

FALL 2009 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 2 • A PUBLICATION OF CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

# THE LAKER CONNECTION



*40 years*  
CLAYTON STATE  
1969 - 2009

*T*hat was then...

# President's Message



Dr. Thomas J. "Tim" Hynes, Jr.

Some 40 years ago this fall, 942 students began classes on a campus properly selected for its beauty, at an institution created to serve the needs of citizens in the Southern Crescent of Atlanta. And 40 years later, through the dedication and hard work of generations of members of the campus community, Clayton State University thrives as a campus known for its beauty, and as an institution that continues to serve the needs of the citizens of this area and of the state of Georgia.

During these four decades, the academic programs available to students have evolved to include a wide range of graduate and undergraduate programs, all the while serving the needs of the 21st Century. Those students will be educated about a wide array of professional opportunities, all the while receiving the foundation of this century's urgent needs – graduates who have learned how to learn, who can do so within an environment of ubiquitous computing, and who can think critically about our ever-expanding access to information in an internet age.

I am honored to serve in the office of president during this exciting time for the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Clayton State University, and recommend to you this volume, that chronicles so well the vision of leaders who have preceded me here.

- Dr. Thomas Hynes  
Interim President

## That was then...

**1965:** The University System of Georgia Board of Regents chooses Clayton County as the location for one of three new junior colleges. A sign announcing the coming college stands at the future entrance to the campus. Construction began in 1968 and the campus officially opened to students in fall 1969.



## ANETA (THOMAS) LEE

(B.S. Psychology & Human Services '06)  
Lee, of Decatur, is the Outreach Coordinator of the Breast Cancer Network of Strength in Atlanta.

## MARIA NISHIO

(B.A. Integrative Studies '06)  
Nishio, of Conyers, is currently employed at Rockdale County High School, and teaches Spanish. After graduating from Clayton State, she worked at Morrow High School as a Spanish I and II teacher.

## 2007

### GRETA BEAL

(B.A.S. Administrative Management '07)  
Beal, of Fairburn, was recently named to the Clayton State Alumni Association Board of Directors. She is a coordinator at Delta Airlines in Atlanta.

### SETH DAVIS

(B.M. Music Composition '07)  
Davis, of Stockbridge, was a finalist for the prestigious 2009 Clayton State University Alice Smith Staff award, honoring the top staff person on the Clayton State campus each year. Davis works in the Division of Continuing Education at Clayton State.



### DELOIS MCKINNEY

(B.B.A. Accounting '07)  
McKinney, of Wake Forest, NC, is the Financial Administrator/Accountant for Watts Chapel Baptist Missionary Church in Raleigh, NC.

### KEISHA BURGESS PRENTISS

(B.B.A. Accounting '07)  
Prentiss, of Atlanta, completed the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business MBA program in May of this year. Her concentrations



Clayton State's 2008-2009 Alumni Board of Directors.

were Accounting and Risk Management. During her 11-month tenure, she was also fortunate to receive the National Black MBA Association's (Atlanta Chapter) scholarship and the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors Leadership Award.

### TIFFANY A. REED

(B.S. Health Care Management '07)  
Reed, of McDonough, works with Health Care Fraud Investigation with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

### KEISHA JENNINGS

(B.A. Integrative Studies '07)  
Jennings, of Lithonia, is a special education teacher focusing on autism at Lake City Elementary School.

### RAVION EREGBU

(B.A.S. Administrative Management '07)  
An Army veteran, Eregbu recently published her first book, *Soldieress Chronicles*. Ravion also works as an Employment Specialist with the Georgia Department of Labor, assisting veterans in finding employment. She and her husband, Nnamdi, live in the Atlanta



area. Learn more about her book: [www.SoldieressChronicles.com](http://www.SoldieressChronicles.com).

## 2008

### JERMERIAH CARR

(B.B.A. Management '08)  
Carr, of Atlanta, was recently named to the



Clayton State Alumni Association Board of Directors. She works at Bank of America in Atlanta.

### MARK A. SNYDER

(B.S. Integrative Studies '08)  
Snyder, of Stone Mountain, is enrolled at Ashford University's Master of Arts program in Organizational Management. He is employed with the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management as a Customer Service Supervisor and was recently promoted to department trainer/and quality analyst.

## 2009

### JIM HEINZEL

(B.A.S. Technology Management '09)  
Heinzel became the first Delta employee in the ICAPP-funded program at the Clayton State - Fayette instructional site to graduate and be promoted as a result of his Aviation Administration degree. Heinzel, who has worked with Delta since 1988, received his A.A.S. from Clayton State in 1990. His new position at Delta involves the management of the GSE Engineering group, Technical Analyst group, GSE Training group, GSE Technical Publications group, and ULD (aircraft luggage containers and cargo pallets) group.

### SIBONGILE B. LYNCH

(B.A. English '09)  
Lynch, of Jonesboro, will enter Georgia State University in fall 2009 to continue her education, pursuing a Master of Arts Degree in Literary Studies.

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*40 years*  
CLAYTON STATE  
1969 - 2009



... *This* is now

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## THE LAKER CONNECTION

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Dr. Brad Rice

By Dr. Bradley R. Rice

# CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY 1969-2009 fortyyears

In the 1960s, as the first wave of “baby boomers” was reaching college age and Georgia was evolving from Dixie to Sunbelt, the state’s University System went through a major transition. Enrollment expanded rapidly at the universities and regional senior colleges; existing junior colleges in Augusta, Columbus, and Savannah became four-year institutions; and the Board of Regents established a string of four new two-year colleges along the Interstate Highway 75 corridor. In each case, local bond issues supplemented

state funding to build the new campuses. These institutions opened in quick succession starting with Kenesaw (1966), Dalton (1967), Macon (1968), and, finally, Clayton Junior College in Morrow in September 1969.

Clayton’s three sister colleges are situated immediately adjacent to I-75, and planners considered the current site of Southlake Mall for the Clayton campus. But founding President Harry Downs (then a Board of Regents official), State Representative Bill Lee, State Senator Terrell Starr, and other local leaders became enamored with a tract of woods and lakes along the old Macon & Western railroad track about two miles from the freeway exit. Despite poor traffic access off Harper Drive, the beauty of the site carried the day and the campus had its home.

Clayton Junior College’s enrollment grew rapidly from the initial 942 students to more than 3,000 by the mid

1970s. From 1969 to 1985, the great majority of Clayton’s students enrolled in traditional associate degree transfer programs. In this early period, CJC also offered career-focused associate degrees in nursing, dental hygiene, criminal justice, and office administration. In 1981, the College established a Technical Division in partnership with the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education leading to a wide range of new associate of applied science degrees and one-year certificates in such



Clayton Junior College: From 1969 to 1986



Clayton State’s iconic bent tree. The tree, which once stood in the footprint of the James M. Baker University Center (UC) is memorialized outside the UC in Legacy Court.

PAVING THE WAY

Clayton State Boulevard, the main thoroughfare into campus, opened on August 16, 1993. While the original campus entrance from Harper Drive caused poor traffic access, the new entrance created a direct route from Jonesboro Road to the center of campus.



fields as computers, avionics, electronics, and aviation maintenance.

