

Campus Review

Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

Vol. 44, No. III | April 1, 2013

Georgia Legislature Approves Funding For Clayton State University Science Building

A project a decade in the making, and one that will help make generations of Clayton State University students' dreams real, is one step closer to fulfillment.

The Georgia General Assembly yesterday approved the state's FY 2014 budget for the University System of Georgia, a budget that included approval of the bonds needed to fund a \$19.8 million science building for Clayton State University. The budget is still subject to final approval by Governor Nathan Deal.

Additional labs and classroom space for the natural sciences have been a need for Clayton State since the University has expanded from 4675 students in 2001 to more than 7000 students currently. Indeed, given the science course and lab

requirements in the core curriculum, the lack of a dedicated science building has limited the University's enrollment, in effect limiting the number of students who can make their dreams real at Clayton State.

In addition to meeting the needs of the University, the new science building will also help the University meet critical needs in several fields in Atlanta's Southern Crescent; notably in nursing, healthcare managers for Southern Crescent medical facilities, science educators, and entrepreneurs in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) disciplines.

"Governor Deal and his staff deserve the credit for their efforts and leadership to

include the building in the FY14 budget," says Clayton State President Dr. Thomas Hynes. "It was truly a bipartisan effort in both chambers that secured funding."

Senate leadership continued their historical support of the project in the Senate. This year members of the Southern Crescent Delegation provided the crucial difference to getting the building into the FY14 budget that now heads to the Governor's desk.

"The leadership of our delegation from the Southern Crescent area was instrumental in securing agreement from the General Assembly to move ahead with the construction of this facility," says Hynes.

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Clayton State, Korean Health Sciences College to Sign MOU

Clayton State University and Daejeon Health Sciences College, located in Daejeon, South Korea, signed a memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two organizations on Monday, Mar. 25.

Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. Hynes and the University's senior administrators met with senior executives from Daejeon Health Sciences College to host

MOU, cont'd, p. 7



Clayton State University's Growth Transcends National Borders

by Samantha Watson, University Relations

Diversity is not only an aid to education, but also an agent of education. By attending Clayton State University, international students have the opportunity to engage in academic learning as well as cultural exchanges, and because of international students, Clayton State has the opportunity to be exposed to and educated in cultures from around the world. This helps shape the University as a culturally appreciative, and welcoming campus.

Spring 2013 at Clayton State saw the largest increase in the school's history of new international students. The Laker community welcomed 21 new and transfer international students from eight countries including Bosnia, El Salvador, Jamaica, New Zealand, Romania, South Africa, and Trinidad. A large number of Saudi Arabian graduate students, around 12, contributed to this influx.

This new spike in the Saudi population on campus is largely due to Saudi Arabia's

Cultural Mission to the U.S.A. (SACM). The Saudi Arabian government provides extensive scholarships for their top students to come to the best educational institutions in America to obtain university training and skills. The mission "provide(s) our country with qualified individuals capable of achieving the country's goals of progress and development," reads the mission's website (www.sacm.org).

The majority of the new Saudi students chose Clayton State University from the SACM list of approved institutions specifically for the flexible MBA program that offers weekend classes. This fairly new graduate program is becoming increasingly popular and expects to see 15 more international students apply in the summer and another 20 in the fall semester.

In accordance with SACM, the Saudi students intend to graduate from Clayton

State University, then take their graduate degrees home and implement their knowledge into Saudi Arabia's plan for future transition of its economy from an oil export/refinement base to a more long-term sustainable mix of industries.

In between classes, the Saudi students are working to form a new Saudi cultural student organization on campus. This will help them have a home-away-from-home as well as better share their culture with their fellow Lakers. The International Student Services Office has set up various displays in the library in an effort to expose the student population to more Saudi culture as well.

"The School of Graduate Studies tries to draw students into participating in campus activities, not just international cultural activities, but all activities so as to enrich their experience," says the School of Graduate Studies' Elizabeth Taylor. ■

Clayton State Nursing Faculty Earn Two Awards from GANE



Dr. Debra Cody

Two Clayton State University nursing faculty members earned awards at the recent Georgia Association of Nurse Educators (GANE) conference, held in Peachtree City and attended by several hundred nurse educators from the state of Georgia.

Assistant Professor of Nursing Dr. Debra Cody won the GANE Jane Van de Verde Nurse Educator Award for 2013 and clinical



Nancy Capponi

faculty member Nancy Capponi won,

along with two other doctoral students, Best Poster Presentation for Doctoral Students for their poster entitled, "The Use of Beck's Anxiety Index with Undergraduate Nursing Students."

Cody's award included a plaque and a check for \$500. Cody met the criteria for the Van de Verde Award by being a nurse educator in Georgia for more than 35 years, having a doctorate degree, demonstrating a positive influence on nursing education in Georgia through scholarship, serving on state committees related to nursing education, and developing the Nurse Educator Mentor Program for new nursing faculty members in the School of Nursing at Clayton State.

"Dr. Cody demonstrates excellence in nursing education and is well deserving of this award," Says Dr. Sue Odom, chair of Clayton State's undergraduate nursing

program. "We are very proud and fortunate to have her on our nursing faculty." ■

Science Building, cont'd from p. 1

In addition, he notes that the House leadership – the speaker, speaker pro tem, majority leader and house appropriations chairman -- all joined to support the effort.

The addition of a science building to the Clayton State main campus in Morrow is a regional "win" for the Southern Crescent, which provides 80 percent of Clayton State's students. In addition, the vast majority of Clayton State's alumni continue to live and work in the Southern Crescent. ■

Georgia Senate Honors Marcus Bartlett



Marcus Bartlett

Clayton State University senior chemistry and mathematics major Marcus Bartlett (McDonough) was presented with a Georgia State Senate resolution last week, honoring his accomplish-

ments at the University, including the Bartlett Index, a topological index for molecules representable by graph theoretic trees that was recently named after him.

