

the Gazette

STUDENT VOICE OF LANGSTON UNIVERSITY



VOL. 75, NO. 7

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Upcoming Dates

LU Men's Basketball
4 p.m.,
Saturday, Feb. 16,
C.F. Gayles' Fieldhouse

Financial Aid Feud Game Day
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 21,
Student Success Center

Lion Spirit Loan Week Trivia
Every Day during the week of Feb. 25-29
Office of Financial Aid

Black History Month
Month of February
Watch for fliers with information about events

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Art show celebrates 150 years of Emancipation



Photo by Akebia Finch

Deon Anderson (far right) presents his oil paintings to LU staff members, Shatara Brown (far left) and Kate Corbett, at an art show in honor of Black History Month, which celebrates African-American culture and history.

The art show was part of an opening reception to celebrate more than 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation. It was hosted by the Melvin B. Tolson Black Heritage Center on Feb. 7 in Sanford Hall. See more photos and story on page 7.

New student life director plans activities with 'open-door policy'

By Brittany Kendrick
Staff Writer

Langston University students may be wondering when the events they experience every semester will resume.

Perry Culverson, the interim director of Student Life, is new to the LU family. Culverson came from Georgia Perimeter Col-

lege, a two-year college in DeKalb County, Ga., where he was the coordinator of student life.

Culverson has stepped into this job and has since taken on a list of responsibilities that vary from events, pageants, ambassadors to the intramurals program.

With this new responsibility, Culverson said, he

wants to ensure that he offers the students a fair opportunity to have activities on campus.

"I bring flexibility, structure, consistency and most importantly, an open-door policy," Culverson said.

Jonathan Sortino, a junior public health major, said he believes that "Culverson is fair and he has great expectations for the

SGA and SAB Committee."

Culverson said he believes in "understanding and supporting the students and their need for entertainment and recreation."

This momentum may have the LU student body longing for things of the

see **ACTIVITIES**, 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 bimonthly and is dispersed across campus every other Wednesday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

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Lack of student jobs at LU raises concern

The 2013 spring semester is here and in full swing.

As college students, the start of every semester brings high hopes and great expectations to excel in all areas.

We vow to do our best and make better grades than in previous semesters.

We plan to join organizations and participate in activities to build up our beloved Langston University to its greatest potential.

However, for many students, that spark can be diminished by the typical woes of the life of a college student.

With the increasing cost of tuition, books, rent, etc., bills are ever-increasing and money is tight.

Expectedly, the next step for a college student is to get a job. But being a college



Reed

student at LU can have its challenges... which might be an understatement.

The first issue for an LU student looking for a job is transportation.

Not having a car as an LU student is like being stuck on another planet without a spaceship.

Being in the middle of a small town such as Langston, transportation is a necessity; if for anything, to

have the option to work off campus.

Secondly, if students are unable to work off campus, looking for a job on campus is the next step. This can surprisingly be difficult for LU students as well.

The process of receiving employment is very competitive.

For many students, finding work study or a payroll position is hard unless they have established connections with employers on campus or have a reoccurring position each semester.

In fact, there are students who hold multiple jobs on campus, which cuts down on the number of jobs available to students.

Moreover, many students must wait until a specified date to apply for work study if they are not eligible at the

beginning of the semester; this spring the date to apply is Thursday, Feb. 14.

This can be extremely frustrating and discouraging for a student who is starting out as a freshman, or a student who has not been able to find a job for many semesters.

Every student who desires to work should have the opportunity to do so.

Realistically, there is a limited amount of jobs to go around on campus.

Therefore, the dispersion of jobs should be limited per person, and new students should be given an opportunity to work on campus—particularly within the departments that house their majors—and get paid for it.

Venesha Reed is a senior broadcast journalism major.

Question of the Week

Do you have any suggestions on how to increase student enrollment or improve recruitment for LU?



"I would make it more affordable for students to attend. From a personal standpoint with me being an out-of-state student, I find it hard to afford to attend LU every year because of how high the bills are."

Monique Miller,
junior psychology
major



"First of all, I would make our campus more attractive by having more events that appeal to the students. Then, try to figure out a way to lower the cost for out-of-state students."

