

Campus Review

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July 28, 2009

Micheal Crafton Named Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

by John Shiffert, University Relations



Dr. Micheal Crafton

Dr. Micheal Crafton, currently professor of English at the University of West Georgia, has accepted the appointment as interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at Clayton State. He will

begin his appointment on Aug. 3, 2009.

An expert on medieval literature, Chaucer, the Bayeux Tapestry and a member of the Department of English at West Georgia since 1985, Crafton brings to Clayton State a wealth of experiences, both from the professorial ranks and from administrative and academic leadership

responsibilities. His Ph.D. and M.A. in English are from the University of Tennessee Knoxville, and he holds a B.S. in English from the University of Tennessee at Nashville.

In addition to his faculty appointment at West Georgia, Crafton twice served as interim vice president for Academic Affairs at the University for a total of two years, and twice led that institution's Strategic Planning efforts. A member of numerous faculty committees at West Georgia, he also served for three years as associate vice president of Academic Affairs at the University, and for more than two years as faculty associate for Enrollment Management in the Division of Student Affairs. In the latter assignment

he created the foundation for university-wide strategic enrollment planning that included recruitment, retention, progression, and graduation of students as a university-wide responsibility.

For the University System of Georgia, he served as faculty chair of the Ecore initiative, and helped create the conditions for West Georgia's Ecore franchise status.

"His reputation at West Georgia is focused on competence, collaboration across the university, and consistent commitment to continuous learning for students, faculty and staff," says Clayton State Interim President Dr. Thomas J. Hynes, Jr. ■

Photo credit: www.westga.edu

Inside

Departments:

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Across the Campus | .6 |
| Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! | .8 |
| Trivia Time | .8 |

In This Issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| Alumni Association Announces New Officers, Board | .2 |
| Ward Explores "Brezhev's Folly" | .3 |
| University Relations Launches Revised Web Page, Blog | .3 |
| Foundation Hosts Annual Golf Tournament | .4 |
| GMAT Prep Class | .5 |
| SWAN Upgrade in Effect | .6 |
| Clayton State - Fayette Marches In PTC July 4 Parade | .7 |
| Flu Season Preparedness | .7 |

Clayton State Hosts Five Central Asian University Presidents

Clayton State University hosted the presidents of five Central Asian universities located in ethnically Turkish regions Friday, July 17.

The five presidents from; Fatih University, Atilim University, TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Bahcesehir University, and Istanbul Commerce University, (all located in Istanbul and Ankara), were on the Clayton State campus from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The presidents' visit was organized by the Istanbul Center, a Turkish non-profit organization that promotes educational and cultural ties between the U.S. and Turkey (<http://www.istanbulcenter.org/>). The delegation was led by Dr. Serif Ali Tekalan, president of the Turkish-based Association of International Universities, who briefly visited Clayton State with

Istanbul Center representatives in May. Last month, Director of the Office of International Programs John Parkerson traveled to Turkey as a guest of the Istanbul Center to meet with officials from the five universities, educational associations, and the Ministry of Education.

"Our ultimate goal has been to find suitable Turkish university partners with which we may to establish Clayton State-Turkey student and faculty exchanges, study abroad opportunities, and Turkish student enrollments at Clayton State," says Parkerson. "Our previous efforts have included the Turkish art exhibit that the Office of International Programs arranged for Clayton State's Library earli-

Presidents, cont'd., p. 5

Alumni Association Announces Officers, New Board Members

By Gid Rowell, Alumni Relations



James Hicks

of Directors.

For the upcoming term, the new officers will be: James E. Hicks, president; Dina M. Swearngin, vice president; Lanelle U. LaRue, secretary; and Stacey Y. Rivers, treasurer.

Hicks is currently the manager of Randstad, an employment services provider, located on Jonesboro Rd./Hwy. 54 in Morrow. Hicks was a Business Management major at Clayton State and also served in the Marine Corps. He has owned a construction company, Complete Construction Concepts, and was formerly a project manager and superintendent for Hillcrest Developers.

Hicks and his wife, Melissa, have two children and live in Douglasville, Ga. He is an accomplished scuba diver, who enjoys giving lessons in his spare time.

"I'm extremely excited about the opportunity to serve as president over the next two years," said Hicks. "Our Alumni Association has made terrific strides over the last few years, and I will challenge our Board and Association to build on these accomplishments."

