

Clayton State to Form Speakers Bureau

by John Shiffert, University Relations

The Office of University Relations is ready to “roll out” a Clayton State Speaker’s Bureau... a first for the University.

“It is a sign that an institution has come of age,” says Dr. Art Rosser, dean of the School of Technology and one of the initial members.

The Speakers Bureau will be run by University Relations, and targeted towards community organizations in the Southern Crescent. For purposes of this program, the “Southern Crescent” will include Clayton, Fayette, Henry, Spalding, Coweta, Rockdale, South Fulton and South DeKalb counties.

University Relations has developed a list of community organizations (e.g.; Chambers of Commerce, Development Authorities, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc.) that will be contacted by mail. These letters will announce the Speakers Bureau, and invite the organizations in question to contact the Office of University Relations if they would like to have a Clayton State speaker. University Relations will also provide a list of potential speakers, along with their areas of expertise, although it is expected that all Speakers Bureau personnel will be able to talk knowledgably about the University in general. And that’s the key to the program... individuals in the Speakers Bureau should be able to speak about Clayton State as a whole, as well as about whatever their specialty may be, keeping in mind that the Speakers Bureau will focus on specialties that are of interest to the types of public groups that will be contacted.

In addition, a news release about the Speakers Bureau and its personnel will also be sent to local newspapers as another means of reaching the community.

It should be noted that: A) this does not mean that individuals from Clayton State HAVE to go through the Speakers Bureau before they can talk to a community organization, and; B) University Relations, in directing the Speakers Bureau, will handle all the “bookings” for the Bureau... fielding the inquiries, contacting the potential speakers, and generally acting as the go-betweens as needed.

Also, along these same lines... University Relations will soon be creating a Clayton State Experts List (for the first time since about 1998 or so.) This list will be mostly, though not exclusively, for use by the news media, and will be disseminated to same by University Relations. This list will be as comprehensive as possible and will contain names and areas of expertise of anyone and everyone on campus who would like to be listed as an expert for purposes of helping out the news media with potential stories. This list will not be limited to expertise in professional areas, for instance, if a reporter wants to know about blacksmithing, we’ll direct him to Tom Eddins (even though he doesn’t use a forge in his drafting classes.)

This list will be instituted by means of an all-campus e-mail as soon as External Relations has a web site set up to collect the information. ■

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Wallace Shakun Retires From Clayton State After 25 Years of Dedicated Service to University System of Georgia

by Leigh Duncan, University Relations

To know him is to love him. To meet him is to know him. Your first impression of Dr. Wallace Shakun is as real as it's ever going to get; and no one, but no one, walks away from an introduction to him without remembering him... forever.

I first met Wally in his office in the Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education on the Clayton State campus in 2001. A mutual friend recommended that I go and see him about a job. I forwarded my resume` to him and called for an interview, which he graciously set up. Little did I know that the system didn't work that way; but Wally knew.

Another friend asked if I had ever met Wally Shakun. As a graduate of Clayton State, this friend had known him as the dean of the School of Technology. I said "no", and he smiled and said, "have fun."

I will never forget that initial meeting. Wally's energy not only filled the room, but I was completely engrossed in it. I'm not sure if I ever got a word in edgewise, or if I made any lasting impression on this enthusiastic, humorous, and intellectual man, but he certainly made one on me.

We talked very little about a job, but we talked a lot about education. He was passionate about it, and his enthusiasm for learning and for Clayton State bubbled over in his conversation with nearly every breath. Needless to say, he was very influential in shaping my immediate future.

Wally Shakun is a businessman turned educator, but I believe he has always been an educator at heart. Though he has spent his entire career at Clayton State as an administrator, his love for teaching and cultivating learning, is almost as copious as his love for his mother, who is always an integral part of every conversation.

