

Campus Review

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Clayton State Celebrates the Long-Anticipated Master of Science in Nursing

by Leigh G. Wills, University Relations

Clayton State University is celebrating its latest graduate degree program through its School of Health Sciences... the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). The University System of Georgia's Board of Regents approved the new program today, making it the second graduate program approved for Clayton State.

The addition of the MSN degree will advance the University's mission of "bringing educational opportunities to the citizens and businesses of the Southern Crescent and contribute to the regions' future economic development," while meeting the acute need for advanced practice nurses in Georgia. Currently, Georgia is lacking about 2300 nurses with masters and doctoral degrees.

The current national nursing shortage raises valid concerns for health care consumers as it reaches critical levels. One million new and replacement nurses will be needed by the year 2012 and by 2020, an additional 500,000 graduate-prepared nurses will be needed. Clayton State officials anticipate the greatest number of students for its program to come from south metro Atlanta and from minority decent, meeting another national need – one for minority practitioners.

While the lack of advanced practice nurses (APN) is severe, the lack of minority APN is even more disturbing. Clayton State graduates more minority nurses than any other nursing school in Georgia, including the historically black colleges. As an added bonus, Clayton State nursing

graduates consistently have one of the highest NCLEX/ State Board pass rates in the state, significantly better than the national average pass rate. Building on the already strong foundation of undergraduate nursing education and the outreach and success in educating minority students, Clayton State's MSN program will not only help meet the growing shortage of APN in general, but the shortage of minority APN specifically.

"We have a strong, growing, quality undergraduate program that's well established, along with a cadre of core faculty that are well prepared," says Dean Dr. Lisa Eichelberger, D.S.N., R.N. "We also have a good base of alumni in the Atlanta

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Lesla Britt Pays Tribute to Dr. Art Rosser

School of Technology Holds Annual Certificate Ceremony

by John Shiffert, University Relations

The Clayton State University School of Technology held its annual Certificate Ceremony on Friday, June 9 in the University's world-famous Spivey Hall, honoring the 218 students who had earned certificates from the School of Technology over the course of the last three semesters – summer 2005, fall 2005 and the just-concluded spring 2006.

Highlighting the evening was a singular honor paid by Lesa C. Britt, the School's Outstanding Certificate Graduate for 2005/2006. The keynote speaker for the ceremony, Britt gave a moving tribute to the late Dr. Art Rosser, former dean of the School of Technology, who died in April 2006 after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Britt spoke of Rosser's belief in technology, indeed, about how he lived and believed in technology so much that he visited Britt's Medical Assisting class to share with them the details of his Trilogy treatment at Piedmont Hospital.

Certificate Ceremony, cont'd., p. 8



Regent M. Allan Vigil

Allan Vigil Elected Chair of Board of Regents

The Board of Regents, the 18-member governing body for the University System of Georgia, have elected Regent M. Allan Vigil to a one-year term as the board's chair.

Vigil, who was appointed to the Board of Regents by Gov. Sonny Perdue in August 2003, will serve as board chair from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007. He has served as chair of the regents' Committee on Real Estate and Facilities for the past year.

"I am honored by this appointment and the high level of accountability that accompanies it," Vigil said. "This is a challenging assignment that requires strong support

from the entire board. I look forward to joining with my fellow regents in providing the leadership and direction that will continue to propel the University System of Georgia."

As chairman, Vigil will join with the other members of the Board of Regents' Executive Committee in discussing and establishing the board's primary goals and objectives for the coming year.

Vigil is president and owner of Allan Vigil Ford in Morrow and Allan Vigil Ford in

Regents Chair, cont'd, p. 5

Clayton State Bids Farewell to Sherryl Nelson

by Jared Morrison, Spivey Hall

On Thursday, June 8, 2006 at 4 p.m. approximately 250 invited guests gathered to pay tribute to Sherryl Nelson, Spivey Hall's founding Artistic & Executive Director, who retires from her post on June 16. Ms. Nelson's retirement marks the culmination of her 36-year career in arts management in which, among many other accomplishments, she established Spivey Hall as one of the world's leading classical, jazz and world-music presenters. Guests included Ms. Nelson's husband Richard Nelson, Clayton State University and Spivey Hall trustees, state and local officials, consuls general and other dignitaries from Atlanta's international community, members of The Friends of Spivey Hall, internationally-renowned musicians, current and former Clayton State University presidents and colleagues, as well as personal friends from across the United States.

The afternoon included several tributes.

Spivey Hall's Organist-in-Residence Mr. Richard Morris began the celebration with a rousing performance of "March on a Theme of Handel" by Alexandre Guilmant, which was followed by Clayton State President Dr. Thomas K. Harden's opening remarks.