No sooner had CJC opened in 1969 than students, faculty, and local residents began to ask when the College would "go four year." After Kennessaw began offering bachelor's degrees in the fall of 1978, the pressure for Clayton to do the same for the south metro area intensified. Meanwhile, Georgia Southern and Valdosta State were pressing for university status. Worried about the potential costs of these and other possible institutional elevations, the Board of Regents conducted studies until the mid 1980s. In 1985, thanks in part to Starr and Lee, the Board authorized four-year degrees and a new name - Clayton State College. At first, CSC's baccalaureate degree programs



Clayton State College: From 1986 to 1996

were confined to business and nursing. The development of the multi-disciplinary bachelor's degree in Integrative

Studies eventually provided the stepping stone for today's wide-range of programs.

At the same time that Clayton State was making its transition to four-year status, the College launched another major initiative -- the development of an outcome-focused, assessment-based curriculum. With a boost from grant funding by the Foundation for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, CSC's faculty became

a national leader in identifying specific learning outcomes and establishing criteria by which student achievement of these outcomes could be assessed in general education and major fields.

No one thing did more to enhance Clayton State's visibility than the opening of Spivey Hall in 1991. The world-class recital hall was made possible by the generous contribution of dentist and real estate developer Walter Spivey and his musician wife Emilie. [See the article on Spivey Hall.] The establishment of intercollegiate athletics also raised Clayton State's public visibility and helped create a campus identity for students. [See the article on athletics.]

Gradually, the School of Business added more majors and nursing introduced a basic licensure program in addition to its RN completion degree program. Of particular interest to President Downs during the years shortly before his retirement was the development of Clayton's innovative field-based middle-level education program, which the faculty designed with assistance of a large grant from the Bell South Foundation. Downs was also a strong advocate for continuing education programming and the building

that now bears his name is testimony to that commitment.

In 1994 Downs retired after leading the College for its first 25 years. A hands-on, detail-oriented administrator, Downs literally brought the campus up from the ground and walked the construction sites regularly to make sure that crews saved as many trees as possible. He also hired the original faculty and staff; presided over the transition to four-year status; launched athletics; and, most importantly,

laid the foundation for the future. [See the article by Downs.]

In 1994, Rick Skinner set out to put his mark on the institution. He intended to accelerate the development of new bachelor's degree programs, expand enrollment, and acquire "university"



BUILDING A FUTURE

The Classroom Building, (now named the Arts & Sciences Building) was the seventh building constructed and opened in 1974. Founding president Dr. Harry S. Downs envisioned the building as a place to offer career programs in art related fields. Arts & Sciences now houses baccalaureate and graduate level courses focused on preparing graduates not only for the workplace, but also for entering graduate level programming.



Dental hygiene student Kitty Boe of Doraville poses at the site of the Classroom Building construction (The Atlanta Journal, June 27, 1973).

designation. But as worthy and ambitious as those goals were, they were not his passion. Skinner passionately believed that the personal computer and the Internet would transform higher education, and he wanted Clayton State to be in the forefront of that revolution. He foresaw a campus of "ubiquitous computing;" and, through the Information Technology Project (ITP), Clayton State became one of the first campuses in the nation to achieve that objective by issuing university-owned notebooks to all students. ITP required vast amounts faculty and student training, extensive infrastructure development, and classroom renovation. Clayton State also became a leader in offering coursework provided fully or partially online.

In 1996, the institution acquired a new name - Clayton College & State University.

Under the Skinner administration and continuing into the early 2000s, Clayton State expanded bachelor's degree offerings with the "career focus" mandated by the Board of Regents and



During ITP, students gather outdoors with university-issued notebook computers.



Clayton College & State University: From 1996 to 2005

the University's mission. Two especially innovative approaches were the Bachelor of Information Technology degree and the Bachelor of Applied Science. The latter created a "2+2" option for students who held Associate of Applied Science degrees in technical and business-related fields. In the Arts and Sciences, the bachelor's degree in Psychology and Human Services had a practical focus as did the Applied Biology and Communications and Media

Studies majors. The BS in Health Care Administration became the only one of its type in the state.

President Skinner left Clayton State in 1999 to head up a University System technology ini-

tiative. Michael Vollmer, who had served state government in several key positions including president at Middle Georgia College and who was Clayton's interim CFO, became Clayton's interim president. Program development was his principal goal while the presidential search proceeded.

In 2000, Dr. Thomas K. Harden, previously a dean at Eastern Michigan University, assumed the presidency of Clayton State. He vowed to maintain the campus commitment to ubiquitous computing, but his energies would be directed toward building Clayton State into a comprehensive regional university with a much wider range of programs in traditional as well as career focused fields - including, he envisioned, master's degrees. This opened the door to several new majors including history, political science, English, criminal justice, and music education.

In 2005, 20 years after it authorized the institution to begin offering bachelor's degrees, the Board of Regents dropped "College &" out of the name and approved Clayton State University

to offer its first graduate program -- the M. A. in Liberal Studies. Other master's degrees followed rapidly including Nursing, Health Administration, Business Administration, English

Teaching, and Math Teaching.

Along with the new programming came a much enlarged physical plant. Over the years, the original campus grew slowly. First was the Arts & Sciences Building in the mid-1970s and the Library and the Physical Education additions a few years later. Next came Continuing Education, Technology, Aviation Maintenance on Tara Boulevard.

Clayton State University: From 2005 to present



LEARNING FROM NATURE

Clayton State has always recognized the need for green space. Although the campus has its fair share of places to study indoors, there is nothing like studying outside on a crisp fall afternoon or a mild spring morning.

Then: Dental hygiene student Carol Robertson (*The Atlanta Constitution*, June 27, 1973). Now: A Clayton State student enjoys an autumn day outside the Business & Health Sciences Building.







Spivey Hall in the spring.

(now Huie Hall), Spivey Hall, and the Music Building. There were no new buildings from 2000 until the Baker Center opened for Fall Semester 2004.

Although they are not officially part of the Clayton State campus, it was a cooperative effort of the University, the City of Morrow, Clayton County, and others that resulted in the Georgia Archives and the Southeastern Region of the National Archives being located adjacent to Clayton State in 2003 and 2005. The University also encouraged the development of the privately-owned Clayton Place apartments just off campus to provide convenient housing for many students.

A flurry of new structures planned in the Harden administration opened in 2008: the School of Business Building, Laker Hall residential facility, and the



Georgia Archives



Southeastern Region of the National Archives and Records Administration



Clayton Place, off-campus apartments adjacent to campus.



LOCH ONLY LEGEND?

Loch, Clayton State's current mascot, and Lucky, his predecessor, both look like they emerged from one of Clayton State's lakes. But did you know that Clayton State once had a real Nessy in its waters? In the 1990s, an alligator was spotted (and promptly relocated) from its newfound campus home.



NAMING HUIE HALL

On Mar. 26, the University named its Jonesboro facility in honor of long-time Jonesboro resident and former Clayton State University Foundation trustee Lucy C. Huie, one of the Southern Crescent's notable civil rights pioneers and community activists. Formerly the Clayton State University Aviation Training Center, Lucy C. Huie Hall is located on land donated by Huie at 9157 Tara Blvd., in Jonesboro. The facility is currently used by Clayton State's Division of Continuing Education.

Student Activities Center. The latter two were the result of creative funding in cooperation with the Clayton State University Foundation through its subsidiary real estate corporation. The University also purchased the adjacent site of Atlanta Bible College for future expansion and Clayton State now has the Clayton State - Fayette instructional site in Peachtree City.