R.L. Wilson,
sophomore business
major



"Cut those bills down!"

Tre Mainbuntun,
freshman computer
science major



"I would give (out) Macs or tablets, and then lower the cost of on-campus living."

Tsvia Wright,
freshman finance
major

Compiled By
Da'Rius Oden

School of Nursing accepts applications, prepares for spring open house event

By Da'Rius Oden
Staff Writer

The School of Nursing and Health Professions at Langston University has a mission to prepare health-care professionals who will in turn provide diverse clients with accurate and appropriate health attention.

"People say if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere," said senior nursing major Ash'lee Armstrong.

"I know this to be true for the nursing department," she said.

"If you are able to make it through this and retain all you've been shown, a successful health career is at the palm of your hands," Armstrong said.

The nursing program at LU is a selective upper-division process to ensure the most proficient capabilities upon graduation

"The instructors are adamant in nurturing us to our utmost potential, and without their guidance, we'd be worthless to any hospital."

— Amber Coriano,
senior nursing major

with a bachelor's degree.

With 85-100 percent of students gaining their license to practice, the graduation rate for 2012 was 100 percent, according to the LU website.

"Our program is rigorous, but we do everything we can to help students succeed," said Dean of Nursing and Health Professions Dr. Carolyn Kornegay.

"We provide every op-

portunity for students to be successful."

With a special amount of attention geared toward minorities, LU nursing faculty teach nursing majors the importance of integrity, appreciation of difference and mutual respect to all patients.

Kornegay said along with ethics, the School of Nursing and Health Professions will gain knowledge of up-to-date technology such

as D2L, critical thinking, leadership and all medicine their field entails.

"The skill-set I have learned from the School of Nursing at Langston University has prepared me for anything that could come my way in this career," said senior nursing major Amber Coriano.

"The instructors are adamant in nurturing us to our utmost potential, and without their guidance, we'd be worthless to any hospital," Coriano said.

Applications are being accepted for this program until March 1 for the fall 2013 semester. All qualified applicants are accepted.

The School of Nursing and Health Professions is also hosting an open house from noon to 1 p.m. Feb. 27 in the Allied Health lounge.

The open house will provide students and pros-



Dr. Carolyn Kornegay,
dean of the
School of Nursing and
Health Professions

pects a chance to meet and greet faculty and staff.

All are welcomed, and those with an interest in the medical field are strongly encouraged to attend.

For more information about the nursing program at LU, call 405-466-3425.

LU graduate students prepare for written comprehensive exam

Special from
LU Graduate Program

The graduate program in the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences at Langston University requires successful performance on a written comprehensive examination toward the end of the student's work for the Master of Education degree.

The six-hour written comprehensive examination consists of questions within the student's area of concentration and the core requirement.

The student is expected to demonstrate knowledge and skills appropriate to the master's level in integrating facts, concepts and arguments from diverse sources into a systematic, well-reasoned, well-written narrative.

The spring 2013 Written Comprehensive Exam is scheduled for Friday, March 29, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the LU-Okla-homa City and LU-Tulsa campuses. Candidates who have applied to take the exam are:

1. Terrance Lockett – urban education, OKC
2. Jaime Cuellar – elementary education, OKC
3. Passion Bradley – English as a Second Language, OKC
4. Katawna Stephens – urban education, OKC
5. Areyell Scott – urban education, Tulsa
6. Avery Buyckes – urban education, Tulsa
7. Quinisia Williams – urban education, Tulsa
8. Greta Hawthorne – urban education, Tulsa

9. Tamarita Cowans – urban education, Tulsa
10. Sherrelle Peters – urban education, Tulsa

The Master of Education degree options anticipate the needs of the teaching profession to prepare for an increasingly multicultural urban clientele.

Target populations are elementary/secondary teachers, social services administrators and others who recognize the necessity to develop special training skills that enable them to respond to the needs and develop the potential of the ethnically diversified recipients that which will be the norm in the 21st Century.

Applications for admission are currently being accepted.

For more information call 405-530-7523.

