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Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

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Clayton State Economic Impact Grows Almost 15 Percent from FY2009 to FY2010

Even during tough economic conditions, Georgia's public university system remains a powerful economic engine for the state as chronicled in a newly released report. The Selig Center for Economic Growth in the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business found that the University System of Georgia (USG) had a \$12.6 billion economic impact on the state's economy during Fiscal Year 2010.

For Clayton State University, the economic impact (Output Impact in current dollars) rose from \$205.6 million in FY09 to \$236.2 million in FY10, an increase of 14.9 percent. In addition, Clayton State's Employment Impact (i.e., the number of on-campus and off-campus jobs that exist due to institution-related spending) rose from 1,697 jobs in FY09 to 2,169 jobs in FY10, an increase of 27.8 percent.

The eight institutions of the University System located in the metro Atlanta area accounted for \$5.8 billion of the University System's \$12.6 billion total. Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Clayton State University, Kennesaw State University, Southern Polytechnic State University, Georgia Gwinnett College, Atlanta Metropolitan College and Georgia Perimeter College also produced 53,658 jobs.

The FY 2010 output impact of USG Institutions on their regional economies was essentially flat compared to FY 2009, reflecting both lower spending by USG institutions on operations and consequently smaller levels of spending by vendors and business that service the System's 35 institutions. But, the overall employment impact increased substantially, reflecting

higher enrollments, more spending by students in labor-intensive economic sectors, and higher overall employment multipliers.

The Selig Center analyzed data collected between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010, to calculate the University System's FY2010 economic impact. The report updates similar studies conducted on behalf of the Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP), an initiative of the USG Office of Economic Development. The first study in the series calculated the USG's impact at \$7.7 billion in FY1999; the FY2010 economic impact of \$12.6 billion is a nearly \$5 billion increase since FY1999 – a growth of 64 percent in the system's economic impact on Georgia's communities. ■

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Receives \$222,000 Grant from GCSV

AmeriCorps Expects Another Successful Year

According to Clayton State University Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Brian Haynes, the University's AmeriCorps program is looking forward to another successful year.

John Turner, executive director of the Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism (GCSV), has informed Student Affairs' Natasha Hutson, interim director of the Student Activities Center and the Clayton State AmeriCorps project director, that the GCSV Board has approved a 2011/2012 AmeriCorps grant to Clayton State in the amount of \$222,126 for 17.79 Member Service Years (MSYs), representing full funding for the Clayton State program for the 2011/2012 academic year. This year's grant, the third such yearly award

received by Clayton State, is especially notable due to the heightened level of competition for such grants.

As Turner states in his award notification, "this has been a very difficult year for the AmeriCorps State competition. We had unprecedented demand for the grants here in Georgia and many of the applications we received were of very good quality. That alone would have made the funding decisions difficult but at the same time the national funding picture was very uncertain... The budget which [Congress] passed, contained a \$23 million cut in AmeriCorps funds, and when that reduction was calculated into a state-by-state basis, it resulted in a cut of \$282,401 in

AmeriCorps, cont'd., p. 4

Clayton State Students, Computer Science Professor Awarded \$17,000 Grant by CRA-W

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Mary Hudachek-Buswell, a computer science and mathematics professor in the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences at Clayton State University, and two Clayton State undergraduate students, both rising juniors, Esmeralda Duenas (Atlanta) and Christina Gardner (Peachtree City), have been awarded a \$17,000 Collaborative Research Experience for Undergraduates (CREU) grant by the Committee on the Status of Women in Computing Research (CRA-W). The grant includes academic year and summer stipends for both students, conference travel expenses, and additional funds for the students to attend the Fall 2012 Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing.

The award is based on a 24-page proposal, written by Hudachek-Buswell and the

two students, entitled "Blur Models Suitable for Representation by Hierarchical Structured Matrices in Image Reconstruction." They were recently notified of the award via a letter from Andrea Danyluk, of the Department of Computer Science at Williams (Mass.) College, and the CREU program co-director.



The general project description of their proposal states, "Students entering graduate school in computer science are rarely prepared for the task of identifying and solving an open problem. To successfully conquer this, the students must be educat-

ed on computer science research methods, research document interpretation, result analysis, and the overall effect of research." In effect, the project that has been set up is to teach the students how to effectively and efficiently do research, so that they will have a greater chance of succeeding in graduate school. The specific area of investigation will involve computational image processing of satellite images that have been degraded by atmospheric turbulence and additive noise.

The Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing honors Admiral Grace Murray Hopper, a mathematician, computer science pioneer, social scientist, systems designer, programmer and rear

Grant, cont'd., p. 4

Spring 2011 Dean's List Students Come from South Metro to South Africa

Clayton State University has announced its spring 2011 Dean's List, consisting of those students enrolled in a minimum of nine credit hours and maintaining a grade point average of 3.6 or higher.

