Distinguished Alumni Recognized at Annual Alumni Association Meeting and Dinner

By Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Six Clayton State University alumni received Distinguished Alumni Awards at the Clayton State Alumni Association Dinner held on Saturday, April 14 in Atlanta.

Charles D. English, of Fayetteville, won the Overall Distinguished Service Award for the Clayton State Alumni Association. English graduated from Clayton Junior College with an Associate’s degree in Criminal Justice and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in Public and Urban Affairs and a master’s degree in Homeland Security and Defense. He was appointed to the Director of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) in 1996 by Governor Sonny Perdue and serves on the state’s Homeland Security Task Force.

“Charley is a dedicated public servant and a valued member of my administration,” says Perdue. “Responding to emergencies is one of the most important functions of government, and I am proud of the work that Charley and his staff at GEMA perform every day on behalf of the citizens of Georgia.”

Anna J. Gaissert, of Florida, won the award for the College of Arts and Sciences. Now retired, she served for many years as a counselor in the Clayton County School System. She graduated from Clayton Junior College in 1978 with an Associate’s degree in Psychology and went on to further her education with bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees.

“Clayton State was the perfect place for me,” said Gaissert. “I am a believer in Clayton State, and so thankful for the education that I received.”

Christopher A. Menard, of Stockbridge, won the award for the School of Business. He graduated from Clayton State in 1994 with a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting. He now owns Triality Software Training which specializes in Microsoft Office Specialist certifications.

Clayton State Faculty Nominees Announced

Clayton State University has announced the six finalists for the 2007 Alice Smith Faculty Award.

This year’s nominees are: from the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller and Dr. David Ludley; from the College of Professional Studies, Dr. Amelia Broussard; from the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS), Jean-Jacques Medastin; from the School of Business, Dr. Adel Novin; and from the School of Nursing, Dr. Susan Sanner.

The University’s 2007 Alice Smith Awards, for both faculty and staff, will be presented at Clayton State’s Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, May 1 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Spivey Hall. An annual event since 1995, the Smith Awards are presented to the faculty member and staff member ranked most outstanding as determined by committees of their peers. The two, $1000 awards were established by local philanthropist Joseph Smith in honor of his wife, Alice. The winners of both categories will be announced at the May 2 ceremonies.

The director of Opera and Vocal Studies in the Clayton State Music Department, Assistant Professor of Music Zeller oversees vocal music for the University and teaches in three separate venues – the applied music studio, the classroom and the rehearsal hall. He is also responsible for the annual production of the Clayton State Opera. A tenor best known for his work throughout North America and Europe as an operatic character actor and as a soloist in oratorio and early music,
International English Honor Society Inducts New Members

Clayton State University’s chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, held its annual induction ceremony Apr. 9 in the Atrium of the University’s Harry S. Downs Center.

The Clayton State chapter, Alpha Nu Xi, also installed new officers and honored its outgoing officers, all of whom are graduating seniors.

Present to be recognized as the chapter’s newest members were Jason Joiner of Sharpsburg and Tyanna Jones of Conyers. Inducted though not present were Kristen Curcuru (McDonough), Laurissa Wolfram (McDonough) and Justin Norsworthy (Forsyth). Presiding over the induction was outgoing president Dana Staves (Jonesboro). Heading the slate of new officers for the 2007-2008 academic year is new president Cynthia McKinney (Stockbridge). Assistant Professor of English Dr. Rebecca Godlasky, the chapter’s faculty sponsor, presided at the event.

Sigma Tau Delta’s central purpose is to confer distinction upon students of the English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies. They also recognize the accomplishments of professional writers who have contributed to the fields of language and literature. Members of the Sigma Tau

CIMS Students Honored at Second Annual Award Ceremony

Six students will be honored in Clayton State University’s College of Information and Mathematical Sciences’ (CIMS) Second Annual Award Ceremony, to be held this evening on the third floor of the James M. Baker University Center.

The CIMS Awards were established last year in order to honor students who have achieved academic excellence in Information Technology (IT) and Mathematics.

Ronald L. Mintz of Villa Rica will receive the Second Annual Catherine Cowan Aust Award for the best all-round performance by a CIMS major.

This year’s other winners are: Matthew S. Smith of Stockbridge for the Billy R. Nail Mathematics Award; Olin Thomas Henson of Stockbridge for Information Technology Outstanding Scholar in IT -- AASIT Award; Rhonda M. Dillon of Fayetteville for Information Technology Outstanding Scholar in IT -- BIT Award; Steve A. Clapsadle of Covington who won the BIT Experiential Learning Student of the Year Award; and David M. Hutcherson of Forest Park for the AASIT Experiential Learning Student of the Year Award.

Exchange Scholar From India Visits Clayton State

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Dr. Padma Deshmukh of Smt. Chandibai Himathmal Mansukhani (CHM) College in Ulhasnagar, India is currently visiting Clayton State University as part of the exchange scholar program. As a microbiologist, she is teaching several microbiology, biology and chemistry classes and participating in labs.

Deshmukh will be staying at Clayton State for two weeks. Since she arrived, Deshmukh has been busy on campus between lectures and interacting with students and faculty on campus.

“It’s very informal and casual here,” says Deshmukh. “I would like for the exchange program to be extended to students as well.”

Clayton State is currently the only school in which CHM College participates in an exchange scholar program with. Instructors from CHM College do have the opportunity to participate in the many exchange scholar programs through the University System of Georgia.

“It’s a wonderful program,” says Deshmukh. “Faculty from both sides get to interact with each other, and they get to carry over the good points from both sides.”