ACTIVITIES from page 1

past, but eventually taking pride of the things in the near future.

"If we have more students taking pride in getting involved with their HBCU, we will have more ideas and further leading to more activities for the student body to enjoy," Sortino said.

"Culverson is working to clean up the past by doing things by protocol and this may not be popular, but we as a student body may understand it more in the long run," Sortino said.

In the mean time, students are missing the amount of activities, but look forward to what is ahead.

"I feel that even though enrollment is low, current students

should not have to be affected by (the low enrollment)," said Ocean Jackson, junior sociology major.

"They should plan more entertainment for students that do attend, but I have faith that my school will get it right," Jackson said.

Culverson admits "learning on the fly," but he is working hard to create a positive atmosphere with fellow staff members and the LU student body.

Culverson worked in the month of January to compile a list of events for February's Black History Month.

The theme of the month is "Harlem Renaissance."

It was kicked off with an "Open Reflection" event lead by Edward Grady, director of the Black Heritage Center, on Feb. 4.

*'The Tempest and Trail of Inman Page'***LU Choir performs in historical play**

By **Andrenique Meigs**
Staff Writer

The Oklahoma History Center presented the play, "The Tempest and Trail of Inman Page," on Feb. 8. The Langston University Choir, directed by Bonita Franklin, also performed.

"The program was very insightful; it taught me a lot of things I didn't know about Inman Page, and it taught me a lot about Langston," said Kelvin Hadnot, a senior music education major.

Students were proud to see the play and choir performance showcase

African-American history as well as history of Langston.

In 1898, Inman Edward Page was the first president of the Colored Agricultural and Normal University, now known as Langston University.

He was one of the first black men to be admitted to and graduate from Brown University in Providence, RI.

In 17 years, he increased enrollment from 40 students to more than 600, and increased the faculty from four to 35.

This play was written by Sharon Fisher and researched by Larry O'Dell.

This play tells a story of LU in its prime.

Inman Page is brought to the point of resignation and needing to defend his reputation in court.

A murder plot is brought against the new president and Langston is in between a battle of becoming a trade school or liberal arts college.

"I think it was really nice to see them focusing on a bit of Langston's history," said Christopher Smith, a senior music education major.

When arriving at the Oklahoma History Center, the LU Choir discovered that not only would they be singing in the play, but that would participate as the jury in some of the scenes.

"I can honestly say I

was not prepared to be in the play, but because they need the help and Langston's choir is elite, I think we added a very good vibe to the play," Hadnot said.

The student thought the Oklahoma History Center was the perfect avenue to display black history as well as the history about Langston.

Hadnot said it is very uplifting to see that there is just one history center that is appeasable for blacks and whites and it shows a lot of black history.

After leaving the play, those who attended found a new insight on Langston and the many struggles of those who paved the way for LU to be the university that people see and know today.

"I can honestly say I was not prepared to be in the play, but because they need the help and Langston's choir is elite, I think we added a very good vibe to the play."

— Kelvin Hadnot,
senior music
education major

*Valentine's Day***10 Money-Saving Dates**

1. Re-create your first date.
2. Have a picnic in the park.
3. Rent a movie... or several.
4. Dollar-store date... give yourselves each a \$5 limit... pick out fun items you think the other person would like, but don't let him or her see until you get home.
6. Hand over your phone... shut your phone off for one romantic evening together.
7. Visit the museum, gallery or a visitor's center.
8. Take the day off and spend a day at home together.. IF your schedules allow it.
9. Shout "I love you!" ... at the the top of your lungs like they do in the movies.
10. Make a handmade valentine... like we all did in elementary school.
11. Do something he/she hates... as in the laundry, dishes or vacuuming.



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Continuing the change Cafeteria serves soul food in February

By Dominic Dix
Contributing Writer

February is designated as Black History Month, and the Langston University cafeteria will participate in the special celebration by offering soul food on the menu.

Chef Dave Cordova, executive chef for the LU cafeteria, is eager to participate in the Black History Month theme.

"Every Wednesday for the month of February, the cafeteria will be serving soul food for the students," Cordova said.