Wally came to Clayton State as the Dean of Technology in 1989. Previously, he had been a senior research engineer at the Georgia Institute of Technology where he had been responsible for industrial program development and provided administrative leadership in the development and support of contract activities. His experience there as a principal investigator on externally-funded research projects included a full spectrum of technical activities.

Prior to joining the Georgia Tech faculty, Wally held engineering and research and development positions with General Electric Company, Torin Corporation and Modernfold (American Standard). He has delivered a wide range of presentations and authored or co-authored numerous reports and publications throughout his career.

Wally earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from City University, State of New York, and a Master of Science degree in the same from the University of Vermont. He was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Operational Analysis (the business of technology) from the University of Glasgow in 1969 under a grant from General Electric, and in 1976, received a Master of Business Administration degree in corporate finance from the University of Louisville.

"I really came to Clayton State at the right time," he says. "The HOPE grant came at the same time I did. Benita (Moore) and I used the HOPE to convince kids to come to college. After some 500 students showed up for open house [that year], Elliott McElroy said to me, 'What do we do now?' It was like being in New York City and having a candy store on every corner!"

"Clayton State is a golden door of opportunity. It is a very friendly university. All the instructors live to help you as a student. They take tremendous pride watching you walk down the aisle [at graduation]."

In 2001, Wally was appointed dean and executive director of Continuing Education at Clayton State.

"Continuing Education is a whole different environment," he notes. "CE stresses non-credit courses, but the real function is to warm students up to college and to help them improve their job skills."



ARC Study Shows Clayton State's IT Department is Top of the Line

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

A recent study by the Atlanta Regional Commission shows that Clayton College & State University has all of the credentials to help students get jobs in the Information Technology (IT) field.

The "Getting IT Right" report, a six month study on the IT field by the Georgia Department of Labor, randomly sampled 90 businesses across the region including both IT and non-IT based businesses.

Since Clayton State participated in the early stages of the study, Larry Booth, Clayton State's advisor for the University System of Georgia's new WebBSIT program, was present at the study's unveiling.

"One of the study activities was to conduct seven roundtable discussions with business and IT professionals," says Booth.

Each discussion was focused on one of the seven IT Occupational Clusters including Business Office Technology Specialist, Database Development and Administration, Network Design and Administration, Programming and Software Engineering, Technical Writer, Technology Support, Web Development and Administration. IT faculty, like Booth, participated in the roundtables according to their expertise in one of the clusters.

Booth helped design Clayton State's IT program which encompasses many of the credentials that businesses are looking for, such as: a four year degree, use of skill standards developed by the National Workforce Center for Emerging Technologies (NWCET) in Bellevue, Wa., and work experience.

CIMS Readies Two New Majors for Fall

Clayton State's College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS) is ready for students to begin courses in its two new majors, a B.S. in Mathematics and the WebBSIT, an online B.S. in Information Technology (IT). Both majors were recently approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) and will begin in fall 2004.

There are already more than 20 students signed up for the new major in math. "We hope that there will be between 30 and 50 students per year and that we will grow proportionally with the growth of Clayton State," says Dr. Anthony Giovannitti, the head of the Mathematics Department. Students will be prepared to either work in an industry setting like engineering and computer science, go on to graduate school, or work in education.

Clayton State has also hired three new tenure-track professors to teach classes for the new math major. Dr. Aprillya Lanz, Dr. Catherine Matos and Nathan Borchelt will all be joining the Clayton State faculty this fall.

CIMS will be adding six new classes for the WebBSIT. These classes are The Enterprise and IT, Discrete Math for IT, Technical Communication, Programming and Problem Solving, Introduction to Information Technology, and Systems Analysis and Design.

The WebBSIT is a collaboration of five USG institutions - Armstrong Atlantic University, Clayton State, Georgia Southern University, Macon State College and Southern Polytechnic State University. The program is designed to provide students with an opportunity to obtain an IT degree - students who, without the online aspect of the major, would be unable to pursue training in Information Technology. Larry Booth, the WebBSIT student contact for Clayton State, is hoping to have at least 20 students from Clayton State sign up for the WebBSIT major. ■

Clayton State not only offers Bachelors of Information Technology degrees in Database, Programming, and Networking, but it is launching a new Information Technology Security Track this fall. Classes will consist of network planning and design, foundations of operating systems, and foundations of networking and security.