Attending the ceremony at the chambers of State Senator Rick Jeffares, in addition to Bartlett and his family, were Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. Hynes, and Clayton State Director of Special Projects Jim Flowers. A student at Clayton State since the spring semester of 2008, and a member of the Clayton State Dean's List 11 times over, Bartlett will graduate in May 2013 with his dreams made real.

The Senate resolution reads as follows:

Recognizing and commending Clayton State University student Marcus Bartlett and inviting him to be recognized by the Senate; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, Mr. Bartlett began college at age 24 and at age 30 is a senior at Clayton State University having worked in the fields of heating and air and cabinetry since high school; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bartlett will graduate with a double major in Chemistry and Mathematics; is published in the Journal of Combinatorial Mathematics and Combinatorial Computing; and has been recognized as the discoverer of a new measure of distances of structures in molecules, the Bartlett Index; and

WHEREAS Mr. Bartlett's achievements as an undergraduate student are rare, they are even more remarkable as he began his college career as a someone who, in his words,

"was horrible in math" and had to enroll in basic developmental math courses; and

WHEREAS Mr. Bartlett strove to take every math course he could in order to pursue his dream career in drafting and engineering; and demonstrated his determination by taking an independent study course in differential equations while working nights at UPS; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bartlett has taken time to help others by tutoring fellow students in math, physics and chemistry in Clayton State's Academic Success Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bartlett has been accepted to the chemistry Ph.D. program at the University of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bartlett has demonstrated that commitment to a strong work ethic, a desire to learn, and a drive to discover are traits that create new careers and

Bartlett, cont'd., p. 6

Model United Nations Delegates Receive Recognition at National Model UN Conference in the Galapagos Islands

by Samantha Watson, University Relations

Clayton State University was well represented at the 2013 National Model United Nations conference held in the Galapagos Islands earlier this year.

Sociology majors Troy Williams (Jonesboro) and Darrel Campbell (College Park), who are both members of Clayton State's Model UN, served as part of a joint five-member delegation with Georgia State University students and represented the West African nation of Togo at the conference.

The National Model UN Latin American service-learning trip was held at the Galapagos Academic Institute for the Arts and Sciences on San Cristóbal Island. It was held in cooperation with Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador and it allowed students to focus on global envi-

ronmental issues in committee sessions. The conference included cultural visits and a community service project.

The delegation brought home two conference awards, and as a whole received an "Honorable Mention Award" for their diplomacy and overall performance. In addition, the delegation received the award for "Outstanding Delegates in a Committee." While the whole delegation was honored with this last award, it was largely a merit award given to Campbell.

The Clayton State Department Chair of Social Sciences, Dr. Rafik Mohamed, thanks everyone who has contributed to Williams' and Campbell's educational journey. He also thanks Dr. Karen Young, "since last summer, she has put in a ton of time and effort to make this trip possible

and to prepared Darrell, Troy, and the GSU delegates for the conference."

Mohamed also gives a "special recognition to our provost, Dr. Micheal Crafton and our associate provost, Dr. Robert Vaughan, for their efforts and support from the Provost's office for making this wonderful opportunity possible."

Young, Mohamed and the Clayton State Model UN members then attended the National Model United Nations conference in New York City through Mar. 22. ■

Clayton State Announces Alice Smith Staff Award Nominees

By Erin Fender, Marketing and Communications



Patricia Barton



Marcia Jones



Pat Keane



Jivaro Lovett



Dan Newcombe

Clayton State University has announced the five finalists for the University's 2013 Alice Smith Staff Award. They are: from the Office of Financial Aid, Patricia Barton; from Procurement Services, Marcia Jones; from Athletics Pat Keane, from Department of Facilities Management, Jivaro Lovett; and from the Office of Network and Enterprise Services, Dan Newcombe.

Clayton State's Alice J. Smith Awards, for both faculty and staff, will be presented at Clayton State's Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony on Apr. 24 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 Apr. 24 ceremony.

Originally from Perry, Ga., Barton currently resides in McDonough. She has worked within the USG for 19 years and served as Director of Financial Aid since 2008. In 2011, she served as President for RACSFA (the USG advisory group for financial aid). She is currently serving as treasurer for the Georgia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (GASFAA).

In 2012 she received the Gold award for the Chancellor's Outstanding Customer Service Leadership Award in 2012 and

was named a finalist for the Alice J. Smith Award. This is her third nomination for this award.

She and her husband have been married for 33 years and they have one daughter who is also married. She has a grandson who recently turned two. Barton enjoys reading and loves TV dramas. Her two commitments outside of work are singing in her church choir and playing Bunco with a ladies group.

"Being nominated for the Alice J. Smith Award is truly an honor. Every day we go into our offices and bury ourselves in the details of our jobs, often oblivious to what is going on around us. I am deeply touched that others have taken the time away from their busy schedules to think of me, let alone take the time to say something kind. I very much appreciate the recognition from others, and at the same time it makes me more determined to do the same for someone else when given the opportunity," expresses Barton.

Jones has worked with Clayton State since 2006 where she began working in the budget department for Continuing Education. She moved to the Budget & Finance department in 2008 and was promoted to director in 2009.

Currently living in Stockbridge, Jones was born and raised in Macon. She received a bachelor's degree in business management from Valdosta State University. She has previously held the position of vice president in retail banking

for Bank of America as well as, branch manager, small business champion for the East Atlanta region, mortgage advisor and a branch manager trainer.

She has one daughter and is a passionate mentor to young people. She has been recognized for her decade long dedication to the youth ministry at her church. Jones also enjoys reading and writing poetry.