While the vast majority of the past semester's honorees are from south metro Atlanta, also represented on the Dean's List were four foreign students and five others from Illinois, Indiana and Texas. Significantly, seven of these nine students from outside of Georgia were also members of Clayton State's various athletic teams.

The foreign students included two members of the Clayton State women's tennis team that advanced to the NCAA Division II Final Four this past spring; sophomore Ivana Krommelova of Nove'Zamky in Slovakia, and freshman Martina Dedaj of Pula in Istria County, Croatia. Krommelova, who was also

named to the Peach Belt All-Academic team, played third singles and first doubles throughout the season, Dedaj fourth or fifth singles and third doubles.

Also making the Dean's List from outside the U.S. were two Clayton State soccer players. Junior forward/midfielder Natalia Valentine of Boksburg, South Africa was the Lakers' second leading scorer with seven goals and four assists. Once again playing a large role for the men's team that reached the NCAA Division II Elite Eight was junior forward Leighton Jon Fredericks of Durban, South Africa. In addition to making the spring 2011 Dean's List, Fredericks was key part of the Lakers' attack for the third straight year, scoring eight goals and adding five assists. Fredericks currently stands third in Clayton State soccer history in both goals (30) and points (67). With another eight goals in his senior year, he will surpass Jason Nidiffer for the Laker career record.

Closer to home, Danielle Charlene James of Chicago, Paige Elizabeth Galvin of Posen, Ill., and Jennifer A. Dreasler of Quincy, Ill., were all also named to the Dean's List, as were Kenneth Austin Castellanos of Silver Creek, Ind., and Kourtney Kay Aylor of Burnet, Tex. Dreasler, a senior defender/midfielder, was a three-year starter on the women's soccer team. Galvin and Aylor, both distance runners, were members of the Clayton State cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track teams in the 2010/2011 academic year. Both also earned Division II All Academic honors. ■

Alan Xie Paintings Featured at Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia

Samsara, a series of six paintings by Clayton State University Assistant Professor of Studio Art Caomin “Alan” Xie, is currently on display at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (www.mocaga.org), TULA Art Center, 75 Bennett St., Atlanta. The exhibit is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and continues through Aug. 13.

The title of Xie's exhibition, Samsara, refers to a Buddhist concept of cyclical creation and destruction. The six, 12 foot-by-nine-foot works included in Samsara, produced with the help of a Working Artist Project grant from MOCA GA, are variations on a mandala, a traditionally

Buddhist form that uses mathematical elements to create a circular, kaleidoscopic shape.

A native of Shanghai, Xie earned his MFA from Savannah College of Art & Design in 2001, and his BFA from China National Academy of Fine Arts in 1998. A Clayton State faculty member since 2003, his works have been previously selected in exhibitions nationally and internationally, including the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery and numerous exhibits in the People's Republic of China. ■



Xie

Demmitt and Amero Participate in USG Executive Leadership Institute

Clayton State University's Dr. Kevin Demmitt, associate vice president for Extended Programs, and Carolina Amero, assistant vice president-Auxiliary & Administrative Services, recently completed the Executive Leadership Institute (ELI), a program sponsored by the University System of Georgia (USG) for up-and-coming candidates in academic leadership.

ELI was developed from a staff training and professional development task force created by USG Chancellor Erroll Davis and headed by former Georgia Tech President Wayne Clough in 2007. The group was asked to develop ideas to promote professional leadership and development throughout the University System in support of the USG strategic goal of increasing efficiency working as a system. Presidents from each USG institution nominate two candidates each year to attend the program. For 2010/2011, Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. “Tim” Hynes nominated Demmitt and Amero.

ELI consists of seven one- or two-day sessions over an eight-month period. Participants met in Marietta, Athens and Augusta, and participated in group learn-

ing sessions, cross-mentoring activities and job shadowing with other leaders in the University System. Both Demmitt and Amero found the opportunity to job shadow individuals in their professional disciplines to be of particular value.

“As part of the program, I had the opportunity to shadow Steve Wrigley, the University of Georgia's vice president of Government Relations and interim vice president for Public Service and Outreach,” says Demmitt. “This experience highlighted the importance of being proactive, positive, and team-oriented when it comes to dealing with challenging circumstances.

“Another of the benefits was learning how my personality and values affect my leadership style. We all have character traits that can both enhance and detract from

our leadership abilities. The key is learning how to recognize one's own tendencies and observing how they influence our interactions and decision-making practices.”

“I shadowed Rosalind Meyers, vice president - Campus Services at Georgia Tech. She manages more than 1,500 full-time and contract employees, so it was a great opportunity to observe a very results-oriented leader and to focus on the importance of making data-driven decisions and emphasizing accountability and communication in all aspects of managing a complex organization,” says Amero. “We also participated in cross-mentoring groups that helped us gain candid feedback on our own leadership styles as well as an appreciation for different perspectives regarding how to effectively deal with challenging situations. ■



Demmitt



Amero

Across the Campus...