Clayton State’s exchange scholar program with CHM College began in 2004. Dr. Robert Welborn, professor of History and Scholar, cont’d., p. 14
Virginia Tech Tragedy

Where do I go from here? What do I do?

The recent events at Virginia Tech have evoked different responses in all of us. The following are some tips to assist in coping with unforeseen tragedies, like this one, and to help us deal effectively with our own personal reactions.

Keep busy! Focus on your daily routine and tasks. Research indicates keeping focused on day to day required tasks or routines helps mitigate the effects of stress.

Seek out persons who care for and support you. Share your reactions, thoughts and how the experience impacted you.

Know that the reactions to trauma described are normal responses to a very abnormal experience. They occur in varying degrees of severity and type for each person.

Limit the amount of time that you watch details about the tragedy on TV.

“Baby yourself” – eat well, get your sleep, and do nurturing things.

Consider writing a journal of your experience or feelings.

Seek to gain perspective on the experience. This is often helped by participation in counseling. Other aids may include meditation, reading, spiritual reflection or involvement in support groups.

Consider sending cards, emails of support to VA Tech. Helping others often is the healthiest way to manage our own feelings of powerlessness.

You may experience some of the symptoms below, this is normal!

Shock: often the initial reaction to events like this. Shock is the person’s emotional protection from being too overwhelmed by the event. You may feel stunned, numb, or in disbelief concerning the event.

Suffering: this is the long period of grief during which the person gradually comes to terms with the reality of the event/loss. Feelings that life is overwhelming, chaotic and disorganized are common.

Sadness: The most common feeling found following traumatic events like this. It may become quite intense and be experienced as emptiness or despair.

Coping with Tragedy, cont’d., p. 12

IN PICTURES...

Clayton State’s Virginia Tech Vigil

See photos on p. 12
Alumni/Development

Foundation Trustees Honored
By Clayton Chamber of Commerce

Two members of the Board of Trustees of the Clayton State University Foundation, Leonard Moreland and Terrell Starr, were honored at the 53rd Annual Banquet of the Clayton county Chamber of Commerce.

Moreland, vice chair of the Foundation, and president and CEO of Heritage Bank, received the Chamber’s award for Business of the Year on behalf of the bank. A graduate of Morrow High School who currently lives in Jonesboro, Moreland joined Heritage Bank in 1996 as executive vice president, assuming his present role in January 2006. He is also president of the Clayton State Athletic Associates, a member of the School of Business’ Advisory Board and chair of the Foundation’s LLC.

Starr, the now-retired state senator from Clayton County, was honored with the Chamber’s Lifetime Achievement Award. A resident of Forest Park, Starr was first elected to the Georgia Senate from the 44th District in 1968, holding a number of influential posts, including President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Along with retired State Representative Bill Lee, he was instrumental in the decision to place a unit of the University System of Georgia (i.e., Clayton State) in Clayton County in the late 1960s.

Arts Page

Clayton State Hosts "Noah and the Ark" Production, Apr. 25
by Marsha P. Dryden, ENGL 4800 Medieval Drama

Clayton State University will host a production of “Noah and the Ark” beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Apr. 25 in the Commons area of the James M. Baker University Center. The production will be presented by Dr. Bill Pasch’s ENGL 4800 Medieval Drama class. This event is free and open to the public.

Pasch’s Medieval Drama class has been learning about English mystery plays, or Corpus Christi Cycle plays, which were originally presented more than 500 years ago. Medieval plays were intended to “teach” important biblical stories to the illiterate public. The production is a composite, a blending of Noah plays from several English towns and cities, including touches from British composer Benjamin Britten’s 1958 operetta “Noye’s Fludde.” Such plays are invaluable in helping understand the history of English-speaking theatre and culture, says Pasch, who adapted the script.

“Noah and the Ark” will be presented by Casey Judson, Jared Dyer, Claudia Salomon, Scott Hillegas, Emily Phillips, Justin Norsworthy, Kimberly McCloud, Claude Washington, Charlotte Locklear, Marsha Dryden, Jill Gazaway, Ann-Marie Thompson, and Crystal Reid.

Phillips, playing the role of “God,” perceives her role as a daunting one.

“While it may not be as important as the roles of Noah and Mrs. Noah, it’s very strange to be asked to play God, especially when you’re a woman,” she says. “This play is relevant to today’s society because it's timeless. It always seems like things are crazy, and pretty much every generation has had members that talked about how the world was coming to an end. I think people will relate to this play, not only because it's familiar to them, but because sometimes it's pretty hard not to believe that the world is going to end soon.”

According to Pasch, the class selected this particular play because it presents a serious message while providing comic relief.

“The figure of Noah is important not only to Judeo-Christian tradition but also to the Islamic tradition, which considers Noah a major prophet, and thus has potential for unusually broad religious interest, perhaps more so than any other story among those traditionally included in the medieval mystery play cycles,” he says. “One of the most powerful themes of the play to be that of reconciliation, which -- at least by the end of the play -- has occurred not only among all the characters, especially between Mr. and Mrs. Noah, but also between the natural and human worlds and the other powers of the universe.”

To learn more about the Apr. 25 production of “Noah and the Ark,” contact Pasch at billpasch@clayton.edu or call (678) 466-4740.
Help Phillip DePoy Bring Celestine Sibley To the Stage in “Christmas at Sweet Apple”

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Playwright Phillip DePoy and the Clayton State Theatre invite you to critique DePoy’s latest commissioned script, “Christmas at Sweet Apple,” at a reading on Thursday, Apr. 26 at 8 p.m. in the Clayton State Theatre (room 132 of the Arts & Sciences Building).

