

the Gazette

STUDENT VOICE OF LANGSTON UNIVERSITY



VOL. 76, NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 20, 2013

Thanks for checking out the first issue of the *Gazette* at Langston University.

Because this is the first issue, and we wanted to publish it as soon as possible after the fall 2013 semester started, it came out on a special date of Friday, Sept. 20, 2013.

However, the remaining issues will publish every other Tuesday, beginning Oct. 1, 2013.

Welcome Back!

Also Inside

Voices . . . p 2

News . . . p 3-5

News Features . p 6-7

Sports . . . p 8

Sen. Jabar Shumate visits LU



Photo by Kenneth Madison

Oklahoma State Sen. Jabar Shumate speaks to students, faculty and staff at the 2013 Langston University Formal Opening Convocation. At the Convocation on Thursday, Sept. 19, Sen. Schumate reflected on LU's rich, cultural history and the founding fathers of the institution such as Inman Page. He encouraged current students to take "the road less traveled," and he also challenged students to make positive life decisions by choosing to connect, engage and empower while studying at LU.

LU accounting students visit ONEOK

By Aaron Parker
Sports Editor/Photographer

Langston University accounting students traveled to Tulsa to visit the ONEOK facilities and listen to advice on what it takes to become successful in the corporate world.

ONEOK is a premier energy company that is involved with the processing, transporting and distribut-

ing of natural gas and liquid gas.

ONEOK is the eighth largest natural gas distributor in the United States, and is the largest in Oklahoma.

Students listened to speakers such as Clifton Gray, who is in charge of hiring new employees at ONEOK, talk about how to conduct a perfect interview, the importance of assembling a thorough resume and how to

dress for success.

"It's all about fit for men," Gray said, "nothing too big or too small. You want to dress conservatively. A white or light blue shirt is what you want to wear with either a charcoal grey or navy blue jacket, and your tie should just reach the top of your belt."

see ONEOK, page 3

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 bi-monthly and is dispersed across campus every other Tuesday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

Adviser/Manager
Nicole Turner

**Sports Editor/
Photographer**
Aaron Parker

Staff Writers
Lauren Smith
Darrell Strong
Talibb Woods

Contributing Writers
Jabril Bailey
Brittany Kendrick

The *Gazette* Office
Langston University
Hwy. 33
Sanford Hall, Room 318
Ph. 405-466-3245
Send story ideas,
comments and
calendar events to
nkturner@langston.edu.

Opinions expressed in LU 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.

Student encourages self-love, self-worth

It behooves us, as young black women, to carry ourselves in a graceful and respectful manner at all times.

We, as young ladies, should realize that we are queens who should value ourselves as such.

We derive from African queens and princesses. We are truly royalty but, a lack of knowledge often times leads to disrespect upon ourselves through teen pregnancy, drugs, prostitution, low self-esteem, disrespecting our bodies, and a lot of other self destruc-



Kendrick

tive actions.

At age 17, I was pregnant with no father to support me and no father to support my daughter.

Through lack of knowledge, we sometimes find ourselves in a viscous cycle of the same mistakes again and again.

If we learn to put first things first, we will soon realize that the first thing is love for yourself, then love for your family and origin and lastly, love for others.

I have learned to think first and then react, this gives a person a chance to weigh the outcome of a situation and apply common sense and wisdom before making a decision, this concept often comes with age

and maturity.

Becoming a respected figure for our race and gender should be our generation's ultimate goal.

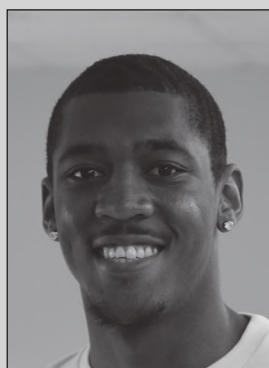
This goal will cut down on a lot of the stereotypes that follow us as black women.

Learning to put your trust in a higher power, having integrity, education and self-worth is the key to having life more abundantly.

Brittany Kendrick is a junior broadcast journalism major.

Question of the Week

Do you think the U.S. should get involved with the growing conflict in Syria?



"I believe we should get involved, but I do not think we should put ground troops in Syria. We should just attack with drones until they understand the message that we are trying to send."

Donnie Bryant,
senior psychology major



"We have an obligation, as a world power, to help others in need. But to avoid further conflict with Russia and other neighboring countries, we should just provide humanitarian assistance to those Syrians in need until further action is required."

Terry Lewis II,
senior international studies major



"America has to work on itself first. There are a lot of issues that are building within our country, and we need to concentrate on the issues at hand before we can concentrate on the issues of another country."