Bursar's Office

In preparation for 2010-2011 year end close, Banner is shutting down on Thursday, June 30 at noon. All departmental deposits must be in the Bursar's office on Wednesday, June 29 at 5 p.m. in order to be included in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Any deposits after that date will go to the next fiscal year 2011-2012. The system will be available on Friday, July 1 at 8 a.m.

ISSO

The International Student Services Office (ISSO) announces its new website is now live. The site is primarily designed to be a user-friendly, easy-to-read clearinghouse of information for current, new and prospective international students. Providing a level of transparency and access to useful information on compliance issues is a two-way street. It empowers international students and protects the university. The site is also a resource

where faculty and staff can refer international students with whom they may have contact. Viewers can find information on everything from the international admission process and maintaining visa status to a currency and metric converter, and social customs in the US. All are invited to view and bookmark the new site: <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/isso>.

University Bookstore

In preparation for annual inventory, the University Bookstore will be closed Wednesday, June 29 and Thursday June 30. The Bookstore will re-open for business at 8 a.m. on Friday, July 1.

The Clayton State University Bookstore has special autographed copies of New York Times Best Seller "The Passage," a novel by Justin Cronin, and "In The Garden of Beasts," by the bestselling author of "The Devil in the White City,"

Erik Larson currently available for sale. During the on-going renovation of the Bookstore's regular location in the Student Center, the Bookstore is located on the first floor of the James M. Baker University Center for the summer. Its operating hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Clayton State Adds To its You Tube Channel

The official Clayton State University You Tube channel (ClaytonSTNews) has a series of new videos available for viewing.

Uploaded last week by University Relations social media specialist Ciji Fox, the new videos may be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/user/ClaytonSTNews?feature=mhum#p/a>.

Included in the new You Tube postings are: an additional five-minute video of Clayton State's NCAA Division II National Champion women's basketball team; scenes from the University's May 6, 2011 Hooding ceremony and the May 7, 2011 Commencement ceremonies; two commercials for the University's highly-successful Dual Enrollment Program; and video of the Clayton State Theatre's spring 2011 production, "Echoes from the South."

Having debuted in February 2011 prior to the Clayton State/Lander women's basketball game that saw the Lakers defeat the number one Bearcats 83-81, ClaytonSTNews will add new videos at the start of the fall semester in August. Among the featured fall videos will be scenes from Move-In Day at Laker Hall, and the Sixth Annual New Student Convocation, both of which will take place in mid-August.

All of the official Clayton State You Tube videos were shot by videographer and Clayton State alumnus (class of 2007) Christian Bowen (vidsquad@aol.com). The new additions will also be appearing soon on the Clayton State University Relations Facebook page, and the Clayton State University website, www.clayton.edu. ■

Grant, cont'd. from p. 2

admiral in the United States Navy. These events invite thousands of women together to celebrate the contributions of women in computing, to present research and to have an opportunity to network with other women in the field and are designed to bring the research and career interests of women in computing to the forefront. The Fall 2010 conference was held in Atlanta, with Hudachek-Buswell serving as the local chair. ■

AmeriCorps, cont'd. from p. 1

federal funds for Georgia AmeriCorps Formula grants."

AmeriCorps is a national service program designed to connect Americans in intense civic engagement to meet the targeted critical needs of a community.

Clayton State was originally funded in 2009 for a three-year grant cycle in the amount of \$156,881 for each year. ■

Clayton State Helps CCPS Children in Transition Celebrate

The Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) recently honored a special group of 40 graduating seniors for achieving their high school goals in spite of the obstacle of high mobility when the district's Children in Transition Program held a post-graduation celebration in the Homeless Education Department at 5968 Maddox Rd., Morrow.

The celebration included a meal, special guests, gifts and career and college guid-

ance advice by, among others, Clayton State University Admissions Counselor Joseph Echols, and Clayton State student Lavar Matthews. Some of the students at the celebration will be attending Clayton State this fall.

Clayton County Public Schools has been a provider of services to a growing number of homeless and highly mobile children and youth through its Children in Transition Program. Helping eligible sen-

iors fulfill college admissions requirements is only one of its many services. Students receive assistance based on their needs and the department's collaboration with other service agencies. ■

Marquavius Hardy Elected President of Georgia Student Educator Group

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University student Marquavius Hardy (College Park), a senior in the Clayton State Middle Grades Teacher Education program, was elected president of Georgia SPAGE (Student Professional Association of Georgia Educators) last week. Hardy is also the president of the Clayton State Teacher Education Club.

Francina Lee (Lithonia), another Clayton State senior in the Middle Grades Teacher Education Program, was elected SPAGE parliamentarian.

Hardy and Lee were elected at the Georgia SPAGE 2011 Summer Conference: "The Power of a Teacher," held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Ravinia in Dunwoody on Saturday, June 4. Hardy had previously served as parliamentarian in 2010/11.