Based on AJC columnist Celestine Sibley’s short stories, “Christmas at Sweet Apple” marks the second Sibley play Marietta’s Theatre in the Square has commissioned DePoy to write, and Sibley fans have the unique opportunity to hear a reading of the script and offer their opinions before the playwright finalizes the work.

“Christmas at Sweet Apple” will make its world premiere at Marietta’s Theatre in the Square this fall where it is anticipated to be welcomed with the same enthusiasm that “Turned Funny,” DePoy’s play based on Sibley’s memoir by the same name, met during its run in 2006. “Turned Funny” played to sold out audiences, becoming one of the best selling shows in the history of that theatre.

Sibley fans can expect to see “Turned Funny” remounted by Theatre in the Square this summer, closely followed by “Christmas at Sweet Apple” during the fall season.

Information about the summer remount of “Turned Funny” and the premiere of “Christmas at Sweet Apple” is forthcoming.

Hampton's Brittany Loffert Plays Center Stage in Theatre in the Square Production

by Gina Finnochiaro, University Relations

Clayton State University Theater major Brittany Loffert debuted in her first professional acting role on the theater stage on Wednesday, Apr. 4 in Marietta’s Theatre in the Square’s April production of Catherine Triechmann’s “Crooked.”

“It was great,” says Loffert. “My family was there, and so were critics, sponsors of the theatre, and my director from Clayton State, Phillip DePoy. I’m surprised that I wasn’t more nervous!”

“She was, naturally, brilliant in the role,” says DePoy.

Loffert plays the part of Laney Waters, a 14 year old with dystonia – a disorder that causes her to appear slightly hunchbacked – in this coming of age story for girls. During the course of the play, Laney goes on an emotional rollercoaster as grieves for her father and tries to sort out her feelings for her friend, Maribel (Myranda DeFloor).

“The Cast of “Crooked” (R-L Jessica Phelps West, Brittany Loffert, and Myranda DeFloor) have a lot to straighten out in this coming of age play.

“Laney is a 14-year old who is an outcast in school,” says Loffert about her character. “She [Laney] is very different from myself. It was fun to get back into a young teenage type but it was also very challenging.”

Loffert has appeared in commercials and live events and has done film and print work. In addition to acting, she is a singer and dancer.

“I hope to act and perform for a living,” says Loffert. “I love musical theatre and every aspect of being an actress: learning new things, discovering so much about yourself and how you can become someone different in the roles you take on.”

A resident of Hampton in Henry County, Loffert is an active participant in Clayton State Theater and has performed in five Clayton State productions. Not only does Loffert

Loffert, cont’d., p. 14
Across the Campus...

Athletics
The Clayton State Laker women’s golf team concluded the regular season on Tuesday by dropping a 7-2 decision against neighboring NCAA Division I rival Georgia State at Piedmont Park. The defeat evened Clayton State at 9-9 on the 2007 season. The Lakers recorded their only points in doubles. The Clayton State duo of Anna Redecsi and Julia Chergova pulled out a 9-8 thriller over the Lady Panthers’ Dariana Kozmina and Rachel Malina at No. 1 doubles, while Zsuzsa Marosfalvi and Anna Marton edged the Georgia State team of Emma Stahl-Johansson and Mateja Podgorsek 9-7 at No. 3.

Center for Academic Success
On Apr. 25 and Apr. 26, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., the Center for Academic Success will hold its Finals Tutoring Blitz. During this time, students may come into the Center on a walk-in basis to work with peer tutors, staff tutors, and faculty members. This event is an excellent opportunity for students to receive extra help while developing strong relationships with their instructors (and improve retention). Please encourage your students to attend. If you are able to volunteer an hour or two (maybe during your office hours) during this event, please e-mail Kathy Garrison the times you will be available and the subjects in which you would like to tutor. If you have any questions, please visit http://adminservices.clayton.edu/caa/ and click on Tutoring Blitz or contact Garrison.

Dental Hygiene
The Clayton State University Department of Dental Hygiene will hold its Second Annual Student Service Learning Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, Apr. 26 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in room 272 of the James M. Baker Center. The event is co-sponsored by the Morehouse School of Medicine and the Learn and Serve America Higher Education Grant part of their Community Dental Health class. As part of this class, students are required to reach out beyond the Clayton State community to teach others about oral health care.

Fort Gillem
The Forest Park Redevelopment Agency is trying to get interested Clayton County residents to attend informational public meetings on the Fort Gillem redevelopment/reuse plans. The next meeting is the Draft Plan Open House on Apr. 26 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by the Draft Plan Presentation. Both will be held at the Forest Park Recreation Center. Please call (678) 249-8557 if you have any questions.

Georgia Archives
The Georgia Archives will present, “Mystery Manuscripts & Disappearing Ink: The Strange History of Paper, Pend and Ink,” a hands-on history workshop for ages six to 14 on Saturday, June 9 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This program for elementary and middle school students will be held at the Georgia Archives, 5800 Jonesboro Rd., Morrow, at the entrance to the Clayton State campus. Students will view actual documents, decipher old handwriting, make handmade paper, bind their own books, mix ink, and much more. Registration is required, and availability is limited. There is a $5 resources fee per child. To register, call (678) 364-3730 or e-mail vfrey@sos.state.ga.us. Visit www.georgiaarchives.org for more information.

Mail Services
The United States Postal Service has announced a postal rate increase for 2007. The first class postage rate will increase from .39 to .41, effective May 14. For more information regarding the upcoming rate change including specific rates, please visit www.usps.com/rate-case.

Plant Operations
The outdoor area between Business and Health Sciences and the Baker Center, known as “the Quad,” is closed for activities due to the newly installed sod in the area, is insure the new sod will have a chance to establish roots and grow. Please do not schedule any activity in this area for four to six weeks.

