

the Gazette

VOL. 78, NO. 11

STUDENT VOICE OF LANGSTON UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016

STATE

BUDGET CUTS

AFFECT LANGSTON STUDENTS
PAGE 2



The Gazette

The *Gazette* is produced within the Department of Communication at Langston University. It serves as a teaching tool and public relations vehicle. The newspaper is published bimonthly and is dispersed across campus every other Thursday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

Editor

Kimberly McKnight

Associate Editor

Marcus Garlington

News Editor

Zhana Davis

Cover Designer

Paul Pugh

Reporter

Kentre Holt

Staff Writers

Xavier Flenoy
James Ford
Jessica Joseph
Brittni Logan
Indy Nelson
Kimberly Thompson

Adviser

Nicole Turner

The *Gazette* Office
Langston University
Sanford Hall, Room 318
Ph. 405-466-3245

Send story ideas, comments and calendar events to nkturner@langston.edu. Opinions expressed in Voices are those of the writers whose names appear with the articles. Letters to the editor should be emailed to nkturner@langston.edu. Please include your name and telephone number. The newspaper retains the right to edit, accept and/or reject items deemed to be contrary to the best interest of the publication, Langston University and/or any of its governing bodies.

State budget crisis means less funding for education

By Kimberly Thompson
Staff Writer

A statewide budget crisis has hit educational institutions hard.

Now Oklahomans are wondering how state leaders plan to make up \$900 million in budget deficit.

On March 28, Mary Fallin had her annual "State-of-the-State" address. She said the drop of oil and gas prices are out of control, and this is hurting the state's economy.

"We can use this budget crisis to build a solid foundation for Oklahoma," Fallin said.

If no actions are taken to fix this budget crisis, most state agencies will face a 13.5 percent cut next year. As an example, Fallin said education would be cut by \$330 million.

The education system is al-

ways hit the hardest, and this budget crisis will cost Oklahoma City public schools about \$1.5 million in state aid, and that amount could grow to \$4 million in the upcoming weeks, district officials warned.

Langston University held its own Town Hall Meeting on March 28, where President Kent Smith Jr. addressed plans regarding the budget crisis and the strategy to manage the cuts from the current fiscal year.

"However, more drastic cuts will be required for the next fiscal year," Smith said. "Reductions made to next year's budget will be made from a reduced institutional budget reflecting the cuts made this year."

Langston has a strategic plan to address the budget

revenue shortfalls, which includes program eliminations or consolidation, position abolishment, increased employee contribution to benefits, layoffs and increases to tuition and fees.

On March 31, many Langston University students were saddened and upset when they were notified that Dr. Ricco Wright, assistant professor of mathematics, did not receive a contract renewal for the next school year.

"The whole situation is absurd," said Aneesha Moore, freshman health, physical education and recreation major. "Why lay off professors who not only teach on a great level, but bring forth greatness to the university? He worked hard on the Philosophy Club, Chess Club, Book Club and many others. Why have the

teacher's feedback if it's not going to be used effectively?"

The budget crisis is not only affecting universities, but Oklahoma City Public Schools as well.

The crisis is putting more pressure on Oklahoma City public school teachers.

"Students and education will suffer; several really good teachers will lose their jobs," said Brenda Griggs, senior English teacher at Douglass Mid/High School. "Class sizes will increase, which will result in less time that a teacher can spend one-on-one with students. Some districts will have to go to a four-day work week. When that happens, families have to make arrangements for their children to go or do something else on the fifth day of school that was lost."

Doughnuts & Dialogue Silent protest turns into heavy debate

By Kimberly Thompson
Staff Writer

Students planned to lead a silent protest at Doughnuts and Dialogue on April 5, but the event soon turned into a heated discussion.

President Kent Smith Jr. held the meeting, which allows students and administrators to have a discussion among staff and faculty members to address concerns at the university.

Students are still upset about Dr. Ricco Wright's contract not being renewed, and because of that the Student Government Association helped organize a silent protest during the event. The protest was not an act of defiance but an act of unity.

"The silent protest was to show the administrators that the school is unified, fighting the issues we believe the administration is opposing

"The silent protest was to show the administrators that the school is unified, fighting the issues we believe administration is opposing against the student body and, to some degree, the faculty as well."

— SGA representative

against the student body and, to some degree, the faculty as well," an SGA representative said.