The vice president for 2009-10 will be no stranger to the Association... Swearngin served as the Board's president from 2005-07 and has also been the Board's vice president and secretary.

Along with homeschooling her two daughters, she currently works part-

The Clayton State University Alumni Association Board of Directors has announced its new slate of officers for the 2009-10 term and the appointment of three alums to its Association's Board

time at DeKalb Medical Center in Decatur, Ga., caring for premature infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Previous to this, she worked as a senior staff nurse in the Neonatal Services Unit at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta.

Swearngin graduated in 1997 with a B.S. in Nursing after receiving her Associates in Nursing in 1993. She will complete her Masters in Nursing later this year - all three degrees from Clayton State. She and her husband, Geoff, reside in Tyrone, Ga.

Another longtime member of the Board, LaRue will assume the duties of the Board's secretary. A charter member of the Board of Directors in 1991, LaRue served as president from 1997-1999. She has also served as vice president and treasurer over the years.

LaRue, who graduated from Clayton State in 1985 with a degree in Business Administration, is recently retired from the Atlanta Airport Marriott in College Park, Ga.

After serving as treasurer for the last six months, Rivers will continue in that role. She is currently employed by Turner Broadcasting and was recently promoted to the position of director of Broadcast Production for Turner Studios.

Rivers has served on the Board since 2008 and graduated from Clayton State with a bachelors degree in Technology

Management in 2005. She was named the Association's Alumna of the Year from the College of Professional Studies in 2007. She and her husband, Nathan, reside in McDonough, Ga.

Along with Hicks, two new members to the Alumni Board are Greta Beal and Jermeriah Carr.

From Fairburn, Ga., Beal is a graduate of the B.A.S. Administrative Management program at Clayton State, receiving her bachelor's degree in 2007. She currently is employed by Delta Airlines.

"I have enjoyed the time that I have spent on the board thus far," said Beal. "I am looking forward to aiding with the development, growth and progress of the University, while simultaneously giving back to the community, raising monies, implementing ideas and helping to increase Alumni Association membership."

Carr, from Atlanta, finished her degree in 2008 from the University, earning a bachelors in Business Management. She currently is employed by Bank of America in Atlanta.

At Clayton State, she was active in several organizations, including the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Society for the Advancement of Management. ■



The Clayton State Alumni Association sponsored Clayton State Night at Turner Field on June 26 with the Atlanta Braves squaring off (and losing to) against the Boston Red Sox. Pictured is Clayton State Interim President Dr. Tim Hynes (guess which team he supports...) with Alumni Association Past President Shawn Nelson.

Christopher Ward Explores “Brezhnev’s Folly”

Just about every high school history student has heard of “Seward’s Folly,” as the State of Alaska was known when Andrew Johnson’s Secretary of State, William Seward, engineered the purchase of a large, mostly frozen tract of land from the Russian Empire in 1867.



However, fewer may know of an equally bigger folly associated with Mother Russia, Brezhnev’s Folly, a project begun just over 100 years after the Seward purchase, and also known as the Baikal-Amur Mainline Railway (BAM). This little-known fiasco of Russia’s late socialism period has been brought to light in a new book by Clayton State University Associate Professor of History Dr. Christopher J. Ward, “Brezhnev’s Folly: The Building of BAM and Late Soviet Socialism.” (University of Pittsburgh Press, June 2009, ISBN # 9780822943723, hardcover \$50).

In “Brezhnev’s Folly,” Ward, who lived in Russia for a year between 1999 and 2000, and who was also a student in Russia in 1997 and 1998, provides groundbreaking social history of one of the biggest boondoggles in Russian history... the BAM railway project.

“Heralded by Soviet propaganda as the ‘Path to the Future,’ the Baikal-Amur Mainline Railway represented the hopes and dreams of Brezhnev and the Communist Party elite of the late Soviet era,” he explains. “Begun in 1974, and spanning approximately 2,000 miles after 29 years of halting construction, the BAM project was intended to showcase the national unity, determination, skill, technology, and industrial might that Soviet socialism claimed to embody.”