Alayrys Jennings,
junior biology major



"This country is tired of war. There are so many things going on within American that we need to deal with first."

Brittini Potts,
junior biology major

Compiled By
Aaron Parker

ONEOK from page 1

Senior business management major and accounting minor David DeGruy Jr. said he thought that the trip was a great experience for students, and a great opportunity to learn how to get your foot in the door of a major corporation.

"Students need opportunities like this because there is only so much you can learn in the classroom," DeGruy said. "Sometimes you need to venture out to

the corporate world to really see and understand what it takes to become successful."

Employees told students that the months of September through November is recruiting season for companies, and that there is no better time to start applying for jobs or looking for an internship.

They also informed the students that they cannot wait for opportunities to come and find them; the students have to go out and find their own opportunities.



Photos by Aaron Parker

Top: Langston University accounting students view an interactive display at the ONEOK facilities in Tulsa. The students took a trip to ONEOK on Sept. 3, for a special visit to see how to become successful in the corporate world.

Left: Derek S. Reiners, senior vice president and chief financial officer of ONEOK, talks to LU accounting students at the ONEOK facilities in Tulsa.

Oklahoma higher education leaders call for passage of immigration reform legislation

Special Press Release

On Sept. 19, 13 college and university presidents in Oklahoma sent a joint letter to the Oklahoma U.S. House delegation calling for immigration reform to be passed this year.

The letter was signed by:

- Eastern Oklahoma State College President, Dr. Stephen E. Smith
- Langston University President, Dr. Kent Smith
- Northwestern Oklahoma State University President, Dr. Janet Cunningham
- Oklahoma City Community College President, Dr. Paul Sechrist
- Oklahoma City University President, Robert Henry
- Southern Nazarene University President, Dr. Loren Gresham
- Southwestern Christian University President, Dr. Ed

Huckeby

- Southwestern Oklahoma State University President, Randy Beutler
- Tulsa Community College President, Dr. Tom McKeon
- University of Central Oklahoma President, Dr. Don Betz
- University of Oklahoma President, David Boren
- University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma President, Dr. John Feaver
- Western Oklahoma State College President, Dr. Phil Birdine

"We are calling on Oklahoma members of the U.S. Congress to work together to bring forward a workable plan for immigration reform this legislative year," said Oklahoma City University President Robert Henry. "America has long been the global leader in innovation

and economic growth. The time has come for Washington to pass comprehensive immigration reform so America can continue to lead in these significant areas."

The letter cites several reasons for the need to pass immigration reform legislation this year, including:

- The prevalence of foreign-born students graduating with Master's or PhDs in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) fields
- The high demand for STEM graduates by businesses
- The potential impact to the economy from passage of the DREAM Act
- The need of the agricultural industry for more low-skill visas

"Few people disagree that our immigration system is not working, and we have been requesting that Con-

gress act for a long time," said Dr. John Feaver, president of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. "Many economic sectors depend on employees with high and low-skill visas. We need a system that is market-driven and meets the needs of those industries."

Eastern State University President Dr. Stephen Smith added, "Immigration reform has become so politicized in recent years. The longer Washington waits to deal with this incredibly important issue, the more complicated it will become. We are asking our leaders to work in a bi-partisan manner and pass comprehensive immigration reform this year."

ABOUT PARTNERSHIP FOR A NEW AMERICAN ECONOMY:

The Partnership for a New American Economy brings

together more than 500 Republican, Democratic and Independent mayors and business leaders who support immigration reforms that will help create jobs for Americans today.

The Partnership's members include mayors of more than 35 million people nationwide and business leaders of companies that generate more than \$1.5 trillion and employ more than \$4 million people across all sectors of the economy, from Agriculture to Aerospace, Hospitality to High Tech and Media to Manufacturing. Partnership members understand that immigration is essential to maintaining the productive, diverse and flexible workforce that America needs to ensure prosperity over the coming generations.

Learn more at www.RenewOurEconomy.org.

Early Childhood Laboratory incorporates bright changes

Special from Nicole Turner
Gazette Adviser/Manager

Children attending the Early Childhood Laboratory at Langston University walked into a colorful, new world when they arrived for their first day of school this semester.

During the summer, employees at the ECL implemented several changes, including giving the building a bright makeover by painting every room in the facility.

"The building has been painted; all the classrooms are different colors," said Tani-sha Wells, director of the ECL.

Prior to the summer, the ECL walls that are made of dark red brick and eggshell white drywall, had never been painted. They still protruded the original brick and white paint.