Students wanted to show the administrators that they could come together as a student body to conquer bigger issues. They planned to attend the meeting in silence, but as the discussion continued, students could not contain their comments and questions, and the silence was broken.

Students now debate whether or not their point was made or if administration understands what they were trying to say.

"My general thought about the Doughnuts and Dialogue was that I feel like the students' perspective wasn't received well," said Jnary Roberts, sophomore accounting and finance major. "I feel like there were no direct answers given in response to our ques-

tions."

What seemed like a chaotic situation, however, was looked at in a more positive light by LU's president.

"I feel like the purpose of Doughnuts and Dialogue was met," President Smith said. "This was the largest one we have ever had, and certainly, students asked a lot of questions. It was intended to be an hour, but it lasted two hours, but that is a good thing – it is a good thing when students are invested in what is happening on their campus."

Some students think the purpose of Doughnuts and Dialogue was not accomplished, while others think that discussion was well-needed.

"Sometimes the answers are not as simple as the students think, but I definitely feel like the purpose of the discussion was met," Smith said.

Visitors of High School Day receive impromptu message

By Zhana Davis
News Editor

High School Day turned left when Dr. Ricco Wright spoke out after being notified that his contract would not be renewed with Langston University.

High School Day is an opportunity for high school students in Oklahoma to visit the campus and see what LU has to offer in terms of degrees and academic programs. Students get an opportunity to see the social side of LU as well, such as Greeks, band members, ambassadors and faculty.

Weeks before High School Day, Wright was asked to be a guest speaker at the event and discuss the importance of education. Instead, he spoke to the students about the real issues at LU and told them his truth.

Wright explained to the high school students that LU is not what they might think. He said LU administration sells freshmen a dream to get them into the university, and once they are here, administration leaves them to struggle.

"Yes, I would love for

people to come Langston," Wright said. "I would love for people to become Langston alumni. I would love for people to experience Langston as I once did, if not better, but the reality is students today are not experiencing that."

Wright is an assistant professor of mathematics. He also is the debate team coach and leads the Book Club, Chest Club and Philosophy Club.

"I do believe that the administrators have continuously sold people false dreams and false hopes, and that has got to stop, and I made that very clear at High School Day," Wright said.

During his speech at High School Day, campus police escorted Wright out of the auditorium, and some LU students and ambassadors left as well.

"It's unfortunate that the high school students that had attended were forced in the middle of a situation that had nothing to do with them, but I understand the frustration and anger that came with the announcement of Dr. Wright's leaving," said Halina Garraway, junior mathematics major and the special assistant of Langston Ambassadors.

sadors.

"However, I do feel that the platform he used to express his concerns and the manner in which he spoke to Langston University faculty and administration was inappropriate," Garraway admitted. "I know that the student leaders could've handled this situation completely differently, but after everything's been said and done, we all really need to learn from this experience and fix the problems that need fixing."

Wright and the students involved in the walkout stood in front of the auditorium as High School Day continued. Several students were enraged about the situation and stood by Wright. One student outside posed a question to Wright.

"Dr. Wright, I think the question is what can we, the students, do? We are all mad. We are all riled up. We want to do something, we just don't know what it is we can do."

Wright responded to the student's question with honesty and pride.

"If anything, use this as a time to unite as students," Wright said. "What God has in store for me is already

done; I'm a proclaimer."

According to KFOR News, the Oklahoma State Legislature is facing a major budget deficit of nearly \$1.4 billion. State Treasurer Ken Miller announced that February's revenue is down by almost \$90 million, compared to last year's numbers, which is more than 10 percent.

"It is unfortunate that the Oklahoma State Legislature cut funding for higher education," said Chauncey Jackson, executive director and chief enrollment officer at LU.

"Regrettably, these cuts affect the university as a whole, and members of the campus community are working tirelessly to balance the budget while maintaining a high-quality student experience."

Jackson and his office organized and planned High School Day.

"Our goal for the Spring Open House is to provide a dynamic campus experience, allowing us to showcase for prospective students what a special learning community Langston University offers," Jackson said. "Currently, the university, like all other higher education institutions around Oklahoma, is fac-

ing a tough budget situation. Conversations regarding the budget and how it affects members of the faculty, staff and students is an important discussion; however, I do not believe that the Spring Open House was the appropriate venue for that discussion."

However, Jackson said that overall, the Spring Open House was a strong showcase.

"We hosted students and their families from all over Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and Texas," Jackson said. "They had an opportunity to meet with members of the faculty, deans, students and campus administrators. Further, they observed academic classrooms, dined in the cafeteria and spoke with the Office of Financial Aid."