Mr. Jay Wucher, Chairman of the Spivey Hall Education Committee praised Ms. Nelson's tireless work in establishing Spivey Hall's award-winning educational programs, which today annually serve over 15,000 individuals and have been cited as being among the finest in the nation.

Mr. John Lampl, City Manager of the City of Morrow, presented Ms. Nelson with the Key to the City and a proclamation from Morrow Mayor Mr. Jim Millirons in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments in marking Clayton State's hometown a cultural haven that attracts visitors from throughout the Atlanta area and far beyond. In fact, under Nelson's leadership, Spivey Hall welcomes subscribers from 31 counties in five states.

Ms. Nelson's commitment to international artists was commended by Mr. John E. Parkerson, Jr., Chairman of the International Promotions Council of the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce and General Attorney for Delta Air Lines, in a speech recognizing Spivey Hall as the venue of choice for many of the Atlanta-area's vast consular corps. Among the

Farewell, cont'd., p. 8



Sherryl Nelson enters retirement with a grand farewell attended by 250 guests.

Dixon Named Acting Executive Director Of Spivey Hall

by John Shiffert, University Relations



Spivey Hall General Manager Samuel C. Dixon has been named acting executive director of the Hall by Clayton State University President Dr. Thomas K. Harden. Dixon replaces retiring founding Executive Director Sherryl Nelson, who concludes her 16 years with the Hall today.

The executive director of Spivey Hall also serves as artistic director of the Spivey Series and is responsible for all aspects of operation and management of Spivey Hall including artistic planning, programming and educational services, audience development, annual fundraising and sponsorship development, financial planning and community relations.

After 18 years of managing artists, programming and festivals for major orchestras in the United States and Australia, Dixon joined the staff of Clayton State University in October 2004 as General Manager and Assistant Director of Spivey Hall. In that position, Dixon oversaw Spivey Hall's concert operations and collaborated with Nelson to select artists and repertoire. He also prepared and managed Spivey Hall's annual budget and worked closely with Spivey Hall's senior managers in developing marketing plans and education programs.

"Clayton State University is very fortunate to have a person with the experience and abilities of Sam Dixon to step in as

Dixon, cont'd., p. 9

Linking American History Program Concludes at the White House

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations



Participants in the Linking American History: Past to Present program will be taking a tour of Washington D.C. from June 19 to June 22, highlighted by a tour of the White House, to conclude the three-year program for Fayette, Henry and Cobb County teachers.

"Since 9/11 these tours have been very limited," says Robynn Holland, director of the program. Tours of the White House, in particular, must be approved through the constituent's congressional offices. The tour of the White House and a tour of the Capitol were organized and arranged by Senator Johnny Isakson.

In addition to touring the White House, board members of the program and the 55 teachers enrolled in the program will be visiting the National Archives and Records Administration, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian and several of the memorials located in Washington.

Throughout the program, the teachers have been researching primary source documents at the Georgia Archives, the Southeastern Region of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library. This trip will be an opportunity for the teachers in the program to continue their research.

Linking American History: Past to Present is funded entirely by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The three-year program focuses on increasing the teacher's knowledge, understanding and



Linking American History participants will visit many sites in Washington D.C., including the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History. Dr. Brent D. Glass, director of the museum, visited Morrow's National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) Southeast facility on Apr. 18 and addressed project participants

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appreciation of the period from 1945 to present.

Dr. Eugene Hatfield, Clayton State University history professor and lead historian in the program, recently completed evaluating the program along with Clayton State history professors, Dr. Randy Rosenburg and Marko Maunula.

"The program has been very successful," says Hatfield. "I believe that it will bring a fresh, new look to classrooms in Fayette, Henry and Cobb County Schools." ■

Alumni/Development Page

Clayton State Alumni Department Launches New Website

The Clayton State University Department of Alumni Relations and Alumni Association website has a new look.

The Alumni department and Association last week launched a new website for alumni and friends. The alumni homepage can be accessed from the Clayton State University homepage at www.clayton.edu and clicking on the "Alumni" button. The new site includes news and upcoming events and will be an important resource for alumni in the future.

"I'm excited about the new look," said Gid Rowell, director of Alumni Relations. "It's a start, and we will continue to

improve and build-on the site. I hope it will be a place where Alumni from all over the world can visit and stay in touch with classmates, as well as the University."

In addition to having up-to-date alumni news, event information and photographs on the site, Rowell says he plans to add some interactive features, such as a login and password online community which would allow alumni and friends to communicate.