However, the employees chose to add bright pink, neon green, neon blue and a deep, bright purple to the facility.

"It opened up the center and just gave us a new life," Wells said.

She added that the employees are enjoying the new, colorful change and that everyone seems happier.

"We've purchased new materials for the children, and we are getting new computers in also," Wells said. "Each of the teachers will have a computer for their own use in their classrooms."

Wells said the facility now has 13 new desktop computers.

There are seven for the employees, two for school-aged children, two for pre-school children, ages 3-4, and one for student-employees or practicum students. The other computer is reserved for a young age group.

"We are trying something new; we are going to put a computer in the 2-year-old classroom," Wells said.

She said the computers have software programs on them that help the children with learning in areas such as beginning reading skills, alphabet sounds and letter recognition, numbers and picture recognition. She said all the programs are age-appropriate.

"A lot of technology is being used in classrooms now, so we wanted to step up and prepare them early for that," Wells said.

Employees at the ECL also are now wearing matching uniform scrubs that are embroidered with their names.

Wells said they decided on this because it looks more professional and, she said, the scrubs were a good choice because they are inexpensive and durable.

"Everyone looks organized, in order,



Photos by Nicole Turner

Above:

Staff at the Early Childhood Laboratory wear their new matching uniforms, which is a change they incorporated during summer 2013.

Right:

The ECL is now painted with bright colors including purple in this classroom.

Below:

Staff at the ECL chose bright green paint for this classroom.



clean; and, we don't have to worry about different dress codes," Wells said. "It just looks so much better."

A total of seven employees each have five different uniforms, one for every day of the week. They have two navy uniforms, one royal blue, one black and one gray.

"We are so excited about the changes," Wells said. "It's bringing out a different vibe in the center. The staff is on the same page and there is just a more positive vibe with everyone."

Parents who have children attending the ECL also are pleased with the changes. One parent, Doristina Moncriffe, said she particularly likes the colorful change.

"It doesn't even look like the same building," Moncriffe said.

LU students to host college film fest

**Special from
Nicole Turner**
Gazette Adviser/Manager

Seven Langston University students are spearheading the biggest college short-film festival in Oklahoma, and are seeking applicants from all college students across the state.

21 Elementz Productions, an organization these seven students represent, will debut the festival at 7 p.m., Oct. 15, 2013, in the I.W. Young Auditorium.

The festival is open to all students who attend a college or university in Oklahoma.

Darrell Strong, president of 21 Elementz Productions, said that he encourages as many college students to enter the festival as possible.

"The more who enter, the better the festival will be," Strong said. "We are excited to see all of the talent that we have right here in Oklahoma."

In addition to short films, the festival includes unique categories such as movie trailers and music videos, and features a variety of genres from comedy to horror.

Students interested in submitting films should apply at 21Elementzproductions.blogspot.com, and send their applications to 21Elementz@gmail.com.

All films must be a minimum of 30 seconds and a maximum of 10 minutes. All submissions are due by Oct. 4.

The competition is free to enter and free to attend.

The 21 Elementz Productions team looks forward to meeting fellow student-filmmakers, and the team is excited about giving students from across the state of Oklahoma the opportunity to showcase their creativity and talent, while promote their films.

"This is one of the greatest opportunities to even be a part of," said Terry



Haynes, student-director and vice president of 21 Elementz Productions.

"My team has been very influential and aggressive the past two years, and to finally have a film fest come together is unbelievable," Haynes said.

Students who enter the festival will also have the opportunity to be recognized by Dead Center Film

Festival representatives, which is an organization based in Oklahoma City.

"Now is the time for students to be really recognized and push forward with dreams, and with God, no one can stop us," Haynes said.

Four LU students—Terry Haynes, Julian Jackson, Mauricio Griffin and Carla Dunn—formed 21

Elementz Productions in 2010.

The students involved with 21 Elementz have a strong passion for producing films and working in the filmmaking industry.

For more information about 21 Elementz, visit the organization's blog at <http://www.21ElementzProductions.blogspot.com>.

'In The LUop' Students produce university webisodes

By Jabril Bailey
Contributing Writer

Have you seen "In The LUop," the Langston University webisode program that has been shown on YouTube?

"I was sitting in my room thinking, 'this would be dope,'" said Westley Martin, a graduating senior who first came up with the idea for LU to make three-five-minute webisodes.

Martin is one of the creators of "In The LUop," along with sophomore BreYona Pettaway.

Pettaway said the show not only helps people keep up with what's happening on the LU campus, but it's also a good video for recruiting other students.