Procurement Services
Deadlines for FY 2007 include…May 11, 2007 – All purchases requiring a purchase order. Any purchases made after this date must be by Statewide contract only. May 25, 2007 – All budget amendments for FY 2007 submitted to Scott McElroy. May 31, 2007- Last day to use the p-card to assure the purchase will be charged to the June 15, 2007 Visa statement. Any purchases on future statements will be charged to FY 2008. Please contact Procurement Services with any questions.

Public Safety

Spivey Hall
Clayton State University’s Spivey Hall will present a free concert by the JazzReach Quintet on Tuesday, Apr. 24, at 7 p.m. This free event is both a celebration of the Hall’s educational jazz workshop, Spivey Jam, and an appreciation for Atlanta-area teachers. The concert is free, open to the public, and no tickets are required. For more information, please contact the Spivey Hall box office at (678) 466-4200. The performance by the JazzReach Quintet replaces the previously scheduled performance by JazzReach’s resident ensemble, Metta Quintet, which withdrew due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts. The JazzReach Quintet features notable New York-based musicians, including drummer H. Benjamin Schuman, bassist Joshua Ginsburg, pianist Robert Rodriguez, and saxophonist Keith Loftis. The Quintet is joined by trumpeter Michael Rodriguez. In addition to the free public concert,
members of the JazzReach Quintet will lead classes on jazz technique and improvisation to students during the all-day Spivey Jam workshop.

University System
This week’s issue of the University System of Georgia’s Legislative Update is now available for downloading at http://www.usg.edu/pubs/lu/. Back issues of the newsletter are also available there.

The Actions List for items acted upon by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia at their board meeting on Apr. 17 and Apr. 18 is now online at http://www.usg.edu/regents/action/apr07.phtml.

HUB Sets May Hours For Walkup Locations
The walkup locations of the HUB are normally closed when classes are not in session. However, the HUB will be able to offer the following services for those students who qualify for service and need assistance prior to the first day of the full summer semester.

Closed Tuesday, May 8 – Friday, May 11
Phone service and in office repairs for this week will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

May 14 – 17; Closed Friday, May 18
The Service Counter, located in the Baker Center, will be open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Phone service and in office repairs for this week will be 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

May 21 – 24; Closed Friday, May 25
Student Software Support Services, located inside the CAS, will open 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Phone service and in office repairs for this week will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Regular hours of operation will resume on the first day of summer semester, Tuesday, May 29.

HR Rolls Out Employee Self-Service System
The Human Resources department would like to announce the roll out of the new Employee Self-Service System. This system will provide you with the opportunity to easily review our Payroll and Benefits information. The benefits of this new program include:

Viewing and printing paycheck information; Updating direct deposit information; Viewing dependent/beneficiary data; Maintaining your current address and contact information; Viewing benefits enrollments; Updating state and federal tax withholdings.

Since everyone will have the ability to view and print paycheck information, Human Resources will eventually phase out printed payroll advices for those with direct deposit. Due to this and other changes that this program is bringing, Human Resources would like to strongly encourage everyone to attend one of the upcoming training sessions in UC 150... Monday, Apr. 23, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday, Apr. 24, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Thursday, Apr. 26, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

To sign-up for training sessions go to the Center for Instructional Development and click on “Workshop Calendar.”

Retirement Party for Dr. Bill Pasch!
Thursday, Apr. 26 | 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
As many of you may already know, Dr. Bill Pasch has announced his retirement from Clayton State this May. The Department of Language and Literature invites you to celebrate Bill’s retirement and all that he has contributed to the community in his 31 years on campus. Please join us for his retirement reception and celebration on Thursday, Apr. 26, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Atrium of the Downs Center.

Life’s Transitions
David E. Rowell, father of Director of Alumni Relations Gid Rowell, died of congestive heart failure on Friday, Apr. 13. The Visitation was held on Sunday, Apr. 15 at the Hightower Funeral Home in Bremen, Ga. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in memory of David E. Rowell to the American Heart Association.

Expressions of sympathy and condolences may be sent to:
Gid E. Rowell
326 Nelson Street #504
Atlanta, GA 30313-1352
Dr. Alexander Hall Publishes First Book
by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Clayton State University Assistant Professor of Philosophy Dr. Alexander W. Hall discusses medieval Christian theological thought in his first book *Thomas Aquinas and John Duns Scotus: Natural Theology in the High Middle Ages*.

Released worldwide on Apr. 5, 2007 by Continuum International Publishing Group, Hall’s book seeks a middle ground between the philosophy of Aquinas and Scotus in relation to what many scholars believe are opposing answers to the question, “What can we know of God?”

“Medieval Christian theologians believe that since we don’t directly experience God, it is difficult to learn about him,” explains Hall, who notes that Aquinas and Scotus were perhaps the best medieval thinkers to investigate this postulate. The book discusses what Aquinas and Scotus think we can learn about God and argues that their conclusions have much in common.

“Some scholars hold that Aquinas denies we can learn of God’s nature and Scotus believes we can attain perfect knowledge of God,” shares Hall. “I believe this picture exaggerates the differences between the two, that the truth concerning what they believe we can learn about God lies somewhere in the middle. That is, both believe that our knowledge is neither wholly accurate nor totally confused.”

