



**LANGSTON**  
UNIVERSITY

***'A Dynamic Model of Urban Ag Education in the Classroom Utilizing Hydroponics Education'***

---

Presented by:

Dr. Orlenthea McGowan, Professor & Project Director

School of Education & Behavioral Sciences

Langston University-Tulsa Campus

- This innovative presentation will provide information on how to develop a unique community/school-based model entitled “Urban Ag Education: Utilizing Hydroponics Education



# Project Goals

- The integrated project model provides participants with a model to promote and serve the local communities/schools, and address global trends Urban Ag Education.





The projects curricula design (outreach and material development) is an extension deliver/methodology that aims to fosters collaboration between the university, urban schools, and youth-centered organizations.

# National Concerns

- State and National research on obesity
- Food Deserts in Urban American
- Student Academic performance in STEM Related Areas



# Langston University-Tulsa

- Funded Grants:

- Learner Center Teaching \$297,000
- Urban Ag Connection \$600,000
- Live & Learn Health & Wellness \$600,000
- Hydroponics Grant \$600,000
- Funded by: USDA - NIFA Capacity Building Grant Program





# Teacher Institute



**URBAN** CONNECTIONS  
LU-TULSA **AG**







Foraged...





Prepared...



Dine...









**...and dance it all off!!!**



# Learning and Having Fun

**URBAN** CONNECTIONS  
Langston University  
Tulsa Campus



# School Gardens



**URBAN** CONNECTIONS  
LU-TULSA **AG**

















- ▶ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=755k0yRTYpA>
- ▶ Explore Tulsa Channel.com











LIVE + LEARN  
& Health  
WELLNESS



LIVE + LEARN  
& Health  
& WELLNESS





# Reflections

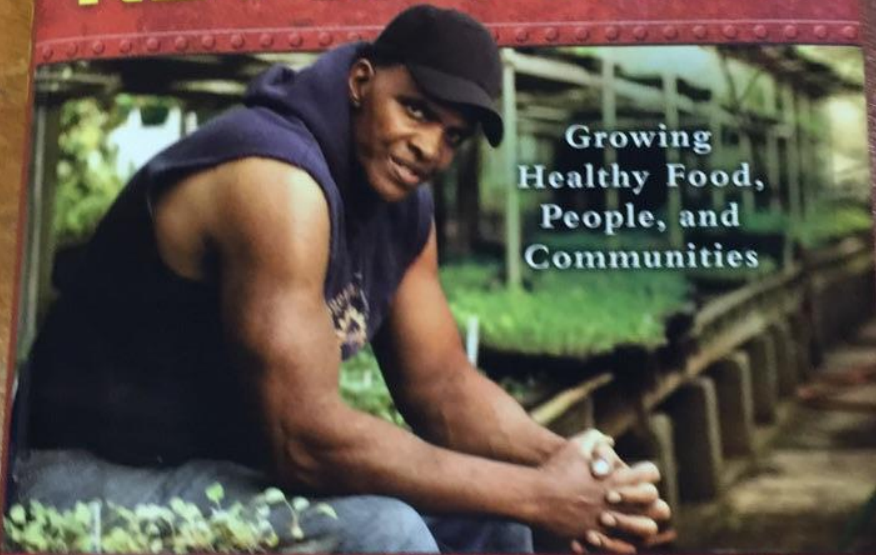


**STEM & Hydroponics Education Project**  
This Integrated project will equip undergraduate students, teachers, students (middle & High school), and community groups to utilize food production systems, prepare students for college and careers in agriculture and STEM-related fields, and maximize food security in urban communities.



"Will Allen's remarkable story, told with eloquence and compassion, conveys the universal value of social justice and real food."—ALICE WATERS

# THE GOOD FOOD REVOLUTION



Growing  
Healthy Food,  
People, and  
Communities

## WILL ALLEN

CEO OF GROWING POWER

WITH CHARLES WILSON

Foreword by ERIC SCHLOSSER  
Author of *Fast Food Nation*





**Growing Power National-International  
Urban and Small Farm Conference**  
**Building the Good Food Revolution**







The project objectives will aim to: (1) Re-design an undergraduate course with an experiential and service learning component designed to enhance STEM competencies and understanding of sustainable agriculture and food production systems; (2) Engage high school and middle school (pre-college) students to pursue Ag education, science and STEM related careers via hands-on *experiential learning experiences* exploring hydroponics at six urban school sites and through *internship and entrepreneurial experiences* that will expose students to sustainable agricultural and STEM-related competencies and careers;

























OKCharacter.org  
OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF CHARACTER







**Tuesday, October 25, 2016**

**James Spicer, Matt, and Meagan arrived at Carver Middle to set up the Hydroponic System. Dr. O. McGowan joined us later. We decided the best place to place the system was in the Science Lab common area. After setting up the system, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students Christopher and Danial planted seeds (cilantro, spinach, lettuce, etc..) and were trained to care for the system. We discussed the tomato plant in the smaller system. Included in the care of the system was how to care for equipment and check the water nutrient solution. PH balance should be between 6.0 and 7.5.**



**Each day, Christopher and Daniel will make observations of the drip system, water nutrient solution, drip ring, and water levels. Once a week they will change the water. Bring the new water to the proper pH levels and pour it into the buckets. They will keep observations recorded on the Hydroponic Data Log sheet. Example of the data sheet is below.**



Date	pH of Tomato	PPM of Tomato	Adjusted PPM of Tomato	Tomato Ht. (in.) (cm)	pH of Greens	PPM of Greens	Adjusted PPM of Greens	Greens Height (In.) (cm)	Notes



We also discussed the possibility of setting up a system for Jordan Plaza to support the senior citizen.







Group photo of students and teachers in a classroom setting. The group includes two young boys in light blue polo shirts and dark shorts, and five adults. They are standing in front of a whiteboard and a window. The room contains various storage containers, including red and purple bins, and a black table in the foreground.

Group photo of students and teachers in a classroom setting. The group includes two young boys in light blue polo shirts and dark pants, and three adults. They are standing in front of a whiteboard and a window. The room contains various storage containers, including red and purple bins, and a black table in the foreground.

Stacked storage bins in a laboratory or classroom. The bins are red and purple. Some bins have handwritten labels, including "T16221" and "2013".

LeRoy K. Jordan Plaza  
Senior Housing

**630 E. Oklahoma**

Sponsored By  
First Baptist Church  
North Tulsa

































# The Project Model

- This project can be replicated throughout urban and rural schools. It has raised agriculture education awareness among diverse learners in schools. The project emphasized how hydroponics education/food production systems can increase knowledge of Ag Education/food security, and expand outreach to many youth and the community at large.



# Resources

- <http://www.choosemyplate.gov/10-tips-nutrition-education-series>
- <http://www.farmentoschool.org/state-home.php?id=10>
  - <http://www.letsmove.gov/>
- Contact Information: Dr. Orlenthea S. McGowan
  - [osmcgowan@langston.edu](mailto:osmcgowan@langston.edu)