For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (678) 466-4477. ■



Professor Selected for Governor's Teaching Fellows Program



Dr. Susan Copeland Henry

Dr. Susan Copeland Henry recently completed the 2006-2007 Governor's Teaching Fellows Program at the Institute of Higher Education on the campus of the University of Georgia.

An assistant professor of English in the Department of Language and Literature at Clayton State, Henry was one of 24 faculty members from Georgia's public and private colleges and universities selected for the Fellows Program.

With her completion of this program, Henry has risen to permanent member status in the Institute of Higher Education and she will now mentor new faculty interested in this fellowship program and

continue to serve in her faculty development role at Clayton State University.

Henry received a Board of Regents stipend to attend the summer symposium which focused on the scholarship of teaching in higher education, specifically on active learning pedagogies and the application of emerging technologies to college teaching. Her research focus on the implementation of new technologies in graduate education will be presented during Faculty Development Week at Clayton State University in mid-August. Henry will then teach in Clayton State's first graduate program, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, beginning this fall semester. ■



Dr. Henry, center, stands with several members of the 2006-2007 Georgia Teaching Fellows Program during the recent program at the University of Georgia.



Clayton State to Unveil New Women's Studies Class

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Clayton State University will be adding "Introduction to Women's Studies" to its growing number of women's studies courses next semester. The class, which will be taught by Dr. Wendy Burns-Ardolino, will examine women and gender from an interdisciplinary perspective while analyzing how gender roles vary across time and in different cultural contexts.

"In a nutshell," explains Burns-Ardolino, "Women's Studies" is about studying the condition of women."

The course is currently an elective for Communications and Integrative Studies students. However, the course may

become required for some students in the future. "A 'Women's Studies' minor is in the works," Burns-Ardolino explains. If approved, the minor would be housed in the department of Communications and Integrative Studies.

The University also plans to introduce two other new courses, "Feminist Theory" and "Special Topics in Women's Studies," in the near future.

In addition to designing and teaching classes, Burns-Ardolino is working on her forthcoming book, "Jiggle: (Re)shaping American Women." Her book explores the history and meaning of foundation garments within the changing social con-

text of the lives of American women. It is expected to be released at the end of the year by Lexington Books.

Burns-Ardolino received her doctorate in cultural studies from George Mason University in 2004. She is a member of the National Women's Studies Association, the Society of Women in Philosophy, and the Modern Language Association. She lives in Fayetteville with her husband and two sons, ages two and four. ■

Regents Chair, cont'd. from p. 2

Fayetteville. He has been affiliated with the Ford Motor Company since 1971, when he took a job with the company as a field manager. He is a past chairman of the Georgia Automobile Dealers Association, the Metro Atlanta Automobile Dealers Association and the Ford National Dealer Council.

Vigil serves on the board of directors of Southern Regional Hospital and the Clayton State University Foundation Board of Trustees. He was named Hispanic Businessman of the Year by the Atlanta Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 1996. A member of the Southlake Kiwanis, Vigil was also named Businessman of the Year for 2001 by the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and won the Hispanic Business, Inc. 2002 EOY Award in the Retail & Finance category. A member of Ford's "One Hundred Club," he also repeatedly has earned Ford's highest honor, the President's Award.

Vigil's community service to the Southern Crescent dates back to 1983, when he first was named to the Board of Trustees of the then-Clayton Junior College Foundation. Indeed, along with his wife, Bonnie P. Vigil, he has been one of the region's most devoted civic leaders for more than two decades, also serving as a board member of the State of Georgia's Board of Motor Vehicle Safety, and the Fayette and Clayton County Chambers of Commerce. He served as president of the latter organization in 1990.

Among the leadership roles that Vigil has filled in support of Clayton State include making one of the first leadership gifts towards the building of Spivey Hall, helping recruit Dr. George Horton from Auburn University to serve as the University's first dean of the School of Business in 1987, and serving for the past 19 years as a sponsor of the University's annual Career Fair.

"Mr. Vigil is an outstanding person of the highest character," says Dr. Thomas K. Harden, president of Clayton State. "He is a consummate community servant, a successful businessman, and a committed citizen."

Vigil served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1970, including a tour in Vietnam as a first lieutenant. He was awarded a Bronze Star and an Army Commendation Medal for his actions there. A native of Tampa, Fla., Vigil received his Bachelor of Arts in business administration from the University of Florida.

The Vigils live in McDonough and have two children. ■

Across the Campus...