In addition to his book, Hall has written the following chapters: “Logic and Analogy: Aquinas’s Five Ways” appearing in *The Logic and Semantics of Thomas Aquinas: Essays in Honor of Professor E. J. Ashworth* and “John Buridan: Fourteenth-Century Nominalism and Aristotle’s *Categories*” forthcoming in *Medieval Commentaries on Aristotle’s *Categories*.*

Hall is currently working on a translation of Aquinas’s commentary on Psalm 32. The translation will appear as a portion of the Aquinas Translation Project, a webpage hosted by DeSales and Niagara universities (http://www.niagara.edu/aquinas/). He is also writing a review of Demonstration and Scientific Knowledge in William of Ockham to be published in the Journal of the History of Philosophy.

Hall taught at Clayton State as an adjunct faculty member for two years before becoming a full-time faculty member in fall 2005. He has taught undergraduate courses in Critical Thinking, Introduction to World Philosophy, and Ethics and Contemporary Perspective as well as the graduate level seminar course Classics of Philosophy, offered for the first time in fall 2006.

Hall holds three degrees in philosophy: a B.A. from the University of California at Davis, an M.A. from San Francisco State University and a Ph.D. from Emory University.

When he isn’t writing about philosophy or teaching at Clayton State, Hall chases after his two children, reads comic books, watches anime and practices Tae Kwon Do. And if one were to wonder how a modern day philosopher came to be interested in Tae Kwon Do, Hall jokes, “After a day wading through books, it’s fun to kick things.”

*Thomas Aquinas and John Duns Scotus: Natural Theology in the High Middle Ages* is available through www.amazon.com.

Smith Award, cont’d. from p. 1

Zeller is currently in his fifth year at Clayton State. He holds a Doctor of Music Arts degree from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and has taught in higher education for a total of 13 years. He resides in Morrow.

“To have my work recognized by being nominated by my peers for the Smith Faculty Award is like the ovations a performer most treasures: unexpected, thrilling, and humbling,” he says.

One of the senior faculty members at Clayton State, Ludley is a professor of Art History and English who began teaching at the University in September 1976. He also advises students in the Integrative Studies program and was senior and managing editor of Cygnet, the University’s literary/arts journal for its first three years. His Ph.D. is from Emory University.

“To be recognized by my peers in Arts & Sciences as a worthy contender for the Smith Award is a great and humbling
Women’s Forum’s Holds Last Luncheon of the Year
by Leigh G. Wills, University Relations

The Clayton State University Women’s Forum hosted Michelle Deraney, president and owner of SCB-TV Channel 15 on Thursday, Apr. 19, for its monthly luncheon of the academic year.

The luncheon, held in room 101 of the Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education at Clayton State, was the last meeting of the Forum for fiscal year 2006-2007. Part of the agenda for the day was the election of new officers and the award of the annual Women’s Forum Scholarships by Debra Cody, scholarship chair.

Deraney is the president and owner of SCB-TV Channel 15 and a graduate of Lee University. Her career quickly took off after college when she worked as a newspaper reporter and began auditioning for commercials and industrials. She co-hosted a talk show in the Atlanta market similar to her current SCB-TGV show, “Talk of the Town.” She is the mother of two children and lives in Henry County.

Up-coming officers for the 2007-2008 year are: President Margaret Thompson, Vice President for Logistics Terri Taylor-Hamrick, Vice President for Programs Deborah Dupree, Secretary Lou Brackett, and Treasurer Pam Healan.

Women’s Forum Student Success Scholarship recipients for the Fall Semester 2006 included: Nicole Latimer, a Health Care Management major and a senior from Lithonia, Ga. She graduated Dec. 2006; LaVonna Jackson, a Psychology major and a senior from Stone Mountain, Ga., who will graduate May 2007; and Melanie Cagle a Psychology major and senior from Stockbridge, Ga., who will graduate this May.

Spring Semester 2007 Women’s Student Success Scholarship recipients included: Selma Blackmon, an Integrative Studies major and a junior from Norcross, Ga. She will graduate May 2009 and René Mussell a junior from Stockbridge, Ga. who is working on a double major in biology and music. Mussell will graduate in 2008.

The 45-member Clayton State Women’s Forum was chartered in September 2002 and strives to promote the educational, career and scholarship development activities of women through programming, mentoring and advocacy. Its purpose is to enhance the professional, educational, and cultural position of Clayton State women employees and to award annual scholarships for women attending, or planning to attend, Clayton State.

Clayton State Students Retry Landmark Case at Clayton County Superior Court
by Gina Finnochiaro, University Relations

Clayton State University’s Student Mock Trial Team Association and the Criminal Justice class of Dr. Hamin Shabazz will be retrying the 1987 case of United States v. Martha Monroe at the Clayton County Superior Court on Friday, May 4 at 2:30 p.m. The Honorable Judge Richard Brown will be participating.

The federal government charged Martha Monroe with first degree murder for shooting her husband, George Monroe, while he slept. Mrs. Monroe asserts that she acted in self-defense because her husband had subjected her to severe and continual physical abuse that she feared would lead to her death.

The Clayton State Mock Trial Association will be Martha Monroe’s defense team. They are: Jeffrey Harden, Roodgine Rosemberg, Roland Benoit Jr. Shanda Bennett and Marcus Dickerson.

Shabazz’s Criminal Justice class will act as the prosecuting team. They are: Yasin Abdulahad, Leandra De Los Angeles, Jennifer Hemphill, Ebi Iwonfuo, April Johnson, Valerie Mickell, Kimberly Moniak, Tracie Mumphrey, Phong Nguyen, Michael Ramsey and Brandon Ridley.

Clayton State’s Criminal Justice program was designed with the help of area police departments, municipal and county jurisdictions, and Clayton State alumni who currently serve in law enforcement. Students in the program choose from an array of courses offered during the day, in the evenings and on-line. Criminal Justice majors tailor coursework around a core of essential studies, which helps them meet their individual career goals.