"The conference Francina and I attended was very informative in that it continues to shape our professional development before we start teaching," Hardy says. "I learned so many new teaching strategies that I plan to use in my classroom beginning this fall and spring during my student teaching as an intern. I am excited about education, and SPAGE's Summer Conference constantly reminds me that education is an important aspect of our daily lives.

"As teachers, we must continue to show our students and community the value of what really is a true American education. I am committed to my career aspiration, and I will continue to make an effort to move education into the right direction!"

All members SPAGE are involved in the elections for the upcoming year.

"Members of the SPAGE organization are sent emails regarding elections for the upcoming year," Hardy explains. "We are notified by Ms. Mary Ruth Ray, manager of Student Groups. We are directed to the www.pageinc.org website to express why we would be a good candidate for office. Afterwards, Ms. Ray contacted potential candidates to notify them that they have been selected to run for office.

"Once candidates are notified that they are selected to run for office, we attended the conference to express to other SPAGE members why we wanted to run."

As the president, Hardy will be responsible for delegating SPAGE's upcoming events.

"I usually keep my cohort at Clayton State University informed about the different events hosted by SPAGE," he says. "We usually have webinars, seminars, podcasts, workshops, etc.

"During the summer, I work with Mr. Jimmy Jordan, membership services representative, 11th District, at the Junior Orientation to the Middle Grades Education Program at Clayton State University. All of the officers' responsibilities are limited because we are located at different colleges across the state of Georgia. However, we do keep in contact with each other by phone to discuss upcoming events and other ideas we may have at the time." ■

Clayton State Alumna Serves In Humanitarian Dental Clinic on Nepal

Clayton State University graduate Kristen Egerdahl recently returned from Kathmandu, Nepal after participating in a humanitarian dental clinic organized by Global Dental Relief, a charitable organization that has brought dental care to children in Nepal since 2000.

Egerdahl, who has worked in the office of Dr. Tommy Turkiewicz in Peachtree City since 2003, was one of 20 volunteers – four dentists, three hygienists, and three laypeople, who served in a converted classroom in Kathmandu for a week. In all, the Global Dental Relief team, assisted by local students who

also received on-site training, served more than 1000 children, many of whom had never before received dental care. Each child received an exam, cleanings, and restorations and extractions, as needed. Egerdahl personally treated more than 100 patients, providing comprehensive cleanings.

Although this was Egerdahl's first international volunteer experience, she is also a volunteer at the Fayette Care Clinic. Originally from Fulton County, Egerdahl currently resides in Newnan with her two sons, ages 16 and 13. She graduated from Clayton State with an A.S.D.H. degree in 1996.

Global Dental Relief (GDR) was established in 2000 to provide free dental care and oral health education to impoverished children and families in Nepal, northern India, Vietnam and Guatemala. Since 2001, GDR has hosted more than 750 volunteers and treated 57,000 children. For more information, go to www.globaldental-relief.org. ■

Rebecca Dyes a Knowles Science Teaching Fellow

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University alumna Rebecca Dyes (Grantville), a biology major and chemistry minor at Clayton State, is now pursuing a Master of Arts in Teaching for secondary sciences at Georgia State University. She recently became a Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) fellow.

The Knowles Science Teaching Foundation was established by Janet H. and C. Harry Knowles to cultivate and support exemplary science and mathematics high school teachers and develop the next generation of leaders in education.

Dyes' is grateful for her one-on-one attention she received from professors at Clayton State University.

"I had a wonderful experience as an undergraduate student at Clayton State University," Dyes says. "The one-on-one attention that I received from my professors is a resource that I know would not have been available at many other schools. I was able to obtain a strong foundation of scientific concepts, as well as hands on laboratory experience. I was also able to build lasting friendships with many of my classmates and professors."

"Rebecca took Microbiology with me when she attended Clayton State University," says Dr. Michelle Furlong, associate professor of Biology and Department Chair of Natural Sciences. "After acing my course she requested that I mentor her undergraduate research project. Her project involved describing a microbial community that colonized gypsum samples that were collected from the Chihuahuan desert. Our goal was to determine if the microbial community had the ability to sequester and store water during dry periods since the gypsum samples appeared to be etched by water.

"Rebecca's vast knowledge in microbiology, her research experience, and her desire to learn more led her to a job with the Georgia Department of Agriculture food microbiology lab, where she worked for a few years before discovering her passion for teaching. I was not in the least bit surprised when Rebecca told me she wanted to pursue a teaching career in science. Her passion for learning along with her talent for teaching is remarkable. I can't describe how excited I am about one of my former students sharing my enthusiasm for teaching and microbiology! I have no doubts that she will inspire many students to pursue a career in science."

Dyes is looking forward to a career in teaching.

"Some of my most rewarding experiences thus far have come from working with students," she says. "As a tutor for both math and science, I've worked with both middle school and high school students. One of the most rewarding experiences in these interactions has been to see a student's self-confidence grow as they see their hard work paying off, in the form of better grades.