To celebrate the traditional Mardi Gras "Fat Tuesday," however, the cafeteria offered soul food the

"Every Wednesday for the month of February, the cafeteria will be serving soul food for the students."

— Dave Cordova,
executive chef for the LU cafeteria

second Tuesday of February instead of the following Wednesday.

Cordova said he and his staff are motivated and taking the cafeteria in a new direction.

Their goal is to provide a healthier selection of food while maintaining a desir-

able yet satisfying selection.

They are aware that all students don't eat the same thing and that some may even be vegans.

To help alleviate the harsh complaints of unhappy critics and the stomach rumblings of picky eaters, they are now open to sugges-

tions.

Joseph Barnes, the general manager of dining services, said that starting Monday, Feb. 18, a suggestion box will be introduced to the students. The box can be found at the check-in counter in the cafeteria.

This will give students the opportunity to share their thoughts as well as suggest foods they would like to see served in the cafeteria.

Barnes said students can drop their comments in the box anonymously or they can sign them, but all will

be considered.

However, profanity-laced suggestions will be ignored.

The cafeteria recently installed a soft-serve yogurt machine as well. Students can choose from vanilla, chocolate or a swirl of chocolate and vanilla flavored yogurt.

Justin Bennett, junior broadcast journalism major, said he gets yogurt every time he goes to the cafeteria now, and is glad it's offered.

"It's definitely a better asset to the cafe; it's a good addition," Bennett said.

12 LITTLE HEALTH TIPS FOR BIG RESULTS

1 Hold your significant other's hand tonight.

2 Pop your allergy meds before bed.

3 Snooze on your left side.

4 Add healthy fats to every snack or meal.

5 Take six little calming breaths.

6 Add more ice to sugary drinks.

7 Guzzle water with your wine, or um, beverages.

8 Swap in cereal for bread crumbs when cooking.

9 Strength-train during commercials.

10 Keep track of your good deeds.

11 Stand up while you surf the web.

12 Cool a burn with water, not butter.

www.prevention.com

Soul Food Menu

Tuesday, Feb. 12

- Red Beans & Rice
- Chicken & Sausage Gumbo
- Dirty Rice
- Corn on the Cob

Wednesday, Feb. 20

- Fried Chicken
- Mashed Potatoes
- Steamed Broccoli
- Corn Bread

Wednesday, Feb. 27

- BBQ Brisket
- Black-Eyed Peas
- Rice, Corn & Biscuit

Student receives bad check from contracting company

By Kayla Jones
Editor

When the spring semester ends, the summer begins and most college students start looking for summer jobs. Summer 2012 was unforgettable to one student at Langston University.

Victor Silverton, a graduating senior from Detroit, Mich., has information he wanted to share about his experience working at the Langston Commons apartments.

"Over the summertime students are leaning toward

some type of employment to assist with our fall financial aid," Silverton said.

Instead of the financial help Silverton thought he was going to receive by getting a job, it actually put a dent in his checkbook.

"Over this past summer I was hired by a private contractor by the name of TMC Enterprise to clean the campus apartments," he said.

"I had been working there for about a month or so and everything was going well until I received my last check from them," he said.

He started to receive notices from the bank, but he would throw them aside, not thinking anything of it because he didn't realize what the notices were exactly.

"One Saturday, I decided to open up the notice and I said, 'WHOA! This is a warrant from my arrest,'" Silverton said.

Victor Silverton had a warrant placed out on him because his final check from the private contracting company bounced at the bank after he had cashed it.

Immediately, Silverton began trying to reach out to the company.

He wanted to come to some type of agreement about the bad check they had given him.

"They wanted to pay me the amount they owed me, but wanted me to suffer the loss for the bad check fees, and they were saying (it was) a banking problem," Silverton said.

Jamie Washington, an administrative specialist at Langston University, helped Silverton as much as she could.

"He (Silverton) came to me

"I took (TMC Enterprise) to court and the judge ruled in my favor, and ordered the company to pay me \$735."

— Victor Silverton,
graduating senior

and we looked over his paperwork," Washington said. "I assisted him as much as I could (but) the university had nothing to do with this; he was dealing with a third party."