"I believe we hosted a worthwhile event, and we look forward to welcoming many of those students and their families into the LU family in the fall," Jackson said.

Though High School Day proved successful in the midst of Wright's impromptu comments, the protest involving Wright extended to Donuts and Dialogue on April 5, and the Student Body Meeting on April 6.

Shootings at college party send guests to hospital

By Marcus Garlington
Associate Editor

The Guthrie News Page reported a shooting that occurred at a party that some members of Kappa Alpha Psi hosted March 26, at Guthrie's Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) building.

Three victims, two with gunshot wounds, were transported to three separate hospitals during the early hours of that Saturday morning. At this time, police are looking for suspect information.

The Guthrie Police Department and the Logan County Sheriff's Office were notified that a 28-year-old black fe-

male had been shot just after 1 a.m. Witnesses said she was shot in the arm, leg and foot.

According to the News Page, authorities received a second call informing them of a second victim with a gunshot wound to the head. A black male was seen being transported to the ambulance at 6th and Noble, with a bandage around his head. The vehicle, a black Camaro with an Arkansas license plate, had a bullet shot through the back window.

The third victim, a 19-year-old black female, was seen with a serious face injury after being assaulted. She was transported to an Edmond

hospital by a Guthrie police officer.

A fourth victim arrived to Mercy Logan County around 3 a.m. with an undisclosed injury. She was transferred to OU Medical Center. The last reported conditions of all victims were "stable."

An eyewitness, who requested to remain anonymous, described the scene and the events that led to the shooting.

"The party itself was really fun," she said. "But one minute, the party is just normal, and the next thing you know, a fight broke out in the left corner by the bathroom. I couldn't see who it was, but I

know it was a fight because everybody was running towards [the commotion] with their phones.

"I didn't get to see any videos, but I heard a girl got punched by a guy. There were some girls that were bloody, and they all got in a scuffle. And then, I saw one guy swinging wildly, and they were trying to contain him, but he kept swinging at everybody because he was so upset. This is inside. Then, they cleared everybody out."

According to the witness, chaos ensued as members of Kappa Alpha Psi and security worked to evacuate the VFW. Upon exiting the ven-

ue, the witness said, she lost her friends and was on high alert because of the violence she has just seen.

"Next thing I know, I heard somebody say, 'She got shot!' I didn't actually hear any gunshots, though," she said. "At this point, I'm scared —somebody's going around with a gun, and I'm trying to find our car. I found my other group of friends, but not the girl I had come with."

"By now, the cops had come and began to put up yellow tape. So, everybody's whose car was behind yellow

see PARTY, page 7

US Department of Agriculture provides endless opportunities

By **Indy Nelson**
Staff Writer

Hiring season is here, and students are in need of jobs and internships for the summer. What should you do? Apply now at <https://www.usda.gov>.

Many students think the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is only for agriculture majors, but it is a well-rounded company.

The careers within this company are extensive, including those that entail accounting, criminal justice, computer science, engineering and public affairs.

In the School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, USDA Recruiter Dwight Guy helps secure students with an internship or job. Guy also recruits high school students and college students to attend Langston University.

Guy said government jobs are secure, especially after the recession occurred.

"When the recession was going on and whoever was working for the government, everybody got to eat and wear clothes," Guy said, stressing that government jobs will always provide good opportunities, even when others do not.

One particular scholarship opportunity is for agriculture majors, which is fully paid with full tuition and guarantees employment with USDA during the summer.

It also covers fees, books, room and board, training at an entry level and traveling. It is available to freshmen and sophomores. To qualify for this, students must maintain a 3.0 GPA, be a U.S. citizen and submit a 500-800 word essay with the application.

"This scholarship opportunity is promising for a future internship or job," said Ashley Newton, freshman agriculture major.



Courtesy Photo

The 2016 USDA Scholars are excited about their opportunity to work with the United States Department of Agriculture.

School of Education ranks No. 24 for most affordable small schools

By **Kimberly McKnight**
Editor

Langston University's Master of Education program is ranked No. 24 out of 50 as the most affordable small colleges.

LU also is less costly than four other schools in Oklahoma on the list, including No. 47 Southwestern Oklahoma State, No. 38 Southeastern Oklahoma State, No. 34 East Central and No. 28 Northwestern Oklahoma State.