However, in reality, BAM proved somewhat less successful than Seward’s Folly. Although, as Ward points out, the Soviet leadership envisioned the BAM railway as a trade route to the Pacific, where markets for Soviet timber and petroleum would open up, and as an engine for the development of Siberia, “BAM proved to be a boondoggle - a symbol of late communism’s dysfunctionality -- and a cruel joke to many ordinary Soviet citizens.

“In reality, BAM was woefully bereft of quality materials and construction, and victimized by poor planning and an inferior workforce.”

“Brezhnev’s Folly” examines the recruitment of hundreds of thousands of workers

from the diverse republics of the former Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and Ward’s extensive archival research and interviews with numerous project workers provide an inside look at the daily life of the BAM workforce. As a result, Ward provides firsthand the disorganization, empty promises, dire living and working conditions, environmental damage, and acts of crime, segregation, and discrimination that constituted daily life during the project’s construction.

“Today, the railway is fully complete, but remains a symbol of the profligate spending and inefficiency that characterized the Brezhnev years,” he explains. “The most lasting legacy of this misguided effort to build Soviet socialism is to shed historical light on the profound ills afflicting a society in terminal decline.”

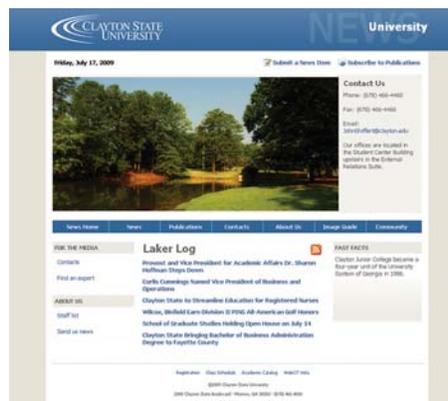
“A fascinating case study of youth, gender, ethnicity, and an emergent ecological consciousness in Brezhnev’s USSR. This book also focuses on the near farce of an out-of-touch effort by the Soviet state to have BAM’s builders inhabit a visionary future while living in a squalid present. This disconnect between officialdom’s happy propaganda and the brutal reality of everyday life on BAM validates Havel’s insistence that late communism can be

Folly, cont’d., p. 4

University Relations Launches Revised News Page, Blog

The Clayton State University Office of University Relations, with the able assistance of the University’s Office of Image and Communications, has officially launched its revised news page, complete with a news blog – Laker Log. The news page can be found at <http://news.clayton.edu>, or by clicking on the “News” button on the Clayton State home page, www.clayton.edu.

The main news page carries just headlines for Laker Log. The complete blog can be found under the News and Community links. Also on the news page are (among other things) links to archived issues of Campus Review (the University’s facul-



Design and Photography

The Office of University Relations is streamlining the request process for graphic design and photography.

If you have need for graphic design or photography services, please complete the forms located on the Image Guide tab at <http://news.clayton.edu>

ty/staff newsletter), University Relations news archives, the University System of Georgia’s news page, subscription forms

for Campus Review and the University’s Laker Connection magazine, and emergent weather information. ■



Clayton State Foundation to Host Annual Town and Gown Golf Tournament October 12

The Clayton State University Foundation's Annual Town & Gown Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, Oct. 12 at Crystal Lake Country Club, 100 Crystal Lake Blvd., Hampton, Ga., with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. and a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Excellence Fund of the Clayton State University Foundation, which is primarily used to provide scholarships for students in the Clayton State Honors Program.

The entry costs are \$500 per four-person team or \$150 per individual, if received by Oct. 5. Team entries after Oct. 5 are \$600 and individual entries are \$200. Awards will include first and second team prizes, along with raffle prizes.

Sponsorships are also still available for the tournament. There are various levels of sponsorship, including; Event Sponsors (\$5000), Co-Tournament Sponsors (\$2500), Laker Sponsors (\$1000), Luncheon Sponsors (\$200) and Cart

Sponsors (\$150). Individual holes are also available for sponsorship at \$150 per hole. For more information on sponsorship, call Clayton State Director of Development Reda Rowell at (678) 466-4474. To obtain a registration form for the tournament, call (678) 466-4470. ■

Clayton State Holding Fourth Annual New Student Convocation, August 14

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University's Fourth Annual New Student Convocation will be held on Friday, Aug. 14 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Spivey Hall. This ceremony will inspire, motivate and officially welcome new students to Clayton State.