For spring 2009 Clayton State enrolled 6,127 in what *U.S. News & World*

*Report* called the most ethnically and racially diverse student body of any predominantly baccalaureate institution in the Southeast. As President Harden departed in June of this year, leaving the University in the hands of Interim President Thomas J. Hynes, Jr., he left Clayton State with a strong programmatic and physical infrastructure poised for growth as the institution enters its fifth decade of service to the people of south metropolitan Atlanta.

*Professor Emeritus of History, former Professor of History and former Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Bradley R. Rice retired from Clayton State at the end of fall semester 2003 after 27 years of service to the University.*

**Left:** An aerial view of campus with Atlanta on the horizon. **Left inset:** The campus' next expansion site, the former Atlanta Bible College, known as Clayton State - East. **Right, top to bottom:** Clayton State's newest additions to the campus infrastructure: the Student Activities Center, Laker Hall (the University's first on-campus residence hall) and the School of Business Building. **Below:** The James M. Baker University Center. Opened in 2004, the building is named in honor of alumnus James (Jim) Baker.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

Clayton State has had four names in its 40 year history. With each name, came a new logo. Below are the logos that have represented Clayton State from 1969 to the present.

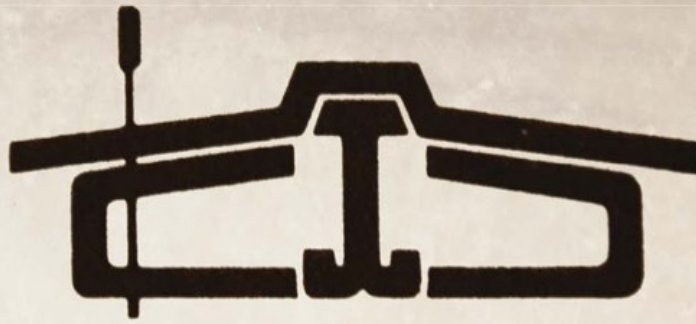


CLAYTON  
STATE  
COLLEGE



CLAYTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY





# The Downs Years

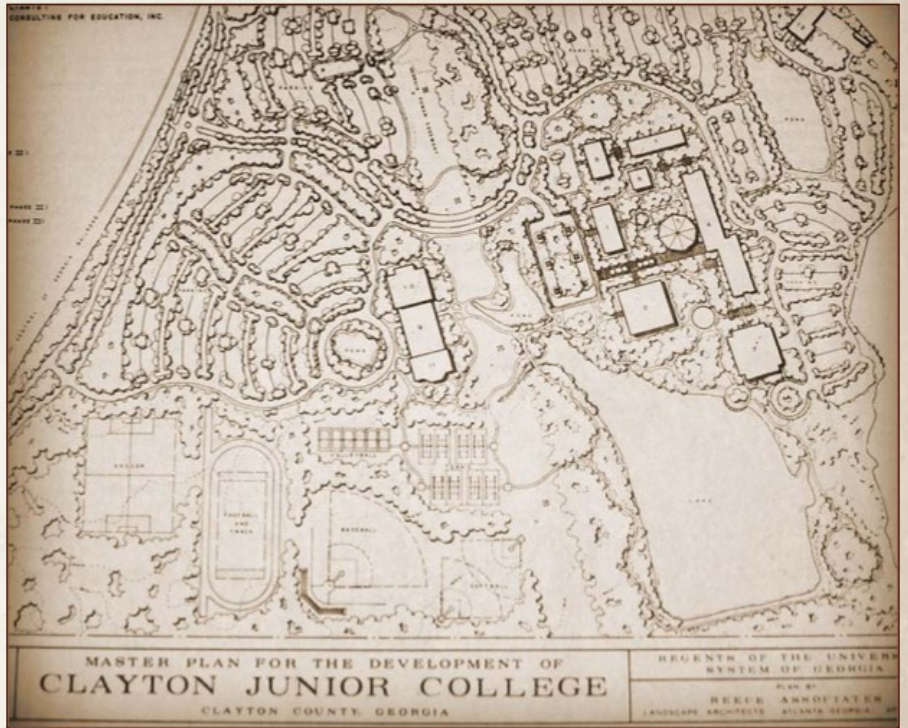
*By Dr. Harry S. Downs*



It was my great fortune to begin work for the Board of Regents in September of 1960. Two years later I was given the assignment of opening Brunswick

Junior College. This involved finding a president and then assisting in every way possible to prepare the college for its first students. In this capacity I opened four new junior colleges.

In 1966, I was assigned the responsibility of planning the campuses and buildings for new junior colleges. Both Chancellor George Simpson and Governor Carl Sanders were committed to adding junior colleges so that almost every citizen of Georgia would reside within commuting distance of a public



## THE HEART OF CAMPUS

Part of the original campus infrastructure, the Round Building, now known as the Lecture Hall, was the inspiration for the college's first logo.



college. The second institution under this assignment was Clayton Junior College. The Clayton site was by far the most attractive. Unlike the other communities with new junior colleges, in the case of Clayton County it was the Board of Education rather than the County Commission that initiated the bond issue on which the voters agreed to fund the initial campus. The total of \$4.9 million was a much larger local contribution than for any of the other similar colleges. At that time the Clayton School System was under the able leadership of Superintendent J.E. Edmonds, Assistant Superintendent

Ernest Stroud and Board Chairman Collie Adamson. In the Georgia legislature Clayton County had two senior members in leadership roles, Senator Terrell Starr and Representative Bill Lee. The community support for a new college in Clayton County was far superior to other communities with which I had worked.

By February of 1969, when construction of the CJC campus was well underway, Chancellor Simpson and the chair of the Boards of Regents approached me to ask if I would consider assuming the presidency of the new college. I was honored to accept the op-



portunity and the Board of Regents appointed me at its meeting that month. On Mar. 1, I set up a temporary office in Forest Park and officially began my quarter century as president of the institution.

A University System faculty committee recommended, and the Board of Regents approved, a core curriculum that provided clear guidelines for the first two years of study at all University System institutions. Additionally, a committee of librarians and faculty of junior

colleges had developed a list of books and periodicals that guided the library acquisition for new colleges. Having these system-wide roadmaps already in place took care of two tasks that would otherwise have taken considerable preparation time.

My experience facilitating the opening of two-year colleges told me that the primary effort of a president preparing to open a new college was the recruitment of faculty. That effort proved to be unusually successful. Many of the faculty recruited as the opening day faculty remained at the college until retirement. The college opened in September of 1969 with 942 students. Even though some of the buildings were still under construction, facilities for classes and offices were adequate.

The faculty that had been recruited

to provide quality instruction and extraordinary care of students. In addition to the core curriculum programs designed for transfer to senior institutions, CJC soon added programs in Nursing and Dental Hygiene. A developmental studies program was very effective in enabling older students who had been out of high school for several years to sharpen their skills in reading, English, and math and become successful students in college programs.

In addition to college credit programs, CJC placed a significant emphasis on Continuing Education to provide courses for workers in business and industry. When computers arrived, the college provided thousands of student hours of instruction

in how to use computers. Delta Air Lines became a major user of computer instruction. Soon, the Continuing Education program became the second



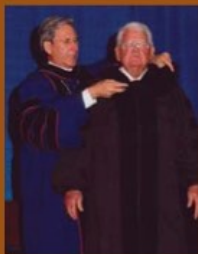
Downs at the first commencement ceremony in 1971.