Immediately after Martin



Photo from Facebook

Breyona Pettaway and Westley Martin host the new Langston University webisode program, "In The LUop," which is featured on YouTube.

came up with the idea for the LU webisode program, he assembled a team in less than 24 hours to help produce the short videos.

Martin is a co-host with

Pettaway, who are both executive producers as well.

The rest of the "In The LUop" team consists of Brandon Clemons as the executive director and Ju-

lian Jackson and Brandon Clark as the photographers and videographers.

"In The LUop" also has a social media team that administers the Facebook page and the Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Sophomores Antiyonia Watkins and Dionna Briggs are in charge of the social media.

The sports section is ran by a lead field reporter, Jonathan McGill.

Both Martin and Pettaway said they are confident of their supporting cast members' abilities.

"The masterminds are Julian Jackson and Brandon Clark and also BC (Clemons)," Martin said.

The first webisode of "In The LUop" is making progress on YouTube. In one

week, the video had more than 1,500 views.

The second video in its debut had more than 300 views in one day.

"In The LUop" is catching attention from not only students and staff, but LU alumni also.

Martin said that since the first airing of the show, many alumni have contacted him giving him compliments and telling him that they couldn't wait until the next one aired.

The crew for "In The LUop" are still hard at work and would like to hear what other students think about the show.

You can contact them on their Twitter account @IN-THELUOP, on Instagram @IN-THELUOP or their Facebook page, In The LUop.

LU launches new website



The new LU website features a sleek design, dynamic use of photography and easier usability. The new site launched Sept. 9. In the next few months, you can expect to see more additions to the site such as virtual tours and video messages from deans and department chairs.



Welcome
Back!
from
DBW

LANGSTON UNIVERSITY
FALL 2013 SEMESTER

DROP/ADD & WITHDRAWAL DATES

	Class Begins	Drop/Add	Last Day to Withdraw (W)	Class End
1 st 8 week session	August 19, 2013	First 5 days of class August 19-23, 2013	September 27, 2013	October 11, 2013
16 week session	August 19, 2013	First 10 days of class August 19-30, 2013	November 8, 2013	December 13, 2013
2 nd 8 week session	October 14, 2013	First 5 days of class October 14-18, 2013	November 22, 2013	December 13, 2013

- ❖ Must drop or add by dates listed above in order to receive 100% refund for courses dropped and 100% for courses added.
- ❖ Must drop 1st day of a weekend session to receive 100 % refund for courses dropped and 100% charges for courses added.
- After the designated drop/add period, **NO REFUNDS** will be given. *Non-payment and/or non-attendance does not constitute withdrawal of classes.*
- There is a \$5.00 per credit hour charge for classes dropped or added subsequent to the initial enrollment of courses.
- An automatic withdrawal grade of "W" is issued when a student initiates a drop after the drop/add period.

To officially withdraw from school, students must complete a withdrawal through the Office of Academic Affairs.

- Langston Campus, Registrar's Office, Page Hall, Room 134, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Oklahoma City Campus, Main Office, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Tulsa Campus, Student Services, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday



LANGSTON
UNIVERSITY

Music department to hold auditions for new Christmas concert musical

By Lauren Smith
Staff Writer

Christmas is coming, Christmas is coming, and this year the Langston University Music Department is adding a little twist to its annual President's Holiday Concert by performing a musical titled, "A Christmas Carol in Harlem."

Each fall semester, before students leave for winter break, the music department hosts a concert that normally features performances from the LU Concert Choir and the Jazz Ensemble.

However, the new musical script they will perform this year is based on Charles Dickens', "A Christmas Carol."

Franklin, acting chairwoman of the

music department and assistant professor of music, and her assistant director, Erica Thomas, are looking for LU students to showcase their talents through singing and acting.

They are having open auditions to fill different roles in the musical. To audition, students need to perform 16 bars of any song, from Chaka Khan to Janelle Monae.

Auditions are scheduled from 4-5:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20, in the Hargrove Music Hall Choir Room.

"You always hear students say, 'I did musicals in high school' or 'I love to sing, but I just don't have time for choir,'" Franklin said. "So by allowing the whole student body to participate, I believe this will allow more students

to not only showcase their talents to the university, but bring the campus closer together."

Students are excited about this great opportunity to show peers some of their hidden talents.

James Scott, a senior broadcast journalism major, is auditioning for the musical.

"I love the idea," Scott said. "The plot is a story every child grew up on, (but) with a modern twist and a rich culture of the Harlem Renaissance."