From there, Silverton decided to take legal action against TMC Enterprise.

"I went to the (district attorney's) office that following Monday and I swear out a warrant for them for issuing me a bad check," Silverton said. "So, I decided to take TMC to court because they were not trying to work with me."

His bank account had accumulated more than \$200 in overdraft and banking fees, which totaled more than the original check.

He went to small claims court and won. The judge issued the company to pay his banking fees plus the amount of the original check because when he received the check, the company had insufficient funds.

"I took (TMC Enterprise) to court and the judge ruled in my favor, and ordered the company to pay me \$735," Silverton said.

TMC Enterprise is still currently in contract with the Langston Commons apartments.

Silverton said he wasn't trying to cause trouble; he just wanted the student body to be alert about situations that can happen, particularly when working with third-party companies.

Workshop Series

- Week February 4th -8th (every alternating week thru April 30th)

Session I: The Importance of Financial Assistance - 9:00-9:30 & 1:00- 1:30

Session II: Borrowers Rights and Responsibilities - 11:00-11:30 & 3:00-3:30

Session III: Changes in enrollment and how it can affect my aid-9:30-10:00 & 3:30-4:00

Session IV: SAP Ratio- 11:30-12:00 & 2:00-2:30

Session V: Sub vs. Unsub- 10:00-10:30 & 4:00-4:30

- Week of February 11th-15th (every alternating week thru April 30th)

Session VI: NSLDS- 9:00-9:30 & 1:00- 1:30

Session VII: Budgeting Tool - 11:00-11:30 & 3:00-3:30

Session VIII: Default -9:30-10:00 & 3:30-4:00

Session IX: Deferments vs. Forbearance - 11:30-12:00 & 2:00-2:30

Session X: Loan Forgiveness Programs-- 10:00-10:30 & 4:00-4:30

Sessions I-V
will begin the week of

February 4th-8th, 18th-22nd;
March 4th-8th, 18th-22nd;
April 1st-5th, 15th-19th, 29th-30th



Office of Financial Aid
405-466-3283

Sessions VI-X
will begin the week of
February -11th-15th, 25th-3/1;
March -11th-15th, 25th-29th;
April -8th-12th, 22nd-26th

*Each Sessions series alternates

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Emancipation Proclamation

LU celebrates 150 years of slavery abolishment through art show

By Kayla Jones
Editor

In celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation, alumni, faculty, staff and students organized a 42-piece art show, which is being exhibited in the Sanford Hall lobby.

During the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, a document that freed the slaves.

Deon Anderson, participating artist in the art show, said it's not just about him; it's about all of the wonderful artists and the celebration of the Emancipation.

2013 marks the 150th year since Lincoln signed the document.

"It was the clear thinking of the Langston University Black Heritage Month committee to recognize the 150 years of the Emancipation Proclamation," Anderson said.

The art show is on display to not only celebrate 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation, but also to shine a light on the arts at LU and the talented artists who are a part of the university.

Mauricio Griffin, senior a business management major, said he was happy to

participate in the event.

"I can say it's my first love in my art profession. I've been trying to find time to get back into sketching but it's hard to find time," Griffin said.

"So I just paused and just did it and fortunately, I'm a part of a great art gallery show. It's simply a blessing."

Griffin has two of his own original pieces hanging in the art show named "The Eye of the Beholder" and "Mr. President."

The inspiration for the show comes from not only the freedom of slaves, but also the hardships and struggles slaves once endured.

All the artwork is by students, faculty and some staff members, and the artists were free to showcase whatever style of art they wanted.

"There was no theme with the art the students produced," Anderson said, "except for my four pieces. I always have a theme for my artwork."

The art show will stay on display in Sanford Hall during the month of February. The artists are asking all people to sign a guest book when they visit the exhibit, which is located on the main table in the lobby.



Photo by Akebia Finch

Mauricio Griffin (left) and Deon Anderson discuss each others' work at an opening reception for an art show celebrating 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation. These two artists and several others will have their pieces displayed in Sanford Hall during the month of February in honor of Black History Month.