**A SPECIAL THANKS**

The late Senator Terrell Starr and Representative Bill Lee, two pillars of the Clayton State community, were recognized during the 2009 spring commencement ceremony with honorary doctorates. Clayton State's student body, alumni, faculty and staff are here, in large part, because of the diligence of these two advocates of higher education.



Terrell Starr



Bill Lee

largest in the University System and remained in that position for many years.

When the State Department of Education released a study recommending a technical school for Clayton County, the college promptly applied to add technical programs to its curriculum. The proposal was accepted, a new division was created, and a new technology building was planned and built. Later, at the request of Delta Air Lines, an aircraft mechanics program was added to the technical offerings. This addition required the purchase of property adjacent to a small general aviation airport in southern Clayton County and the construction of a new building with classrooms, offices and a hanger.

In 1986 the Board of Regents approved the conversion of the junior college to a senior college. This approval came after the college demonstrated the need for some senior programs,

and of course it did not hurt to have Bill Lee and Terrell Starr in leadership roles in the legislature.

Thanks to an excellent, dedicated faculty, outstanding performance became the hallmark of the college. In addition, the Lyceum programs, which brought in regionally and nationally known speakers and performers, was for years the best in the state and one of the best in the nation.

After conversion to a senior college and the addition of baccalaureate majors, there were a number of other very significant occurrences. These included the addition of intercollegiate athletics, the construction of a Continuing Education building, and notably the construction of Spivey Hall, thanks to the foresight and generosity of Walter and Emilie Spivey.

Soon after the completion of these two extraordinary buildings, I retired on Dec. 31, 1993, and then served as in-



CONTINUING SUPPORT

Dr. Harry S. Downs retired on December 31, 1993, but leaving the presidency did not signify ending his involvement with the college. Downs has continued to support Clayton State and is pictured below on November 6, 2008 at the dedication of the Judge Eugene Lawson Amphitheatre and the L. Jerry Eskew Stage.



terim Chancellor of the University System until June 30, 1994.

*Dr. Harry S. Downs was Clayton State's founding president in 1969, serving as the University's chief executive for 25 years, until his retirement in late 1993, and oversaw the transition from junior college to four-year college.*



Lyceum Committee from the 1974 Centurion yearbook



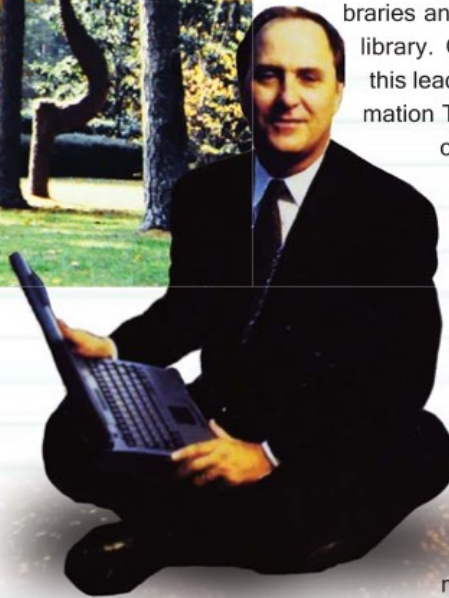
Early 1970s Lyceum events: Then-governor Jimmy Carter (L) and folk singer Andy Thompson (R).

# The Skinner Years

*By Dr. Richard A. Skinner*



During the years 1994-1999, Clayton State College was caught up in the sweeping changes that encompassed the University System of Georgia, the 1996 Summer Olympics, and the emergence of Atlanta as a major American and international city. With newly-appointed Chancellor Stephen R. Portch at its head, the University System shed old habits and out-dated practices and became a leader in the application of information technology, initially through the launch of GeorgiA Library LEarning Online (GALILEO), one of the very first digital libraries and ultimately the state's online library. Clayton State capitalized on this leadership to undertake the Information Technology Project (ITP), one of the largest deployments of mobile computing in American higher education and earned national recognition for the use of technology to improve student learning, services, and career preparation.

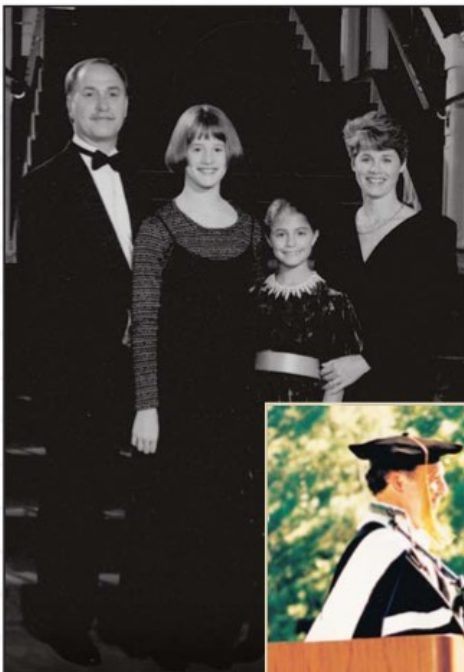


Academic progress figured prominently in this period of the institution's development. Between 1994 and 1999, freshman admission standards rose more than any other System institution. By

the end of the decade, Clayton State was producing more "high tech" graduates than any other college or university.

Almost simultaneously, Clayton State joined with other colleges and universities in Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida in the Peach Belt Athletic Conference, added five new sports, and joined the NCAA Division II, thereby fulfilling a commitment made to students years before.

Clayton State's centerpiece, Spivey Hall, figured prominently in the Cultural Olympiad and Special Olympics that accompanied Atlanta hosting the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, thereby adding to the luster of host-



The Skinner family, 1996



Skinner's inauguration



Skinner teaches a class.

ITP LEGACY

The Information Technology project that began under Dr. Rick Skinner and became ITP Choice under Dr. Thomas K. Harden set Clayton State apart as the first public university in the Southeast, and one of the first in the nation, to issue notebook computers to all students at all levels in all majors. This transformed the campus and made Clayton State a national pioneer in "ubiquitous computing."

ing the world's finest musical performers on a regular basis, countless recordings, and NPR's classical music program, "Performance Today."

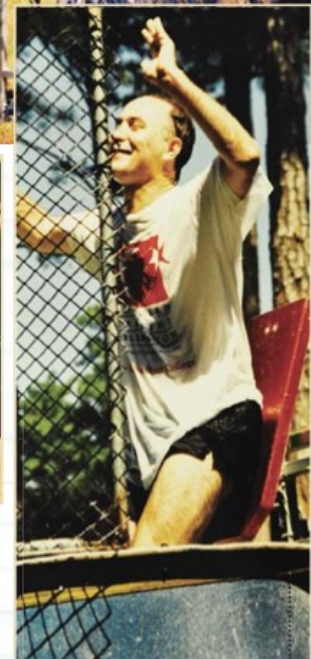
Clayton State also became more of a part of the burgeoning metropolitan Atlanta economy of the 1990s by launching a series of development activities, including making student housing available for the first time, working with local officials to secure, first, the Southeastern Regional Center for the National Archives and Records Administration and then shortly thereafter, the Georgia Archives, thereby creating the first co-location of state and national archive facilities.

