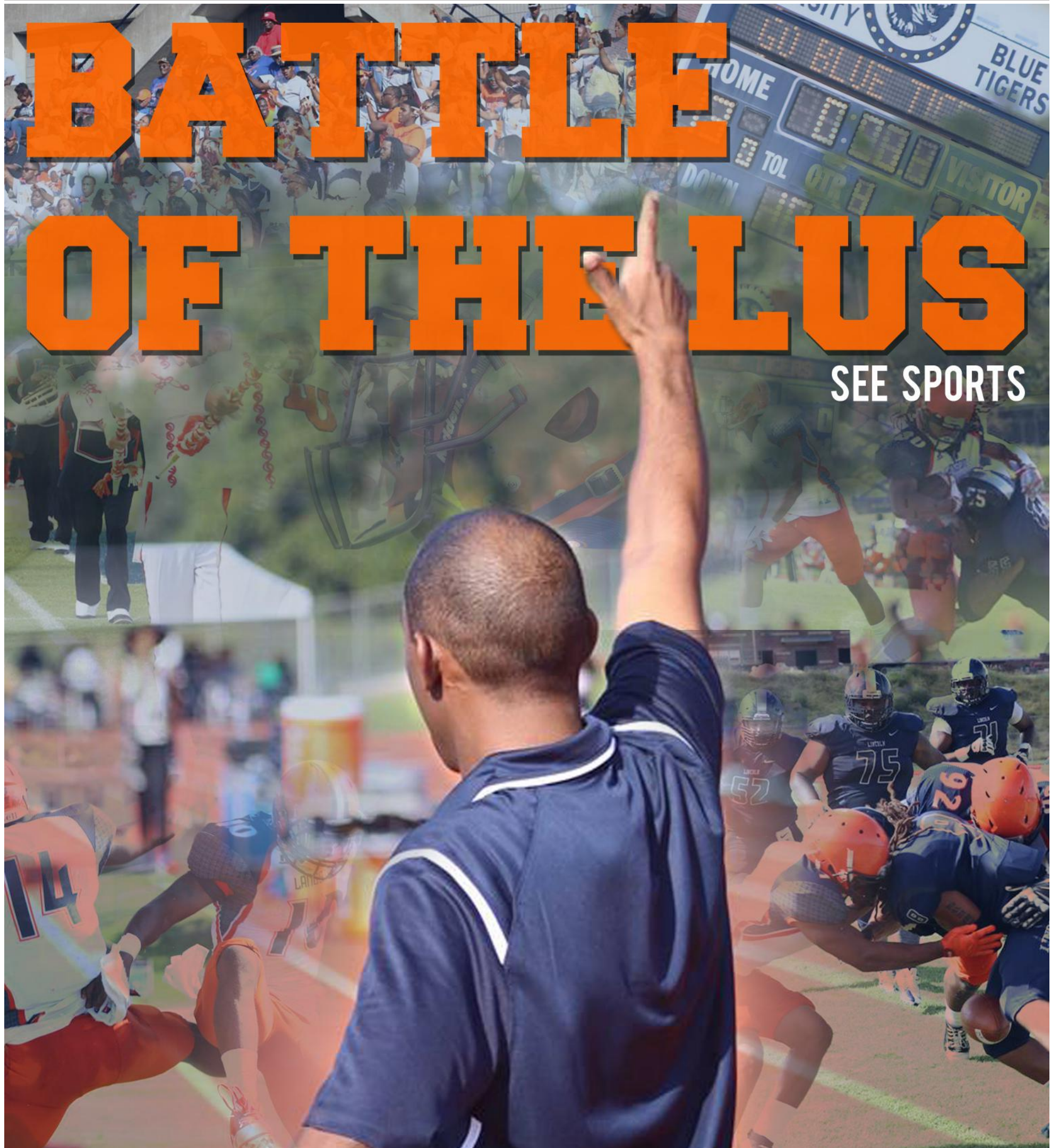


the Gazette

VOL. 79, NO. 1

STUDENT VOICE OF LANGSTON UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016



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 Friday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

Editors

Marcus Garlington
Kimberly McKnight

Cover Designer

Paul Pugh

Reporters

Perry Smith
Michael Watts

Contributing Writers

Zhana Davis
Brittni Logan
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.

Don't fall victim to senioritis

This is my last year at Langston University. Seriously, where has the time gone? It feels like only yesterday I walked onto the campus as a freshman—wide-eyed, terrified and searching for my S.O.S. group. But now I am filling out my graduation petition.

As I look ahead, my future is not as clear as I'd like it to be, but I know that I have one... somewhere. One challenge I can't seem to overcome is "senioritis."

Now that I'm a graduating senior, I understand why students say they have this so-called condition. Most students acquire senioritis toward the end of the school year, but unfortunately for me, it has started early.