Jones considers her position very challenging but rewarding at the same time. She is often informing the campus of policy and procedure do's and don'ts! She often feels the challenging but yet rewarding part of her job is enforcing the law and providing viable options all with a pleasant attitude and a smile.

"I am very humbled by the nomination and to become a finalist just renders me speechless! You pray you are a blessing to others; however, learning about this has truly blessed me," says Jones.

Keane, who has been with Clayton State for 29 years, currently is an administrative assistant in Athletics. She first worked part time as the switch board operator in 1984. She has worked full time in Continuing Education as well as Media & Printing Services.

"I don't believe there is a better environment than a college campus to work. Helping students and coaches make their dreams come true is so rewarding. I look

Smith Staff, cont'd. p. 10

Clayton State Announces Alice Smith Faculty Award Nominees

By Erin Fender, Marketing and Communications



Dr. Susan Copeland



Dr. Erica Gannon



Dr. James Keebler



Dr. Kelly Nipper



Dina Swearngin

Clayton State University announced the finalists for the 2013 Alice Smith Faculty Award.

This year's nominees are: from the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Susan Copeland and Dr. Erica Gannon; from the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Kelli Nipper; from the College of Health, Dina Swearngin; and from the College of Business, Dr. James Keebler.

Clayton State's Alice J. Smith Awards, for both faculty and staff, will be presented at Clayton State's Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony on Apr. 23 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 Apr. 23 ceremony.

Copeland, who enjoys the camaraderie among the faculty and staff, is an Associate Professor of English. She has been teaching full time since 2002 but started her journey at Clayton State in 1994 part-time. She received her doctorate degree from The Catholic University of American in Washington, D.C. in 2000. She also holds full time graduate faculty status.

"In all these years I especially have enjoyed the camaraderie in my depart-

ment, and I find at Clayton State a sense of interconnected community among faculty and staff across disciplines and colleges. In fact, when we went through our last SACS campus visit in 2004, one of the major points that the visiting observers made was that there was an extraordinary air of friendliness and collegiality. I think that remains true," expresses Copeland.

She has two sons and a daughter-in-law that she is immensely proud of and lives in McDonough with her canine children. She loves to write and dabble in photography. Copeland is a Distinguished Fellow of the International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning and a Permanent Member of the Board of Regents' Institute of Higher Education.

She explains that she greatly appreciates the diversity of our student population, for they bring broad ranges of experience from which we all learn.

"Because there are so many great faculty members across this campus who deserve recognition for their dedication and skill in our profession, I am all the more gratified to stand for this award a second time," says Copeland who was also a finalist in 2010.

Gannon and her husband of 15 years and seven-year-old son live in Newnan, Ga. Currently she is an Associate Professor of Psychology and has been a member of the psychology department at Clayton State for 11 years. She obtained her Ph.D. in

Counseling Psychology in 2002 from Auburn University. This is her second nomination.

Family and travel are an important part of Gannon's life. She and her family travel often. They love to travel in "Vincent Van Go" their vintage Volkswagen camper named by her son. They have visited a number of state parks in Georgia and Florida since purchasing the van last year. They have two dogs and two cats and definitely consider them an important part of their family.

She enjoys seeing her students become more aware of how the principles and theories of psychology apply to their everyday lives. She notes appreciates her colleagues in the Psychology department and feels fortunate to work with such a collegial and interesting group of people.

"Being nominated for the Smith Award means a great deal to me, as I see teaching as my number one priority. Therefore, being recognized for that is very gratifying, and I appreciate the fact that Clayton State has a mechanism for doing so—it emphasizes the importance that is placed on teaching at our university," says Gannon.

Nipper, a 1995 graduate from Clayton State, since 2004 has served her university as an associate professor of Mathematics. She obtained her doctorate from the University of Georgia. She cur-

Clayton State Math Students Excel At MAA Southeastern Section Meeting

Dr. Christopher Raridan of the Clayton State University Mathematics Department in the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS) recently escorted 12 Clayton State students to the 92nd Annual Mathematical Association of America Southeastern Section Meeting (92nd MAA-SE) held at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C., on Mar. 15 and Mar. 16, 2013.

Clayton State students attending the conference were; Alex Adams (Hapeville), Sam Adams (Hapeville), Kenny Gillis (Riverdale), Hung Hua (Morrow), Christine Lengel (Ellenwood), Christian Larsen (Covington), Sarah Minion (Fayetteville), Maria Morales-Beale (St Louis), Michael Ngo (Morrow), Myron Standridge (Forest Park), Jarvis Turner (Morrow), and recent graduate Pritul Patel (Forest Gate, East London, England).

More than 150 presentations were given by students from 20 different colleges and universities, including the host institution, Clayton State, Georgia Southern, Berry, Southern Polytechnic, North Carolina-Asheville, and Lenoir-Rhyne.

Three Clayton State students gave presentations. Minion and Patel each gave presentations on parts of their research entitled "On the Edge-Balanced Index Sets of Complete Odd Bipartite Graphs." Ngo presented results from his research entitled "Small Pattern Gallai Ramsey Numbers."

Patel, a December 2012 graduate of Clayton State, won a monetary award for having the best student presentation in graph theory and combinatorics at the 92nd MAA-SE. Minion is a senior completing her Capstone Research Experience. Both are working with Raridan and Dr. Elliot Krop, another Clayton State mathematics faculty member. Ngo, a junior, is collaborating with Marcus Bartlett, Thuhong Nguyen, and Petra President under the direction of Krop. The abstracts for the talks can be

found at <http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/conference2013/PresentationAbstracts.pdf>.

"This was the first time I have presented research at any conference and I was completely taken back when told that I was awarded a prize for best presentation in my section," says Patel. "When I arrived on campus the following Monday morning it felt really good to be congratulated

MAA-SE, cont'd, p.14



First row, left to right: Minion, Patel, Raridan, Lengel, Ngo, Turner, Morales-Beale. Second row, left to right: A. Adams, S. Adams, Hua, Larsen, and Gillis. Not pictured: Standridge.