"I look forward to starting a new career as a high school science teacher and helping to build the self confidence of the students in my classroom. I know this will be a challenging task, but I see these challenges as an opportunity to help improve our schools. The Knowles Science Teaching fellowship will also continue to provide me a supportive community as I make the transition into a teaching career, and I look forward to working with this group of fellow teachers." ■

Parkerson Heading to Europe

As is fitting for both the honorary consul for Hungary for the southeastern United States, and the director of International Programs for Clayton State University, John E. Parkerson Jr., is planning an extended trip to Europe, specifically to Hungary and then to the Republic of Georgia.



Parkerson

Parkerson leaves for Hungary on June 27, where he will attend the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation's "Ronald Reagan Centennial Dinner" at the Hungarian Parliament. Also in attendance will be the deputy prime minister of Hungary and former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese. Parkerson will also attend, along with former Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, the June 30 opening of the Tom Lantos Institute and the unveiling of the Ronald Reagan statue in Budapest.

Parkerson points out that the former President Reagan holds a special place in Hungarian memories as an instrumental figure in the final days of Central-Eastern European Communism and the fall of the Soviet Union.

While he's in Hungary, Parkerson also has a series of meetings arranged with some of his local contacts from the education, business and government fields.

After leaving Hungary, Parkerson will head to Tbilisi, Georgia on Thursday, July 7 to deliver the commencement address at the Georgian American University (GAU) on Sunday, July 10. The title of his address is: "Georgia to Georgia: How Education Advances U.S.-Republic of Georgia Ties."

"My remarks will focus on education and its importance in promoting closer U.S.-Georgia business/economic, political/national defense, and social ties; the significance of the GAU-Clayton State part-

nership with regard to the foregoing; developments in the European Union as they affect Georgia and the U.S. with regard to education," says Parkerson.

His commencement address will also include comments on the greater regional eastward integration of the European Union (EU), noting that Hungary holds the presidency of the Council of the EU through June 2011, and that Poland will hold the presidency for the next six months; making 2011 the year of Central Europe. Parkerson will also promote a strategy to associate more closely the Republic of Georgia and its neighbors into a broader European front.

While in Georgia, Parkerson will visit Mariam Chubinidze, GAU's first outbound exchange student, who spent the fall 2010 semester studying business at Clayton State. He will also visit legal and

Europe, cont'd, p. 10

Parkerson Invited to Serve on International Advisory Board of the Faculty of Economics of The University of Pannonia

John E. Parkerson, Jr., director of the Office of International Programs at Clayton State University, has been invited to serve on the International Advisory Board of the Faculty of Economics of the University of Pannonia, Veszprem, Hungary,

The invitation was extended last month by Dr. Andras Jancsik, dean of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Pannonia, a partner institution with Clayton State for the past couple of years.

"This is quite an honor – especially given that this is a new board and that I will be serving among such esteemed colleagues from the University of

Nottingham, University of Darmstadt, and Plekhanov Russian Academy of Economics," said Parkerson in an email to Jancsik. "I am proud to be associated with Clayton State University, and our administration and faculty understand that it indeed is a privilege for our university to be associated with yours."

Clayton State and the University of Pannonia are currently in the second year of a faculty exchange program. In 2010, Parkerson himself taught a course in International Management as Clayton State's first exchange professor at the University of Pannonia. In

Pannonia, cont'd, p. 9

Parkerson Named President of World Trade Center Atlanta

John E. Parkerson Jr., Clayton State University's director of International Programs and Hungary's honorary consul for the southeastern United States, has assumed the presidency of the World Trade Center Atlanta.

Parkerson, who took over the presidency at the organization's annual meeting earlier this month, plans to focus on rejuvenating the Center's committee structure, developing programs and expanding membership. A recent seminar on the United Kingdom's Bribery Act, in which Parkerson participated, was the first in a series of programs to be held at the Center on the risks faced by local companies doing business abroad.

"This is fabulous, and I am excited that one of our own will be at the helm," says

World Trade, cont'd, p. 8

Reza Kheirandish Named Outstanding Faculty Advisor at SAM National Conference

Clayton State University Assistant Professor of Economics Dr. Reza Kheirandish was named one of the Outstanding Faculty Advisors of the Year at the recent national conference of the Society for Advancement of Management (SAM), held in Orlando, Fla.

Kheirandish's honor was based on a letter of recommendation from Clayton State SAM Chapter President Dana Sweatt.

Kheirandish joined Dr. Lari Arjomand in 2007 as the Clayton State SAM club co-advisor. After Arjomand retired in 2010, Kheirandish stayed on as advisor. Arjomand also received the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award in 2010. In 2011, Dr. Michael H. Deis, associate professor of Management, and a former SAM advisor, joined Kheirandish as co-advisor.