Providing the keynote address will be author, speaker and entrepreneur Felicia Joy. A 2001 graduate of the University of Georgia in 2001 with degrees in Journalism and Political Science, she also holds national accreditation in public relations through the Universal Accreditation Board and the Public Relations Society of America.

Following her graduation from UGA, Joy became the youngest chief

spokesperson ever for the world's busiest airport, Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport, and has been recognized locally and nationally for her leadership skills by mayors, governors and the Young Global Leaders division of the World Economic Forum.

The New Student Convocation will provide an opportunity for students to connect with faculty, staff and classmates. A reception is scheduled following the ceremony's conclusion. ■

Folly, cont'd. from p. 3

reduced to mendacity incarnate. An important work that should become a classic in the field," said Emory University's Matthew Payne in his review of "Brezhnev's Folly."

A professor at Clayton State since 2004, and an expert on Russian history, Ward earned his B.A. degree at Guilford College in North Carolina (1994), his M.A. in History from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (1996), and his Ph.D. in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2002). In between earning his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, Ward was a visiting graduate student at Saratov State University (located at Saratov in the Volga River region of Russia), a merit scholar at Moscow International University, and a visiting scholar at the Russian State University for the Humanities. He has also served as a faculty member at Methodist University, UNC Chapel Hill and Ouachita Baptist University. ■

Clayton State Professor Creates, Produces the Artist's Showcase of Atlanta

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Clayton State University Assistant Professor of Theatre/Communication Shontelle Thrash presented the Artist's Showcase of Atlanta on Monday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Horizon Theatre.

Thrash, creator and producer of the showcase, created the Artist's Showcase of Atlanta to help fellow artists find work and enhance their artistic development.

"With Atlanta growing every day in the film and television industry, it is beneficial to have an agent facilitate and actor's search for that next gig," shared Thrash. "My hope is that this showcase will not only become an annual event; but also one of the best places to find talented and innovative artists."

Talented actors showcased their skills in scenes and monologues by performing pieces written predominately by participating playwrights. Clayton State alumna Kimberly McCloud and current Clayton State senior theatre major Efreem D. Whitaker, II, were among the actors performing in the Artist's Showcase of Atlanta.

Said McCloud, "Many thanks to Shontelle Thrash for seeing a need in her community and meeting it."

While the July Artist's Showcase of Atlanta focused on actors and writers, Thrash has plans to produce an Artist's Showcase of Atlanta for musicians/singers, and a showcase for kids. Details are forthcoming.

This showcase is in no way affiliated with Horizon Theatre. Thrash thanks her spon-

sors and Horizon's Lisa and Jeff Adler for their generosity in allowing her to use their space for the purposes of the showcase.

For more information on upcoming Artist's Showcase of Atlanta events, or to find out more about Thrash's vision for helping the arts community through the showcase, please email Thrash at artistsshowcase@live.com. ■



Presidents of five Central Asian universities pose with Clayton State faculty, staff and administration during their July 17 visit.

Presidents, cont'd. from p. 1

er this year, as well as the address on our campus by Congressman Cuneyt Yuksel of the Turkish National Assembly." ■

School of Business to Offer GMAT Prep Class for Only \$50

The Clayton State School of Business will offer a GMAT Prep Course by Success Prep for \$50, plus the cost of two GMAT books (the cost of the two required books is currently \$37.99), on four Saturdays during August, 2009.

Classes will meet from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Aug. 8, 15, 22, and 29 in room UC267 of the James M. Baker University Center on the main campus in Morrow. The schedule of what will be covered on those dates is shown on either of the sites below:

<http://fayette.clayton.edu/MBA/gmat.htm>
<http://business.clayton.edu/MBA/gmat.htm>

To register for the program, please complete the registration form given on the above web sites and mail it, along with the required \$50 non-refundable registration fee, to Andrea Johnson, administrative assistant for the MBA Program, School of Business, Clayton State University, 2000

Clayton State Blvd., Morrow, Ga., 30260. Registrations will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dr. Michael Tidwell, assistant dean – external relations for the School of Business, states that the interest in offering such a course has been fantastic.

"Regardless of your major, if you are close to graduating and have not taken the GMAT, this GMAT Prep Course is a fantastic value," he says.



Across the Campus...