Senioritis occurs when a student is in their final year of high school or college, and it is characterized by a decline in motivation or performance.

Students sometimes tend to act as if they have already



Davis

graduated or as if they have already earned the grade they need to pass a class.

While senioritis is usually chuckled off and not always taken seriously, this mindset can hold you back from that one goal we all are ready to reach—graduation.

I started the first day of school making plans for graduation and worried about everything that wasn't important. I wasn't enrolled in my classes I needed on the first day of school this semester, and, unfortunately, I didn't even

buy any school supplies. You are probably thinking the same thing that I was, "What a way to start off the school year?!"

After getting everything together I vowed to myself that from that day forward I would make sure I have my priorities together, but this year is my year and I can only get the best out of it.

As seniors, we tend to think about the future too much and not live in the

moment.

Though we are working toward starting a foundation for our careers, we still need to go out, have fun, travel and take advantage of our last year in college. And more importantly, focus on what still needs to be done to reach the end of our journey. Shout out to the Class of 2017—Live it up!

Zhana Davis is a senior broadcast journalism major.



#WhatHappened

Students wonder how light pole crashes over fence



Photos by Kimberly McKnight

A light pole lies toppled over part of a fence near an entry to The Commons apartments. Students found the broken light pole Sept. 12, but the cause of the mishap is still unknown. There are no tire marks in the parking lot or on the street or grass near the site indicating that a car might have caused the pole to fall over the fence. *The Gazette* staff is working to find the cause of this accident.

Guthrie water issues affect Langston

By Kimberly Thompson
Contributing Writer

Could the water you're drinking be harming you?

It's no surprise that Guthrie is experiencing water issues because the city has dealt with water issues dating back to 2014. But, have things gotten worse? This is a question circulating in Logan County, including on the Langston University campus.

On Aug. 8, residents noticed a difference in the taste and smell of their water.

"City officials confirm high levels of manganese were found in Guthrie Lake, one of the primary sources of water for treatment and distribution to the public," according to KFOR's website. "The city manager said the odor, distaste and water discoloration is due to what's called 'Lake Turnover,' which tends to happen during season changes."

Because of high temperatures and lack of rain, high levels of manganese came to the surface of Guthrie Lake, causing all these noticeable changes to the water that many Logan County residents consume.

Because of the issue, Guthrie and Langston residents have turned to buying more

bottled water and have even spent extra money on purifiers.

The water issue has caused Teresa Asberry, senior public health major, to spend more money on drinking water in order to stay hydrated during work hours on campus.

Not only has it caused people to compensate financially, it also has affected some people physically, causing them to get sick.

"I drank a couple of cups of soda diluted with the Guthrie water, and I had stomach/stool complications for two days, along with stomach aches and vomiting," Asberry said. "Once I completely stopped drinking the soda from the fountain machine, I began to feel much better."

The water has not only made people sick but has also caused people's skin to break out with itchy rashes and dry skin.

"I bought bottled water so I did not have to intake the water besides showering, but even showering with the water has caused my skin to break out terribly," said Aujane' Patterson, sophomore business management major.

According to KFOR's website, Guthrie City Manager Bruce Johnson is well aware

of the water problem.

"If it doesn't look right, if it doesn't smell right, it doesn't taste right, it's probably not right," Johnson said.

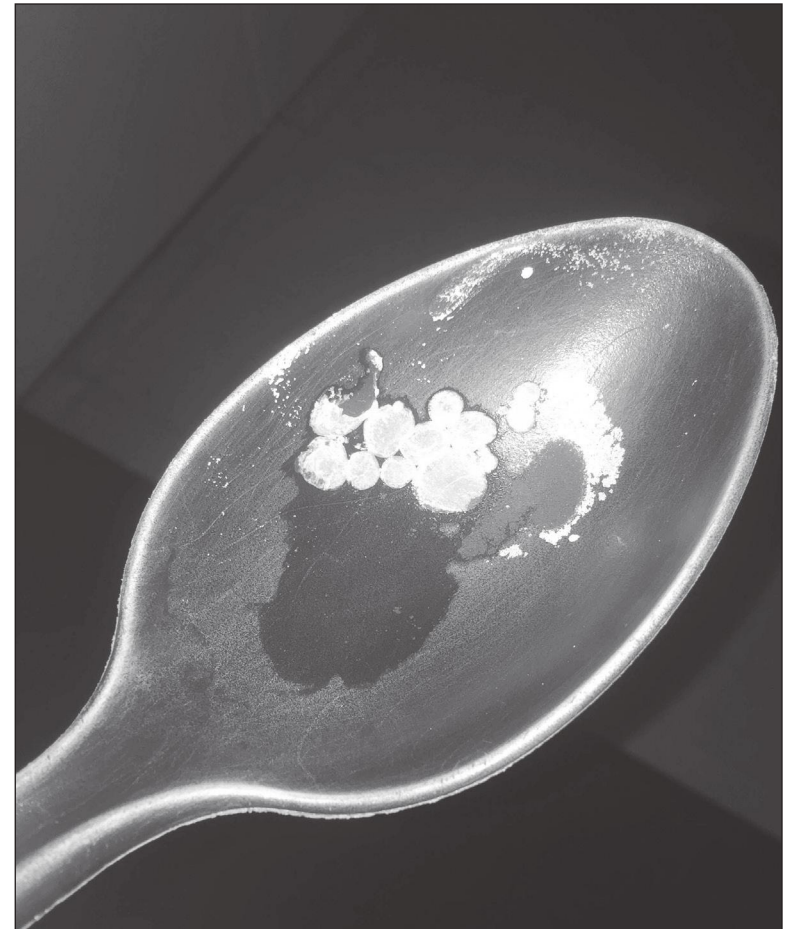
According to the national Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR), "Manganese is a trace element and eating a small amount from food or water is needed to stay healthy. Exposure to excess levels of manganese may occur from breathing air, particularly where manganese is used in manufacturing, and from drinking water and eating food."

