

# BENT TREE

CSU Student Newspaper

February 2006

Volume 39, Issue 1



Table of Contents: Opinions--Page 2; Interests--Page 3; Classifieds--Page 4; Entertainment--Page 5; Features--Page 6,7; Around Campus--Page 8

## A Clayton State First: Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

By Joshua Smith

Beginning in the fall of 2006, Clayton State University will offer its first ever graduate degree—the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS)—which was approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia this past November. The MALS is a first for the University System of Georgia, with Clayton State being the only university to offer the degree in Georgia.

According to school officials, the MALS is a “milestone” and a “major accomplishment” for the university because it “opens the door for many more graduate programs [at Clayton].” The addition of the MALS graduate degree has been a two-year long process. And Clayton State can certainly add “fast growing” to its list of achievements having gone from a two-year junior

college to a graduate level university within a relatively short thirty-year time span.

So what exactly is an MALS? And what can you use it for? Generally speaking, an MALS is a degree aimed for adults who have already received advanced degrees and/or have reached a plateau in their professional careers and have decided to make a change.

If Clayton State’s degree is anything like similar MALS graduate programs in the surrounding states (Duke University and UNC both have well-established programs), then the students will range from new graduates to lawyers and medical doctors, all of who are seeking a “new way of thinking.” And perhaps the MALS is more of a

philosophical degree than a useful career-seeking tool, emphasizing new ideas, new strategies, and an overall open minded philosophy. In fact, Wake Forest University, for example, advises against any newly graduated education major who wishes to sign up for the degree because it is not useful in helping a person achieve his or her initial teaching degree; though, taking courses in the person’s area of expertise may help in re-accreditation.

An MALS can be useful in finding a career if a student chooses to specialize in a certain area. But most universities, at least the ones I researched, imply that the education is “an end in itself.”

According to one Clayton State official, the MALS will be

geared for students with extremely concentrated degrees and will offer these students the chance to take new approaches to learning.

The new MALS should certainly appeal to current Clayton State students because the degree offers the same versatility as does the undergraduate degree in Integrative Studies, Clayton State’s largest academic program and most popular major, focusing on interdisciplinary courses for a broader learning experience. And the relatively easy accessibility from surrounding counties will also draw new students.

The degree does offer more concentrated tracts in English, History, and Music. And if a student chooses English, for example, then he or she would be eligible for part-time, adjunct

Cont. on page 8

## New Policy in Works for Student I.D.

By Ashley Spillers

March of 2006 could see a new system of ID numbers for Clayton State students. The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has decided to replace the use of social security numbers with unique identification numbers. The new ID number will be named the LakerID Number.

The purpose of this change is to make students’ information more secure and to reduce the chances of identity theft. In the future, social security numbers will only be used under circumstances that are required by law.

The team behind Clayton State’s conversion is the Social Security Number Conversion Team, comprised of staff and students at Clayton State. The project manager is Norman Grizzell (Auxiliary Services) and he is accompanied by Jon Fischer (OITS/Technical Lead), Tom Marshall

(OITS/Technical Consultant), Becky Gmeiner (Registrar), Carolyn Schaefer (Registrar’s office), Cathy Jeffrey (Library), Ben Hopkins (SGA), Donna Bynum (Admissions office), Jeff Jacobs (Student Life), Leanne Scott (External Relations), Linda Stanford (Bursar), Pat Barton (Financial Aid), Robert Holmes (Auxiliary Services), Sharon Long (Testing Center), and Tom Eaves (Associate Provost).

This group first met on October 20, 2005 and took several steps to start the process of the identification number conversion. The group put together a project plan that was then sent to Dr. Thomas K. Harden (University President) and Dr. John Bryan (VP of Information Technology and Services) for approval. The approved plan was sent to the Board of Regents and the Office of Informational and Instructional Technology for final approval to move on with the project.

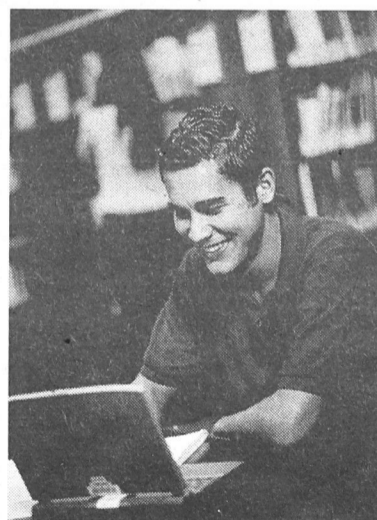


Image taken from google.com

Conditional approval of Clayton State’s switch to the “LakerID Number” has been granted by the Board of Regents, but the Social Security Number Conversion Team at Clayton State sent a revision of the plan to the Board of Regents for approval on January 6, 2006 and expect a decision soon.