With all of this change, it could be expected that the student population of Clayton State would also change. In fact, the institution continued to serve the mature adult student and to reflect the extraordinary diversity of metropolitan Atlanta, earning recognition by *U.S. News & World Report* as the most diverse baccalaureate institution in the southeastern U.S.

*Dr. Richard A. Skinner, Clayton State's second president from January 1994 to June 1999, oversaw the transition to University status and was the architect of the Information Technology Project, which made Clayton State the third public "Notebook University" in the nation in 1998.*



Right: Skinner's wife, Kathleen, takes a shot.



Above: The Southern Crescent Celebration, a popular event held annually at Clayton State during the Skinner years, invited the campus and community to enjoy food, games and, in 1996, the opportunity to dunk President Skinner and other administrators. Left: Skinner and then-director of Financial Aid Catherine McClarin place items in a time capsule during Clayton State's 25th anniversary celebration.

# 1999 & 2000: Moving Into a New Century

By Michael F. Vollmer with John Shiffert



Swan Lake in the fall

Just as the calendar turned over a new page from 1999 to 2000, so too did Clayton State move forward at the same time.



Mike Vollmer

Going from the 1900s to the 2000s was not the only new development in that year, as the University took steps on several major fronts, including infrastructure, programs and our relationship with the surrounding community. Included in the notable developments from that era that typified where Clayton State was going was the first-ever Fall Commencement Ceremony in December 1999, an event brought about by Clayton State's continuing growth. On a lighter note, we even gave the campus' signature physical feature, the 12-acre lake, an official name -- Swan Lake -- in March 2000.

Although Swan Lake had been a part of the Clayton State campus since the then-Clayton Junior College opened 30 years before, infrastructure additions, both on- and off-campus, highlighted this period. With the official opening of the first student-dedicated off-campus housing, Clayton Place, in August 1999, Clayton State was moving towards the future. This move was thanks in part to Governor Roy Barnes'

budget recommendation to the Georgia State Legislature for the 2000/2001 fiscal year that placed what was then called the University Learning Center at the head of the USG budget class.

When the Legislature passed the budget bill in March 2000, Clayton State was on its way to the July 2001 groundbreaking for what would

become as much a signature feature of the campus as Swan Lake, the James M. Baker University Center. And, shortly after the Legislature approved the funding for the Baker Center, another new building opened on campus, the Music Education Building.

New programs that would affect the long-term development of the University were happening elsewhere as well. In July 1999, we opened the Roswell Center to house the offices of the Fulton County Lifelong Learning Center. Even more importantly, and presaging the University's rapid academic growth of the first decade of the 21st Century, the Board of Regents, in May 2000, approved what was originally the Bachelor of Science in Applied Biology. Now one of Clayton State's most popular undergraduate programs, the B.S. in Biology led the

way towards what would become the doubling of Clayton State's baccalaureate programs.

One of those future programs would be a history major, a degree that became

a virtual necessity following the establishment of the Georgia and Southeastern National Archives adjacent to campus. These two major additions to the community were coming closer to reality during the 1999-2000 period, in conjunction with the work of then-Secretary of State Cathy Cox, and Clayton County legislators Terrell Starr, Jimmy Benefield, Greg Hecht and Gail Buckner. The NARA project moved forward in a parallel

fashion, with the support of U.S. Senator Max Cleland and U.S. Representative Mac Collins.

As I stated in my final Campus Review President's Message, "Clayton State Will Prosper in the Next Few Years." I'm glad to be able to say I was correct in that assessment.

*The State of Georgia's most versatile public servant, Michael F. Vollmer came to Clayton State as executive-in-residence for the Information Technology Project and stayed to become Interim Vice President for Fiscal Affairs and, from July 1999 to June 2000, Interim President.*



Early rendering of what is now the James M. Baker University Center.



Music Building



# The Harden Years

By Dr. Thomas K. Harden  
with Erin Fender



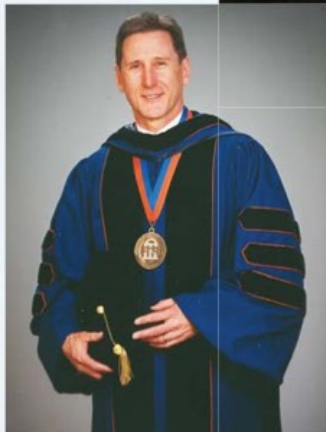
During my time at Clayton State, the university has grown exponentially in the areas of academics and campus expansion. Throughout the last decade I have been part of welcoming more undergraduate programs and the addition of the School of Graduate Studies. In addition, Clayton State added more full time faculty, we opened three new buildings, and acquired our first piece of land to continue campus expansion.

In my early years at Clayton State, we realized that we had quite a few students only taking core classes and moving on to other universities because of our lack of bachelor's degree programs. We knew we needed to offer more undergraduate programs, and since our curriculum expansion our enrollment has significantly increased. Clayton State has more than doubled its undergraduate offerings during the last nine years, starting with the addition of the B.S. in Dental Hygiene and Psychology and Human Services, through the most recent addition, the B.S. in Computer Science. As an educator, there is nothing more exciting than the addition of new academic programs.

Clearly another academic milestone for Clayton State University is the addition of the School of Graduate Studies. In November 2005, Clayton State University's first graduate level program, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, was approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. We knew that graduate programs would meet the needs of our re-



Laker Hall



Harden, in 2000, at the beginning of his tenure.



Harden with Loch, 2008



Dr. and Cathy Harden, Homecoming 2000

gion and strove to create a solid program. We started the graduate school without additional funds from the state and created basic programs that worked well with our undergrad offerings. Now the School of Graduate Studies is flourishing and offers seven master's degree options. In December 2008, Clayton State marked another milestone by awarding its first master's level degree.

While academics at Clayton State grew tremendously during the last nine years, the campus grew as well. Early on in my time at Clayton State, we dedicated and opened the doors to the James M. Baker University Center, a

## GRADUATE DEGREES

During Harden's years at Clayton State, the University began offering graduate level programming. Pictured below is Clayton State's first master's degree recipient, Anna Cox, who received her Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree at the fall 2008 commencement.



L to R: Dr. Wendy Burns-Ardolino, Anna Cox and Dr. Tom Barnett.

During the Harden years, Clayton State became the only university in the United States to be located adjacent to both state and national archives facilities. The Georgia Archives and the Southeast Regional branch of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) represent the first such model in the nation to combine both state and federal facilities.

131,000 square foot building that serves many purposes, but perhaps is most recognized as a central gathering spot for students. With an enrollment of more than 6,000 students each semester since fall 2005, we strategized to meet these students needs and to work together to serve our community better.

Over the last couple of years we have worked hard to give Clayton State a better opportunity to engage students -- which has meant several venues of campus expansion. A December 2007 ribbon cutting ceremony officially welcomed Clayton State University - Fayette. The fall 2008 semester was marked by dedicating three new buildings as well as an open-air amphitheater. Laker Hall, the University's first on-campus housing building, welcomed in-coming freshman. The Student Activities Center opened to give all students a new fitness center, as well as many other activity spaces and a ballroom. The new School of Business building opened, inaugurating Clayton State's first entirely academic building this cen-

ture. The open-air amphitheater was named in a November ceremony - the Judge Eugene Lawson Amphitheater and the L. Jerry Eskew Stage. This space has since its dedication hosted many concerts and events. It is also important to note Clayton State's first building and land acquisition... in June 2008, Clayton State purchased the Atlanta Bible College, situated just east of the main campus. I believe this purchase will prove very beneficial.