Based on research from the ATSDR, however, a person has to be exposed to high levels of manganese for long periods of time (years) before that person will experience serious health problems or complications.

For more information, visit the ATSDR website at <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov>.

Johnson explained how the manganese problem in the water will eventually diminish.

"We have enough chemicals that are in our water that will naturally kill and dissolve some of that manganese, and... the manganese will often times settle out in our system," Johnson said.



Courtesy Photo

This spoon shows the affects of water with high levels of manganese, which is a naturally occurring metal or a trace element.

Senior business management major Yelena Cottrell boiled water in her apartment and noticed yellow and green particles floating to the top of the water. She stuck this spoon in the boiling water to scoop up the particles, which are shown in the picture.

'Scholarship Man' encourages students at weekly sessions

By Marcus Garlington
Editor

Money — it's a pretty big deal. To many, it's the difference between going to college and graduating in four years versus five or six, the difference between going to college in state or out of state or even the difference between going to college at all.

How many of us have had that conversation with a classmate? "Hope you have a good summer! You comin' back next year?" To which the reply "no" is often indicative of complications with financial aid, which is understood with the simple phrase "My bill."

What do you do? Maybe you could ask your parents for

money. Maybe you work. But maybe, just maybe, you could apply for some scholarships.

Of course, it sounds easy, but many scholarships have essay portions, possibly multiple interviews and a prospective candidate pool greater than the number of students who attend Langston. One group on campus still says, "No big deal." That group is the English Club, spearheaded by "The Scholarship Man" himself, Andre Love, an English instructor.

The original purpose of the English Club was to simply assist students with their writing, but Love thought that was too simple. He evolved that single purpose to give assistance with writing some direc-

tion: scholarship applications.

"What I decided to do... was to add the scholarship component to it," Love said. "That way, not only can we continue learning to write, we can also help ourselves by... securing scholarship funding. One of the best benefits... [in securing a scholarship], it spills over into the research aspect. Prospective employers will understand your ability to research and that can make you very marketable."

"We get a lot of benefits out of this. Of course, it helps with the studies... [but it also] builds confidence, helps [students] become independent because not only have they secured their own funding, but they feel as if they can do

things on their own. It keeps them encouraged by sharing information and building a community," Love added.

The English Club and scholarship sessions are student-driven. Love is there only in an official capacity as their adviser, but most of the flow of information is going from student to student.

Kaedi Villarreal, a freshman who Love described as "heaven-sent," has transitioned into a leadership position in the sessions and is proving herself to be invaluable to Langston's freshman class.

Seventeen-year-old Villarreal's story starts with her mother dying at a young age. Without knowing her father, she moved from home to home

and eventually became homeless and dropped out of high school. However, she was so determined to prove her naysayers wrong that she relocated from Dallas to Tulsa Job Corps and graduated from the program with her high school diploma 15 days before her 17th birthday. Her next stop? Langston.

Villarreal was enrolled in Love's class, and as the "Scholarship Man," of course he stressed the importance of writing and securing scholarships in class, so Villarreal approached him with her knowledge on the subject.

The more they discussed, the more Villarreal became

see **SCHOLARSHIP**, page 8

The perfect fit

Busby fills Student Life director role

By Kimberly McKnight
Editor

Langston University has experienced five different directors of Student Life in the past three years.

Joshua Busby is the new acting director of Student Life. He has been working for Langston University for nine years and is a Langston alumnus.