What does this mean for Clayton State students and faculty? Each department will have to implement new policies on how to handle students’ identification numbers that fit into the Social Security Number policy. Only the LakerID number or the student’s last name may be used to look up a student’s information. Students will use the LakerID number to register for classes, assuming the plan is approved in time for Summer/Fall registration, and will also be used to log into the DUCK. Before the conversion of social security numbers, Clayton State plans to have Social Security Number Protection Awareness training (most likely online) to educate everyone on the reasons behind the conversion. The overall goal of this project is to ensure that each student’s information is secure.

Please visit the Social Security Number conversion website for more information and updates. <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/SSNConversion/default.htm>

# Opinions

## Science, Politics and Manure

By Terry Novak

Early June last summer, The Discovery Channel's website reported that scientists have discovered a new compound that turns manure stench into something pleasant. In fact, they reported that "The invention could help to ease tensions between farmers and locals who cannot stand the smell of animal waste."

This article is a prime example of Science leading Politics, something I find mildly ironic. Normally, Religion leads Politics, not Science. Pick a politician, and you automatically pick a religion with them. Bill Clinton is Pentecostal, Ted Kennedy is Catholic, and Bush is one shade or another above Southern Baptist. In a perfect world, one's morality is based on the religion he or she chooses; therefore, it is a logical leap to

assume that religion is what should lead laws, actions and controversy, not Science.

Sometimes, Politics leads Science. John F. Kennedy in the early 1960's told the world that the United States would send a man to the moon and return him safely to earth. Unfortunately he was assassinated before he saw his vision come true.

Nevertheless we've seen a few cases where Science has indeed led Politics. For example, Christopher Columbus led the Politics of the day when he had proven, once and for all, that the earth was indeed round, not flat. At least, that's what everybody thought. Once he returned to Spain, the funding that turns a mere mortal into a worshiped deity flowed like honey out of a bee hive. This is a classic example of Science leading Politics.

Basically, The Discovery Channel reported that if someone lives

in the boondocks, he or she may or may not want a pig or chicken farmer living next to them. One thing leads to another, and pretty soon family feuds emerge because "Uncle Andy" wants to take his share of Momma's 150 acres and raise pigs on them. They go on to explain the chemical makeup of the odor in question. (<http://www.discoverynews.blogspot.com>.)

Apparently the problem was prevalent enough to get the entire state of Pennsylvania involved. Some may argue that the stench produced by manure, led the State to give money to the MCSC. In other words, Politics led Science. I disagree. The MCSC occupies a 60,000-square foot building in the University City Science Center near the University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University. It was established in 1968, and all of its research is fueled through public funding (<http://www.monell.com>). So,

in this case and most cases like it, Science led Politics.

However you choose to say it, this is the fertile ground under any political root. I see politics like I see a pottery wheel, and the person sitting at the wheel is making a bowl or a pot, but instead of using clay, he uses a huge warm, steamy, slightly moist pile of Elephant or Donkey manure (depending on what side of the three-ring circus the pile was made). He (or she?!?!), takes the manure and lovingly molds it into a bowl or a pot. The only difference between Republican and Democrat, Liberal or Conservative, is the direction the pottery wheel is turning. Republicans turn it to the right; Democrats turn it to the left. Now, thanks to the good folks at the MCSC and to Science, we can change the color, smell and composition as well, turning what was once manure into a work of art.

Do you want to write for the Bent Tree? Do you like writing about sports, entertainment, or opinions?

Contact us at [Btree@mail.clayton.edu](mailto:Btree@mail.clayton.edu) for more details!

**The opinions that are discussed on this page are not necessarily the opinions of the Bent Tree staff. If you would like to respond to any article, or submit your own opinion piece, please contact us at [Btree@mail.clayton.edu](mailto:Btree@mail.clayton.edu).**

# Interests

## Integrative Studies: Have you heard of it?

By Diane Raymond

As Spring 2006 registration is in full swing, many students are combing the schedule to find the right classes that fit neatly into the curriculum of their major. Regardless of your major, there will [or already has] come a time when you have register for those 'required' classes that you wish you could be exempt from taking since they don't correlate with your career plans.