As the former head of the Department of Information Technology at Clayton State, Booth was also involved in several of the initial projects translating the NWCET skill standards into Clayton State's IT curriculum. Skill standards close the qualification gap by linking industry expectations for knowledge, skills, and abilities to the education provided to students.

The report emphasizes how important experience is to businesses when hiring for IT fields.

"The IT Department has always recognized that fact and requires IT students to do two internships before graduating with a BIT," says Booth. "Every IT graduate has education credentials and some experience to put on their resume."

Students are offered a variety of ways to earn their degree in Information Technology at Clayton State including online through the new WebBSIT program, a consortium of five universities. ■

Across the Campus

Continuing Education

The CE Conference Center has increased conference revenue by 61 percent in FY04 over last year's revenue. Targeted marketing and advertising done through direct mail, local ads and the Government Meeting Planners Association has helped increase conference sales. Clayton County Chamber of Commerce "FOCUS" magazine will feature an ad of the Harry S. Downs Conference Center in the July edition. Continuing Education will also advertise corporate contract training on a monthly basis with the Atlanta Business Chronicle's online bizjournal.com directory. The directory receives 700,000 hits per month and Clayton State is one of only eight training providers featured in the state. It is anticipated that this marketing effort will increase contract training revenue.

The Clayton State Division of Continuing Education's annual Teen University concluded Friday, July 2, with a special open house for this year's 48 participants and their parents. According to Teen University Coordinator Chris Kolloff, the drama and art

classes have been very popular this year among the 13 to 15 year-old participants. As a result, presentations by those classes were prominently featured during the open house.

Counseling & Career Services

A correction to last issue's item on Damafing Keita Thomas starting a Ph.D. program in Counseling Psychology at Georgia State... she will be starting classes in fall 2004, not fall 2005.

Human Resources

The Kaiser Permanente Corporate Run/Walk 5K will be held at Turner Field (probably the most runs you'll see there at one time) on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. The event also has a "Get in Shape" promotion from July 20 to Sept. 14. For more information, call (404) 843-8727 or e-mail info@kpcorporaterunwalk.com

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRSGA) held

its annual meeting on May 26, 2004, to vote on the fiscal year 2005/2006 employer/employee contribution rates for the TRSGA and for the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP). For fiscal year 2005/2006, the **employer** contribution rate for the TRSGA will be **9.24 percent**. Please be informed that the **employer** contribution rate for ORP will decrease from **10.03 percent to 9.65 percent**, effective **July 1, 2004**. The **employee** contribution rate will remain at 5 percent of payroll for both TRSGA and ORP

Purchasing

Please note due to the passing of Senate Bill 73 and the recommendation of the Board of Regents, Clayton State will no longer maintain inventory records for items with a cost of less than \$3,000. However, it is recommended for security reasons, that each department maintain records (serial numbers, model numbers) for their property that could easily "disappear." Clayton State will continue to decal and maintain records for assets that cost more than \$3,000. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Dirk Morrell at (770) 960-4345, or Cindy Knight at (770) 960-4346.

New Resource for Students: Skillsbank 5 in CAA

All students studying science and math, as well as those enhancing their English skills, will benefit from a new software program installed on the instructional computers in the Center for Academic Assistance. The program, which can be accessed on a drop-in basis, is an upgrade of the existing Skillsbank 4 computerized educational resource.

Installed on multiple computers, Skillsbank 5 offers reviews and knowledge-building exercises in Algebra, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, as well as Language and Writing skills. In addition, instruction modules in Reading Comprehension, Word Knowledge, and Vocabulary are available. Students using Skillsbank open the program and view key concepts in each subject. Then they are prompted to apply their knowledge with a series of questions in each topic area.