Aside from all the campus and academic growth over the years, Clayton State is really about the people. Clayton State is the friendliest campus. The faculty, staff, and students are open and supportive. I am proud of this campus. It has been the most positive climate I have been a part of. Cathy and I always made the point to

attend as many student events as possible. It was a good experience for us as well helping to support the campus.

I have been touched by the warmth and response to my departure, and I am fortunate to have been a part of Clayton State University for nine years. I hope to see a continued increase in the quality and focus on education. I hope for the future to see continued support for one another, to achieve goals and vision. The faculty and staff have shown such support over the years of strategic plans; I know they will lead Clayton State into a bold new future.

*Dr. Thomas K. Harden served as President of Clayton State for nine years, from July 2000 to June 2009, overseeing the largest era of growth in the University's history, including more than doubling undergraduate programs, the addition of graduate programs, and a 40 percent increase in enrollment.*



School of Business Building dedication



**Left:** Student Activities Center dedication, Laker Hall dedication  
**Below:** Harden presents alumnus James M. (Jim) Baker with a framed artist's rendering of the James M. Baker University Center during the building's 2004 naming ceremony.

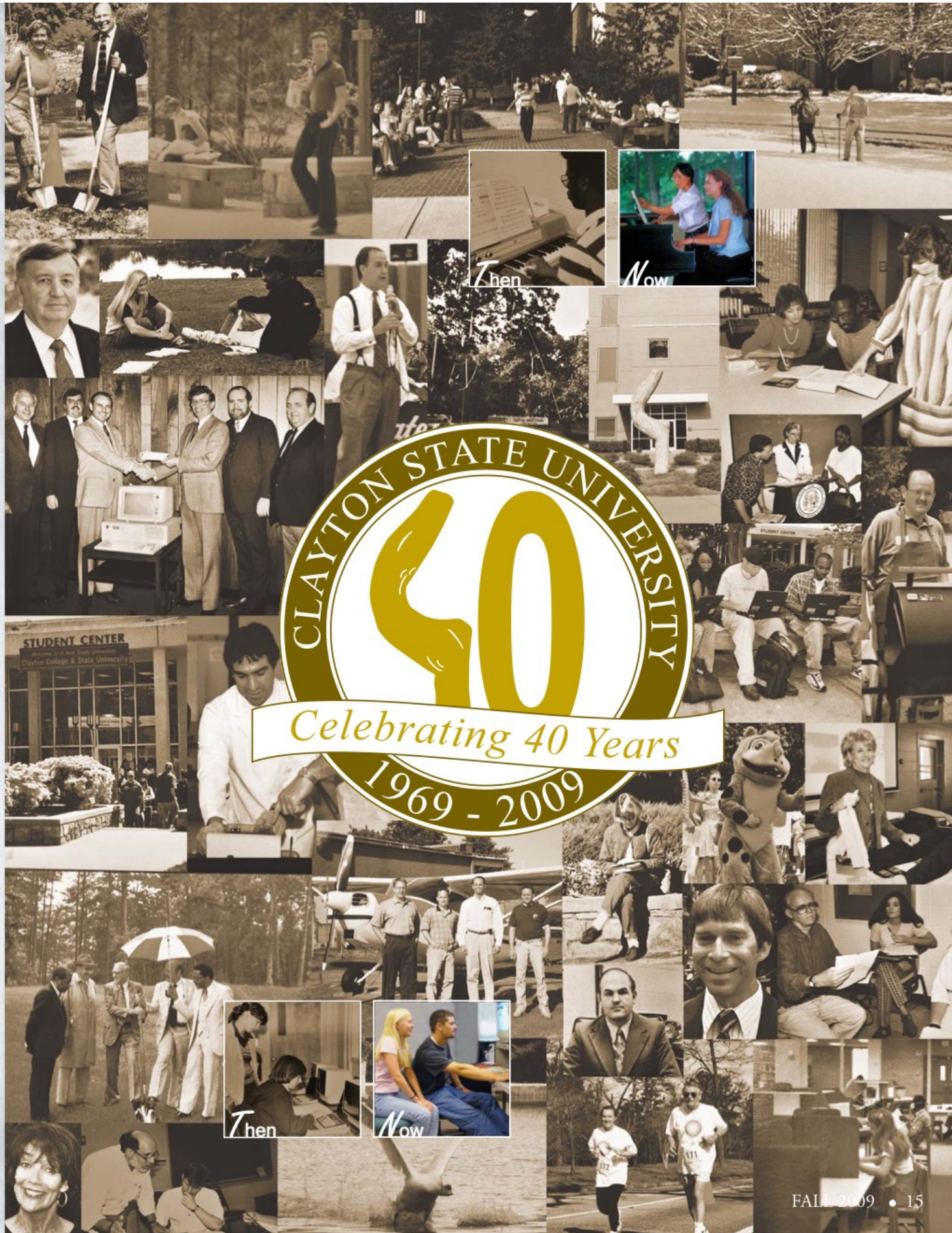


Homecoming flap jacks



At a soccer game



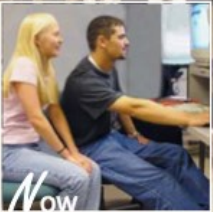


CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

40

Celebrating 40 Years

1969 - 2009





SILENT AUCTION

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Professional Studies

NEWLY ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

BUSINESS ACCREDITATION

- Baruch College
- Brigham Young University
- Chapman State University
- Clarkson College
- Eastern Michigan University
- Florida State University
- George Mason University
- Indiana State University
- North Carolina State University
- Northwestern State University
- University of North Carolina
- University of South Carolina
- University of Tennessee
- University of Virginia
- University of Wisconsin

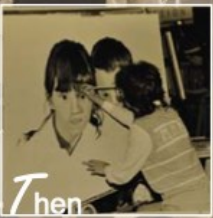


BODIES  
CLAYTON STATE COLLEGE

S. M. ...  
BODIES  
CLAYTON STATE COLLEGE

NIGHT STUDENTS  
Do You Have A Problem?  
The S.G.A. OFFICE  
WILL BE OPEN  
EVERY EVENING TILL 10.  
Drop In a Talk...  
We might be able to  
help... give us a try!

We perform  
Clayton State College



Then



Now

# Campus Update

## Clayton State bids farewell to Dr. Harden, hello to Dr. Hynes

Dr. Thomas J. (Tim) Hynes Jr., officially began his tenure as the interim president of Clayton State University on May 18, 2009.

Hynes had held the position as provost and vice president for academic affairs and professor of Mass Communications at the University of West Georgia (UWG) for all but two years since 1996. On two occasions, during the 1999/2000 and 2006/2007 academic years, Hynes served as acting president of UWG when President Dr. Beheruz N. Sethna was called to the University System Office to serve as acting senior vice chancellor for academic affairs.

University System of Georgia Chief Academic Officer Dr. Susan Herbst commented upon announcing Hynes' appointment, saying, "we are extremely fortunate to be able to call on Dr. Hynes' strong leadership skills during this transition. Clayton State University has a great deal of momentum going for it, and I am confident that the institution will be in excellent hands under Dr. Hynes."