City of Morrow

The City of Morrow's 2006 SummerFest on the Green needs volunteers to pass out flyers around the city and help set up tables and chairs before the event and, during the event, help run kids' games, sell glow necklaces, and other tasks. If anyone is interested, please contact Lauren Singleton at (770) 968-1623 or lsingleton@cityofmorrow.com. SummerFest on the Green will be held on Saturday, July 1, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at 5917 Reynolds Rd. (behind Wal-Mart).



Continuing Education

Skits, Spanish, powerpoint and rockets... all will be showcased today when the first session of Clayton State University's popular Youth University comes to a close. Offered by the University's Division of Continuing Education, Youth University offers students ages seven to 12 a unique learning experience designed to enhance their academic, cultural and physical skills and knowledge by building study schedules from a variety of theme-based courses ranging from academics to art, sports and beyond. Running in four, two-week sessions, each Youth University class presents a Parents Showcase on its final day. With the 2006 first session ending on Friday, June 16, Youth U. parents will be coming to the Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to see the results of their children's efforts. Additional Youth University sessions will run from June 19 to June 30; July 3 to July 17; and July 18 to July 31. To view Youth University courses and register online, visit www.conted.clayton.edu or call (678) 466-5050 for more information.

Dental Hygiene

Located in the lower level of the Student Center Building in room 103, the clinic is open May 30 through Aug. 3 and will be taking patients by appointment only Tuesdays through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Patients 18 or under can get a complete cleaning, fluoride treatment and evaluation for \$25 This is for first time patients only; returning patients pay only

\$20 Adults over 18 pay \$10 more or \$35 for their first visit and \$30 thereafter. Other services like teeth whitening; x-rays; panoramic film; sealants; and antibiotic therapy are available for an additional fee. For more information, visit <http://healthsci.clayton.edu/dhclinfrm.htm> or call (678) 466-4920 to make an appointment.

Georgia Archives



The Georgia Archives is presenting "Down Home Days" on two more Saturdays this summer. Running from 9 a.m. to noon on July 15 and Aug. 12, these fun days for children ages six to 14 will allow participants to try their hands at chores, games and pastimes familiar to Georgia kids from the time of the first colonists to World War 2. Children will also be able to examine historic records and relics, hear an old-fashioned storyteller, interact with craftspeople at work, listen to a folk musician and discuss objects with collectors. Registration is required and availability is limited. Participants must be accompanied by an adult, age 18 or older. To register (there is a \$5 resources fee per child per event), call (678) 364-3730 or e-mail vfrey@sos.state.ga.us.

Health Sciences

AIDS 101, presented by AID Atlanta, will revisit Clayton State this week for the ninth consecutive year. AIDS 101 is widely considered the best AIDS volunteer training in the region to anyone who wants straightforward facts on HIV. Beginning at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 17, and running all day, AIDS 101 is first and foremost an HIV education program. AIDS 101 has been hosted by Clayton State for the past nine years mainly because of the efforts and dedication of Health Care Management Assistant Professor Deborah Gritzmacher, R.N., M.S. For more information on AIDS 101, call Timothy J. Gustavson at AID Atlanta, (404) 870-7742 or go to www.aidatlanta.org.

Martha Wicker's Retiring!

Please join us in celebrating Martha Wicker's retirement as director of the Center for Instructional Development. Thursday, June 22, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Atrium of the Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education.



alumni
Bricks



Alumni Association

Visit www.clayton.edu for more

Clayton State Institutes Graduation Application Fee

Beginning July 1, 2006, students submitting a graduation application to the Office of the Registrar will be charged a \$35 graduation application fee for each degree/certificate sought.

The fee covers processing of the graduation application and diploma costs and must be paid whether or not the student plans to participate in the commencement ceremony.

The graduation fee must be paid at the time the graduation application is submitted.

Please note the \$35 fee does not apply to applications received prior to July 1, 2006.

Students Launch to New Heights At Clayton State's Youth University

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Students enrolled in Clayton State's Youth University "Rocketry" class will be launching rockets today at 2:30 p.m. at the Clayton State tennis courts.



This popular class teaches kids ages seven to 13 about aeronautics, rocket design and construction. Kids who elect to take this course design, build and launch their very own rocket.

"Kids are so visually motivated now," says Stan Adkins, instructor for the class. "They learn a lot better from the things that they see."

Adkins, who also teaches Youth University's "Camp Explorer" workshop, centers his classes around hands-on class participation and video field trips. Students in the Camp Explorer workshop have already explored the atmosphere, climate changes and earthquakes through video field trips. According to Adkins,

video exploration gives students the opportunity to see things that they couldn't normally do or see.

"My number one rule of science is to have fun," shares Adkins. "This is just a stepping stone to get them more involved."