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Student Dental Hygienists Give Smile Lessons  
by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Several local healthcare facilities were visited by Clayton State University student hygienists in March and April in an effort to teach local communities how to care for their smile.

The five healthcare facilities that were visited are: Sandy Springs Health Department, Willie J. Freeman College Park Regional Healthcare Facility, Helene S. Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility in Atlanta, Aldredge Health Center in Atlanta, and the North Fulton Regional Health Center in Roswell.

Highlighted topics in each visit were proper tooth brushing and flossing techniques, preventative care, nutritional benefits on oral health, negative effects of tobacco use, and prevention information on gingivitis and periodontal disease.

This outreach program is part of the Clayton State Department of Dental Hygiene’s Community Dental Health class and is sponsored by the Morehouse School of Medicine Learn and Serve America Higher Education Grant. As part of this class, students are required to reach out beyond the Clayton State community to teach others about oral health care.

Student hygienists also reach out by offering dental services at Clayton State’s Dental Hygiene Clinic. Spring semester’s clinic hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling (678) 466-4920 or e-mailing dhclinic@clayton.edu. Walk-ins are also welcome.

New Members, cont’d. from p. 2

Delta have the opportunity to be recognized for their outstanding achievements, enrich their education, help them make career choices, and advance their careers.

Jason Joiner, new member  
Tyanna Jones, new member

It’s Air Quality Awareness Week

Recognizing the detrimental effect smog can have on the health of citizens and the state’s economy, Governor Sonny Perdue has proclaimed the week of April 22 through April 28, 2007 as Air Quality Awareness Week in Georgia.

While air pollution is a year-round issue affecting almost 30 counties in Georgia, it is especially important during smog season, May 1 through Sept. 30. During this time of year, hot summertime temperatures, stagnant wind and high humidity are more likely to drive concentrations of air pollution to unhealthy levels. Asthmatics and others in our communities can experience distress and discomfort breathing, particularly during and on the days following Smog Alerts. Air Quality Awareness Week poses an opportunity for all Georgians to educate themselves on air quality and how smog affects the health and well being of many communities throughout the state.

Things You Can Do to Reduce Air Pollution:

1. Carpool, vanpool, take transit, bike or walk.
2. Telework or work an alternative work schedule.
3. Reduce your commute - choose to live near where you work or play.
4. Combine your trips and errands to reduce driving.
5. Eat lunch in instead of driving to get it.

Commuters interested in sharing the ride to work can visit 187RIDEFIND.com and get an instant list of potential carpool partners and available vanpool routes. To learn about other commute alternatives, to sign up for Smog Alerts or to find out about Commuter Rewards, visit cleanair-campaign.com. Or call Joan Murphy in Public Safety (ext. 4050).
A resident of Stockbridge, Assistant Professor of Information Technology Medastin teaches IT courses and some service courses for the School of Business, although he also serves as webmaster for CIMS and the WebBSIT program. The holder of a Master’s of Information Technology from American InterContinental University, he has been teaching at Clayton State for five-and-a-half years.

“It is the greatest reward one can expect for doing something you love,” he says of the Smith Award nomination.

Associate Professor of Accounting Novin has been teaching at Clayton State for six years… just a part of a long (28 year) career in higher education. In addition to teaching accounting courses at Clayton State, Novin also performs research in his field and service to the University and his profession, including serving on several doctoral dissertation committees. Novin has presented papers at more than 50 international, national and regional conferences and his research interests include accounting education, cost managerial accounting and international accounting. Novin received his Ph.D. in Business Administration in 1982 from the University of Georgia, focusing on Accounting, Finance and Quantitative Methods.

A 14-year veteran of the Clayton State faculty, Sanner’s responsibilities involve the direct teaching and supervision of undergraduate nursing students. In addition, she was recently appointed to the graduate faculty for the new Master’s of Nursing (MSN) program. In fact, she has been developing the MSN courses and will teach in the MSN program beginning in the fall of 2007. Prior to her work with the MSN she served as project director for Clayton State’s two Nursing Workforce Diversity grants. Serving on numerous Clayton State School of Nursing committees, she is also a member of the University’s Image Council and a Quality Enhancement Plan lead evaluator for SACS. She earned her Ph.D. in Higher Education at Georgia State University.

honor for me,” says Ludley, a resident of Jonesboro. “There are so many great teachers at the University and in the College of Arts and Sciences that I especially appreciate being recognized in this way.”

It is fair to say that the Health Care Management Department at Clayton State has Broussard’s imprint all over it. One of the two faculty members when the program first started in 1996, she says she has taught at least two-thirds of all the courses in the department. At the present, she teaches the senior level courses and will be one of the first teachers for the Master of Health Administration when that program begins this fall.

A resident of Jasper, Ga., Broussard holds a Ph.D. in Human Resource Development from the College of Education at Georgia State University.

“It is hard sometimes to think of getting an award for just doing (your) job, which is to provide the best learning opportunity and environment for (the) students,” she says.
Anger: Can be one of the most confusing feelings for the grieving person. Anger is a response to feeling powerless, frustrated, or even abandoned.

Anxiety: Can range from mild insecurity to strong panic attacks. Often grievers become anxious about their ability to take care of themselves, or fear an event like this will happen to them or a loved one.

We are here for you to process the recent events at Virginia Tech. If you need to talk to someone, please give us a call. It’s good to talk about it! Counseling Services, Student Center 245, (678) 466-5406.
Stacey Young Rivers, of Riverdale, won the award for the College of Professional Studies. She graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor’s degree in Technology Management. She is currently the Network Manager for Turner Broadcasting Systems Broadcast Operations. In 2006, Rivers was selected as a “Rising Leader” for the Women in Cable Telecommunications Organization.