"The program is self-tutoring," says Estelle Ford-Williamson, Center for Academic Assistance senior communications specialist. "The student is given hints if he or she does not answer correctly at first. It's a friendly program, and students get hooked very quickly on its helpful way of reviewing or building knowledge in these areas."

The SkillsBank 5 program was provided to the CAA and thus to the entire Clayton State student body through the Workforce Diversity Program grant awarded to the Clayton State Department of Nursing by the Division of Nursing (DN), Bureau of Health Professions (BHP), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), titled Nursing Workforce Diversity for the New Millennium. The \$650,000 grant (over three years) made possible the Summer Opportunities for Success (SOS) program whereby prospective nursing students and enrolled nursing students develop science, math, and English skills needed in the nursing program curricula. ■



Pictured at the computer is Denitra Ingram, a SOS participant, working on SkillsBank 5. Also pictured are Estelle Ford-Williamson, CAA communications specialist, Dr. Astrid Wilson, grant coordinator, Dr. Lydia McAllister, grant director, and Susan Sanner, grant associate



Shkun, from. p. 2

As my interview wound down with Wally, I asked him what his best time here at Clayton State was, and for the first time (in nearly an hour) he was quiet. He sat back in his chair, put his hand to his chin, and reflected for a moment.

“The opportunity to register students,” he finally said. “And to steer them to decide what to do. I’ve been here 15 years, but it’s not the time that matters, it’s the atmosphere. It’s here, whether you’re a student, teacher, or administrator; it’s here, the doors are open. Everyone on campus, everywhere you go, the people stop and talk to you.”

Wally and his wife Gloria have already begun planning their retirement. He wants to continue to be involved in teaching part-time and hopes to find an avenue to help with non-profit organizations. As avid sailors, they have picked two locations for their new homes. One is Marina Del Rey, Ca., where son Clifford, a film and theatre producer lives and where Wally says, “the sailing is great from there to Catalina.” The other is Kentucky Lake, near Evansville, In., where son Edwin and daughter-in-law Monica, along with the two jewels of Wally’s eye, granddaughters Olivia and Elena, live.

When talking about his love for sailing, Wally says, “Gloria and I have lived on the Long Island Sound, we know what salt water hears like (grinning coyly). It’s mentally invigorating and it beats the sound of a subway or a bus.”

When talking about Wally Shkun, to know him is to truly love him. The sound of his voice will echo long and enthusiastically in the halls of Clayton State, but even longer in the hearts and minds of those who had the privilege to meet him. He has made a real impression here; one that will last... forever.

Alumni/Development

Arts Clayton Awards Apanay Fine Arts Scholarship for Clayton State

by Leigh Duncan, University Relations

Arts Clayton has awarded Lovejoy High School graduate Christel Vinot the “Apanay Fine Arts Scholarship” to study music at Clayton College & State University beginning this fall. The \$1500 scholarship, awarded annually by Arts Clayton, was initiated in 2001 to recognize the leadership and cultural contributions of Dr. Manolo Apanay, a local Clayton County physician, now retired, and to create an avenue for local high school seniors to study the arts at Clayton State.

Apanay has served on the boards of Arts Clayton and Clayton County Chamber of Commerce, and is an emeritus trustee of the Clayton College & State University Foundation. He was the catalyst for revitalizing Cultural Crossroad (slated for this September at Clayton State), which recognizes artistic diversity in the community and which now provides the funding to support the scholarship.

Apanay, in partnership with the Clayton/Henry/Fayette Medical Society, became the first sponsors of Cultural Crossroads and their contribution has been the springboard needed to cultivate the event.

“With this partnership [Clayton County School System, Clayton State, the Medical Society, along with Arts Clayton], we have been able to grow the scholarship year after year,” says Linda Summerlin, executive director of Arts Clayton. “As an arts council, this is an excellent way to share our vision with the community and to support our students as they become more successful and productive citizens.”