Author, former LU professor visits campus



Photo by Andrea Perry

ReShonda Tate Billingsley, former Langston University professor and now best-selling author of 21 books, gives a speech in the Black Heritage Center. Billingsley visited the LU campus and spoke to a group of LU students, faculty and staff Feb. 13. She also offered her expertise to students through a writing workshop. For more information, go to her website at www.reshondatatebillingsley.com.



Photo by Akebia Finch

Chance Pettis, freshman nursing major, stands in front of his sketches at an art show, which is being displayed in Sanford Hall for Black History Month.

Men's basketball team improves this season

By Craig Murray
Staff Writer

The Langston University Lions basketball team has improved in the last two seasons.

"This season is good; we are getting better every day and striving to get our full potential," said senior forward Jabril Bailey.

Bailey said he has improved on his personal game as well.

"I feel like I have improved a lot since last year; my confidence in my game shows that," Bailey said.

The 6-foot 6-inch senior has enjoyed playing at LU since his transfer from Coffeyville Community College in fall 2011.

Bailey started playing basketball in the 4th grade and since then, has fallen in love with the game of basketball.

The broadcast journalism

"We're focused on the last eight games of the season. Our goal is 8-0; so far we are 2-0."

— Joel Clarke,
sophomore center

major has worked hard on and off the court at LU.

"Playing for Coach Nigel Thomas is great. He pushes you to be your best, not only as a player but as a person. He expects nothing but the best from us on and off the court," Bailey said.

Joel Clarke, sophomore center, said, "We're a lot better than (last) season, more of a complete team."

The 6-foot 9-inch center from Brooklyn, N.Y. has enjoyed playing his second season with the Lions.

"I bring an inside pres-

ences, blocking shots, inside finishes and rebounds," Clarke said.

Clarke has been playing basketball as long as he can remember, but started organized playing for a team his junior year of high school.

"We're focused on the last eight games of the season. Our goal is 8-0; so far we are 2-0," Clarke said.

The 10-14 Lions' next home game is at 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, against our Lady of the Lake University in the C.F. Gayles' Fieldhouse.



Courtesy Photo

Emil Clayton, post guard for the Langston Lions, gets ready to drive toward the basket. The Lions won against Wiley College 76-54 on Jan. 21.

New football coach strives for success on, off the field

The role of a head coach in any sport is to help the athlete reach his or her full potential by any means necessary.

In a time where the emphasis has been placed on athletes and their contributions to sports, the work and the impact of the coach is constantly under the radar until the team or athletes' shortcomings come to light.

Langston University football has undergone a coaching overhaul.

The need to fill the void left by former Head Coach Mickey Joseph has been filled by last season's Defensive Coordinator Da-



Strong

wone Sanders.

The role requires a leader who can bring the Lions a solid foundation, a vision for success and capability of creating an expectation of success on and off the field that hasn't been seen in past years.

Sanders comes into the position knowledgeable of the culture of LU, being a member of the previous staff; but he comes in with a new direction, hoping to inspire new hope to a team that has felt heartbreak as they have fallen short of the playoffs by a slim margin the previous two seasons.

His new approach is being put to the test by 5 a.m. workouts that will separate the players who want to succeed and those who don't.

Character is one thing that can't be coached. It must be desired from the athlete.

High character is one

thing that is being emphasized around the Lions' facility – putting in the hard work even when the cleats are hung in the lockers; hard work not only being shown on the field, but hard work being shown in the classroom as well.

He is being charged with the task of molding well-rounded student-athletes.

The goal for any college student is to graduate and become successful after graduation.

This holds true for student-athletes as well, but with one added obstacle – to excel in their respected sport.

Not only is he facing the

challenge of producing stellar off-the-field success, but he also is challenged with being able to get a struggling offense on the same page as its top-ranked defense.

Sanders is coming into a new day and age at LU, but is he prepared to continue the legacy of preparing our athletes to be excellent on the field and to be great men after they've played their last down, and when the fans have stopped cheering and the marching band has played their last cadence.

Darrell Strong is a senior broadcast journalism major.