Athletics

Playing amongst the best in the amateur field in the state of Georgia over the weekend, Clayton State's Wade Binfield finished tied for 36th overall at the 88th Georgia Amateur Championship at Country Club of Columbus. Binfield, a rising senior at Clayton State from Fayetteville, Ga., had rounds of 74, 74, 76 and 72 to finish 12-over par 296 for the tournament. The Division II All-American and Peach Belt Conference champion finished in a four-way tie for 36th overall. He was one of 156 players in this year's Georgia Amateur, and made the cut down to 71 for the final two rounds on Saturday and Sunday.

Campus Life

Director Emeritus of Student Life Rob Taylor reports that Bo Bolander's memorial service went wonderfully. "I got to share a personal reflection as did one of his student assistants from 1970-72." Holli Bolander received a condolence note from former Senator Max Cleland and President Carter. Among the 225 in attendance were Dr. Harry Downs, Tommy Daughtry, Duncan Brantley, O.C. Lam, Peggy Capell, Sandy Waddell, Pat Perry and at least four CJC students. It was very God-honoring and Bo-honoring as well.

The Department of Campus Life is hosting the Annual Student Involvement Fair on Thursday, Aug. 20, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Student Activities Center Green. The Student Involvement Fair provides an opportunity for departments to connect with students in an interactive, fun and informative manner. The Department of Campus Life would like to invite your department to take advantage of this opportunity and participate. To register, submit your department name, and primary contact name, email and phone number to Lakiesa Cantey at LakiesaCantey@clayton.edu by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 31.

Facilities Management

AGF Wildlife Control arrived on the Clayton State campus on Saturday, July 25 to humanely sedate and gather the geese that have been living on and around

SWAN Upgrade Now in Effect

Over the past several months, OITS has been working to improve the performance of the SWAN for the FY10 academic year.

A new cluster of servers has been designed, installed, and tested, and the new system is ready for use. The new server cluster is significantly faster and is now scalable.

The only change to the SWAN that will be noticeable after the upgrade will be any changes made to your portal layouts, channels, or information

posted inside Group Studio after June 25, when the portal data were migrated to the new cluster. Other than these minor issues, the move should be transparent.

The cut over to the new system occurred on Thursday, July 16. If you experience any issues, please contact the HUB. ■

Swan Lake. AGF, a Georgia State Department of Wildlife Services-referred company, then transported the geese to a new home on a lake in south Georgia. Canada geese are protected under state and federal law, and are becoming more and more abundant in Georgia. Lakes with nearby grassy areas are ideal habitats for geese as well as other water fowl, and Clayton State has just such an environment, so much so that the current flock had become unmanageably large. As was the case on campus once previously, in June 2006, a decision was made to move the geese to a more suitable habitat.

Housing and Residence Life

The Department of Campus Life is hosting the Annual Student Involvement Fair on Thursday, Aug. 20, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Student Activities Center Green. The Student Involvement Fair provides an opportunity for departments to connect with students in an interactive, fun and informative manner. The Department of Campus Life would like to invite your department to take advantage

of this opportunity and participate. To register, submit your department name, and primary contact name, email and phone number to LakiesaCantey@clayton.edu by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 31.



The cast of the Bent Tree becomes an unlikely perch for a campus goose. Submitted by Patrick Coleman, president of the Clayton State History Society, 2009-2010.

Got news?

Send your campus news to JohnShiffert@clayton.edu or post a news item on the University Relations website, <http://news.clayton.edu/>. Click on "Submit a News Item."



Clayton State – Fayette Marches To the Fourth of July Tune in Peachtree City

Led by Clayton State University Assistant Vice President of Outreach Dr. Kevin Demmitt, the Clayton State – Fayette instructional site once again took part in Peachtree City's annual Fourth of July Parade.

For the second year, Clayton State – Fayette showed its support for its "home-town" by appearing in the annual parade,

this year featuring a float with a jazz trio made up of current Clayton State – Fayette student Drake Kennedy and former students Matt Lyons and James Hunter. Also participating in front of the parade's 12,000 spectators were: Demmitt, student Danielle Chapman; Rodger Chapman (a Clayton State employee and Danielle Chapman's father); Dr. Michael Deis (Professor of

Business and director of the University's MBA program); Dr. Bill Hagans (Clayton State – Fayette advisor); and student Krista Hartsell. All except Deis (Newnan) are Peachtree City residents. ■

Preparing for H1N1 and the Upcoming Flu Season

The following email came to Dr. Lisa Eichelberger, dean of the School of Nursing, from Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of Health and Human Services, Janet Napolitano, secretary of Homeland Security, and Arne Duncan, secretary of Education...