Dr. Hynes

Just prior to Hynes' arrival, the Clayton State University faculty and staff bid a fond farewell to President Dr. Thomas K. Harden and his wife, Cathy Harden, at a special reception in the Harry S. Downs Center.

After nine years as Clayton State's president, Harden left the University to become the chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Green Bay. Among the comments shared with the 200+ individuals in attendance at the reception was one by Herbst, to whom Harden reported in his role as Clayton State's president.

"Throughout the challenges he has kept focus on what really matters...the students," said Herbst.



Dr. Harden and his wife, Cathy, at his farewell.

## Clayton State honored as Clayton County Business of the Year

Clayton State University was honored on Feb. 3, 2009 by the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber's 55th Annual Banquet and Awards Presentation.

Recognizing the University's growth and impact on its community, the Chamber presented Clayton State President Dr. Thomas K. Harden with its prestigious 2008 Business of the Year Award.



Dr. Harden and Reda Rowell, director of Development

The University's economic impact on the Southern Crescent region is impressive. According to a fall 2008 study done for the University System of Georgia, Clayton State's regional economic impact is 1,737 jobs. In addition, initial spending in the Southern Crescent generated by the University for FY2007 was just under \$120 million and the output impact of the University was just under \$184 million.

## Buildings change names

As part of an on-going effort to better and more clearly identify the buildings on the Clayton State University campus, name changes for several Clayton State buildings took effect in March. The Administration Building became Faculty Hall and the Technology Building became Clayton Hall.

In addition, on Mar. 26, the University officially named its Jonesboro facility in honor of long-time Jonesboro resident and former Clayton State University Foundation trustee Lucy C. Huie, one of the Southern Crescent's notable civil rights pioneers and community activists.

At the naming ceremony, Huie was described as "a builder of communities and dreams... and a great example of the type of people who serve Clayton State," by University President Dr. Thomas K. Harden. Huie was also feted by Leonard Moreland, chair of the Board of Trustees of the Clayton State University Foundation, Clayton State Director of Development Reda Rowell, and daughter Dr. Mary Huie Jolly. To learn more about Huie Hall, see p. 5.



## St. Fort leads Lakers to NCAA Southeast Regional Championship And the Elite Eight

For the second time in the last three seasons, the Clayton State Laker women's basketball team qualified for the NCAA Division II "Elite Eight."

With four players scoring in double-figures, led by Southeast Regional MVP Marie St. Fort, Clayton State won the Division II Southeast regional Championship with a strong 89-73 victory over Peach Belt Conference rival Francis Marion University in a game played at



Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, N.C. The Lakers improved to 26-6 overall with the victory.

Senior forward Lisa Jackson recorded a double-double with a career-high 22 points and 10 rebounds, while St. Fort, a senior guard from West Palm Beach, FL, who became Clayton State's fourth leading scorer (1044 points) of all-time during the game, wrapped up Southeast Regional Most Valuable Player honors with 16 points and six rebounds.

## Clayton State's MBA is coming to Rockdale County

It's official. The School of Business at Clayton State University is bringing its already-successful MBA program to Rockdale County.

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently gave its approval to Clayton State's proposal to establish a cohort of the MBA program at the Rockdale Career Academy, 1064 Culpepper Dr., Conyers, Ga., starting in January 2010. The Clayton State MBA program, which graduated its first degree-holders this past May, is already operating with cohorts based on the main campus in Morrow, and the University's instructional site (Clayton State - Fayette) in Peachtree City.

## Micheal Crafton Named Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Micheal Crafton, previously a professor of English at the University of West Georgia, has been appointed interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at Clayton State University. He began his appointment on Aug. 3, 2009.



Dr. Micheal Crafton

Crafton replaces Clayton State's first Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Sharon E. Hoffman, who resigned her position at the University as of July 1, 2009.

According to Clayton State Interim President Dr. Thomas J. Hynes Jr., "Clayton State University has been incredibly well served by Dr. Hoffman's leadership. Her dedication to our institution, and especially her exceptional work in academic program development, leave a proud legacy to Clayton State University. We are all very much appreciative of that work."

An expert on medieval literature, Chaucer, the Bayeux Tapestry and a member of the Department of English at West Georgia since 1985, Crafton brings to Clayton State a wealth of experiences, both from the professorial ranks and from administrative and academic leadership responsibilities. His Ph.D. and M.A. in English are from the University of Tennessee Knoxville, and he holds a B.S. in English from the University of Tennessee at Nashville.

In addition to his faculty appointment at West Georgia, Crafton twice served as interim vice president for Academic Affairs at the University for a total of two years, and twice led that institution's Strategic Planning efforts.

## Clayton State sets Spring enrollment mark

According to figures released by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, Clayton State University's enrollment for the spring 2009 semester reached 6,127 - the highest spring figure in the University's history and the second-highest enrollment for any semester in Clayton State's history. The only higher enrollment figure was a spike to 6,212 in the fall 2005 semester.

## Corlis Cummings named Vice President of Business and Operations

Clayton State University Interim President Dr. Thomas J. Hynes, Jr., has named Corlis P. Cummings vice president of Business and Operations for the University. Cummings had been serving as the University's interim vice president of Business and Operations since Sept. 1, 2008.

Formerly special assistant to the president/executive in residence at Clayton State, and formerly the interim chancellor of the University System of Georgia, Cummings joined the Clayton State administration in October 2007. Prior to her appointment at Clayton State, Cummings and former Clayton State President



Corlis Cummings

Dr. Thomas K. Harden had identified a number of opportunities wherein her expertise in higher education law and her past experience with the University System of Georgia could benefit the University. Since joining the University, Cummings has assisted in the establishment of the Office of Legal Affairs, served as interim director of Human Resources, and managed various projects on behalf of Harden.

## Board of Regents approves Archival Studies master's program

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) has approved another landmark in the development of Clayton State University... a program literally 10 years in development.

The USG board gave its approval on Wednesday, June 10, to the establishment of a Master's in Archival Studies for Clayton State, extending the University's long-standing relationship with both the Georgia Archives and the National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) Southeast Region, a relationship that extends across not only a decade, but also two presidents and two interim presidents at Clayton State.

The archival studies program is the university's seventh graduate-level program and the only program of its kind in the State of Georgia... a fitting circumstance, since the Georgia and NARA facilities, which will so greatly benefit Clayton State's future master's students, are also unique - the only co-located

state and federal archives facilities in the United States. Both the Georgia and NARA archives already employ Clayton State undergraduate students to help with research and archiving materials.

The 45-semester-hour program will focus on archival studies theory and methodology, as well as practice in the administrative, legal, economic, historical, managerial and information studies areas, and will be housed in the University's College of Information and Mathematical Sciences. Administration of the program will be by Clayton State's School of Graduate Studies.

Course topics will include traditional and digital preservation, introduction to electronic records, archives and technology, and materials arrangement and description of archival documents. It is projected that 20 to 25 students per year will enroll in the program in 2010.

## Spring Commencement honors Starr, Lee

Clayton State University honored two of the seminal figures in the history of the University and Clayton County, and said goodbye to President Dr. Thomas K. Harden, at its annual Spring Commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 9.