"I'm very excited to have the opportunity to work full time and 100 percent of the time as the director of student life," Busby said.

Because there hasn't been any consistency in the position of director of student life, Busby plans to make some changes.

"I'm encouraged because I'm an alum of the institution, serving when I was in undergrad from 2002 to 2006, also being very active in SGA, NPHC, and all walks of campus life," Busby said. "I know the struggles that our students go through, but also working



Joshua Busby

for the institution going on nine years; I'm very aware of the lay of the land."

Busby has been at Langston for 14 years, and now that he is the new acting director of student life he isn't going into this position blindsided.

"I think I was well-equipped on day one to function in the position and be able to lay out a plan that will enhance the full development of our students here at Langston University," he said.

Busby has new ideas and plans for Student Life.

"I believe when I took this position on Aug. 8, I came in with a mantra of 'change the cultural, change the game,'" he said.

Busby said that he knows he has to build trust with the student leaders and the student body.

"I'm no stranger to anybody," Busby said. "The majority of our student-leaders know me because they've worked with me."

Student leaders expressed how they feel about Busby being in this new position.

"Being in SGA for three years, I've seen a variety of changes in Student Life, mainly the director of Student Life position," said Keilan Armstrong, SGA president. "Busby was a very good choice for the position because his stature is excellent for the position."

Armstrong said Busby has shown the student body and Student Life that he is capable of fulfilling the role.

Other student leaders think Busby will bring a bet-

ter foundation to the management of Student Life, particularly compared to the past three years.

"I feel as if he can bring us structure," said Frenchie Bah-Tou, SGA activities coordinator. "I don't have to worry about being misguided. He most likely faced some of the same problems we faced today back when he was SGA president, so it isn't hard for him to relate."

Bah-Tou said she has high expectations for Busby, and some of those expectations have already been met.

"Busby is a hard worker," she said. "I am not concerned about him putting trust in the position, but what I can say is that he will be dedicated as long as he is in the position, and as a student, that's all I can ask for."

Armstrong said Busby has already represented himself well to the campus organizations, and he has proven to be a great planner as well as very reliable.

Armstrong voiced the differences between past directors of Student Life and Busby.

"One thing I can say Busby does that the recent director of Student Life has not [done] so well is his persistence," Armstrong said. "He makes sure to hold all student organizations accountable, and I can see that reflecting to his peers that he works with at Langston as well."

Armstrong said Busby also brings a different style to Student Life and that everything he does is structured in a good way for the students.

Busby plans on building opportunities for the student body to grow emotionally, physically and mentally as individuals.

"At the end of the day, it's about getting students across the stage, but also making sure that they are better citizens to make the world a better place once they graduate," Busby said.

Student body elects female activities coordinator

By Michael Watts
Reporter

The Langston University student body elected the second female activities coordinator in the past 20 years. Frenchie Bah-Tou, senior HPER major, has the honor of holding this elected position for the 2016-2017 academic year, and she has a few ideas to help make this year the best it can be for all LU students.

"A couple of the goals I want to accomplish this year is that I want to get more student inclusion," Bah-Tou said. "I would also like to have [more diverse] events spread out across campus. I feel like we keep on doing the same events... I also want to build a bridge between students and administration; students

need to know that the administration staff is here to help [and they have more professional resources besides their teachers]."

Bah-Tou mentioned that the plans for this year's homecoming will be "epic." She also talked about the reasoning behind her deciding to become a part of SGA, specifically the activities coordinator.

"I didn't do it to have something on my resume for future use," she said. "I wanted to make sure that before I leave, the voices of the students are heard."

Bah-Tou is ready for the challenge. Her toughest project ahead, though, is to create a memorable experience for this semester's homecoming in October while sticking to a

strict budget. Previous homecoming celebrations have left students in an uproar. There have been activities canceled because of inclement weather, student complaints of disorganization and the infamous Migos scandal, where most of the patrons allowed into the rappers' homecoming concert did not attend LU, as Langston students were outside waiting in a line that would never move. These actions reflect directly on SGA, and students will not hesitate to point the finger at none other than the activities coordinator.

"It is a position that has a lot of responsibilities," Bah-Tou said.

Students across campus expressed their feelings about Bah-Tou organizing this

year's university activities and events.

"I think she is perfectly qualified for the role of activities coordinator," said Kameron Gibson, senior drafting and design major. "She has been in many leadership roles on campus, and I think she'd do an outstanding job this year."

Aneesha Moore, sophomore HPER major, thinks Bah-Tou is the best person for the job because of her personality.

"I think she fits the part," Moore said. "She has so much energy. You need the energy to be a coordinator [and] you need to be hyped... she brings out the hype in others."