"I'm honored, and the certificate is hanging on my wall," says Kheirandish. "Dr. Deis was our first SAM chapter advisor from a long time ago. It was gracious of him to join again and share his experiences from the past. I also learned a lot from Dr. Arjomand. SAM is all about being a team. Everyone in the School of Business contributed to our successes this year.



Kheirandish

"I also appreciate Dean Dr. Alphonso Ogbuehi; Dr. Diane Prince, associate dean; and John Mascaritolo, director, Logistics Practices and assistant professor of Supply Chain, for their support, as well as the entire

School of Business. The School offered financial support that made the travel for the students to the conference possible. We also appreciate the travel fund for our chapter from the Department of Campus Life, which supplemented the travel funds from the School of Business."

Kheirandish holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Economics and a Masters of Economics from Virginia Tech, and a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from Sharif University of Technology in Tehran, Iran. His research interests include Microeconomics Theory, Household Economics, Development, Poverty, Empirical Economics, Linear and Nonlinear Systems Theory, and Optimal Control Theory (with special interest in economics and marketing applications). ■

SAM Students Take First Place in National Conference Case Competition

The Clayton State University chapter of The Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) won first place in the Joseph L. Bush Case Competition at the recent 2011 National Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Randy Haynes (Fayetteville), King Meetre (Locust Grove), Dana Sweatt (Fayetteville), and Corey Wagner (Conyers) comprised the four-person team that took home the Joseph L. Bush, Jr. Management Case Competition undergraduate division trophy. The team competed against 20 other universities from across the country in a case study project that focused on sustainability for Whole Foods Market in today's increasingly competitive environment.

SAM gave students approximately eight weeks – with no outside assistance – to review the company, conduct a financial analysis, and then provide four strategic actions. The team created an in-depth analysis of Whole Foods in 2011 and developed a three-to-five year plan of rec-

ommendations, which they presented in a 15-minute presentation and 10-minute Q&A before a panel of judges.

"It was a pleasure to work with such a talented group of students," says Dr. Reza Kheirandish, SAM faculty advisor and Clayton State assistant professor of Economics. "One of the joys I had was when the judges specifically mentioned our work during the announcements. We were the only team to produce a professional 30-second commercial for Whole Foods. It was outstanding."

The four team members used individual strengths in their different disciplines of study to pull together this winning project. For example, Wagner is a senior majoring in marketing with a minor in supply chain. He developed and produced the commercial, as well as created a loyalty card and mock advertising for a billboard campaign. Meanwhile, Haynes used his accounting major to develop expanded financial models for the project.

"Our team had so many good ideas. That was the toughest part of the project; we were still bouncing around new ideas up to the last two weeks of the project," says Wagner.

"I hope this win provokes interest in students to join SAM club," says Haynes. "It's important for students to be engaged in extracurricular activities; future employers care about that. SAM is a powerful networking organization and can provide you with valuable tools for employment after graduation." ■

World Trade, cont'd from, p. 7

Dr. Alphonso Ogbuehi, dean of the Clayton State School of Business of Parkerson's appointment. In addition to his international programs role at Clayton State, Parkerson is also an assistant professor of International Business and Global Logistics for the University's AACSB-accredited School of Business. ■

King Meetre a Regional Outstanding Student

Pamela Rickels Named National Outstanding Student by Society for Advancement of Management

Clayton State University accounting major Pamela Rickels, a native of Fayetteville, Ga., recently earned a National Outstanding Student Award from the Society for Advancement of Management (SAM).

Rickels was honored at the recent SAM National Conference in Orlando, Fla. SAM selects National Outstanding Students from a group of regional award winners. The national award, given annually to up to 15 students, is chosen from the recipients of the Regional Outstanding Student Awards who in turn are chosen from all United States and international SAM chapters.

In deciding on the awards, SAM considers a demonstrated commitment to management excellence, service to the society, chapter performance, and nomination by their SAM campus chapter advisor. Clayton State's King Meetre (Locust Grove) was, along with Rickels, named a Regional Outstanding Student. Clayton State's SAM chapter advisor is the School of Business' Assistant Professor of Economics Dr. Reza Kheirandish.

"Take it from an accounting major, membership in SAM provides a great return on your investment," says Rickels.

SAM is a non-profit organization founded in 1912 by colleagues of Frederick Taylor, an engineer often called the "Father of Scientific Management." The organization brings together academics, practitioners, and students to increase management skills and improve knowledge, performance, and leadership ability. ■

SAM Takes Third Place as Small Chapter of the Year

Clayton State University's chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Management (SAM) received a third place award in the Small Chapter of the Year competition at the recent SAM national conference in Orlando, Fla.

According to Clayton State University Assistant Professor of Economics Dr. Reza Kheirandish, faculty advisor to the Clayton State SAM Chapter, the award was based on fundraising, community service, membership, chapter events, and conference participation. Clayton State's chapter has "Small Chapter" status since it has less than 50 students.