Bartlett, cont'd, from p. 3

new discoveries, and that future Georgians may share in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body recognize and commend Mr. Marcus Bartlett for his commitment to lifelong learning in science and mathematics, and his perseverance to pursue his dream and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Marcus Bartlett.

"I have had the chance to take classes with some great professors at Clayton State and would owe my success and my transition from going from a B student to a mostly all A student to these people," says Bartlett, singling out Dean Lila Roberts, Dr. Elliott Krop, and Dr. Cathie Aust among the Math faculty, and Dr.

Jonathan Lyon in Chemistry. "I would like to give Dr. Lyon credit for introducing me to and heightening my interest in theoretical and computational chemistry. I have also been given the chance to work with Dr. Krop for four semesters of research now and would say that I have learned a lot about research from him and how to successfully go about gaining results and thinking outside the box." ■

College of Business Professors Visit Local High Schools for SEBA

by Samantha Watson, University Relations

The AACSB-accredited College of Business (CoB) at Clayton State University's Summer Entrepreneurship and Business Academy (SEBA), sponsored by PEI, a Stockbridge-based logistics firm, is intended to give high school students a taste of college life.

Dr. Beverly Wright, program director, and Dr. Alphonso Ogbuehi, professor of marketing & global strategy, along with CoB Career Advisor Sanford Dennis have recently visited public and private high schools to talk about the current state of business, entrepreneurship, and also discuss their summer academy, which is designed to help prepare students for the future by providing a unique and exciting hands-on learning experience. This year's program runs from June 16 through June 21 and will once again be held on the Clayton State campus in Morrow.

Last year's academy students provided testimony for the overnight, week-long program, and had this to say about SEBA:

"This week, I learned a lot more than I thought I would. Not only have I learned business, ethics and codes of ethics that I didn't know about the real world, I also learned a lot about myself," says Mt. Zion Magnet School's Taylor Tinsley. "There were a lot of realizations about myself and

about other people and how to work with other people, strangers that you didn't even know two weeks ago.

"I definitely recommend SEBA for other high schoolers because it teaches you communication, and cooperation. That's something that a lot of high schoolers need because, you know, high school is tough. It is always going to be tough. It is good to be able know things about people first hand and that's what SEBA teaches you."

Akiah Dunlap, a Clayton County resident who attends Grace Christian Academy in Fayette County, also learned a lot at SEBA.

"I've learned so much about the college life, the major I want, and more majors I might go into because of this camp," she says. "It opened a whole spectrum of doors. I told my friends because this is a great opportunity for them coming up as seniors. I've learned so much in a short time, and has impacted me in ways that I can't even express."

"Our primary purpose for SEBA was to prepare students for life after high school and beyond," notes Ogbuehi. "We were very pleased that 20 students successfully participated in this inaugural program.

The students left the University with a new understanding of themselves and the world around them. They also learned about the various programs and opportunities for study at Clayton State University."

The conclusion all parties reached about SEBA was that the academy challenged students to think critically and provided them with a taste of college life... a dream made real. SEBA was moderated by Clayton State professors from the accounting, management and marketing fields, and the topics covered included entrepreneurship, business, ethics, free enterprise, teamwork, and personal skills. This year's program has added an etiquette dinner to give academy students skills needed to function effectively in professional meal situations. For more information, go to <http://www.clayton.edu/business/seba>. ■

MOU, cont'd, from p. 1

an MOU signing celebration of the new partnership.

Clayton State's initial collaboration with Daejeon will be in the School of Nursing; but, according to Director of International Programs John Parkerson, it eventually could include the Clayton State departments of Health Care Management, Health and Fitness Management, and Dental Hygiene, all of which reside in the Clayton State College of Health. The MOU will initially focus on faculty and staff exchanges, student exchanges, and special teaching and degree programs.

"This is a very significant development in Clayton State's international partnerships, as it is Clayton State's first formal partnership with a higher education institution in Korea," he notes. "It opens the door to expanded academic collaborations – student and faculty exchanges, joint teaching or collaborative degree programs, Korean student enrollment - between the College of Health and foreign institutions that have compatible health curriculum."

The MOU will serve as a general framework for inter-institutional cooperation between the College of Health at Clayton

State and Daejeon Health Sciences College. Dr. Lisa W. Eichelberger, dean of the College of Health and Parkerson, will coordinate the application of the agreement with Dr. Hyen-sook Jeon, dean, School of Nursing and Bongnam Lee, director, International Programs, of Daejeon Health Sciences College. ■

Across the Campus...

Biology

Clayton State University's resident herpetologist, Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Joshua Parker, will be travelling to Gainesville, Fla., next month to speak at the University of Florida's 35th annual regional herpetology conference. The conference will be held Apr. 5 and Apr. 6 at the Paramount Plaza Hotel and Suites in Gainesville. Parker will be speaking on his research over the past four years on his favorite species of snake, the Midget Faded Rattlesnake, which he has been studying since his Ph.D. days.

Business

three-day long forum that included addresses by, among others; State Rep. Dee Dawkins-Haigler, chair of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus; State Sen. Gail Davenport; and State Sen. Donzella James. The theme of the forum was, "Harnessing Africa - The New Economic Frontier." The forum was designed to bridge the gap between African investors and their American counterparts and provided a means for discussing, harnessing and developing the growth potentials that the African continent offers.