Judith P. Conway, of Riverdale, won the award for the School of Nursing. She graduated from Clayton State in 1990 and worked for several years in hospital nursing in labor and delivery, oncology and cardiac care. She is now the Minister of Congregational Care at First Baptist Church of Morrow and works with the Good Shepherd Clinic in Morrow.

“The education that I received at Clayton was excellent,” says Conway. “I thank all my instructors for the wealth of knowledge that I received from them.”

Sue Y. Dowling, of Conyers, won the award for Computer Information and Mathematical Services. A 2001 graduate, she now works for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation as the Internet Safety Coordinator and Forensic Computer Specialist. She is also a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in Georgia.

Joan E. McElroy, of Rex, won the Distinguished Service Award from the Clayton State Alumni Association. Not only is McElroy an alumnus, but she has worked at Clayton State for many years and will retire this spring. She has served the university in a number of roles, with the last 17 years being spent in the Career Services Department. McElroy is also a finalist for the University’s Alice J. Smith Staff award.

Four finalists for the Distinguished Alumni Awards were also recognized at the dinner. They are: J.D. Baker of Fayetteville, Jennifer Bowen of Fayetteville, Melissa D. Crownover of Hampstead, North Carolina and Lauren Singleton of Sharpsburg.

This is the sixth year that Clayton State’s Alumni Association has held the Distinguished Alumni Awards.

In addition to the award ceremony, Bert Lewyn, author of Holocaust Memoirs: On the Run in Nazi Berlin, spoke about the trials and tribulations that he has gone through as a Holocaust survivor.

“We wanted a speaker that had overcome struggles and succeeded,” said Sherrie Eoff, Vice-President of the Alumni Association. “Mr. Lewyn accomplished all of these things, living through one of the most horrific times of history.”
Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

On-Campus Recruiting

Fedex Ground
Tuesday, Apr. 24
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
University Center Main Street
P/T Package Handlers, $9.00 - $9.50 per hour, tuition assistance, at the Ellenwood location

Upcoming Events

AirTran Airways Career Information Sessions
Saturday, Apr. 21
11 a.m. and 2 p.m. sharp (doors open 30 minutes prior)
AirTran Airways Recruiting Center
1740 A Phoenix Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30349
Recruiting for Customer Service Agents, Ramp Agents, Flight Attendants. Seating is limited, dress professionally, bring a valid driver’s license. Apply online prior to the information session. Be prepared to complete an application that goes back 10 years for employment, education and residency history.

11th Annual 2007 College Spring Break National Job Fair
Saturday, Apr. 21
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Georgia World Congress Center
One Andrew Young Blvd NW
Building C
Atlanta, GA 30313
Professional attire is required.
For more info call (404) 244-1777

13th Congressional District’s 3rd Annual Jobs Fair
Friday, May 11
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Georgia International Convention Center
2000 Convention Center Concourse, College Park, GA 30337

North Carolina Mountains Teacher Job Fair
Monday, May 21
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Western Region Education Service Alliance
Asheville, NC

Scholar, cont’d. from p. 2

director of the international education, was the first Clayton State faculty member to travel to CHM College.

“I stayed at an apartment on the campus of CHM College, gave lectures to student groups on a variety of topics and traveled to some of the sites of the area,” says Welborn of his trip.

Thus far, Clayton State has sent two professors to CHM College: Dr. Kitty Deering and Dr. Chris Ward. The professors chosen for the program are determined by a selection committee made up of previous exchange scholars. In addition, Clayton State and CHM College agree on the academic area of the professors to be sent.

“Each side pays for the transportation of their faculty member, and the hosting institution is responsible for lodging, food, and transportation while hosting the visiting scholar,” says Welborn.

CHM College of Arts, Science, Commerce & Management, Mass Media and Information Technology is one of the largest colleges in the University of Mumbai.

Loffert, cont’d. from p. 2

perform on the Clayton State stage, but she also recently played Philia in the Henry Players’ February production of “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.”

“Crooked” plays Tuesday through Sunday throughout April. Visit www.theatreinthesquare.com to purchase tickets.

Brittany Loffert

Jazz/Big Band Reminder!

Clayton State’s Department of Music presents the Clayton State University Jazz Combo in “The Blues Factor,” an evening of classic and original jazz compositions with emphasis on the blues, on Wednesday, Apr. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in Spivey Hall. Admission is free.

Clayton State’s Department of Music presents the Clayton Community Big Band (CCBB) concert “In the Mix,” an adventurous blend of traditional and contemporary big band music, on Monday, Apr. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Spivey Hall. Admission is free.
Clayton State’s Redecsi Selected Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

The Peach Belt Conference released its 2007 All-Peach Belt Conference team for women’s tennis, and the Clayton State Lakers placed two players on the All-Conference. Junior Julia Chergova and freshman Anna Redecsi were honored in both singles and in doubles for this season.

In addition, Redecsi was also honored as the Peach Belt Freshman of the Year, making it the second time in the last three seasons that a Clayton State player has received that recognition. Julia Gandia received Peach Belt Freshman of the Year honors in 2005.

Redecsi, from Gyongyos, Hungary, went 13-5 this season at No. 1 singles for the Lakers, including 9-2 in Peach Belt play. She is ranked 21st in the nation in singles at the Division II level and posted victories over three Top 30-ranked players. Chergova, a native of Sofia, Bulgaria, went 14-4 at No. 2 singles this season, and was an impressive 10-1 in Peach Belt play. She is an All-Peach Belt selection for the second time in her Clayton State career.