According to <https://www.topeducationdegrees.org>, out-of-state tuition for a student entering the LU master's program is only \$7,383, compared to Southwestern Oklahoma State University, where the tuition is \$10,764.

Master of education programs are designed to help teachers that are already certified meet the needs of an urban student body, according to the Top Education Degrees website.

Since Langston has been ranked that high, the dean of the master of education program, Dr. Alex Lewis, thinks the ranking will boost student enrollment.

"This will tell the professors to do their best, so we will continue to be ranked high," Lewis said.

Lewis said the LU master of education program stands out more than others because of the dedicated teachers.

"We have teachers who teach at the graduate level with passion and are con-

cerned about the success of the students," Lewis said.

The master of education program at LU is geared toward public school teachers and people working in the school service industries. There are certain things within the program that someone could look forward to, such as getting a job in the teaching field or working in the social science, criminal justice or health and human services industries.

"One advantage the program has is that almost all of the classes are offered on Desire2Learn, which is an online format used at all three campuses," Lewis said.

Lewis said the program is moving in the right direction because they have the support of alumni and administration.



The 2016 Week of the Young Child will be held April 11–15, and the theme for 2016 is "Celebrating Our Youngest Learners."

The Week of the Young Child is a time to reflect and recognize that children are our future. It is a time to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child is in an environment that will promote their early learning to ensure a productive future.

Schedule of Activities

MONDAY	April 11, 2016 10 a.m. 3 p.m.	(MUSIC MONDAY) PROCLAMATION PROGRAM (Atrium) T-SHIRT DAY (Early Childhood Lab)
TUESDAY	April 12, 2016 10 a.m. 3 p.m.	(TACO TUESDAY) Taco "bout" Fun (Early Childhood Lab) Taco celebration (Early Childhood Lab)
WEDNESDAY	April 13, 2016 10 a.m. 3 p.m.	(WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY) FIELD DAY (Anderson Field) GRAFFETI DAY (Early Childhood Lab)
THURSDAY	April 14, 2016 10 a.m. 3 p.m.	(ARTSY THURSDAY) Creative Expression (Early Childhood Lab) Ice Cream Social (Early Childhood Lab)
FRIDAY	April 15, 2016 10 a.m. Noon to 5 p.m.	(FAMILY FRIDAY) STORYTIME (Early Childhood Lab) CARNIVAL/VENDOR FAIR (Multipurpose)

Alumna publishes first book

By Kentre' Holt
Reporter

"I've been receiving an overwhelming amount of support from family, friends, fans and strangers and also great reception and feedback. This is really only the beginning," said Andrea Perry, a Langston University alumna who recently became a published author.

Perry used her voice and published her first book, titled "Free." It consists of poetry, dialogue and commentary.

LU Instructor of Communication Nicole Turner expressed how happy and pleased she is about Perry writing and publishing her book.

"I always knew she would accomplish anything she set out to do," Turner said. "I'm proud of all of her accomplishments, but most of all, I'm proud that she is a graduate who is out there in the world, showing how brilliant and strong and dedicated our Langston students are."

Perry graduated from LU in May 2013, but she pinpointed a few teachers who impacted her throughout the years at Langston.

"While I was attending Langston University, I was blessed to be in a department where the instructors really, genuinely cared," Perry said. "All of the instructors in the communication program were



Perry

mentors to me, who challenged me in every way possible, from the late Dr. Rollins, Dr. Bates and Mr. Johnson, to Ms. Ross, who was very hardcore and like a mother at the same time, Ms. Turner, who showed me how to write for print and Ms. Flannigan, who taught me how to make a way out of no way."

Perry mentioned a few other professors, but she emphasized how the education she received from LU has stuck with her.

"I like that we're required to learn all of the skills in the field because I have honestly benefitted from all of them in

my career, whether it has been from speaking publicly, writing, interviewing, acting or selling myself," Perry said.

Turner highlighted Perry's work ethic when she had her as a student.

"Andrea was a great student—determined, reliable. I could always count on her to complete last-minute news stories or take photos when we needed them," Turner said. "She was truly the definition of a dedicated student. She would not only be willing to help in any way, but she had a good, positive attitude as well. I never heard her complain about anything."



Courtesy Photo

LU graduate Andrea Perry wrote this poetry book, titled "Free." Perry is a former student in the Broadcast Journalism program. She now lives in California and works as poetry performer, writer and motivational speaker in her spare time.