Campus Life

In October 2012, the Clayton State University Department of Campus Life submitted a proposal to participate in the President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge. This initiative is out of the White House and is designed to advance interfaith cooperation and community service in higher education. Campus Life has since been notified that its plan was selected to participate in the 2013 Challenge, along with approximately 280 other higher education institutions across the country. The goal of the Clayton State University Interfaith Challenge plan is to bring awareness, appreciation, and acceptance of religious diversity on campus and in our community. To meet this goal, the Interfaith Council's objectives will be to charter a faith-based social Greek-letter organization and to develop a service component that explores different ways to remain spiritually and physically healthy using the philosophies and traditions of different faiths—reinforcing the case that often

times, we have more commonalities in our ideals than we are aware, although we may take different routes to materializing those ideals.

Continuing Education

Clayton State University Executive Director of Continuing Education Janet Winkler spoke to a class is made up of business leaders, government officials and the arts community on the subject of the film industry in Georgia. Along with Craig Dominey of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Winkler addressed an Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta (ALMA) class on the subject of "The Georgia Film Industry."

Music

Clayton State University was well represented in the performances of new music at the 34th Regional Conference of the Southern Chapter of the College Music Society (CMS), hosted at Clayton State during the first weekend in March. The Clayton State Division of Music in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts welcomed attendees from across the Southern Chapter of the College Music Society, the principal umbrella organization for academics in the field of music to its Music Education Building and Spivey Hall for several days of presentations and lecture-recitals by CMS member scholars and performers, and concerts of new music by CMS member composers. The local site host for the conference, Clayton State coordinator of the Division of Music and director of Opera and Vocal Studies Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, reports that the Clayton State student string quartet (violinists Donté Davis and Brandon Holmes, violist Evonee Mitchell, and cellist Rebecca Rolland, all of whom are coached by Dr. Richard Bell), performed I Was Never Good with Words, a work by Blair Boyd of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Nursing

Up to 20 middle and high school students, grades eight through 12, will get a chance to learn about careers in nursing this summer, thanks to the free "Careers Into Nursing" camps at Clayton State University. Part of the Clayton State School of Nursing's Workforce Diversity

Grant, the "Careers Into Nursing" camps will run from Monday, June 17 to Friday, June 21, and from Monday, July 15 to Friday, July 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. These week-long programs target minority or disadvantaged middle and high school students who have expressed an interest in nursing as a career... providing an entrée for their dreams to be made real. Participants will receive information about health promotion and careers in nursing as well as CPR certification and the chance to visit various health facilities. Each session will culminate with a graduation ceremony and lunch for the participants.



Congratulations to our inductees to Alpha Lambda Delta, the national honor society for first-year students.

Clayton State Students, Faculty Featured at Southeastern Psychological Association Conference

There is no better measure of the manifest success of the Clayton State University Psychology Department than the programming at the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) Conference at the Omni CNN Center.

The Psychology Department, which also has the second-largest number of majors at the University (567), is headed by Dr. Donna McCarty, who attended the SEPA meeting along with no fewer than 10 representatives of Clayton State -- five students and five faculty -- making presentations; or, if you will, making their dreams real.

In addition to McCarty, faculty members Dr. Deborah Deckner, Dr. Brian Goldman, Dr. Pinar Gurkas, and Dr. Sam Maddox presented at the SEPA Conference. However, should you ask the aforemen-

tioned faculty members about the highlight of the conference, odds are they'll point to the participation of the five student presenters.

Undergraduates Tavares Harris (Dawson, Ga.) and Zenia O'Neil (McDonough, Ga.) made a poster presentation at the CEPO-Psi Chi Undergraduate Poster Session of the SEPA. According to Gurkas, their faculty advisor, the title of their presentation was: "Through the Eyes of Head Start Parents: Their Self-Efficacy Beliefs and Executive Function of Their Kids." O'Neil is the president and Tavares is the vice president of the Clayton State chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology.

Three graduate students also presented, including Kimberly Mapel (Peachtree City, Ga.) on "Gender Differences in Self-

Esteem? It Depends on How Authentic You Are."

"Drs. Goldman, Gurkas and Maddox are all co-authors on her talk and have been central in mentoring her," notes Deckner. "I would love to draw attention to her and celebrate her excellent scholarship."

Kecia Ellick and Nick Langley are both second year students in the Applied Developmental Psychology program, and with the guidance and assistance of Deckner, they also presented their research at the 59th Annual Meeting of SEPA.

"Kecia and Nick have really exemplified the values of our program by immersing themselves in the science of child development and have already started to con-

SEPA, cont'd, p. 14

Fifteen Presentations at Georgia Psychological Society Meeting

Clayton State Psychological Department Continues to Excel

The professional expertise of the Clayton State University Psychology program was on display at the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society (GPS). Not only did Clayton State host the day-long affair on Saturday, Mar. 30, but no fewer than 15 of the conference's presentations were made by a total of 22 Clayton State psychology faculty and students.

Meeting co-chair Dr. Deborah Deckner, Clayton State associate professor of psychology, notes that both the Clayton State faculty and staff are well-represented at the meeting, presenting on a wide variety of topics, including; the role of language in life transitions among second generation Asian-Americans, how multicultural education contributes to positive ethnic identity, language proficiency and school readiness in children living in poverty, the impact of conformity, deconstructing student engagement, resiliency in young moms, and African-American elementary school students perceptions of school.

Psychology Presentations, cont'd, p.14



Smith Staff, cont'd, from p. 4

forward to coming to work every day... of course working with awesome colleagues helps too!," says Keane.

The rewarding and challenging aspect to her job is keeping up with the travel needs of Clayton State's athletic teams. This is the fourth time Keane has been recognized as a finalist for the Alice Smith Award.

Keane, who is married with three children, enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and staying active outdoors. A native of Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill neighborhood, she has lived in Morrow for 39 years.

Lovett was born in Detroit, but now resides in Forest Park. He began working in Facilities Management in 2004 as a temporary employee in the Landscape Management department. He was recently promoted to the Skilled Craftsperson II within the Building Operations department.