In the great scheme of life, college should be a time of exploration. Many students have interests that fall outside of their degree curriculum, like art, music, or creative writing, and would love to take a class or two that would count towards their 120 required credit hours. Up to this point many of you may have thought personal interest classes for credit was

just an impossibility. Not so! There is a way to take only the classes you [with the guidance of the IS Coordinator] determine would best suit your goals, and get out of college on time. The solution is the Integrative Studies degree.

Integrative Studies, according to the Clayton State University catalog for 2005-2006, *has its emphasis on clearly identified career or learning outcomes rather than on academic disciplines. The basic approach of the program allows students the opportunity to bring together—or integrate—courses from a wide variety of academic areas or disciplines to support their individual career goals.* What this boils down to is that you no longer have to navigate through the rigid confines of a specific curriculum to sit through 'required' courses that do not interest you nor help you [further] pursue your career.

As quoted from the Department of Communicative Arts and Integrative Studies, *"While the program is open to all qualified students, it has been designed principally to meet the higher education needs of two specific groups of students. Non-traditional students who are already in the workplace, but need a baccalaureate degree to advance in their current career; and, traditional students with clear academic or career goals who are open to and interested in novel ways of organizing an undergraduate experience."* According to the Office of Academic Affairs, only 8.3% of baccalaureate-seeking students are Integrative Studies majors, along with a mere 1% of associate degree students.

This degree may also be especially helpful for transfer students who find themselves with several classes that do not transfer into their program

curriculum, and find themselves lacking credits they thought they had. I was one of those students

As a non-traditional student returning to school to change careers, I possessed over 80 transfer credit hours that did not neatly fit into any one degree program. My interests are in human services and nonprofit management, so taking HMSV classes serve my goals best. If I had chosen to go the traditional curriculum route, I would be pursuing a BS in Psychology & Human Services. The problem with that is I would be required to take a fair share of Psychology classes, which is not my area of interest. This would set me back 7 classes – 21 credits.

Instead, I chose to create an individualized Integrative Studies program, under the guidance of IS Coordinator, Dr. Burns-Ardolino, that includes several communications classes, professional writing, a few psychology classes, and for personal enrichment, journalism, and a women's studies course. My program is peppered with upper-division COMM, CMS, ENGL, HMSV, HSCI, INTE, JOUR, MGMT, and PSYC classes; and, a myriad of lower-division courses, including 2 studio ART classes.

So, fellow students, as you contemplate your Spring schedule, dreading sitting through those classes you really don't want, think about the Integrative Studies program. An appointment with the IS Coordinator, and a simple form available from the Registrar may be all it takes to get you into an exciting tailor-made curriculum that may have you strutting in cap and gown a little sooner.

### Your Old Cell Phone Could Help Save a Life

By Shana Latimer

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics the highest rate of intimate partner violence occurs for women in the 16-24 year age range. Translation: from your sophomore year of high school until about three years after you graduate from college you are more at risk to be a victim of intimate partner violence than at any other time in your life. The Bureau of Justice Statistics also reports that as of 2002, "about one third of female murder victims were killed by an intimate." An intimate includes current and former boyfriends and husbands. October has been designated Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and on most college campuses throughout the month of October there are booths which provide information about what exactly constitutes intimate partner violence, as well as a checklist about whether or not you or someone you know is in an at-risk relationship. Despite this push for awareness, and the resources available, it seems that female college students are surprised to learn that they fall into the group who most need to be educated about domestic violence. If only class schedules and book fees were our most pressing concerns. Domestic violence is defined by the National Domestic Violence Hotline ([www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)) as, "a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner." Additionally, the National Domestic Violence Hotline states that, "abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person." You may be wondering how you can get help or

how you can help someone else. For women or men being abused, or if you think you might be in an abusive relationship, the National Domestic Violence Hotline provides confidential, 24-hour counseling at the toll-free number 1-800-799-SAFE. What you can expect when you call is to be treated with compassion, to speak with someone who will be able to inform you if you are in an at-risk relationship, and to be provided with local resources which can educate you about domestic violence and what to do if you are in an abusive relationship. Now about that old cell phone which has been relegated to the back of your closet or the junk drawer in your kitchen. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) collects used cell phones and gives them to women and men who are in abusive relationships. Wireless providers enable the phones to dial 911 free of charge. If you have a cell phone you would be willing to donate, then send it along with the battery and charger to:

NCADV  
P.O. Box 18749  
Denver, CO 80218

So often as students our time and resources are limited, and yet this is an easy way to become involved in a project with proven life-saving results. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence states that, "the lifeline provided by donated phones has literally saved lives." October may be Domestic Violence Awareness month, but intimate partner violence occurs every day of every month. Donate a phone today.