Perry discussed her life outside of college and how she's continuously sharpening her craft.

"I have to be at 100 all the time," Perry said. "My 6-year-old son is depending on me. I'm booking shows, performing at different venues, writing my book and let's not forget my day job also."

Perry was influenced to write a book at an early age, but finally decided to pick up a pencil and simply go for it.

"I've been wanting to write a book for years; I just never took the action to bring it into fruition," Perry said. "I think

I finally got tired. I got tired of seeing friends that weren't 'writers' publish their books. I got tired of believing that I wasn't ready or that I didn't have the right resources or waiting for the perfect moment."

Perry encourages writers who want to write a book to just do it. She said it's that simple, and she admitted that the main problem with doing something like writing a book is that people tend to hold themselves back. The hardest part is taking that first step. For Perry, writing the book was her first step.

Blue and White Week Zetas and Sigmas combine Greek weeks

By Jessica Joseph
Staff Writer

This year, the Lambda Alpha chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and the Beta Epsilon chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. have combined their Greek weeks for the first time at Langston University, and they have created Blue and White Week.

This year, the Zetas and Sigmas went for a different approach.

"We are a constitutionally bound family, so we decided to collaborate and put together a memorable experience with a polished presentation," said Eugene Buckman Jr., member of Phi Beta Sigma.

The week, April 10-16, is titled "The People's Choice," which consists of a list of events:

- Sunday—Vesper church service
- Monday—Game room takeover and Miss Blue and White Pageant
- Tuesday—Taco Tuesday and Miss Beta Epsilon Pageant
- Wednesday—Saam Seminar, Greek basketball and Wildn' Out

- Thursday—Waffle Bar and Parking Lot Pimpin'
- Friday—Sexy Lady and Man contest and Blue: Hollywood Experience party, featuring a live performance of K-Stylis
- Saturday—Highway cleanup and block party

"This week is set to be full of entertainment and excitement, from free food to concerts," said Morgan Lee, member of Zeta Phi Beta.

Parking Lot Pimpin' is one of the most popular events during Blue and

White Week.

"The most anticipated event of the year brings you the perfect combination of beautiful women, candy, painted whips, nice weather, free food and entertainment," said Kenneth Crowley II, president of Phi Beta Sigma.

Former students are even coming back to LU for Parking Lot Pimpin'.

"I don't attend Langston anymore, but I'm coming down just for Parking Lot. I'm so excited about the car show," said Lauren Gantt, former student and Dallas resident.

Seniors say farewell to Dear Langston

By Brittnei Logan
Staff Writer

As seniors begin to reminisce on the days of their freshman year mistakes or their upperclassman accomplishments, they have said goodbye to Dear Langston and hello to a new reality.

Langston University's School of Arts and Sciences would like to take time to show appreciation to the seniors of their numerous departments for their dedication to education. In doing so, there will be a farewell video made for them prior to the graduation ceremony.

"It's surreal that four years flew by so quickly," said Indy Nelson, senior broadcast journalism major. "I feel like this little Oklahoma girl is a woman now, ready for the world."

A college education, as well as an experience, can have an impact on a person that can be indescribable.

"I feel as if I have learned a lot in my time here at Dear Langston University, and with the graduation date quickly approaching, I am prepared to take the next step in my life journey," said Joseph-Michael Fields, senior biology and chemistry major.

As seniors express their excitement as they receive their caps and gowns for the approaching ceremony, some are ready to accept their diploma and begin something new.

Daymond Gardner, senior broadcast journalism major, said it's a relief to be graduating from

Langston University. He loves his school, but he said he is ready to move on to another chapter in life.

Another senior, broadcast journalism major Charles Tucker, said he feels bitter-sweet about leaving Langston University, but he is glad that the moment has finally arrived throughout all of the adversity and trials he encountered.

"Being in the School of Arts and Sciences has impacted my life tremendously," said senior English major Josselynn Thomas. "The professors have prepared me for life situations and have challenged me to

"Being in the School of Arts and Sciences has impacted my life tremendously. The professors have prepared me for life situations and have challenged me to strive for excellence for my future endeavors."

— Josselynn Thomas,
senior English major

strive for excellence for my future endeavors."

Not all seniors feel as uplifted as others, such as Samantha Jay, senior drafting and design major. She said she feels disappointed because she feels she didn't get the assistance she needed to get to the point of graduating. She said from the technology department, they should intercede the senior projects before their senior year, as well as provide more options for internships.