Youth University is hosted by Clayton State each summer. Parents and children can choose from several theme-based workshops including Camp Explorer which combines hands-on science and the latest technology with an exploration theme. This year, Youth University, will hold four summer sessions throughout June and July.

Adkins has been teaching for 13 years. Currently, he is the Science Coordinator at Mt. Bethel Christian Academy in Marietta and teaches seventh and eighth grade science classes. He lives in Lithonia. ■

City of Riverdale Begins Livable Centers Initiative Study

The City of Riverdale is calling all residents, business owners, and organizations to participate in the upcoming Riverdale Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Public Workshop, organized to educate citizens on the future quality of life and economic growth potential of central Riverdale.

LCI is a program which encourages local cities to plan and implement strategies that improve and develop area transportation and land use options, which create communities that are livable and consistent with the developmental policies of their region and the State of Georgia. This LCI study will focus on Riverdale town center planning and will examine opportunities for a mix of residential, commercial, and civic development in the study area. The LCI study will spotlight components such as land use, transportation, and housing, and will determine the best course for future development.

Participants will have the opportunity to voice and record their opinions on the productivity of the Workshop and future plans for the City of Riverdale.

The first of these Workshops will take place on Thursday, June 22 at 6.30pm at the Riverdale City Hall. For more information on these meetings and the status of The City of Riverdale Livable Centers Initiative Program, see The City of Riverdale website at www.riverdalega.gov or call (404) 684-7031. ■

Clayton State Nurses Take Great Strides Against Cystic Fibrosis

Six Clayton State "Laker Nurses" triumphantly helped to raise more than \$44,000 in their walk to find a cure for cystic fibrosis at the Great Strides charity walk at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Saturday, May 30. The Laker Nurses team beat their goal of \$1500 by raising and contributing \$1700 to the charity.

The six student nurses who participated in the walk were Elizabeth Skinner (Newnan), Ashley Scardasis (McDonough), Jessica Dutton (Hampton), Patricia Shepard (East Point), Nicole White (Stone Mountain) and Toniese Craft (Fayetteville).

"I got involved in the walk for cystic fibrosis when a nurse that I work with asked me to walk for her grandchildren [David and Julia Thomas] who have cystic fibrosis," shares Skinner, the team leader for the group. "I knew how much it would mean to her if I would come and support her and her grandchildren."

The Laker Nurses team walked for six miles to support David, 10, and Julia, six, of Locust Grove, who were diagnosed with cystic fibrosis as young children. Their grandmother, Harriette Williams, works with Skinner at Henry Medical Center.

Skinner also participated in the Great Strides charity walk last year.

"I enjoyed it so much last year that I decided to head up my own team this year," says Skinner. As team leader for the Laker Nurses, Skinner was responsible for recruiting volunteers, helping volunteers raise donations, and making preparations for the team's big day at the walk.

Cystic fibrosis is a hereditary human disease that can lead to breathing problems and lung disease. There is currently no cure for this disease although new treatments are making it possible for patients with cystic fibrosis live longer. ■



Lesa Britt

Certificate Ceremony, cont'd. from p. 1

“Our faculty has empowered and educated us,” said Britt, a graduate of Riverdale High School and now a resident of McDonough. “People make the difference between a good day and a bad day. We all need a human touch.

“For your compassion and your human touch... Dr. Rosser I am forever grateful.”

Having just completed her Medical Assisting certificate, Britt is now enrolled in the School of Technology’s Medical Office Administration associate degree program. A non-traditional student who recently became a first-time grandmother, Britt plans to continue to pursue both an associate degree and a bachelor’s degree at Clayton State.

“Lesa’s self initiative helps her to be a leader in the class and to serve as a motivator for others,” says Dr. Benita H. Moore, acting dean of the School of Technology, who presented the certificate candidates at the ceremony.

The Clayton State School of Technology awards certificates in a wide variety of fields, including; Computer Networking, Drafting and Design, Marketing and Merchandising Technology, Medical Office Administration, Office Administration and Paralegal Studies. All of these certificate programs can lead to associate degrees and the School of Technology’s two Bachelor of Applied Science degrees, in Administrative Management and Technology Management. ■

Farewell, cont'd. from p. 2

guests in the audience were German Consul General Hans-Joerg Brunner, Swiss Consul General Ulrich Hunn and French Consul General Philippe Ardanaz, who recently bestowed upon Ms. Nelson the title “Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters” from the French Republic.

Dr. Sharon E. Hoffman, Clayton State’s Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented Ms. Nelson with a citation from The Honorable Shirley Franklin, Mayor of Atlanta, congratulating her “for her successful tenure at Spivey Hall.” Mayor Franklin commended Ms. Nelson for her “character and work ethic that has set a standard for many to follow.”