It looks like Langston University and the student body are satisfied with their choice



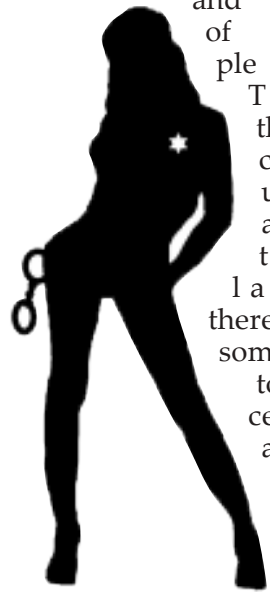
Frenchie Bah-Tou

for this year's activities coordinator... for now. They are expecting great things from Bah-Tou as she arranges this year's homecoming.

LU Fashion Police

The Oklahoma weather decided to stay in summer mode, and LU students have kept the fall sweaters and long-sleeve tees packed away.

The ladies of LU have taken advantage of showing their style in crochet tops, ripped denim shorts and sandals of multiple styles.



Though the heat can be unbearable at times, ladies, there are some ways to accessorize a long stay-

ing cool. For example, you can take a halter top with a pair of high-waisted shorts or a body-con skirt, a cute pair of sandals or wedges and a nice kimono — it's a look that will keep you cool and classy.

The summer fashion DON'T I would like to point out is the TRIPLE THREAT, which is real and not pretty.

For those who have read my previous articles, they understand what I mean. But for those who have not, the triple threat consists of cleavage, stomach and thighs. One out of three is cool, two out of three would be all right (maybe), but it is never OK to have all three at the same time.

A little imagination for the mind goes a long way in reference to a person's character.

The men of LU have been making a statement them-

selves, from their business attire to their "fit" of the day, and from athletes sporting their favorite kicks to the freshmen making fashion statements on why they're so "fresh!"

There is an appreciation for LU men taking fashion risks in their wardrobe. Some risky styles have become confidence-boosters, which allow more guys to follow this risk and branch out.

On the other hand, some fashion risks that men make are only meant to happen once for a learning experience.

As an article favorite, the first Fashion Spotlight will go to all the Greek fraternities and sororities on campus. The reason: because no matter when or how they wear their Greek paraphernalia, they wear it with class and a little bit of attitude.

Students love F'real shakes

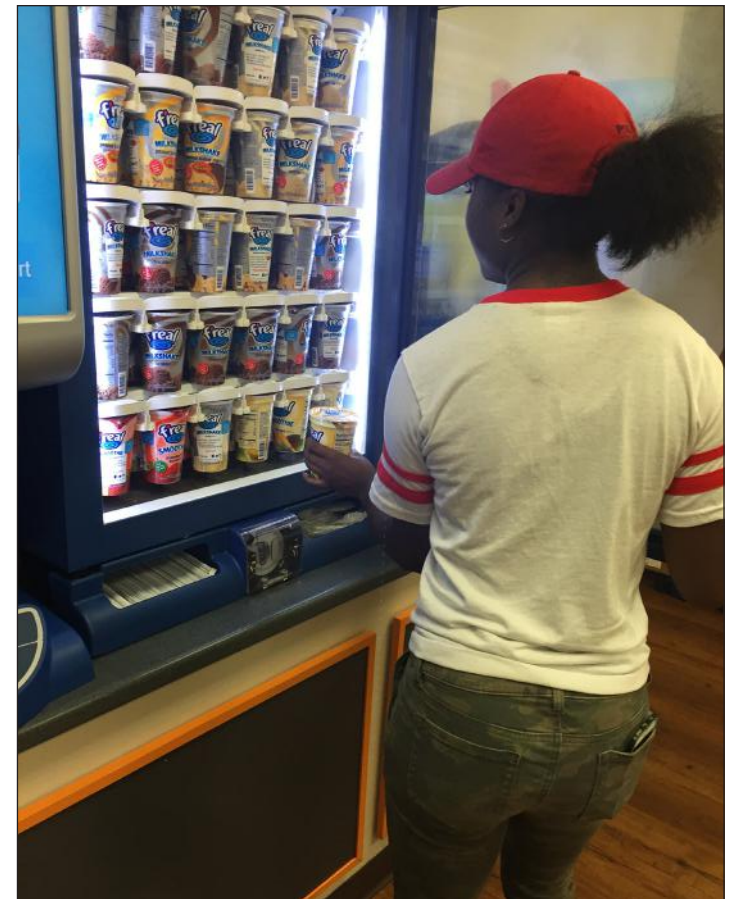


Photo by Kimberly McKnight

Jasmine Mayes, junior broadcast journalism major, picks a F'real flavor to make a shake. F'real is a new item available in the C-Store, located in the SSC.

Campus Question

What is your favorite F'real shake flavor?