"I enjoy the people I work with, the people around campus and learning something new every day. I am privileged to work on this campus and enjoy coming to work every day," says Lovett.

Lovett plays a role in keeping this campus running on a daily basis and taking care of the all the lighting on campus. He considers this as the most challenging part of his job but knowing people do not have to worry about those things make it rewarding.

He received a bachelor's degree from Savannah State University. Prior to coming to Clayton State, he worked for the Solo Company for 10 years. Lovett says he is a single and a proud father who enjoys football, traveling to the beach, and bowling.

"Being nominated for the Alice Smith Award is big deal for me, because I am a behind the scenes type of person. This is an honor and a privilege. To get noticed means that some people think highly of me, and I am honored for that," says Lovett.

After graduating from Marist College with a degree in computer science, Newcombe started working at Clayton State in 1993. He began work as a COBOL programmer on the old student record system and by 2000 transitioned to what has become his current position as Director of Network and Enterprise Services.

He notes the most challenging aspect of his position is working to stay up to date and active in the IT field as well as keeping projects flowing and delegating tasks. He appreciates the wide variety of tasks that his department handles which can vary from hooking up classrooms, installing network cameras, or debugging a web site.

Newcombe grew up in Jonesboro but now resides with his wife of 19 years and their two daughters in McDonough. The family cares for their rescue dog Charlie, Christine the guinea pig, and any other animals his youngest might catch and bring home.

He has a strong passion for astronomy and hunting for deep-sky objects such as galaxies and nebula. He also enjoys science-fiction, but particularly post-apocalyptic fiction.

"It feels nice to be recognized because so much of what my department does is behind the scenes. Knowing some of the people who have been nominated this year and in the past puts me in a great group of people" says Newcombe. ■



Smith Faculty, cont'd, from p. 5

rently lives in Social Circle and is married with two children. In her free time she enjoys spending as much time as possible with her friends and family.

She feels being good at mathematics is not about knowing answers. Rather, it is how you behave when you don't know the answer. Good teaching, therefore, allows the opportunity for students to be successful in their own pursuit of the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to be successful in their chosen fields.

This is Nipper's third nomination for the Alice Smith Award. Also recently she received the CIMS Award for Excellence in Scholarship, CIMS Award for Excellence in Service, CIMS Award for Excellence in Teaching, and President Obama's Volunteer Service Award.

"With many excellent faculty in CIMS, it is an honor to have been selected to represent our college," says Nipper.

Swearngin is a clinical instructor for the School of Nursing, but has been a part of the Clayton State family for more than 20 years. She is the first person to obtain nursing degrees at all three educational levels from Clayton State -- Associates, Bachelors and Masters. She is also a past president of the Clayton State Alumni Association. While attending graduate school, she worked part time at Clayton State, but upon completing her degree, she began teaching full time in fall 2010.

She teaches acute care in a hospital setting as well as a course for the BSN program and an online course for the RN-BSN program. Prior to her transition to full time teaching, she worked Neonatal Intensive Care for Grady Health System and DeKalb Medical Center for a combined 19 years.

"I've received letters from our graduates thanking me for changing their lives. I know they did that on their own, I was merely a participant, but they are very appreciative of the education and the tough love I'm known to dish out," says Swearngin.

Swearngin is married with two daughters and one very needy and cuddly English bulldog. She is a native of Atlanta and

now resides in Tyrone. She says she is living out her second softball career through her girls who are both starting pitchers. She enjoys cheering them on.

"This is my first nomination for the Smith Award and I sincerely realize the importance of this recognition. I've been involved with Clayton State in some fashion for literally more than half my life. I've served in many roles including; student, trustee, alumni board member and now faculty. To me, the Smith Award is the highest achievement for a faculty member and represents outward recognition for continued service to my university," says Swearngin.

Currently residing in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., Keebler has been commuting to Clayton State since 2008. He is professor of Supply Chain Management and serves as chair of the Faculty Senate and the Charles S. Conklin Endowed Chair. He obtained his doctorate in Business Administration, Marketing and Logistics from the University of Tennessee.

Keebler served in the U.S. Army for six years which entailed four years of active-duty. He served as a captain in the Transportation Corp for a year in Vietnam. He has worked in corporate positions in the food, pharmaceutical, health care and electronics industries with his last position as president of a \$300 million subsidiary of Colgate Palmolive.

Then at the age of 53, made the decision to complete his doctoral program and since has taught courses at St. Cloud State University, University of Minnesota, and University of South Florida.

Keebler notes he likes teaching undergraduate and graduate students about Supply Chain Management and the rewarding career opportunities it provides. He has enjoyed being able to help build the Supply Chain Management program at Clayton State.

Keebler is married with seven children, two of whom are still in college, and he has 13 grandchildren (so far). He says he used to golf frequently, but due to his affinity for water hazards he kept running out of balls. He enjoys camping, explor-

ing and canoeing. He typically goes to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area for a week nearly every summer.

"I have never applied for a teaching award. I consistently received high evaluations at all the schools at which I taught, in Tennessee, Minnesota, Florida, and at CSU. I enjoy the classroom experience and my sincere concern for student learning, job placement, and career advancement is apparent. I appreciate being nominated by my college for the Smith Faculty Award. Student engagement is a reward in itself," says Keebler. ■

Life's Transitions...

Dr. Karen Weaver, associate professor of Nursing in the Clayton State University College of Health, died



at her home on Monday evening, Mar. 31, at 10:30 p.m., after a year-and-a-half long battle with ovarian cancer. She was surrounded and supported by her loving and devoted family.

There will be a Celebration of Life ceremony held at the Clayton State University School of Nursing in the near future. Details on the celebration will follow.