**Want more information? Contact  
the School of Arts and Sciences.**

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# Classifieds

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# Entertainment

## Playwright David Rambo Speaks Candidly About Writing for the Number One Show on Television, CSI: Crime Scene Investigation

By Shana Latimer

David Rambo was busy working on his play "The Ice-Breaker" the premise of which is about how science factors into an untraditional love story. William Petersen, the actor who portrays Gil Grissom on the original CSI: Crime Scene Investigation and who is also an executive producer for the show, was curious about a playwright's take on CSI. It was a match made in television heaven. Rambo was originally hired in season four of the hit drama as a freelance writer, and his first script for CSI detailed Gil Grissom's haunted reaction to a murder victim who eerily resembled fellow CSI Sara Sidle (Jorja Fox). Rambo describes the episode as "a forensic investigation into Gil Grissom's feelings for Sara Sidle." For years there has been a sometimes subtle and sometimes not so subtle flirtation between boss Gil Grissom and his young protégé, Sara Sidle, but this episode confronted, for the first time, the complexity of that relationship. The episode entitled "Butterflied" was Rambo's first venture into writing for television, an experience he describes as one of the most intense professional experiences in his career to date. He credits his play with getting him the job. The showrunners for CSI were so impressed with the success of David Rambo's first episode that the following season they hired him permanently as a story editor for the show.

Las Vegas is the backdrop for the original CSI: Crime Scene Investigation now in its sixth season. Six years is considered a good run for any television show, but that it continues to dominate the ratings race by drawing in nearly 30 million viewers every Thursday night, is an added bonus. The hit show has spun-off twice with CSI: Miami and CSI: New York, but neither is as successful in the ratings as the original. After years of proclaiming itself a staunchly procedural drama, CSI seems to be easing into revealing more about its

characters, which for some viewers is what sets it apart from its counterparts. Whatever the key to CSI's success, David Rambo is happy to be a part of it.

Because of the large focus on the liberal arts here at CSU I asked Mr. Rambo what advice he might give to aspiring playwrights and others who desire to write in a professional capacity. He was adamant about the importance of being a whole artist. Regardless of your area of expertise, he says, "You look at other art, you look at paintings, you look at sculptures, you listen to music, you contemplate nature." When discussing the steps to becoming a successful writer, he states, "It's important to remember that you're an artist. The creation of art is not something everyone can do. There are technicians and there are artists and the most successful are a little bit of both." He laughed and added, "And get an agent! But there is no easy way to do that."

David Rambo's play "The Ice-Breaker" opens in San Francisco at the Magic Theater in February 2006. His most recent projects for CSI include an episode that aired on December 8, 2005 in which Gil Grissom revealed that his father died when he was a young boy, an event in his life which is surrounded by unanswered questions and also to some extent helped fuel Grissom's desire to be able to scientifically explain the world around him. Rambo says "Kiss Kiss, Bye Bye," his newest episode for CSI which airs on January 26, "explores what's left of rat-pack Vegas, and how this new, younger Vegas is reinventing what the founding fathers created." Apropos to nothing the Los Angeles resident's favorite food is crispy bacon. So, David Rambo is bringing it home and eating it too. Truly the best of both worlds. The original CSI: Crime Scene Investigation airs on Thursdays at 9:00 p.m. EST on CBS.



**David Rambo**  
Photo provided by David Rambo

## Spring Reality Check

By Dana Staves

There no sense in denying it anymore: we are a nation of reality TV junkies and the season of reality is upon us once again. One of the most talked about shows, "American Idol," is back for its fifth season on FOX and from the looks of the previews it should be a good one. Season five will premiere January 17 on FOX at 8:00pm. In addition to American Idol, FOX will also soon be premiering "Skating with the Stars" featuring Dave Coulier and Deborah Gibson. "Hell's Kitchen," a reality cooking show, will be reappearing early this year. Other shows to tune in to are "The Bachelor: Paris." This season's bachelor is an ER doctor out of Tennessee. The show premiered January 9 but viewers have only missed the dismissal of thirteen of the twenty-five original women. The great thing about this show is that it is usually destined for some kind of disaster either by way of a crazy, possessive woman who freaks out said bachelor or cat fights between contestants. ABC also continues favorite reality shows like "Extreme