Lovejoy AP Music Theory instructor, John L. Oden, recommended Vinot for the Arts Clayton scholarship earlier this year and Lovejoy’s Director of Orchestra Studies, Jennifer Floyd, nominated her.

“Christel has excelled in AP Music theory this year, demonstrating keen musical ability and compositional skill,” says Oden. “[She] frequently expands on her classroom work through independent composition and work that enhances her classroom experience.”

“I have found Christel to be not only highly motivated and to have a great personality, but also to be very intelligent and perceptive in discussing both music and general matters,” adds Floyd. “[Her] talents are not only known at Lovejoy, but county wide.”

Vinot is the county winner for composition in the PTA Reflections Musical Composition Competition; she has been a member of the Spivey Chamber Workshop all four years of her high school career, and a pit member of the Clayton County All Star Musical “Annie.”

“Christel demonstrates a deep commitment to her music and composition through daily work and her excellent demonstration of compositional as well as performance skills,” continues Oden.

“I’ve dedicated the last seven years of my life to music,” says Vinot. “I’ve always enjoyed playing the cello and [I] put my heart into it. In the last two years all my free time has been spent on writing music. I want to pursue music composition as a career. Two things in specific I would like to get into are film and video game music,” she concludes.



*Lovejoy Director of Orchestra Studies,
Jennifer Floyd with
2004 Apanay Scholarship recipient,
Christel Vinot*

Transportation Champion of the Month

The University RideShare's "Transportation Champion of the Month" is Carol Leavell, administrative assistant in the School of Business.

Leavell and her husband, Mark, live in Cobb County. She drops Mark at Delta Air Lines in Hapeville and then continues to Clayton State. They travel almost 40 miles a day one-way. The Clean Air Campaign's web site calculates that the cost to drive alone for Carol would be \$563 a month. However, by just driving one vehicle, the Leavells are saving approximately \$282 a month or \$3,384 a year.

Not only do the Leavells save money by carpooling, they also save time by traveling in the HOV lane.

Carol Leavell has been active in the Clean Air Campaign at Clayton State by being a Clean Air Campaign Coordinator for the School of Business, and by signing up for University RideShare in 2001. University RideShare appreciates what the Leavells are doing for the environment and for helping Clayton State with the Clean Air Campaign and University RideShare.

For more information, contact Joan Murphy in Public Safety at (770) 961-3540. ■



Public Safety's Joan Murphy (left) presents Carol Leavell with her trophy as School of Business Dean Bud Miller looks on.

Life's Transitions...

Plant Operations Custodian, Flora Carter's son, Jerome Gay Carter, passed away June 25 from liver cancer at age 43. The wake was held at Lemons Funeral Home in Morrow, and the funeral at Divine Faith.

Flora Carter's niece, Sandra Carter (who is also a custodian for Plant Operations), lost her father, James Porter, on Sunday, June 27. He had been sick for quite some time. The funeral was held at Gust Thorn Hill Funeral Home in East Point.

Dental Hygiene Students Participate In Farm Worker Project

by Gina Finocchairo, University Relations

Ten students from Clayton College & State University participated in the Farm Workers Family Health Program in Moultrie, Ga., from June 7 to June 11.

The program is a collaborative effort between undergraduate nursing and nurse practitioner students and faculty from Emory University and Kennesaw State University, psychology graduate students and physical therapy students and faculty from Georgia State University, and Clayton State's dental hygiene students and faculty. Students in the program are immersed in an agricultural rural setting, observe and experience a different culture, and develop a better understanding of services other caregivers provide.

"They [the students] do very well after the first day," says Lois Manning, associate professor of dental hygiene. "The best part is helping the students work with the migrants and learn how difficult their conditions are."