Though graduation is a monumental memory in a college student's life, the trials that a person goes through seems to make the journey to the end more meaningful.

"I used to complain about the lack of teachers and equipment, but now it's coming to an end, and I've started to realize that the lack of teachers actually allowed me to build a relationship with my professors that will last a lifetime," said DeNeeka Hill, senior broadcast journalism major. "The lack of equipment just caused me to have to work harder, which will pay off in the long run."

Tucker said that being a broadcast journalism major allowed him to express himself through a unique, artistic way. He said there were many times he would walk into Sanford Hall and scream "weird" things because he was "able" to.

Jay said, with the six years she has spent here, she has worked hard and has put major effort into her studies. She said she has worked overtime to earn every grade she has received, which accounts to her

3.5 GPA.

"Everything I have been able to do since I got on this campus has been a direct result from what I have learned and experienced in the School of Arts and Sciences," Fields said.

The School and Arts and Sciences has enabled students, such as Fields, to present his research all over the world, from Langston to Washington D.C. to Paris. He also is on the President's Honor Roll.

Tucker had the chance to host on KALU 89.3 FM, as well as host the BET College Tour. Tucker also auditioned for the "Real World" and was the first to host "OU Stomp Down" from Langston University.

While students have passed exams, made presentations and had lifetime experiences that are close to their desired careers, the seniors also showed their appreciation to the professors who prepared

them for life after graduation.

"I would like to thank Ms. Ross, my favorite professor, for her strict rules and work ethic because it has strengthened me in my personal and professional life," Nelson said. "She has been my inspiration."

Not only does Nelson feel this way, but Hill, Gardner and Tucker share the same appreciation. Hill said that Carylton Ross' knowledge of the news industry is amazing and her passion to see her succeed has been a driving force during her matriculation here.

Tucker said that Ms. Ross, Ms. Kimberlee Flannigan and Ms. Nicole Turner have all expressed their passion without saying a word.

Fields said many people in the biology department have helped him in one way or another, including Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Dr. Clarence Hedge.

"As well as the janitors who helped me stay motivated during my late nights in Hamilton Hall when I'm studying or doing research," Fields said. "But I would definitely like to give a special acknowledgement to Dr. [John] Coleman because without him, I probably would have never landed at Langston University."

Thomas said that she would like to thank Dr. Ben Bates and Dr. Joanna Mann because they have made sure she was on the right track to graduate her entire four years. She

mentioned how they continuously checked on her to make sure she got the full experience while becoming an English major.

Jay expressed her appreciation to the diversity of teachers, such as Mr. Mauricio White, Dr. Franklin Fondjo, Dr. James Showalter, Dr. In Hai Roe, Mr. Andre Love, Mr. James Wallace and many more. She said she wouldn't have gotten to where she is without the professors in her plan of study.

The seniors also had advice for those seniors next in line. Nelson encouraged students to find their niche. She said not to give up and to get involved and finish strong.

Tucker, as his motto during his last several years, said to say smile through adversity. Jay advised others to look for internships, make a lot of connections and to not let denial stop them from where they want to be.

Thomas said to make sure to take advantage of every opportunity that is provided and to enjoy every moment at Langston because time goes by faster than you think.

"Do your best to have a plan and to try and follow it because the Bible says, in Proverbs 29:18, where there is no vision, the people will perish," Fields said. "That way, if you have a vision or plan, you will always have a measuring stick to make sure you accomplish your goals."

LANGSTON UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016 • 11:30AM-1:00PM

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER
CHERYL MILLER
HEAD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH AT LANGSTON UNIVERSITY,
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE AND FORMER SPORTSCASTER

2016 WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP HONOREES



Robyn Sunday Allen, RN, MPH
Chief Executive Officer
Oklahoma City Indian Clinic



The Honorable Mary Fallin
Governor of Oklahoma



Jenny Love Moyer
Vice President of Communications
Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores



The Honorable Vicki Miles-LaGrange
United States District Judge
Western District of Oklahoma



Arlita Williams
President
INTEGRIS Health, Edmond

HOSTED AT THE LU-OKC CAMPUS
4205 N. LINCOLN BLVD. | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

For more information, contact Dana Chism at 405.466.6024
or dhchism@langston.edu

Apple denies requests to unlock devices

By Xavier Flenoy
Staff Writer

Apple Inc. denied law enforcement and government agency requests to help create a backdoor to customer devices and account information.