Makeover" and "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

A new favorite that is on the brink of its second season is Ashton Kutcher's social experiment "Beauty and the Geek." The show is set to premiere on January 12 with 8 new beauties (our usual assembly of cocktail waitresses and models) and 8 geeks (the most extreme being a "Dungeon Master"). "Laguna Beach" fans may want to tune into Bravo this season for a "Desperate Housewives" spin on the housewives of Orange County. The reality show, "The Real Housewives of Orange County," will premiere March 21 as a parental version of the MTV show "Laguna Beach." For those readers who are a little old school and prefer to stick with a veteran reality show, "Survivor Panama" premieres February 2 at 8:00pm on CBS. The castaways will be divided into four teams: older men, older women, younger men, and younger women. In short, it appears that reality fans will have their evenings full of episodes to follow this semester.

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# Features

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## What San Diego Really Taught Me

By Auzelle Epeneter

Last Fall Nicola Tugwell, who was serving as Interim President for the American Humanics Student Association on campus, brought me a packet of information on the club and asked me if I'd be interested. I barely glanced it over, read something along the lines of 'non-profit work,' and told her 'sure.' After all, I have a place to live and school paid for (thank you, HOPE), so I figured giving back a little wouldn't hurt. Somehow, between then and the middle of the semester I inherited the Vice Presidency.

Earlier this month I met four other students from the organization and our advisor, Dr. Harrison, in San Diego to attend the National Management Institute that American Humanics hosts every year. We had spent the bulk of the semester preparing and fundraising for this event, but I had no idea how much it would reshape and open my mind.

Opening ceremonies began with a roundtable dinner with various speakers during dessert. The keynote speaker for the night was Arturo Vargas, the director of the National Association -of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials Education Fund. As he explained the beginning of elected Hispanic representation for the Los Angeles area, which eventually spread through Southern California and the rest of the nation, I began to understand what this organization was really about. He told us the initial officials were Democrats, so the organization he works with had begun as a partisan group. As the number of officials rose, however, it became apparent that the group needed to represent officials beyond party lines. He pointed out that this organization must be a non-profit, because their primary goal was not to provide goods or services to the public, but to create and maintain representation for the Hispanic population. No for-profit organization could do that sufficiently.

When I used to hear 'non-profit,' I couldn't help but think of weak, anti-capitalist little organizations looking for handouts. Maybe some do have those tendencies, but Arturo Vargas made me understand the purpose of non-profit organizations. They fill the often overlooked void in society that belongs to the public collectively, and is absolutely necessary for the survival of our country. That is what American Humanics is about.

During the course of the next three days I went to many other lectures, workshops, and even a dialogue where I spent an afternoon working with twenty other students to write a code of ethics for a non-profit organization. I realized, too, that a non-profit has the same basic model every business has.

Our association does spend much time developing projects for the betterment of the local community, but beyond that, the group gives the cushion of

support for students to stand up and get seriously involved. The slogan from the national website defines American Humanics as "Preparing Next Generation Nonprofit Leaders." The focus there truly being "Leaders." Management, especially in a field that moves on the drive of individuals seeking change, requires people who are willing to stand up and take things forward.

All that being said, Clayton State's association is still undergoing big changes and improvement. Our group is comprised of a small (but growing) group of sincerely dedicated students. We differ in age and major, but all hold the same vision that non-profit organizations have an important and irreplaceable space in society. Without them our democracy would represent society like a thinly stretched blanket exposed in all kinds of gaping holes.

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### Recipe Corner

#### *Super Easy Pancakes*

3/4 C Flour  
1tsp Baking  
Powder  
1/2tsp Salt  
2Tbl Sugar  
1 Egg  
3/4 C Milk

Mix all of the ingredients together thoroughly. Cook in a non-stick frying pan about two tablespoons at a time to get small but dense pancakes.

### Bent Tree Staff

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
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**Features Editor:**  
**Dana Staves**

**Staff Writers:**  
**Shana Latimer**  
**Terry Novak**

# Want to become more involved on campus? Check these out!

## Clayton State Clubs/Organization Information

**Organization:** Ambassadors Team

**Contact person:** Melanie Addis

**Contact info:** [ambassadors@mail.clayton.edu](mailto:ambassadors@mail.clayton.edu)

**Website:** <http://studentorg.clayton.edu/ambassadors/>

The Ambassadors are a motivated group of Clayton State students who volunteer their time and energy into assisting the Office of Admissions. Members participate in events such as Open Houses and Counselor Luncheons. Ambassadors also serve as tour guides to prospective students. General Meetings are held every other Thursday in B10 at 12:00 pm. Applications are available at our website.