Dazjon Johnson,
Business Management Major

"My favorite F'real smoothie flavor is mango — mango just happens to be one of my favorite smoothie flavors."



Maya Jackson,
Broadcast Journalism Major

"Mango is my favorite! I love fruity flavors and that is truly the best flavor they have."



Brandon DeLoach,
Agricultural Business Major

"My favorite F'real milkshake is Oreo."



HaLee Hawthorne,
Nursing/Psychology Major

"My favorite F'real smoothie is strawberry banana!"

Dr. Clarence Hedge retires after 40 years at Langston

By Brittni Logan
Contributing Writer

Though many deans have come through Langston University, not all have left a legacy like Dr. Clarence Hedge. He poured out his heart and soul in many ways, giving his blood, sweat, and tears to Dear Langston for the past 40 years. His most recent title was Dean of School of Arts and Sciences, but he did not start at the top.

Hedge first came to the university in 1967, working in the Technical Occupation Program. Though he became the acting dean in 2006-2007, Hedge worked as an instructor for the Department of Technology for a number of years, and then served as the department chairperson. He also was the physical plant director, along with serving as a member of numerous committees.

"Being dean of [School of Arts and Sciences] has been very good to me and my family," Hedge said. "My family was raised here. We had a lot of benefits; some of the things that we had when my children were young, they (Langston University) no longer have."

There are specific requirements and duties involved in becoming a dean. For the School of Arts and Sciences, Hedge said, there are a lot of difficult situations he had to manage and diffuse over the years.

Typically, toward the end of each semester, students would come to his office and complain about faculty. He said, most of the time, these students would not be performing academically well toward the end of the semester, and that's the time when students would complain about their classes. This may be because this school is the largest, most diverse on campus.

"We have to sit down and talk to students and try to help them," Hedge said. "It's a little late at the end of the semester, and I tell all the students that



Photo by Gazette Staff

Dr. Clarence Hedge, former dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, accepts a plaque recognizing his service to the university. Hedge retired May 31.

if they come to me earlier, we can help you. We can get tutors or whatever you need to get through, we can do that. But toward the end of the semester, it's almost impossible for me to help."

Even around this time of the academic year, Hedge still tried to meet with the instructors and professors. Sometimes he would meet with the student and the instructor to see what the he and the instructor could do to help.

The main thing the LU president and vice president demand is that faculty of this university be on time and do what they are here for, which is to instruct and teach students.

"We have some excellent faculty and the great majority of them are here to help our students," Hedge said.

The School of Arts and Sciences does not tolerate an amount of unordered conduct, such as little things like not coming to class on time.

But Hedge looked on the brighter side of things and appreciated his faculty because they all strive to meet the same goal – wanting the students to learn and be accountable.

With all this hard work within his 40 years of service, Hedge had been contemplating retirement for five of those years. Hedge officially retired May 31 of this year.

"You get to this age and you start saying, 'Well, maybe I should retire,'" Hedge said. "To be honest, I enjoy my work. I'm very thankful and grateful to be able to have a place to work that you really enjoy."

Even when he worked in the Department of Technology he considered that being more fun than simply work. There were times when he would come to the LU campus on the weekends to work with students because he simply enjoyed it.

"The dean position is not fun. It is work. But even at

that, I love it," Hedge said. "I like to see accomplishments made and success, particularly in our students. It's hard to say goodbye when you enjoy something."

Hedge has also made an impact on the people he has had the pleasure to work with as well as students. Doristina Moncriffe, administrative assistant for the School of Arts and Sciences, said that working with Hedge felt like a roller coaster, but sharing a working environment with him was great.

Hedge taught her a lot in regard to the academic life of a student that she never really thought about. Hedge would also share historical stories around the office, which showed the love he holds for Dear Langston.

Although Hedge has retired, he feels the Lord has blessed him with good health. He said he can look into things to do after his retirement, but in his mind, he's thinking he'll just be home with his wife, working in the yard, doing some work for his church and getting involved in some organizations.

On the subject of retirement, Hedge said that it has made him sit back and think about all that he has done for Langston. He is humbled about all that has been accomplished, from students' success to him being a major part of the planning of a recreation project for the Langston Lake, which was a project from when he was in the Department of Technology.

After hearing the legacy that Hedge is leaving at Langston University, he seems to have someone in mind that would not only fulfill it, but will continue and expand it.

"If everything goes well, I recommended Dr. Alonzo Peterson, the chairman of the Department of Mathematics," Hedge said. "Peterson has written grants, been instrumental with setting up programs in the math department

that has helped students' success with math and more."

He said Peterson not only works with the students on the LU campus but with students in the community as well.

"Peterson also serves on several committees, which shows he's committed to Langston University..." Hedge said. "I truly think Peterson could do a good job for Langston University and the School of Arts and Sciences."