The Clayton State chapter's most significant project this year was the Dress for Success Campaign. The club collected new and gently used professional clothing to donate to the Clayton County School System. In this university-wide effort, each department collected clothing and then a business

club member would come and take the donations.

"We collected more than 50 suits during this first round of Dress for Success and about 25 other professional items, such as pants or accessories," says Dr. Diane Prince, associate dean for the Clayton State School of Business.

This spring, the chapter has started a new project, creating a student portfolio for SAM graduates to distribute to potential employers.

"The booklet will contain professional photographs of the graduates, as well as a write-up about their professional activities and qualifications," says Kheirandish. The chapter has also focused on membership drives, as well as maintaining a website and student list server. ■

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addition, Clayton State hosted the first two visiting exchange business professors from Pannonia, Dr. Zoltan Kovacs and Dr. Peter Mihalyi, during spring and fall of 2010.

Clayton State's relationships with the nation of Hungary extend beyond the faculty exchange program. Clayton State hosted Zsofia Terek during the fall 2010 semester, the University's first-ever semester exchange student from the University of Pannonia. Parkerson, the honorary consul of Hungary for the southeastern United States, will also be visiting the University of Pannonia later this summer to discuss how to broaden the Pannonia-Clayton State collaboration further.

Following that visit, he will return to Veszprem in late September 2011, to take part in International Week, a two-day long program organized by the faculty of Economics at the University of Pannonia that will include the first meeting of the International Advisory Board. ■

Clayton State Ranked Seventh in Final ITA Division II Women's Tennis Poll

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Fresh off its best season program history, the Clayton State Laker women's tennis team garnered its highest season-ending national ranking ever.

The ITA (Intercollegiate Tennis Association) released its final Top 50 poll of the 2011 season, and Clayton State finished the season ranked seventh in the nation in Division II. This marks the second straight season that Clayton State finished in the Top 10 in the final ITA poll, bettering last season when the Lakers finished ninth in the ITA Top 50.

Under first-year head coach Le'Trone Mason, Clayton State finished 18-8 overall for second straight season. On top of that, the Lakers advanced to the NCAA Division II "Final Four" for the first time in program history. Clayton State quali-

fied for the NCAA "Sweet 16" with a 5-2 victory over Peach Belt Conference rival Columbus State in the second round, followed by victories over Queens (N.Y.) and California (Penn.) to advance to the "Final Four."

However, the Lakers fell to Lynn in the Division II national semifinals.

Overall, there were seven teams from the Peach Belt in the final rankings, including three in the Top 10. Armstrong Atlantic finished fourth, while Columbus State finished 10th. Also ranked were Flagler (12th), Georgia College (17th), Augusta State (29th) and Francis Marion (30th). NCAA Division II National Champion Berry was the top-ranked team in the final poll. ■

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academic colleagues in Tbilisi whom he knows at Ilia State University and the Eristavi Law Group which is affiliated with the Atlanta law firm of Hall, Booth, Smith & Slover, P.C.

In December 2009, Clayton State and GAU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that promised a cooperative relationship between the two universities. The MOU provides the framework for Clayton State and GAU to engage in international exchanges of faculty to teach at each other's institutions, attendance of students between the institutions, collaboration in special programs

such as research activities or conferences, and exchanges of academic materials.

GAU opened to the public in 2005, and is a small, modern private institution of approximately 800 students that offers much of its curriculum in the English language. Its expanding Business and Law programs provide progressive educational opportunities for Georgian students, with the Business programs in particular representing potential areas for collaboration between GAU and Clayton State. GAU graduated its first class of students in 2009 with undergraduate degrees in Business and in Law, and graduate degrees in Law. ■

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National after leading the field with a 7-under 273 during the first round. For the season, Clayton State was ranked in the Golf World/Nike Golf Division II Top 25 Coach's Poll, finishing 20th in the final ranking for the second-highest national ranking in the history of Laker men's golf.

Under Harwell, Clayton State produced eight individual tournament champions,

plus a three-time Division II All-Southeast Region and a three-time Division II All-American. Wilcox became Clayton State's first ever Division II first team All-American in 2008 and the first Clayton State player to garner All-Peach Belt Conference honors since 2000. He repeated both honors again in 2009, becoming the only three-time All-American in the history of Clayton State men's golf. ■

Trivia Time

The World Is a Ghetto

by John Shiffert, University Relations

You may or may not agree with that sentiment, but it was a number one hit for "War" in 1973.

At one time fronted by the renowned Eric Burdon, the funk group actually put out its biggest-selling album after Burdon left the group. Although better known now for "Why Can't We Be Friends?" the almost-forgotten "The World is a Ghetto" is unquestionably worth looking up some time on You Tube.