**Organization:** American Humanics

**Current President:** Demetria Amos

**Contact info:** [csu17795@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu17795@mail.claytonstate.net), (678) 576-5148

**Web address:** <http://a-s.clayton.edu/harrison/ah/default.htm>

**National website:** <http://www.americanhumanics.org>

American Humanics is a national certification program in nonprofit management. We strive to provide college students with opportunities for community service and learning about different dimensions of nonprofit organizations-including planning, recruiting, program development and implementation, marketing, and fundraising.

**Organization:** The Art, Film, and Video Club

**Contact person:** Abbie Byron-Gosling, President

**Website:** <http://studentorg.clayton.edu/artclub/>

The AFV Club hosts annual Oscar parties, Art shows, and costume parties. In addition to these activities, the AFV club also encourages budding filmmakers to create and direct their own short films. Meetings are conducted Thursdays at noon in room 424 in the University Center.

**Organization:** Association for Computing Machinery

**President:** Chad Hamilton Frederick

**Phone:** (770) 639 - 5165

**E-mail:** [csu12275@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu12275@mail.claytonstate.net)

**Website:** <http://cims.clayton.edu/acm/>

Our club is CSU's student chapter of the ACM, the Association for Computing Machinery. The ACM is an international organization uniting the world's computing educators, researchers and professionals.

**Organization:** Campus Crusade for Christ

**President:** Steven Gabel

**Contact person:** Jennifer Navarre

**Phone:** (404)-754-9555

**E-mail:** [csu22573@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu22573@mail.claytonstate.net)

Description: Campus Crusade for Christ is an interdenominational Christian student organization that acts as a spiritual resource for students, providing information, training, relationships, opportunities, and environments that are conducive to spiritual growth. We meet every Thursday at noon in Lecture Hall B-13 for music, Bible study, and free lunch.

**Organization:** Clayton State Science Association

**President:** Loan Nguyen

**Contact info:** [scienceassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:scienceassociation@yahoo.com)

**Description:** As an organization, we participate in environmental and social service projects. We host speakers from various scientific fields of study. For fun and education, we take annual trips to graduate and professional schools, go camping/rafting, visit CDC, and many more.

**Organization:** The Laker Dance Team

**President:** Alexis D. Smith

**Contact info:** [csu20157@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu20157@mail.claytonstate.net)

Although newly established and in the process of reconstructing, the Laker Dance Team takes pride in seeking individuals to display a diversified selection of dance performance. Therefore, we seek those who share not only our love for the art of dance, but a sincere interest in embracing dance styles from different cultures!

**Organization:** Mu Phi Epsilon

**President(s):** Ciara Crowe and Ashley Dunn

Mu Phi Epsilon is a professional music fraternity for music majors only. We spread music throughout the community and do community service projects at Clayton and other places.

**Organization:** The Society for Advancement of Management

**President:** Lisa Earls

**Contact info:** (VP of Membership) Stephen Hamby

[csu16130@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu16130@mail.claytonstate.net)

**Website:** <http://business.clayton.edu/sam>

Our organization is geared to help students on campus get ready for life after college such as financial management and career attainment. Topics our speakers like to cover range from investing to resumé writing; "marketing yourself" to marketing your small business; and time management to money management. We also try to include local high school seniors in our events to gain publicity for the Clayton State University campus.

**Organization:** Student African American Brotherhood

**President:** Lance Connell

**Contact info:** 678-656-5326

**Email:** [csu31967@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu31967@mail.claytonstate.net)

SAAB is an international organization composed of college educated men who plan and implement programs geared towards the betterment of African American men in college. In addition, we work closely in our community as mentors to younger students on their quest towards becoming responsible citizens.

**Organization:** Student Life Activities Committee (SLAC)

**President:** DeAngelo Evans

**Contact info:** 678-466-5437

**E-mail address:** [slac@clayton.edu](mailto:slac@clayton.edu)

**Website:** <http://studentorg.clayton.edu/slac/>

**Office:** University Center 211

The Student Life Activity Committee is pleased to be Clayton State University's premier campus event planning committee. SLAC plans, promotes and hosts a variety of campus events ranging from Welcome Week and Spring Fling to Movie Nights, Comedy Shows, College Bowling Nights, Talent Showcases, Hypnotist Shows, Salsa Nights, Family Programs and much much more! SLAC is always looking for new members to assist in making Clayton State the best it can be and we encourage you to stop by our office to get involved TODAY!