Hedge's plans for Peterson and the School of Arts and Sciences have been carried out — Peterson took over as dean in July 2016.

"I really appreciate Dr. Hedge's comments and confidence in my ability to do this job and do it well," Peterson said. "When I was chairman of the Department of Mathematics, I worked very hard to build strong relationships with my faculty and mathematics majors. We were able to redesign and unify curriculums and create new courses with a lot of input. I refrained from making unilateral decisions, but included my faculty and considered our students' perspectives in making even the smallest decisions..."

"I believe Dr. Hedge was aware of my efforts," Peterson said. "Over the years we developed both a professional and personal respect for each other and the jobs we were doing. I have had a relatively smooth transition into my new post. Dr. Hedge left the division in good shape..."

"The department chairs and faculty have been very supportive, receptive and responsive to my requests and calls," Peterson said.

"I believe we all understand the great importance of HBCUs in America," he said, "and appreciate the knowledge, commitment, time, effort and value that each person brings to our university that makes it a great place to live, learn, work and grow."

Zeta Day on the Hill 2016 Sorority addresses black power in government

Special from
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. convened in Washington D.C. on Sept. 13, for Zeta Day on the Hill (ZDOTH) 2016.

ZDOTH provided community leaders from 15 states a platform to voice their concerns on issues that affect minority communities across the United States. This day-long event informed attendees on how to make significant policy changes in their communities by getting engaged in government.

The theme of this year's ZDOTH was "Unleash Your Superpower:

Vote. Advocate. Run." Preceding the 46th Annual Legislative Conference hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, ZDOTH focused its discussion on sharing ways that African Americans can unleash their collective power to drive change in their communities and ultimately run for political office.

"In 2012, when President Barack Obama was re-elected, African-American women were 33 percent more likely than any other subgroup to vote," said Dr. Mary Breaux Wright, Zeta International President. "Our power goes far beyond our vote. Zeta is demonstrating how community leaders can take their

rightful seat at the political table and direct the kind of change we want to see in our communities."

Past Zeta International President Dr. Barbara West Carpenter, a member of the Louisiana State House of Representatives, was joined by leadership representatives from the NAACP, the White House Council of Women and Girls, the American Association of University Women, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to host workshops to help Zeta leaders tackle key issues that plague their communities.

The day culminated with a public community forum, "A Seat at the Table: Black Women as Voters, Ad-

vocates, and Elected Officials," featuring an expert panel of women, including Congresswoman Donna Edwards.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. was founded in 1920 at Howard University who envisioned a sorority that would promote the highest standards of scholarship achievement and Finer Womanhood. Headquartered in Washington D.C., Zeta has a diverse membership of more than 120,000 college-educated women with more than 800 chapters in North America, Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East. For more information, please visit <http://www.zphib1920.org>.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority donates backpacks, funds for service projects

Special from Doristina Moncriste
Alpha Kappa Alpha Member

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. held its annual Mid-Western Undergraduate Roundup at Langston University on Aug. 20. The event was hosted by the Alpha Zeta Chapter of AKA.

Undergraduate Roundup is a time for members to learn new information from the International and Regional levels as well as

to network with states in the Mid-Western Region.

During the event, members of the Mid-Western chapters donated over 75 backpacks to the Baptist Student Union in Langston as part of the sorority's "One Million Backpacks" service project.

The region also donated \$1,000 to the Langston University Foundation. The Alpha Zeta chapter strives to continue to be of service to LU and the surrounding community.



Courtesy Photo

The Alpha Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. donates a \$1,000 check to the Langston University Foundation as part of its service initiatives. AKA members also donated over 75 backpacks to the Baptist Student Union as part of the sorority's "One Million Backpacks" service project.

NAACP hosts Hump Day Mixer



Courtesy Photo

The Langston University chapter of NAACP hosts a Hump Day Mixer. The purpose of the event, which was Sept. 7, was to introduce the student body to the LUNAACP in a casual setting.

Anyone interested in joining the LUNAACP chapter can contact any member of NAACP or come by one of the meetings during the semester. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. every other Wednesday, beginning Sept. 21, in the Allied Health building, Room 111.

LU is 2-0 after OKC Classic

By Perry Smith
Reporter

The Langston Lions football team is 2-0 after defeating Bethany College in a 30-7 blowout victory during the OKC Classic on Sept. 10.

The Lions defense set the tone in the first quarter, putting points on the board after an interception returned for a touchdown by linebacker Evan Scott.

The defense also forced a fumble in the end-zone and recovered it for a touchdown in the second quarter. Mark Wright Jr. threw for 166 yards on 13 of 26 pass attempts; he also had 14 rushing attempts for 92 yards. Kievon Jackson

led the Lions in rushing for 123 yards and scoring two touchdowns, and he also caught three passes for 19 yards.