According to <https://www.mashable.com>, a technology website, the FBI requested Apple help unlock customer devices, such as iPhones, iPads and MacBooks, to obtain account information, including Apple IDs, services and transactions.

Law enforcement thinks Apple's new privacy will protect thousands of criminals who seek to do harm, physically or financially.

Apple announced that the company's new privacy policy, called iOS 8, can no longer bypass passcodes or access customer data.

According to *USA Today*, Apple CEO Tim Cook responded to the FBI by stating, "We have great respect for the professionals at the FBI, and we believe their intentions are good. Up to this point, we have done everything that is both within our power and within the law to help them. But now, the U.S. government has asked us for something we simply do not have, and something we consider too dangerous create..."

Cook, in a customer letter on the Apple website, said the government is asking Apple to hack customer's devices and undermine the security that protects the customers. But, he said in the letter, customers expect the company of Apple to protect their personal information.

"We believe strongly that we have a responsibility to

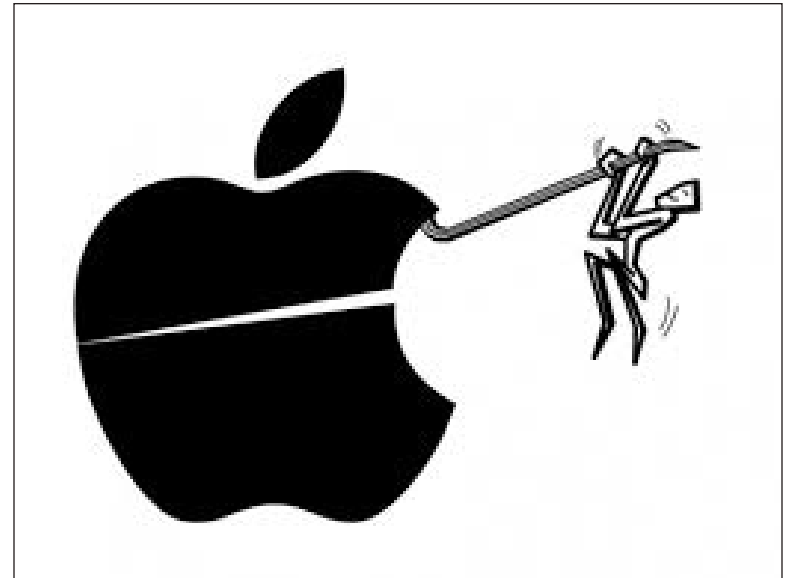
help you protect your data and protect your privacy," Cook said. "We are deeply committed to safeguarding their data."

According to the Apple website, Apple also made it clear that the company never worked with the government to create a backdoor to its products or services nor did it allow any government access to its servers. Apple ensured that it will never allow this type of activity.

The iPhone is a commonality among students on campus. While some students are concerned about their data and information being hacked, others are not fazed by the possibility.

"[The FBI invasion] is really not a big deal to me because I have nothing to hide," said Dayna Davis, senior broadcast journalism major.

However, another stu-



dent took the possibility of the FBI hacking her phone a little more personally.

"I don't think it's okay to invade my privacy at all, especially if I'm not doing anything wrong," said Maegan Crutchfield, junior sociology major.

According to the Apple website, due to emergency request, Apple believes

in good faith. Danger of death or serious physical injury to any person requires immediate disclosure. Appropriate legal documents, such as a subpoena or search warrant, Apple reviews carefully for valid legal basis. Apple thinks security shouldn't come at the expense of individual privacy.

PARTY

from page 3

tape was stuck. They would not let us leave. My friend's car that I had gone back for — her car was there. Then, I saw the girl that had gotten shot...her thigh was bloody, her arm — she was just bloody. Then, the ambulance came, helicopters came—it was just a mess," the witness said.

Once she located her friend, she realized that her friend had military training and was assisting the paramedics with the multiple victims. The witness said she remembers how "ridiculous" she felt — in party clothes — freezing and "starving" outside the VFW while she awaited questioning by police.

"I didn't see anyone get shot, I just happened to be standing right where the fight broke out, and since it was so hard trying to get out of the building, we never saw anyone get shot or any shooter."

The witness has not been contacted by authorities since the night of the shooting.

However, despite the debacle of the previous night, the witness purchased a ticket to Bowties and Thighs the next day (the day of the party), which is a Kappa event that was canceled hours before it was scheduled to begin.