The musical will incorporate elements of the Harlem Renaissance, including ghosts and different characters who played a major role during this time.

The audience will also recognize

many characters from "A Christmas Carol," such as the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, who undergoes a profound experience of redemption during the course of one Christmas Eve night after being visited by the ghost of his former partner, Jacob Marley, and the Ghosts of Christmas past, present and future, according to the Wikipedia website.

In the musical rendition, instead of Jason Marley, Scrooge's partner will be someone from the Harlem Renaissance.

An ensemble of the LU Marching Pride Band will provide music such as "Hot Jazz" and a little Billy Holiday.

For more information about the auditions or the musical, contact Franklin at 405-466-2936.

A look back: LU Class of 2013

Congrats to the Grads



Left:

The 2013 Langston University graduating class lines up outside of W.E. Anderson Stadium as they wait to march onto the football field for the graduation ceremony.

Right:

A graduating senior proudly displays his school spirit on graduation day by flashing an "L" that represents the LU hand sign.



Right:

Langston University President Kent Smith Jr. congratulates a graduating senior and shakes her hand when she receives her degree.



Photos by Nicole Turner

Lions have 0-2 start this season

By Darrell Strong
Staff Writer

The LU Lions are currently winless in two games this season, but despite the record, things are looking up in the Lion's den.

First year Head Coach Dawone Sanders is adjusting to the highs and lows of playing against better opponents.

Wins and losses are only a part of the game for the Lions. Sanders is at the helm of rebuilding a program that has been under the radar in past years, but is starting to get noticed.

"Langston is pretty good in football and (other HBCUs) wouldn't want the stigmatism of saying they lost to Langston,"

Sanders said.

However, the biggest adjustment, Sanders said, was realizing that when playing better opponents the disparity in talent becomes clearer.

"Where I may have one guy, (another coach) may have three that look exactly like the one I have," Sanders said.

Putting together four quarters of good football was the problem in the first two games.

Sanders said that LU had Northern Colorado on the ropes in the first half, but, as the game went on size and depth wore them out toward the end.

Although the Lions are still looking for a win, the focus is on improving game by game.



Photo by Aaron Parker

The Langston University football team practices during the fall 2013 season. The Lions are currently 0-2. Their next game is at Nichols State on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Sanders supports strong educational foundations

By Aaron Parker
Sports Editor/Photographer

The Langston University football team continues to strive for excellence under the direction of first year Head Coach Dwone Sanders.

Sanders was named head football coach by Athletic Director Mike Garrett in December 2012.

Sanders stressed the importance of winning and keeping young college men focused and on the right path.

"It's more than just football, it's a program," Sanders said. "You would like it to be about the wins and losses, X's and O's, but it's also about the overall foundation of young men."

Sanders has coached at Southeast Missouri State, Penn State, Utah State and Alabama State before coming to Langston in 2010, and as native of New Orleans, Sanders constantly

stresses the importance of education.

"You must allow these men to become the best they can be and become productive citizens," Sanders said. "And also, let them see that a college education is a universal education."

Sanders has a bachelor's degree from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La., and a master's degree from Southern University in Baton Rouge.

Sanders has said he is very excited about coaching LU football, and has made it very clear that he has great plans for this program.

"Langston University is a fine institution led by great people who are moving it in a forward direction where excellence is the goal," Sanders said. "I am pleased to be a part of this new direction that President Smith and Mr. Garrett are taking our



Sanders

football program. The goal is to make the NAIA Football Championship game in Rome, Georgia. That's the goal every year."

The road to the championship might be a little difficult this year with tough losses in the first two games of the year, but with Sanders at the helm, don't count the Lions out just yet.

Volleyball team wins first game at Langston

By Talibb Woods
Staff Writer

The women's volleyball team set a personal record under new Head Coach Rob Lutz by winning its first game in history at Langston University.

The Lady Lions beat Central Christian College, 3-1, on Aug. 31.

"I am very proud of the girls," Lutz said. "I wanted them to enjoy this moment of setting school history and finally getting the monkey off their back; they deserved it."

In fall 2012, LU incorporated volleyball as a new sport. This is the second actual season for the LU volleyball team.

The players and coaches were very happy to get the school's first volleyball win, and they said that they will continue to build from it.

The Lady Lions now have a record of 1-4, and although facing a tough schedule, the team is trying to make history again by having its first winning season.

"Making history was great, but we want a great season... not just a great game," said Mikaela Phillips, a freshman from Conroe, Texas.

The Lady Lions' next game is Sept. 21 against Southwestern College and Friends University.

Their first home game is against Wiley College on Sept. 27.