The Lions jumpstarted their offense in the second half of the game, scoring 21 of their 30 points scored. Jackson ran for a seven-yard touchdown in the third quarter, and he ran for a six-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter.

According to langstonsports.com, Jackson and Scott were named Central States Football League Offensive and Defensive players of the week, as both players had outstanding performances during the OKC Classic game.

The Lions are set to face Lane College on Sept. 17.



Photo from langstonsports.com

Kievon Jackson (No. 7) rushes the ball down the field as he avoids the defense during the OKC Classic game against Bethany College. LU defeated Bethany, 30-7, Sept. 10.

Langston wins 2016 'Battle of the LUs'

By Perry Smith
Reporter

Langston University's football team won its first game of the 2016 regular season against Lincoln University, defeating them, 23-13 in the Missouri Classic: Battle of the LUs.

The Langston Lions took a heart-breaking loss against Lincoln University in last year's Classic, with the game ending 34-32.

"I basically told them we're not the same team we were last year," said Quinton Morgan, head football coach.

"I told them as long as we continue to play football the way we entered the season last year, we will be fine in the first game against Lincoln University this year," Morgan said.

The Lions got off to a slow start against the Blue Tigers, not posting a score until the second quarter of the game.

LU quarterback Mark Wright Jr. scored his first

points of the season, rushing for a one-yard touchdown with 54 seconds left on the clock on 14 plays for a 62-yard drive, taking the score up to 6-0 after Lincoln blocked the extra point attempted by Michael Ryan-Calderon.

The Blue Tigers answered right back as Vinson Dennis heaved a 33-yard touchdown pass down the sideline to wide receiver Anthony Townsend on six plays for a 60-yard drive to end the first half with a 7-6 lead over Langston.

The Langston Lions came out strong to start the second half of the game. Wright Jr. threw for a 16-yard touchdown pass to La'Darion Cobb, making the score 16-7 in the third quarter with 7:06 on the clock.

The Lions kept the lead throughout the rest of the game, scoring one more touchdown in the fourth quarter on a play-action fake 34-yard pass from quarterback Norbert Ralph to wide receiver Cobb.

The Blue Tigers scored

a late passing touchdown in the fourth quarter as Vinson linked up with Townsend again.

"It was relieving because it showed that we got into a rhythm on offense, [since] we started kind of slow," Wright said. "It feels good to start off the season... with a win."

According to langstonsports.com, Wright Jr. completed 18-for-28 passes for 171 yards with one touchdown and also ran 51 yards with one rushing touchdown.

Cobb led receivers with three receptions for 56 yards and two touchdowns. Langston's defense stayed disciplined, only allowing 124 passing yards and 54 rushing yards.

"To us, it's like we're 0-0," Coach Morgan said. "The win is in the past and [you've] got to prepare for the future. We feel like if we lose a game, we won't make it to the playoffs... so that's our approach... to play each game like it's a playoff game."

SCHOLARSHIP

from page 3

involved. She began finding scholarships for other students, but that evolved into her running the scholarship sessions.

"Scholarships, for me, are a big deal, and if it wasn't for Langston, I would be homeless," Villarreal said. "Not only do they help you with your education, but the money that is left over is yours. And with our community, if you will, it makes it easier, I think. It's good to know I'm not the only one who knows the struggle, but we all are facing the light at the end of the tunnel together. People who come to the sessions tell me, 'There is hope, bro.' And they're right. You can't just give up."

Their GroupMe is just about 80 members, a far greater turnout than Love or Villarreal expected.

"Who knew it was scholarships that would bring people together?" Villarreal added.

One of those people is freshman biology major Marissa Wilson from Decatur, Georgia. She found out about the scholarship sessions from a flier and was "intrigued." On her first visit, she missed out on the packets that contained over 200 scholarships but vowed she'd be on time for the next session. She did that and more.

"I feel really grateful for this because it reminded me of one of the..." Wilson paused. Then she continued, "The MAIN reason, rather, that I chose Langston in the first place — because of their ability to work with students effectively and actually take away one less barrier students have because financial pressure is very real."

As the sessions grow, Love is hoping that the students not only gain money from their efforts but can also come together to present the work they've done at Langston's annual Research Day. Villarreal hopes to maintain her position until she graduates and plans to groom a future freshman with the same dedication and perseverance she has, although Love admits that will be hard.

In the mean time, anyone visit Allied Health every Wednesday at 4 p.m. promptly to see just how many students are finding scholarships and most likely securing funds for themselves. If there is a time conflict, the "Scholarship Man" has extended an invitation to his office, Room 100 in Jones Hall, to assist any of those requesting his services.