A representative from Langston University's Office of Student Life was not willing to go on record regarding any kind of conduct hearing that the fraternity might have faced after they probated their first line since spring 2013. The representative cited "confidentiality" restrictions and noted that individual students as well as campus organizations, such as fraternities and sororities, have rights. The representative said that confirming or denying any kind of discipline that ensued as a result of the VFW shooting would violate those rights.

No members of the Alpha Pi chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi could be reached for comment.

LifeShare asks residents to become organ donors

Special from LifeShare

April is National Donate Life Month, and LifeShare is celebrating around the state.

The goal of National Donate Life Month is to raise awareness by educating and motivating individuals to register their decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor.

LifeShare is the organ procurement organization in Oklahoma responsible for the recovery of organs and tissue for transplant purposes.

One organ donor can save the lives of up to eight people, restore sight to two people through cornea donation and heal countless others through tissue donation.

Currently, 52 percent of the U.S. adult population is registered as organ donors, 1.6 million from the state of Oklahoma.

Yet, the number of people in need of transplants continues to outpace the number of organs donated. More than 121,000 people across the country are waiting for a transplant and a second chance at life. Of these, more than 700 are Oklahomans.

On average, 22 people die each day waiting on a lifesaving organ transplant. Registering your decision to become an organ donor and sharing that decision with your family is the most effective way to ensure you can save lives through donation.

Your decision to register serves as a sign of hope and support to those who continue to wait.

LifeShare encourages residents to enroll in the Donate Life Registry. Oklahomans have three options to register as an organ, eye and tissue donor.

Residents can sign up when renewing their driver's license, they can visit the LifeShare registration online at <https://www.LifeShareRegistry.org> or they can call 1-800-826-LIFE (5433) and request a donor registration form.

LifeShare is a nonprofit, federally designated organ procurement organization (OPO) dedicated to the recovery of organs and tissue for transplant purposes.

We work closely with five transplant centers and 145 healthcare organizations in the state of Oklahoma to facilitate donation. Additionally, we strive to raise awareness for organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation through public education.

For more information about LifeShare, please visit the website at <https://www.LifeShareOK.org>.

Lady Lions softball players expect turn-around season



Photo from langstonsports.com

Alessia Gallegos winds up to pitch during a home game against McPherson College on March 21. The Lady Lions have an 18-26 record but plan to turn it around soon.

By James Ford
Staff Writer

Langston University's softball team's recent wins could be the start of a turn-around season.

With 14 games left in the season, the ladies' current record is 18-26, and they look to do nothing but improve.

They have struggled, so far, with team chemistry and closing out games, but they think they still have a chance to get better heading into conference play, which is in less than a month.

"Our expectations haven't quite been met yet, but we are striving to keep on doing our best because we have a lot of important games coming up for us," said Alessia Gallegos, junior physical therapy major.

The ladies played against

Texas College on April 1-2, and won 25-0, 26-1, 18-0 and 17-0. Then, on April 8-9, they played against Our Lady of the Lake and lost 1-7, 2-11, 8-11 and 9-11.

The team feels good about the recent wins, but they still would like to see improvement, especially after the losses they think they should have won.

"As a team, I feel that we began a little off," said Christine Rosas, junior physical therapy major. "Now, we are a lot closer and have our mind set on the prize. There is always room for improvement."

They will travel to New Mexico to play against the University of the Southwest on April 15-16, and they are confident that they have a good chance of winning all four games in the series.

Campus Question

If you could change Langston University's location, where would you place it and why?

Michael Holt — Freshman Psychology Major

"Anywhere in the world? Amsterdam (*wink, wink*). There's a lot of nice views there — that's what I've been told. People there get really... enlightened."

Tyra Conner — Sophomore Psychology and Criminal Justice Major

"I really wouldn't move Langston anywhere else. I feel like the historical value we have here is good enough. We have a very rich history here — specific to this location, and I really value it."

Dayna Davis — Senior Broadcast Journalism Major

"I would keep Langston in Oklahoma because it's historical — the only HBCU in Oklahoma. I would put it where the LU-OKC campus is versus it being in the middle of nowhere"

Shayvon Timmons — Junior Psychology and Criminal Justice Major

"Anywhere in the world? Chicago. The fact that I'm from Chicago and we don't have any HBCUs there, and it's a bigger city — the third biggest city in the [country] — that's where I'd move it. It has nothing to do with me being from there (*laughs*)."