**Organization:** Student Nurses Association

**President:** Priscilla Poole

**Contact info:** [csu19524@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu19524@mail.claytonstate.net)

**Website:** <http://studentorg.clayton.edu/sna/>

The SNA is an organization devoted to giving opportunities to student nurses. SNA is a place for students to turn when they need mentoring and support. We give students the chance to give back to the community while learning lessons that will better them as nurses in the future.

**Organization:** Vietnamese Student Association

**President:** Chuong Nguyen

**Contact info:** [csu12237@mail.claytonstate.net](mailto:csu12237@mail.claytonstate.net), 404-935-1580

**Website:** [http://studentorg.clayton.edu/vsa/Nu\\_vSa/nu\\_2.htm](http://studentorg.clayton.edu/vsa/Nu_vSa/nu_2.htm)

Where do you belong? Meetings is every other Thursday @ noon in room BHS C52, starting 01/12/06.

**Organization:** Iota Sigma Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

**President:** Shalea D. Griggs

**Contact info:** 678-457-0970 (Shalea) or 404-717-3446 (Lameka)

**E-mail:** [Zphib\\_ccsu@hotmail.com](mailto:Zphib_ccsu@hotmail.com)

**Website:** [www.zphib1920.org](http://www.zphib1920.org)

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc was founded on January 16, 1920 on the campus of Howard University by 5 strong women who had the ideal that the Sorority would reach college women in all parts of the country who were sorority minded and desired to follow the founding principles of the organization, which are Scholarship, Service, Sisterly Love and Finer Womanhood. The ladies of the Iota Sigma chapter strive to serve our community and Clayton State University in every way possible.

**Do you want your club to be mentioned in the Bent Tree? E-mail us at [Btree@mail.clayton.edu](mailto:Btree@mail.clayton.edu)!**