More than 1,000 farm workers and family members receive comprehensive preventive and episodic healthcare each year at camps, worksites and clinics. This is the fourth year Clayton State has participated in the program.

Clayton State students in this year's program included: Megan Conrey, Naquita Davis, Lori Sutter, Shenelle Emery, Michelle Farley, Many McDevitt, Randa Pillow, Shawyn Tune, Carla Wood and Hope Arnold. Clayton State Dental Hygiene faculty members Manning and Cassandra Hamlett also participated in the program.

During the day, students provided dental screenings, sealants, fluoride treatments and cleanings for the migrant children in an elementary summer school program. During the evenings, the students set up facilities at different camp and work shed areas in order to provide adult patient dental screenings and oral hygiene instruction.

Moultrie is a farm area that provides the region with a wide variety of crops, including; cabbage, eggplant, cherry tomatoes, bok choy, cucumbers and kohlrabi. ■

SBDC Highlights... Entrepreneurial Success in Henry County

Clayton State Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Area Director Cecil McDaniel worked with the Bob Martel of the Henry County Development Authority and the Henry County Chamber of Commerce to bring the "Entrepreneurial Success Series" to Henry County. This series was held at the Henry County Chamber and ran for five consecutive evenings, with twenty-six attendees graduating from the first series. The event was covered by local news media.

McDaniel also represented the SBDC at the Small Business Forum held recently at Griffin Tech's Lecture Hall. Jorge Valentin-Stone from the SBA and Salvatore Norman of SCORE were also on the panel. McDaniel spoke on Entrepreneurial Spirit and Small Business Start Up Basics as well as answering general questions.

SBDC Consultant Donna Kelsick was recently invited to speak to a class of Jonesboro High School students interested in starting their own businesses. She spoke about the process of developing a sound business plan. ■

Road Race, from p. 8

are coming from East Point to race - son Tim Keane and daughter-in-law Melanie Keane (who is also the former Marketing manager in the Clayton State Office of University Relations) will both be competing.

Another former Clayton State staffer in the race is Dawn Owens, formerly the coordinator for Educational Field Experiences for the University's Middle Level Teacher Education program.

At least two other current staff members are in this year's race as well. Spivey Hall Marketing Manager Meghan Dougherty will be competing, as will Academic Affairs' Angelyn Hayes.

"My first Peachtree was in 1998. Now it is a tradition," says Hayes. "The fun of it all draws me back every year. Since I am an Atlanta native who loves her city, walking/jogging Peachtree Street is an emotionally stimulating experience. It is an EVENT rather than a race." ■



The Career Resource Center, operated by Clayton College & State University, provides a variety of free basic and advanced services to assist individuals seeking employment, training, and education services and serves Clayton, Fayette, Henry and Rockdale counties. Pictured is center manager, Dorothy Herzberg.

Staff Council Holds Inaugural Meeting

The first meeting of the newly formed Clayton State Staff Council met on Thursday, June 24 in room 13 of the Lecture Hall. John Kosky, chair of the council called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. with all delegates attending except for the excused Sara Prisk of Spivey Hall.

There were 12 visitors in attendance as well as the new Director of Human Resources, Brenda Findley, who briefly addressed the delegates. After the meeting, Cheryl Garvin submitted nearly three pages of minutes, suggesting a full and productive meeting.

Kosky explained Staff Council procedures, announcing that parliamentary procedure would be followed and that a free seminar on the procedure would be made available to all delegates in July.

Items in the minutes included: refining the by-laws; health and safety concerns; and University System of Georgia Staff Council. Constituent concerns included: posting and accessing the Campus Calendar, raises, parking, flextime, campus communication, personal need notification, and whether supervisors should serve on the staff council.

