore)

Oklahoma City, OK (Sophomore)

Sioux Falls, SD (Sophomore)

Vicksburg, MS (Junior)

Rayne, LA (Sophomore)

Natchitoches, LA (Sophomore)

Memphis, TN (Sophomore)

Dickinson, TX (Sophomore)

Sugarland, TX (Sophomore)

Franklin, LA (Sophomore)

Houston, TX (Sophomore)

Kigali, Rwanda (Sophomore)

Jonesville, LA (Sophomore)

Atlanta, GA (Sophomore)

Bossier City, LA (Sophomore)

Amite, LA (Junior)

Dallas, TX (Junior)

Lafayette, LA (Sophomore)

## *Earl Lester Cole Honors College Oath*

*Having been selected as a member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College, I am keenly aware of my personal and academic obligations to be an exemplary scholar and role model in college, regional, state and national settings. Therefore, I solemnly pledge that I will take advantage of and pursue every opportunity to grow, develop and excel.*

*I further pledge to make a conscientious effort to excel academically, personally, socially and enhance the quality of life around me. I will endeavor to be a creative and worthwhile citizen; to always try to be an inspiration to others and to promote those qualities of scholarship, citizenship and leadership upon which the honors college is founded.*

*I take this obligation without any coercion or reservation. I will faithfully and enthusiastically accept the challenge inherent in becoming a member of this capital organization, the Earl Lester Cole Honors College.*

*I will put my trust in God and with his help I will ultimately distinguish myself and Grambling State University with honor.*

***Written by: Dr. Joe L. Copes and Dr. Phillip L. Young***

## *Donate to the Earl Lester Cole Honors College*

*We need your support!!!*



We have officially begun our ***Earl Lester Cole Honors College Fundraising Campaign*** in celebration of our 35<sup>th</sup> Induction and approaching our 35<sup>th</sup> year of existence. As we celebrate of this tremendous milestone, we are requesting that individuals donate to the Earl Lester Cole Honors College. No amount is too small but we would love to have donations in the following increments \$35, \$350, \$3500 or more. With minimal resources, the Honors College is growing. Your donation will make it possible for us to continue to provide scholars jackets, honors medallions, research experiences, leadership opportunities, scholarships, and service-learning opportunities for members of the Honors College in good standing.

Send donations to:

Earl Lester Cole Honors College  
Grambling State University  
Attention: Dr. Ellen D. Smiley  
GSU Box 4208  
Grambling, Louisiana 71245

Make checks payable to: Grambling State University Foundation. In the memo section put: Earl Lester Cole Honors College 35<sup>th</sup> Celebration

Thank you in advance for your donation. As always, we appreciate the support that you provide for the Earl Lester Cole Honor College.

## *Fall 2024 - Inductees*

### Name of Inductee-Major

Oluwateniola G. Adepoju - *Biology*  
Noble K. Agyeman-Bobie -*Computer Science*  
Favor N. Aina - *Biology*  
Mofetoluwa D. Akinkoye - *Biology*  
Uchechukwu M. Alih - *Computer Science*  
Olivia L. Armour - *Criminal Justice*  
Oyindamola E. Balogun – *Computer Science*  
Galina N. Bangabutu – *Engineering Technology*  
Lauren C. Baylor - *Biology*  
Jean Luc Bazimya – *Engineering Technology*  
Akealis L. Bloodsaw – *Cloud Computing*  
Shadrack A. Boakye – *Computer Science*  
Jariah M. Bolton - *Kinesiology*  
Denasia A. Brown - *Kinesiology*  
Jakaiyah D. Brown - *Biology*  
Tamia L. Burton – *Elementary Education*  
Ty’ Airah R. Carter - *Nursing*  
Stecy Chirinda – *Math & Physics*  
Kiarra Clemons – *Leisure Studies/Therapeutic Rec.*  
Hollidae M. Coleman - *Business Management*  
Shalom Donga – *Computer Science*  
Makayla A. Dowdell – *Criminal Justice*  
Makyla A. Dowdell – *Business Management*

### Hometown (Class)

Lagos, Nigeria (Sophomore)  
Kumasi, Ghana (Freshman)  
Abuju, Nigeria (Sophomore)  
Ile Ife, Nigeria (Sophomore)  
Grambling, LA (Sophomore)  
Mesquite, TX (Junior)  
Lagos, Nigeria (Sophomore)  
Huntersville, NC (Freshman)  
Madison, MS (Sophomore)  
Fort Worth, TX (Freshman)  
Natchez, MS (Sophomore)  
Kumasi, Ghana (Freshman)  
Houston, TX (Sophomore)  
Ruston, LA (Freshman)  
Sherwood, AR (Sophomore)  
Grambling, LA (Sophomore)  
Roeland Park, KS (Sophomore)  
Harare, Zimbabwe (Sophomore)  
Grenada, MS (Senior)  
Forrest City, AR (Junior)  
Bulawayo, Zimbabwe (Freshman)  
Palmdale, CA (Junior)  
Palmdale, CA (Junior)