Her remains will be donated to medical research, therefore the Celebration at the School of Nursing will be the only official service for her. It will occur before the semester ends.

Season Comes to an End for Top-ranked Lakers In Opening Round of Elite Eight

by Gid Rowell, Athletics

The No. 1 ranked Clayton State women's basketball team's season came to an end Tuesday at the NCAA Division II Elite Eight, falling 81-68 to #24 Augustana in San Antonio, TX on the campus of St. Mary's University.

Augustana led 32-25 at halftime of the game before exploding in the first seven minutes of the second half to take control of the game at Bill Greehey Arena. The Vikings went on a 24-8 run to open the period and took a 23-point lead, 56-33, on a three-pointer by Ashley Johnson with 13:08 remaining in the game.

The Lakers made a furious comeback late in the second half to cut it to single digits but were unable overcome the early second half deficit. The loss ends a historic season for the Lakers, which entered the game on a 32-game winning streak, the best in school history.

Augustana's height advantage gave the Lakers trouble on the offensive end, as the Lakers hit a season low 33 percent (25-of-77) of shots from the floor. The Vikings shot well from the field, hitting 53 percent (28-of-53), the highest of any team Clayton State has faced this year. Augustana also made 59 percent (10-of-17) from behind the 3-point arc en route to the victory.

"I thought their height affected us today," said head coach Dennis Cox. "We were able to get the ball to the rim but we were unable to finish. They played really well today, and beat us one thru five. Usually when we force 32 turnovers and get 20 steals, we come out on the winning end. I give Augustana a lot of credit and wish them luck."

The Lakers got 24 more shot attempts from the field than the Vikings thanks to the 32 turnovers and a 16-6 advantage in offensive rebounds but were unable to capitalize on the offensive end. The Lakers were also hurt by poor free throw shooting, making 12-of-25 from the charity stripe.



Trailing by 24 points with 7:34 remaining, Clayton State came storming back late in the game with a 21-4 run to cut the deficit to seven points. Guard Bena Hanyard led the charge scoring nine straight points, including two long-range three-pointers. A free throw by Hanyard with 1:25 remaining cut the lead to 71-64, but the Vikings drained 6-of-6 free throws down the stretch to seal the victory.

Clayton State's Drameka Griggs, who was named to the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-American team last night at the Elite Eight banquet, led the Lakers with 22 points, followed by center Shacamra Jackson with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Hanyard finished with 16 points and eight steals and was pivotal in Clayton State's late comeback attempt.

For Augustana, the Vikings had a balanced attack with five players in double-digits. Shaunteva Ashley led the way with 17 points, followed by Faith Tinklenberg with 15 points. Alex Feeny added 14

points. Emily Schulte scored 11 and Cami Koehn chipped in 10 points.

The 2012-13 season marked the ninth straight season that the Lakers have advanced to the NCAA Division II tournament, having won the regional on four different occasions in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013. Clayton State won the 2010-11 NCAA Division II Women's National Championship.

The Clayton State women's basketball program is 96-6 (.950) over the last three years, the top winning percentage of any program at the NCAA Division II level. ■



Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

The Women's Basketball Team won the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Championship with an 87-65 win over Limestone. The top-ranked team then advanced to the Elite Eight in San Antonio, TX where their season came to a close. Clayton State congratulates the team on an incredible season! Go Lakers!



JOB & GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR

MAA-SE, cont'd. from p. 6

by many students and professors, most importantly my advisors. I am proud to represent Clayton State and my advisors; this experience has given me a positive kick-start to my career in mathematics."

"Opportunities like this have a significant and profound impact on student interest in mathematics and in research in general," says Raridan. "Active learning and active engagement in the discipline will motivate these students to work a little harder in class because they've seen what can be achieved by their peers. Many of our students have expressed an interest in attending graduate school because of their experiences while at the 92nd MAA-SE. I am so proud of our students and so lucky to work at a university that promotes scholarly activity among our students."

Minion adds, "The MAA-SE conference was very teacher-student oriented; there were so many students who presented research conducted with their professors. Every part of it was a blast, not to mention everyone who attended loves math just as much as I do!"

"Listening to other students give talks formed a sense of mathematics-universalism. No matter what was our major, we all shared our enthusiasm for mathematics and we all contributed towards an even better conference experience," remarks Ngo.

Morales-Beale provided an interesting perspective that summarized the feelings of many of the students from Clayton State.

"Attending MAA-SE this weekend was one of the major highlights of my senior year," she says. "The research presented by fellow Clayton State students was impressive and inspiring."

The students' travel was funded through CIMS. The students and Dr. Raridan would like to thank Dr. Anthony Giovannitti, Mathematics Department chair, and Dr. Lila Roberts, dean of CIMS, for providing the necessary support for travel to conferences. ■



The campus wished a fun-filled farewell to Linda Corva at her March retirement celebration. Enjoy your retirement, Linda! We will miss you!

SEPA, cont'd. from p. 9

GPS sponsors include: Department of Psychology and Counseling at Valdosta State University, Department of Psychology at Georgia Southern University, Department of Psychology at Columbus State University, Department of Psychology at Clayton State University, and Department of Psychology at Coastal Georgia University.

The GPS meeting is the second this month with a strong Clayton State representation. The Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) Conference at the Omni CNN Center in Atlanta had 10 representatives from Clayton State -- five students and five faculty -- making presentations. ■

Psychology Presentations, cont'd. from p. 9

tribute to new realms of scientific discourse through their own work," says Deckner.

Ellick, a native of Chicago, conducted her research on teen pregnancy. Langley (Ellenwood, Ga.) conducted his research on student engagement. He used high school sophomores' responses to questions concerning student attitudes and efforts towards schooling.