The Staff Council meets the last Thursday of each month from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., and all staff members are invited to attend. ■

Apanay Scholarship, from p. 5

"I fully believe in Christel's potential and her prospects for finest success as a musician and composer," adds Floyd. "I believe that the combination of her musical attributes and her fine playing musicianship will not only be effective within a musical environment, but will set a wonderful role model for students like herself." ■

Trivia Time

History is Made in Chicago

by John Shffert, University Relations

It was one of the low points of American Jurisprudence. The Trial of the Chicago Eight in front of Judge Julius Hoffman for conspiracy to incite a riot during the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Beginning in the fall of 1969 and running into the late winter of 1970, the trial made headlines almost daily. And the most dramatic moments came five weeks into the proceedings, when Judge Hoffman (no relation to the Eight's Abbie Hoffman) ordered defendant Bobby Seale gagged, bound and chained to his chair because of his disruptive behavior. This was long before cameras were allowed into the courtroom, so all those who read the newspapers or watched television, whether or not they agreed with Seale's tactics or even his cause, were stunned by the drawings of the bound and gagged Black Panther leader.

Hoffman eventually made the Chicago Eight the Chicago Seven by severing Seale from the case and sentencing him to four years in prison for contempt, thus inspiring Graham Nash, of Crosby, Stills and Nash fame, to write one of the great rock anthems of the 70s... "Chicago."

Dr. Elaine Manglitz remembered this unique (literally) bit of American history, while alumnus Kevin Dixon, though he had his history a little mixed up (well, it was long before he was born) gets a bonus point for effort.

Quick now, without looking it up... when was the last time the Atlanta Braves did not finish the season in first place? First correct answer to johnshffert@mail.clayton.edu gets one of those silly foam tomahawks. ■

Sports Page

Clayton State Sending 11 to the Peachtree Road Race

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton College & State University has representatives from just about every aspect of the University heading up to Atlanta this Sunday to run in the Peachtree Road Race. Faculty, staff, students, former staff and administrators, relatives - in all, at least 11 runners with Clayton State connections will be at Phipps Plaza for one of the race's various starts.

The dean of Clayton State's Peachtree runners, and, in fact, practically the dean of all Peachtree Road Race competitors is Assistant Track and Cross Country Coach Hugh Toro, who will be running the famous 10K for the 32nd consecutive year... an almost unbelievable accomplishment that started back when Toro was an All-Conference cross country runner at the University of West Georgia. Having just completed his ninth season with Clayton State (after 17 years of coaching at the high school level), Toro began running the Peachtree Road Race in 1973, and hasn't missed a year since. A resident of Locust Grove, he also teaches physical education at Oakland Elementary School in Henry County.

Not surprisingly, one of the runners Toro and Head Track and Cross Country Coach Mike Mead coached this past season is also running Peachtree. One of Clayton State's most versatile athletes, senior Stephen Hughes of Hampton should place well among the 55,000 or so participants. Although Hughes' specialty on the track is 800 meters, he also has run a 27:21 8K in cross country. A graduate of Eagles Landing Christian, Hughes has lettered in soccer, track and cross country at Clayton State.

At least three husband and wife duos in the race will have a Clayton State connection, most notably Vice President Emeritus for Academic Affairs Dr. Elliott W. McElroy and his wife, Counseling and Career Services' Joan McElroy. The two Rex residents are Peachtree veterans, Joan having started in 1987 and Elliott in 1993.

"It's sort of a tradition for us," says Joan McElroy. Although she has run more Peachtrees, Elliott is considered the "senior runner" among all Clayton Staters... he's been running on the University's Morrow campus for 30-odd years, and the Clayton State Homecoming Road Race is named after him.

Two more true Peachtree veterans are Associate Professor of Business Dr. Greg Kordecki and his wife, Christine Kordecki. Not only have they been volunteering to assist the subseeded runners for the past 15 years, but they've also run the race ("Near the back of the pack," says Greg.) for the past 20 consecutive years.

Although Pat Keane, administrative assistant in the Athletics Department (and, of course, a native Philadelphian) isn't running the race, she does have an interest in two runners who

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Road Race, cont'd., p. 7