Hoffman then introduced The Honorable Gail Buckner, a member of the Georgia State House of Representatives and 2002 CSU Distinguished Alumna. Rep. Buckner presented Nelson with a copy of Georgia House Resolution 1262, which recognizes her outstanding contributions to the arts in Georgia. A full copy of the resolution may be viewed online at www.legis.state.ga.us.

Celin Romero, a world-renowned guitarist and a member of “The Royal Family of the Guitar,” Los Romeros, flew in from

San Diego to offer a moving musical tribute to Ms. Nelson, performing music of Heitor Villa-Lobos. Romero remarked that he was honored to have the opportunity to pay homage to Ms. Nelson, and looked forward to making the trip to honor one of his closest friends.

Dr. Harry S. Downs, Clayton State University’s founding President and Chairman Emeritus of The Walter & Emilie Spivey Foundation, recounted the history of Ms. Nelson’s hiring, her superi-

ority among the candidates and her tireless dedication to Spivey Hall’s development in realizing the v-ision of the late Emilie Spivey.

President Harden concluded the formal tributes by presenting Ms. Nelson with a piece of etched crystal, a gift certificate to REI, which he hoped she would use to properly attire herself for hiking the Pacific Northwest woods and a gift cer-

Farewell, cont'd., p. 10

Sherryl Nelson was presented the Key to the City of Morrow by John Lampl, City Manager and Clayton State Alumnus, at her retirement tribute on June 8, also named Sherryl Nelson Day by the City.



Department of Nursing Awarded Grant for Scholarships For Disadvantaged Students

by Leigh G. Wills, University Relations

Clayton State University's Department of Nursing was recently awarded a \$97,794 grant by the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) for 2006-2007 undergraduate nursing scholarships. The scholarships will specifically target students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are enrolled or accepted for enrollment as full-time students at Clayton State.

The purpose of the HRSA program is to promote diversity among health professions and nursing schools to make scholarships available for those who have a financial need. Eligible schools received funding priority based on the proportion of graduating students going into primary care, the proportion of underrepresented minority students, and the proportion of graduates working in medically underserved communities.

Two years ago, the Clayton State Department of Dental Hygiene also received grant monies for scholarships from HRSA. The funding for scholarships enables many capable, yet disadvantaged students, the opportunity to attend college when they may not otherwise be able to.

For more information about the nursing scholarships, contact the School of Health Sciences at (678) 466-4900. ■

MSN Degree, cont'd. from p. 1

metro area and a successful track record in educating minority students. Both will help us in starting a new graduate program in nursing."

The graduates of the program will receive a Master of Science in Nursing. Tracts within MSN include Nursing Education and Nursing Leadership. The program consists of 36 to 38 semester hours with 20 hours of core curriculum and the remaining hours focused on the selected concentration. The education concentration focuses on the principles of education, teaching strategies, evaluation of learning, and curriculum development within a clinical context. The leadership concentration focuses on advanced principles of leadership, financial management, analysis of systems, and resource management instruction. Both will have a clinical application component and a thesis or a focused project. The program will begin with seven to 10 students.

"Graduate programs in nursing are very labor intensive," emphasizes Eichelberger. "Each student will have a clinical specialty and will require a tremendous amount of individual focus from the program faculty. We want to make sure we do this right the first time. By limiting class size, we are confident that will happen."

Clayton State's School of Health Sciences is committed to maintaining the reputation it has built over the years of providing a quality nursing program for its students and quality nurses for the community.

Now, with the addition of the Master of Science in Nursing, the Southern Crescent community as well as the entire State of Georgia will benefit in both the short and the long-run by educating and training graduate nurses for leadership and teaching careers. ■

Snapshot!



While the new grant will enable students from disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue a nursing degree, Clayton State is also reaching out to disadvantaged high school students. Above, high school students from Mt. Zion, North Clayton, Riverdale and Forest Park High Schools learn CPR in Clayton State's week-long Nursing Summer Camp funded by the federal grant, Preparing the Next Generation of Nurses.

Dixon, cont'd. from p. 3

acting executive and artistic director of Spivey Hall," says Harden. "I have high confidence in Sam. He will ensure that the quality programming we all expect from Spivey Hall is continued."

A graduate of the American Symphony Orchestra League's Orchestra Management Fellowship Program, Dixon previously held artistic planning positions with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, and the six orchestras of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. A magna cum laude graduate of Dartmouth College with highest distinction in music, he additionally holds an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. ■

Farewell, cont'd. from p. 8

tificate to a waterfront restaurant in Bellingham, Washington, where Nelson and Richard will make their new home.