Deckner was co-author to both of the accepted proposals, and serves as a mentor, helping to make these students' dreams real. She feels, "honored to work with such exceptional young talent and I look forward to watching the careers of these two exceptional scholars." ■



Women's Forum
Clayton State University

PLEASE JOIN WOMEN'S FORUM
IN WELCOMING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER



Ashley Vicos



TUESDAY, APRIL 16 | 12:00 NOON TO 1:30 PM
HARRY S. DOWN CENTER, ROOM 101

Ashley Vicos is a resident of Henry County, though originally from New Orleans, and has been professionally decorating cakes for 14 years. She owns 'Sweet Ashley's', a private baking studio in McDonough specializing in sculpted & custom cake work. Her in-demand cakes have become so popular

she travels the country baking for high profile events and top-tier clientele. In addition to creating show stopping cakes, she teaches classes, has a product line, hosts events & travels the world speaking and demonstrating the latest most innovative techniques. Ashley is also the star of her own Reality TV Show on Food Network, "Have Cake will Travel" & is featured on additional shows on Food Network, TLC, CBS and NBC. Her ambition is to inspire others to pursue their passions in life and always remain true to their individual sense of style!



R.S.V.P. (required) by April 8 to
Dolores Cox
(678) 466-4467
DoloresCox@clayton.edu
Luncheon: \$13.50

Luncheon menu:

Caesar Salad
Meat & Vegetable Lasagna
Green Beans
Garlic Bread
Dutch Apple Pie and Blueberry Pie
Ice Tea/Water

Please note that due to Sodexo Dining Services policies, we must have RSVP's. Guarantees are required 72 hours in advance for the number of people to be served at the luncheon, and once that number is confirmed, we are required to pay for that number, including no-shows; please be sensitive to this fact. Due to the advance guarantee policy, we may not be able to accommodate those without reservations given the number of meals confirmed and seats available.

Thank you for your continued support of the Women's Forum.



Aspire to Teach Conference 2013



The Fifth Annual Civic Engagement Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Conference was held Mar. 22 at the National Archives and featured keynote speaker Saba Long.

Trivia Time**Dr. Gizmo's Kollege of Technical Knowledge**

by John Shiffert, University Relations

That's what they used to call the late, lamented School of Technology at Clayton State, back when Dr. Wally Shakun was dean, but after he was Dr. Gizmo on TV, and before he was head of the CE program.

What brought this about? Simple, it's what two of the all-time Trivia Time champions, Dr. Tom Eddins and Lou Brackett, have in common. They both taught for Dr. Gizmo as part of the School of Technology faculty.

Another blast from the past, Dirk Morrell, had the first correct answer. This was something of a surprise, since Morrell didn't typically answer emails BEFORE he retired. However, he now says he's figured out email since his retirement. Although modesty forbids them for taking complete credit, Brackett and Eddins were second and third (but they still get three Bonus Points each, even though Eddins used to offer the interim dean a dollar if the Technology faculty meetings were kept under an hour.) Vickie F. Smith was fourth.

And, speaking of the School of Technology, who was the dean Eddins used to try to influence, or, to put it another way, what Clayton State alumnus was the interim dean in Technology, on more than one occasion? Don't bother sending your answers to Eddins, since, unlike Morrell, he has largely forsaken email since retiring, send them to johnshiffert@clayton.edu.

As an extra bonus, the following is 2012 Tom Eddins Virtual Trivia Trophy winner Jill Ellington's acceptance speech for her award...

I humbly accept my virtual trophy with actual excitement! I will do my best to defend my crown in my new position as an Academic Advisor for Arts and Sciences (effective Mar. 1). My congratulations to all my fellow competitors for a hard-fought season! ■

Sports

Griggs Named To WBCA All-American Team

by Gid Rowell, Athletics

Clayton State senior guard Drameka Griggs has been named to the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-American team, the third straight season that the Lakers have had a player named All-American. Teshymia Tillman received the honor in 2011-12 and Tanisha Woodard last season. Former Laker Catreia Shaw was also named All-American in 2002-03.

In addition to the All-American honors, Griggs has received several other accolades this season. She was named the Daktronics NCAA Division II's Southeast Region Player of the Year. She was the Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year and the MVP of the 2013 Peach Belt Conference Tournament.

A 5-5 lightning quick guard from Ellenwood, Ga., she ranks eighth in the nation in scoring at 19.7 points per game, while ranking fourth in the country in steals. She also ranks 14th in the nation in field goal percentage and free throw percentage.

Griggs will finish her three-year Clayton State career in the Lakers all-time top-10 in the following statistical categories: points scored, points per game, steals, steals per game, field goals made, field goals attempted, field goal percentage, free throws made, free throws attempted, free throw percentage and 3-point field goal percentage.

Her 630 points this season is the all-time best in Clayton State history, breaking the Laker record of 547 points set by former All-American Tillman during Clayton State's national championship season. Griggs is also within 50 points of the Lakers career scoring mark (1415), set in 1996 by Lisa Williams.

Griggs has led the team in scoring in 26 games this season, scoring over 20 points 18 times. She had a career high 34 points in the team's win over #25 USC Aiken in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament, only one point shy of Clayton State's single game record of 35 points in a game.

Joining Griggs on the WBCA All-American list are: seniors Kiara Brown of Edinboro, Kari Daugherty of Ashland, Hillary Southworth of West Liberty, Meixandra Porter of Nova Southeastern, Nayo Raincock-Ekunwe of Simon Fraser (B.C.), Kelsey Sigl of Colorado Mesa and Bianca Simmons of UMass-Lowell along with juniors Lauren Battista of Bentley and Kiara Wright of Tarleton State. ■



Drameka "MeMe" Griggs

Kevin Liles | kdlphoto.com

*Campus Review
April 1, 2013*

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Layout:	Lauren Graves
Photography:	Erin Fender Ciji Fox
Graphic Design:	Lauren Graves