Fellow Americans,

This spring we were confronted with an outbreak of a troubling flu virus called 2009-H1N1. As the fall flu season approaches, it is critical that we reinvigorate our preparedness efforts across the country in order to mitigate the effects of this virus on our communities.

Today, we are holding an H1N1 Influenza Preparedness Summit in conjunction with

the White House to discuss our Nation's preparedness. We are working together to monitor the spread of 2009-H1N1 and to prepare to initiate a voluntary fall vaccination program against the 2009-H1N1 flu virus, assuming we have a safe vaccine and do not see changes in the virus that would render the vaccine ineffective.

But the most critical steps to mitigating the effects of 2009-H1N1 won't take place in Washington — they will take place in your homes, schools and community businesses.

Taking precautions for this fall's flu season is a responsibility we all share. Visit Flu.gov to make sure you are ready and learn how you can help promote public awareness.

We are making every effort to have a safe and effective vaccine available for distribution as soon as possible, but our current estimate is that it won't be ready before mid-October. This makes individual prevention even more critical. Wash your hands regularly. Take the necessary precautions to stay healthy and if you do get sick, stay home from work or school.

We are doing everything possible to prepare for the fall flu season and encourage all Americans to do the same — this is a shared responsibility and now is the time to prepare. Please visit Flu.gov to learn what steps you can take to prepare and do your part to mitigate the effects of H1N1. ■

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

Clayton State Student Part-Time Job Fair

James M. Baker University Center (Main Street and the Presidential Plaza)
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This Week's Featured Jobs...

There are many jobs available in the Metro-Atlanta area. Once you have logged on to the SWAN PORTAL click on the Career Icon, then choose the Jobs and Internships tab to view Laker CareerZone and NACELink Networking jobs.

City of Forest Park

* Code Compliance Officer
* Office Assistant
Forest Park, GA
Full Time

Iron Comet Consulting, Inc.

Hardware/Network Tech
Stockbridge, GA
Full Time

The Siwel Group

Executive Assistant
McDonough, GA
Internship/Co-op

Elite Entrepreneurs

Independent Beauty Consultant
Nationwide, US
Full Time, Part Time

Exceptional Radio Network

Marketing-Public Relations
Atlanta, GA
Internship/Co-op

Clayton State University Campus Life - SAC

* AmeriCorps Tutors
* Student Coordinator
Morrow, GA
Part Time, Internship/Co-op

Paychex, Inc

Sales Representative
Atlanta, GA
Full Time

City Security & Safety Inc.

Administrative Assistant
Jonesboro, GA
Internship/Co-op

The Home Depot

* Bilingual Cashier (Spanish/English)
* Delivery Puller
Riverdale, GA
Part Time

Georgia Federal Credit Union

Human Resources Representative
Duluth, GA
Full Time, Part Time

The Law Offices of

Gerald E. Moore & Associates
Junior Attorney Relationship Manager
Marietta, GA
Full Time

Trivia Time

“Sic Semper Tyrannis”

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Thus spoke John Wilkes Booth as he leaped from the presidential box onto the stage of Ford's Theatre after shooting Abraham Lincoln on Apr. 14, 1865.

Latin scholars will tell you that translates to “thus be to tyrants” or “thus always to tyrants” or “thus ever to tyrants,” but what they may not tell you is that it was also the motto of the State of Virginia. In fact, it's still the state motto of Virginia – look at the state seal some time.

Several respondents knew this one, in order; Rob Taylor, Kelly Adams, Kathy Garrison, Kurt-Alexander Zeller, B.D. Stillion and Lou Brackett. Adams, Zeller and Brackett get a Bonus Point for making the Virginia connection.

Singing a different tune, but still talking acting ... what soon-to-be-rock star auditioned for The Monkees, but was turned down because he was too old (to say nothing of having far more musical talent than three of the four actors that were chosen)? A short melody to johnshiffert@clayton.edu will do for the answers. ■



Summertime 2009 at Clayton State University

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