Following the tributes, Nelson offered a valediction in which she recounted her long career in performing arts management and the incredible opportunities afforded her in establishing Spivey Hall as a world-class musical venue. She praised the individuals with whom she had worked during her Spivey Hall career, personally acknowledging current and former Spivey Hall staff members, volunteers and special guests.

Morris closed the formal portion of the ceremony with a performance of Sinfonia to Cantata No. 29 by J.S. Bach, and guests moved to the Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education for a reception in Nelson's honor. During the reception, Nelson received additional tributes from CSU Foundation Chairman Robert Lee, CSU Professor of Voice Maya Hoover and Spivey Hall General Manager Samuel C. Dixon. In his concluding remarks, Dixon presented Nelson with a "Lifetime Ticket" to Spivey Hall, a token of affection which all in attendance hoped she would use often. ■

AHSA Students Receive Grant to Study Local Youths

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Clayton State's American Humanics Student Association (AHSA) recently received a \$1,242 grant from United Way's "Great Ideas" program to study at-risk youth in Clayton County.

Students Demetria Amos, Briana Byrd, Auzelle Epeneter, Jessica Fisher and Trequita Overton, guided by program director Dr. Sandy Harrison, received the grant to study what 180 at-risk youths from local elementary, middle and high schools like and dislike about their communities. The students plan to distribute disposable cameras to youths in the care of a responsible adult who will help them to take pictures of what they like and what they think should be changed.

The project will be carried out by the students with the help of the Clayton County Juvenile Court, the Forest Park Street School/Prevention Plus, Hearts to Nourish Hope and the Kinship Care Resource Center. Additional in-kind support for the project will be provided by Clayton State University, the Clayton County Probation Office and Hearts to Nourish Hope.

"American Humanics students have made a commitment to doing service projects benefiting at-risk youth in the local community," says the Clayton State chapter of AHSA in their application for the grant.

American Humanics is a national alliance of colleges, universities and nonprofits dedicated to educating, preparing and certifying professionals to strengthen and lead nonprofit organizations. American Humanics is affiliated with more than 70 colleges and universities nationwide and partners with 40 national nonprofit organizations.

The Clayton State chapter of American Humanics was chartered in 1997. Members of AHSA work closely with nonprofit organizations to build leadership skills while simultaneously providing needed help to the local community. ■

Joan McElroy Re-Elected GACE Secretary

Joan McElroy, Clayton State employer relations specialist, was recently re-elected as the secretary of the Georgia Association of Colleges and Employers (GACE) at the GACE Annual Conference.

As secretary for GACE, McElroy is responsible for keeping all official minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board of Directors and preserve all papers, letters, and records of all transactions. She also prepares other reports and duties as requested by the President and Board of Directors.

"This will be my seventh year as secretary," shares McElroy. She has held positions on the Executive Board of Directors for 10 years. Other positions that she has

held in the past are College Director and Membership Chair.

GACE is an organization that fosters collaborative relationships between employers and career service professionals. It helps to enhance career and internship opportunities for Georgia students and graduates.

McElroy has been a member of GACE for 16 years. She is also a member of Southeastern Association of Colleges & Employers (SACE) and the National Association of Colleges & Employers (NACE).

Also at the GACE Annual Conference, Angelyn Hayes, Clayton State director of Career Services, served as a panel mem-

ber for a session called "Highlighting Public Service Careers on Campus." The purpose of this panel was to debunk common myths about the world of non-profit and public service careers.

Like GACE, Clayton State's Career Services department works with employers and host organizations to develop student and graduate employment opportunities and assist students in developing the professional skills they will need in the workplace. Additionally, they hold seminars and have staff members available to assist students in learning job-searching skills, resume writing skills and professional etiquette. ■

Lakers to Meet North Georgia, Columbus State, Wingate, Jacksonville State in X-Country

Clayton State men's and women's cross country head coach Mike Mead has released the 2006 Laker schedule. Clayton State will have five in-season meets this fall, followed by the Peach Belt Conference championships and the NCAA Division II South Regional and NCAA Division II National Championships.

Clayton State opens the 2006 season on Aug. 26 at the North Georgia Meet in Dahlonega, followed by the Peach Belt Pre-conference Meet at Columbus State on Sept. 9. Other in-season meets include the Wingate Invitational (Sept. 16), the Georgia Collegiate Championships (Sept. 30) and the Jacksonville State Foothills Invitational (Oct. 7).

The Peach Belt Conference Championship is on Oct. 21 at Columbus State, while the NCAA Division II South Regional is set for Nov. 4 in Memphis. The NCAA Division II National Championships is Nov. 18 in Pensacola, Fl.