# Around Campus

## NEW UNIVERSITY FACULTY 2005-2006

### SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

**Dr. Wendy Burns-Ardolino**  
Assistant Professor / Coordinator  
of Integrative Studies

**Dr. Eric M. Bridges**  
Assistant Professor of Psychology

**Dr. Brigitte F. Byrd**  
Assistant Professor of English

**Dr. Randall Clark**  
Assistant Professor of Journalism

**Dr. Joseph Andrew Corrado**  
Assistant Professor of Political  
Science

**Dr. Hamid M. Elhag**  
Temporary Instructor of Biology

**Dr. Jutta Y. Gardner-Johnson**  
Assistant Professor of Biology

**Dr. Rebecca S. Godlasky**  
Assistant Professor of English

**Dr. Randall S. Gooden**  
Assistant Professor of History

**Dr. Brian M. Goldman**  
Assistant Professor of Psychology

**Dr. Mary Grabar**  
Temporary Assistant Professor of  
English

**Dr. Alexander Hall**  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

**Dr. Caleb Henry**  
Assistant Professor of Political  
Science

**Dr. Susan C. Henry**  
Assistant Professor of English

**Dr. Amanda J. Leon-Guerrero**  
Assistant Professor of Music and  
Band Director

**Dr. Wendell A. Johnson**  
Assistant Professor of Sociology

**Dr. Gregory V. McNamara**  
Assistant Professor of English

**Dr. Marko Maunula**  
Assistant Professor of History

**Dr. Evan A. Mintzer**  
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

**Dr. Shondrika L. Moss**  
Assistant Professor of  
Communication

**Dr. Barbara E. Musolf**  
Assistant Professor of Biology

**Dr. Mario V. Norman**  
Assistant Professor of Psychology

**Dr. Francine N. Norflus**  
Assistant Professor of Biology

**Dr. Kathryn J. Pratt**  
Assistant Professor of Literature

**Dr. Hamin D. Shabazz**  
Assistant Professor of Criminal  
Justice

**Dr. LaJuan E. Simpson**  
Assistant Professor of English

**Dr. Karen B. Young**  
Assistant Professor of Sociology

### SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**Dr. Maria L. Bullen**  
Associate Professor of Accounting

**Dr. Alireza Dorestani**  
Assistant Professor of Economics

**Dr. Valentin H. Pashtenko**  
Assistant Professor of  
Management

### SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

**Dr. Kathleen A. Cannella**  
Associate Professor of Nursing

**Ms. Bonnie I. Epps-Long**  
Temporary Instructor of Nursing

**Dr. Heather Harvey**  
Assistant Professor of Health Care  
Management

**Dr. Sue E. Odom**  
Acting Department Head of  
Nursing

**Ms. Ebony C. Parker**  
Temporary Instructor of Nursing

**Dr. Mercy M. Popoola**  
Associate Professor of Nursing

**Dr. Russell Porter**  
Associate Professor of Health Care  
Management

**Ms. Terri Williams Summers**  
Temporary Instructor of Nursing

**Ms. Susan A. Walsh**  
Temporary Assistant Professor of  
Nursing

**Dr. Ximena Zornosa**  
Assistant Professor of Dental  
Hygiene

### SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

**Ms. Deborah Dellinger**  
Temporary Instructor of Technical  
Studies

**Ms. Brenda Rutherford**  
Instructor of Medical Assisting

### COLLEGE OF INFORMATION & MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

**Dr. Jeanette D. Allen**  
Assistant Professor of Information  
Technology

**Dr. Karen S. Briggs**  
Assistant Professor of  
Mathematics

**Dr. Robert J. Kingan**  
Assistant Professor of  
Mathematics

**Dr. Sandra Kingan**  
Associate Professor of  
Mathematics

**Dr. David B. Williams**  
Assistant Professor of  
Mathematics

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

**Dr. Angelita Howard**  
Assistant Professor and Degree  
Completion Coordinator

## MORE PROFESSORS, BETTER COURSE VARIETY?

By Diane Raymond

With this list provided by the Office of Academic Affairs I want all students to join me in officially welcoming each of the above-listed professors new to Clayton State University for this 2005-2006 academic year. Nearly 50 new assistant and associate professors, and temporary instructors have joined other part-time, full-time, and tenured educators to participate in the exciting growth of the new Clayton State University. As you sit in their classes or see them in passing, show them how glad you are that their fresh minds are here to facilitate an exciting learning experience.

In looking at the enrollment numbers from the past few semesters, I noticed no dramatic increase in student population the past few semesters, but the University has experienced a 6% increase since 1998. Seniors, followed by juniors, have increased the most in enrollment. Fall 2005 enrollment numbers loom around 5,918 students. Clayton State must be doing something right – right?

Despite the increase in enrollment, complaints abound that Clayton does not offer enough classes for both traditional and working non-traditional students. Is this what has precipitated such a large convergence of educators at this time? While the size and ambience of the campus may be alluring to many, the lack of variety and class times prevent many students from coming, or remaining at the college. This may have been the catalyst for change since attracting

quality students, and more importantly, increasing student retention has been an ongoing goal of the University.

According to the Office of the President, the number one Strategic Plan theme is “*Expand Academic Programs*. We must develop academic programming to meet student and societal needs and support our status as a University. This includes adding traditional and innovative undergraduate and graduate programs. It is our belief that additional academic programs will, ultimately, improve recruitment and retention.”

Some students may concede that hiring so many professors is a noteworthy step in the right direction. Did you know, though, that adding so many adjunct staff to the payroll contradicts another theme of the President’s Strategic Plan: *Quality of Instruction*. “*Since the primary function of the University is the education of its students, continuous improvement of the quality of instruction is essential. This involves increasing the number of full-time faculty and decreasing dependence on part-time faculty.*” The University has not decreased its dependence on part-time faculty, but instead achieved the opposite.

As the additional staff increases the likelihood of more diverse course offerings, we should also recognize that these fresh faces may bring fresh ideas and teaching methods. For some of us, we crave innovative teaching methods to get us through a semester without rudely snoring in class.

## MALS Article...Cont. from Page 1

professorial jobs at other universities, more than likely teaching freshman/sophomore level courses.

The degree can be finished within the completion of 36 credit hours, with a usual course-load of two or three classes a semester. The first 18 hours, generally, are dedicated to the liberal studies aspect of the degree, while the student may choose a concentrated tract for the remaining 18 hours, which consists of seminars and research based courses.

Though Clayton State has received approval by the Board of Regents for the new MALS, Clayton State is still awaiting accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in order for Clayton State to be recognized as a graduate level university.

For any additional information about the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, please contact Dr. Ray Wallace at raywallace@mail.clayton.edu or Dr. Tom Barnett at tombarnett@mail.clayton.edu.