And while even the classic rock stations may have forgotten that the world is a ghetto, not everyone has... there were nine correct answers to the question on how war viewed the world, starting with Scott McElroy, who edged out Scott Bassett by one minute in the race for the first correct answer. After those two, there were seven more correct answers from; Kurt-Alexander Zeller (though he's not a funk fan), Jill Ellington, Lou Brackett, Rob Taylor, Kathy Garrison, Dr. Tim Hynes, and B.D. Stillion. Bonus points were earned by the University's distinguished president, who pointed out that the question could have referred to another work, Eric Burdon's Psychedelic World, and Stillion, clearly another funk fan, who nominated Stevie Wonder's "Superstition" as the best of this genre.

Now, as to the bonus question; anyone who really thinks that Paul Revere was riding to warn the British should be exiled to someplace very cold and very far away, say, Alaska maybe. Everyone mentioned above, plus Liz Zaharopoulos (nee Wellington) and Dianne Graham, knew that Revere was riding to warn Sam Adams (not the beer company, as Brackett carefully pointed out) and John Hancock (before his signature became famous), et al. So everyone gets a Bonus Point for answering the easiest trivia question ever asked, and Zeller, Brackett, Taylor and Stillion each get an additional point for creativity.

In keeping with this genre, that is, misbegotten history, who did John Belushi think attacked Pearl Harbor (at least in a movie)? Send your answers, not to Newt Gingrich, but to johnshiffert@clayton.edu. ■

Sports

Clayton State has its First U.S. Open Participant

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Tiger Woods wasn't in the field for this past weekend's U.S. Open, but Will Wilcox was playing at the Congressional County Club in Bethesda, Md.

Wilcox, 25, who played for the Clayton State University Lakers from 2006 through 2009, teed it up as part of the 156-man field, along with Rory, Lefty, Sergio, Bubba, Davis, and all the other stars who only need a single name identification. While Wilcox may not be in that pantheon yet, he's certainly well-known around Morrow, Ga., and his hometown of Pell City, Ala., as one of the best young golfers to come out of the southeast in recent years.

Wilcox shot a 79-75 for a two-round total of 154, 12 over par. Although he missed the cut, Wilcox, who turned pro in 2009, has already had a successful 2011 season, starting on the Hooters Tour and earning Nationwide Tour status after finishing third in the Stadion Athens Classic. He was also 11th in the recent Rex Hospital Open. In 2010 Wilcox, won on both the Hooters and Canadian tours, and has also won on the Hooters Tour in 2011.

While at Clayton State, Wilcox, a three-time All-American, led the Lakers golf team to its first Peach Belt Conference championship, and then to a top 10 finish

in the NCAA Division II National Tournament.

Wilcox' Open debut, and the NCAA Division II women's basketball title are just a part of a very successful 2010/2011 season for Clayton State sports. The men's soccer team reached the NCAA Division II Elite Eight in November 2010, and the women's tennis team made it to the Division II Final Four in May. ■

Harwell Steps Down as Clayton State Golf Coach

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

After five years of considerable success, Barry Harwell recently announced his resignation as men's head golf coach at Clayton State. He is leaving the Laker program to take over as the head coach of the golf program at fellow Division II affiliate West Georgia in his hometown of Carrollton.

Clayton State Athletic Director Mason Barfield praised Harwell for his hard work and efforts in making the Clayton State men's golf program competitive again since his arrival in the summer of 2006.

"We are very grateful to Barry for taking over our golf program and taking it to another level," said Barfield, who will start a national search shortly to hire Harwell's replacement. "That includes the program's first ever conference championship and a Top 10 finish at the NCAA Tournament. I know he will do a great job at West Georgia as he works hard to bring the Wolves to same level as he did here at Clayton State."

After building the foundation during Harwell's first season in 2006-07, the next two seasons were definite "breakthrough" seasons for Clayton State men's golf.

The 2008-09 addition of Laker men's golf enjoyed one of the best seasons for the program in nearly a decade. Clayton State won one tournament in the spring - the Matlock Invitational in Lakeland, Fla. - and also enjoyed two second place finishes combined in the fall and spring.

The high point, however, was Clayton State's first ever Peach Belt Conference championship as the Lakers overcame a six-stroke deficit on the final nine holes to win the title by five strokes. Individually, junior Wade Binfield became the second straight Clayton State player to win the individual Peach Belt Conference Tournament championship, firing a 6-under par 210. In addition, senior Will Wilcox became the Lakers' first ever Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year.

Despite a disappointing finish at the NCAA Division II South/Southeast Super Regional, Harwell's Lakers still finished 14th in the final PING/Nike Golf Division II Top 25 Coaches' Poll.

The 2007-08 addition of Clayton State men's golf under Harwell captured two team championships - the Southbridge

Pirate Invitational and the Orchard Fall Invitational, as well as a runner-up finish to USC Aiken at the 2008 Peach Belt Conference Tournament. Individually, Wilcox also captured the program's first individual PBC championship with an 8-under par 206.

Harwell's Lakers followed up the strong PBC finish with a solid fourth-place finish in the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional, earning their first NCAA Division II National Championship berth since 1999. Clayton State placed 10th overall at the 2008 NCAA Division II

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