Clayton State is coming off its best season yet in cross country in 2005. The Laker men won its first Peach Belt Championship, followed by a third place finish at the NCAA Division II South Regionals. Clayton State then placed 23rd at the NCAA Division II National Championships. The Laker women, led by two-time Cross Country All-American Alison Kreutzer, placed third at the Peach Belt Championship and 13th at the NCAA Division II South Regionals. ■



Szabados, cont'd. from p. 12

Searl, certainly set the table for a person of Tamas' background to take over a program that is on the verge of elevating itself from a Top 20 program to one that can contend for a national championship."

Szabados has served six seasons in different capacities at Emory. He started out in 2000 as both the women's junior varsity coach and men's assistant coach. During that time, Emory has won the last four NCAA Division III national champi-

onships in women's tennis, and two of the last three Division III national titles in men's tennis.

One aspect that attracted Szabados to Clayton State was his familiarity with the Peach Belt Conference from his playing career at Peach Belt rival Armstrong Atlantic. He played for the Pirates in 1998, helping lead Armstrong Atlantic to the NCAA Division II national quarterfinals with a 14-3 mark overall and 7-1 in

Trivia Time

Captain, or Caesar?

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Kurt-Alexander Zeller always (always) comes up with a good line or three for the trivia answers. As to what the "T" stood for in James T. Kirk, he asked, "Captain, or Caesar?" since Kirk's middle name was Tiberius, as in the Roman emperor.

"Given the Emperor Tiberius's proclivities, it might also explain why Capt. Kirk always had a romance with every female guest star but nothing ever came of any of them, but let's not boldly go there..." he adds, picking up two bonus trivia points along the way.

Clearly, Star Trek is the star of trivia. A record 16 individuals, starting with Todd Birchfield, Zeller and Norman Grizzell in the first, second and third positions, answered this one. Other respondents were Hal Banke, Mike Mead, Tom Eddins, Vickie Fennell, Kathy Garrison, Lou Brackett, Rob Taylor, Dotty Bumbalough, Dina Swearngin, Larry Booth, Chris Haberland, Leon Wheeler and B.D. Stillion.

On a more serious note, what President of the United States was, according to a now-discredited tale, not even eligible to be President of the United States? First correct answer to johnshiffert@clayton.edu gets to explain why the red states are red and the blue states are blue.

the Peach Belt. That season, he went 7-6 in singles and 7-5 in doubles.

Szabados earned his Bachelor's Degree in General Studies in 2000. ■

Sports Page

Men's Basketball Announces New Recruiting Class

Fresh off its second 20-victory season in the last three years, the Clayton State men's basketball team has announced its recruiting class for the 2006-07 season. The Lakers, who went 21-7 last season and were ranked in the Division II Top 25 for a majority of the season, return eight of their top 10 players from last season to go along with the stellar recruiting class.

Two Division I transfers headline the class. Red-shirt senior guard and Morrow High School graduate Rob Venner comes to Clayton State by way of Atlanta Metro

College and Jacksonville State, while sophomore forward Brian Kelly joins the Lakers from Duquesne. In addition, the Lakers add two Division II transfers in forward Jaquas Dobbs (Clark Atlanta) and red-shirt guard Trey Goss (Fort Valley State), a high school teammate of Venner's. A fifth player with college experience is junior college All-American guard Austin DeAngelis from Oxford of Emory.

Red-shirt freshman Jordan Windisch (Fayetteville, Ga./Fayette County High

School) and true freshman Cory Cameron (Chamblee, Ga./Chamblee High School) round out the Laker recruiting class.

"We return our top four scorers and eight players from the rotation," said Clayton State head coach Gordon Gibbons. "However, our newcomers provide quality depth and experience.

"This group not only fills the void of our departed seniors, but further help balance our classes and bring competition in every position area." ■

Szabados Named Tennis Coach

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Clayton State athletic director Mason Barfield announced on Wednesday the hiring of Tamas Szabados as the new women's tennis head coach. The Salgotarjan, Hungary native becomes the fourth head coach in the history of women's tennis at Clayton State. He replaces Elizabeth Searl, who paced the Lakers to a 70-53 mark in six seasons as head coach.

Currently the assistant men's coach at NCAA Division III power Emory, Szabados starts his new position at Clayton State on Aug. 1.

"We are very excited about Tamas Szabados' decision to join our Clayton State athletic staff," said Barfield. "He has been directly involved in one of the most successful college tennis programs – both men's and women's – at Emory. Our former coach, Elizabeth

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