It’s in doubles, however, that this duo has excelled. As the Lakers’ No. 1 doubles team, Redecsi and Chergova have posted a 15-3 mark this season with a 10-1 record in the Peach Belt. They are currently ranked seventh in the nation and second in the Division II Mid-Atlantic Region. This past fall, Redecsi and Chergova won the ITA (Intercollegiate Tennis Association) Division II Mid-Atlantic Regional doubles championship and advanced to the finals of the ITA Division II National Championship.

In turn, they became the first ever ITA Division II All-Americans at Clayton State.

Clayton State (9-9) is playing this weekend in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament in Augusta, Ga.

Wilcox, cont’d. from p. 16

After struggling somewhat in his first two tournaments after transferring to Clayton State from Alabama-Birmingham, Wilcox has turned in an impressive five straight Top 10 finishes. He is almost assured of an individual bid to the upcoming NCAA Division II Southeast Regional in Savannah on May 8-9.

"He was pretty disappointed because he knew he was leading most of the day," said Clayton State head coach Barry Harwell about Wilcox. "But he had a shot at it. He played a solid three rounds, and that’s tremendous in a field like this. He’s come a long way from the start of the spring."

Wilcox stayed at or near the top for most of the third round. He recorded birdies on the Par 4 fourth hole and the Par 4 seventh hole on the front nine, and another birdie on the Par 5 552-yard 14th hole on the back nine. However, Wilcox recorded a double-bogey on the 18th hole to put himself in third place at that moment. However, late bogeys by the Columbus State duo of Andrew Georgiou and Christian Ries propelled Wilcox back to second.

Culler, meanwhile, recorded four birdies on the back nine and parred the remaining two holes to secure the championship.

In addition to Wilcox, senior Matt Beall finished tied for 28th with a 240 (80-79-81), followed by Neil McBride in 32nd with a 243 (82-85-76), Daniel Sommerville in 36th with a 246 (85-81-80) and James Martin finished 38th with a 249 (79-86-84).

Trivia Time

Opening Day No-Hitters

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Mark Buehrle of the Chicago White Sox threw a no-hitter at the Texas Rangers Wednesday... an impressive feat, especially so early in the season.

However, it wasn’t Opening Day, and that was the question from our last Trivia Time… who has thrown a no-hitter on Opening Day in the majors?

Everybody (well, almost everybody) knows about Bob Feller’s no-hitter for the Cleveland Indians to start off the 1940 season. The trick part of the question is Leon “Red” Ames, who opened the 1909 season for the New York Giants by pitching nine no-hit innings against the Brooklyn Dodgers. Unfortunately for Ames, Brooklyn pitcher “Kaiser” Wilhelm (really, that was his nickname) also shut out the Giants over the same nine innings. Thus, Ames was forced to come out for a 10th inning. After getting one more out, he gave up his first hit, eventually losing the game 3-0 in 13 innings. That’s the way the ball bounces.

The first correct answer came from Adam Kubik, followed by Scott McElroy, Todd Birchfield, Rob Taylor, Dian Swearngin and Robert Caine... an impressive tour de force for a pretty difficult baseball trivia question.

Since we’re still early in the baseball season, and since the weather has been anything but spring-like so far… where did the Cleveland Indians play their first “home” game of the 2007 season? First correct answer to johnshiffert@clayton.edu gets a recording of “Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.”
Clayton State Posts Six Individual Victories at AUC

Competing a rare mid-week meet, the Clayton State Laker men’s and women’s track and field teams had plenty of successful results at the AUC Invitational at Morehouse’s Edwin Moses Track on Wednesday, Apr. 11. Clayton State posted six individual victories, set three team records and had another NCAA Division II provisional qualifying time.

The highlight of the meet was the women’s 1,500-meter run, where the Lakers took the top three spots. Allison Kreutzer won the event with an NCAA Division II provisional qualifying time of 4:37.60 minutes, while Angela Cobb finished second with a time of 4:46.49 and Cassandra Bolivar finished third in 5:37.40.

In addition to that trio in the 1,500-meter run, Clayton State also had two more first-place finishes in the women’s meet. Jon Taylor won the women’s 200-meter dash in a time of 25.49 seconds – the second-fastest time in her career - while Melissa Fernandez prevailed in the women’s 800-meter run in 2:34.87.

In the men’s meet, there were three school records set to go with three first-place finishes. Brad Twyford won the men’s shot put in a school-record distance of 45-9 feet, while John Manching won the men’s pole vault in a school-record height of 12 feet. Also, Lawrence DeShields won the men’s 100-meter hurdles in 15.14 seconds. Another school record came in the men’s 400-meter hurdles, where Ahmad Rolle finished second with a time of 54.31 seconds.

The Lakers’ next meet is the Auburn Invitational on April 21.

Clayton State Posts Six Individual Victories at AUC

Lakers’ Wilcox Finishes Second at 2007 Peach Belt Conference Golf Championship

Will Wilcox was aiming to become the first Clayton State men’s golfer to ever win an individual Peach Belt Conference championship on Tuesday. However, Wilcox came up short by one stroke and finished second in the 2007 Peach Belt Conference Tournament at the Harbor Club.

Wilcox, who had a one-stroke lead entering Tuesday’s final round, fired a four-over par 76 and finished with four-over 220 for the tournament. Wilcox finished one stroke behind individual medalist Baxter Culler from USC-Upstate… the best finish ever for a Laker golfer at the Peach Belt Tournament.

As a team the Lakers shot a 313 for the final round and finished seventh with a score of 943. Fifth-ranked Columbus State won the Peach Belt Championship with an 897.

Wilcox, cont’d., p. 15