In addition to Clayton State students receiving master's, bachelor's and associate degrees, the University awarded honorary doctorates to the late State Senator Terrell Starr and retired State Representative William J. "Bill" Lee. Both of these long-time public servants (Starr, 38 years in the Senate; Lee, 42 years in the House) were instrumental in the selection and



location of a new University System of Georgia junior college in Clayton County in the 1960s. Although Starr passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Apr. 19, 2009, that college, now Clayton State University, honored

the long-time public servant by presenting his honorary doctorate posthumously to his son, Terry Starr.



## Antoinette Miller and Celeste Wade Named Smith Award Winners

Dr. Antoinette Miller and Celeste Wade have been named as the winners of the 2009 Alice Smith Awards at Clayton State University.

Miller and Wade received their awards at the annual Faculty/Staff Awards ceremony, held in the University's Spivey Hall. Clayton State's highest honor for faculty and staff, the Smith Awards have been an annual event at the University since 1995. Presented to the faculty member and staff member ranked most outstanding as determined by committees of their peers, the two, \$1000 awards were originally established by the late Joseph Smith in honor of his late wife, Alice.

Miller is an associate professor of Psychology, coordinator for the Department of Psychology and has worked at Clayton State since 2001. She is currently an advisor for the Psychology Department and serves on the faculty council.

In 1995, Wade began working in the University's Plant Operations Department as a clerk, moving in 1999 to Administrative Systems to work as an analyst. Since 2005 she has also provided IT support for the accounts receivable side of Banner and PeopleSoft Financials as part of the Budget & Finance Office.



Dr. Antoinette Miller



Celeste Wade

## Clayton State bringing dual Enrollment courses to Academy for Advanced Studies in McDonough

Clayton State University is partnering in bringing academic courses to Henry County.

Beginning with the fall 2009 semester, Clayton State University, Gordon College and Griffin Technical College began offering both dual enrollment and evening general education courses at the Academy for Advanced Studies in McDonough... a new site located at Henry County High School.

Clayton State offers English composition and speech communications to dual enrollment high school students in the morning and American literature and introduction to sociology in the evening.

The dual or joint enrollment program provides one way for high school students to ease their transition into college. These programs allow students to take college courses while still in high school. The courses they complete fulfill high school requirements but also count as college credit. Such programs expose students to the nature of the college classroom, while they still have the support they receive from parents and their high school.

## Wilcox, Binfield Earn Division II PING All-American Golf Honors

For the first time in a decade, Clayton State will have two All-Americans in men's golf in the same season.

The 2009 Division II PING All-American teams were recently announced, and Clayton State senior Will Wilcox was selected first team Division II All-American for a second straight season, while junior Wade Binfield was selected honorable mention Division II All-American. In addition, with his honorable mention honor in 2007, Wilcox becomes the first-ever three-time All-American at Clayton State in men's golf.

Both players also earned Division II All-Southeast Region honors - the third straight for Wilcox and the first for Binfield.



The Lakers 2008-2009 Men's Golf Team. First and fourth player from the left are Will Wilcox and Wade Binfield, respectively.

By Sherryl Nelson

# Spivey Hall

Shining the International Spotlight on Clayton State University



Spivey Hall introduces millions of music lovers from around the world to Clayton State University. Spivey Hall's role in the history of Clayton State established the University as the Southeast's pre-eminent classical recital presenter on the international map.

Enchanted by the beauty of the Clayton State campus and attracted by the college's Lyceum programs, Emilie Parmalee Spivey and Dr. Walter Boone Spivey entrusted Dr. Harry Downs with their vision and assets to create a world-class recital hall to serve as a cultural center for the communities where they made their home. The Spiveys were prominent Atlantans who successfully developed the Lake Spivey and Lake Jodeco residential areas. A professional organist and patron of the arts, Emilie traveled internationally to hear the greatest artists in the world's best concert halls.



She invited world renowned musicians to the home she furnished with elegant European antiques. Today many of these furnishings are found in Spivey Hall and are enjoyed by patrons and visiting guest artists.

Emilie Spivey's worldview and understanding of classical music presenting, her perspective as an artist, and her aspirations for excellence are manifest in the design of Spivey Hall. Sadly Emilie and Walter did not live to see Spivey Hall completed, but thanks to the dedicated stewardship of Dr. Downs and his successors, her dreams came to life when Spivey Hall earned international acclaim as a world-class hall and concert series.

Spivey Hall opened in 1991 with recitals by superstar violinist Itzhak Perlman followed by pianist Andre Watts and oper-

atic bass Samuel Ramey. Word of Spivey Hall's acoustical gifts, quality Steinways and Ruffatti organ spread quickly among top classical artists and their managers, as well as among music aficionados throughout the Southeast U.S. In 1992, when the Italian-built Ruffatti pipe organ was dedicated in memory of humanitarian-organist Albert Schweitzer, a new surge of international press put Spivey Hall in the center ring of the pipe organ world. By 1998 and again in 2002, The Royal Bank Calgary International Organ Competition, the world's most prestigious pipe organ competition, chose Spivey Hall to host the semi-final rounds for all of North America.

Spivey Hall has also showcased inspired performances by Clayton State music students and faculty -- leading to a prestigious academic partnership with one of the world's top music conservatories, the Liszt Academy in Budapest, Hungary. In addition, musicians and ensemble leaders from Georgia and surrounding states vie for performance dates and record their finest work for broadcast and recordings and hundreds of thousands of students from Atlanta area schools attend dozens of annual educational programs that began in 1992 in collaboration with the community partners and educators on the Spivey Hall Education Committee.

Millions of music lovers throughout the U.S. and abroad grew to know Spivey Hall thanks to countless national and local public radio and television broadcasts. Spivey Hall recordings by legendary choral conductor Robert Shaw on Telarc, NPR Classics holiday CDs, Metropolitan Opera soprano





Denyce Graves first solo CD "Angels Watching Over Me," and dozens more releases introduced collectors of fine music to the hall's acoustical magic. Spivey Hall was heard throughout the world in 1996 when the Atlanta Olympic Games drew NPR to broadcast four days of concerts and interviews from the Spivey Hall stage before a live audience. Beginning in the mid-90s, NPR annually broadcast 40-60 Spivey concerts. Today selected Spivey Hall performances are heard by 1.2 million people each week on American Public Media's "Performance Today" broadcasts on 245 public radio stations. Spivey recording engineer Tommy Joe Anderson's ACA Digital CDs and broadcast recordings continue to earn the hall a stellar reputation as a premier recording venue.

The international diplomatic community recognized Spivey Hall's important role in promoting international culture by presenting the finest artists and music from around the world. At-

lanta's International Consular Corps has partnered in sponsoring hundreds of artists, drawing international attention to Spivey Hall programming. Perhaps the most unique international presence for Clayton State comes from the Spivey Hall Children's Tour Choir. Since 1994, their programs have provided extraordinary choral training and performance opportunities for young singers age 10-18. Children's Choir tours and CDs perform an important outreach service for Spivey Hall and Clayton State as ambassadors to the



region and the world embodying Spivey Hall's and Clayton State's continual pursuit of excellence and service to community. Artistic Director and conductor Dr. Martha Shaw has won international acclaim for the Tour Choir's performances in China, Austria, the Czech Republic, England, Canada and Sweden.

*Sheryl Nelson served for 16 years as Spivey Hall's founding director, "the*

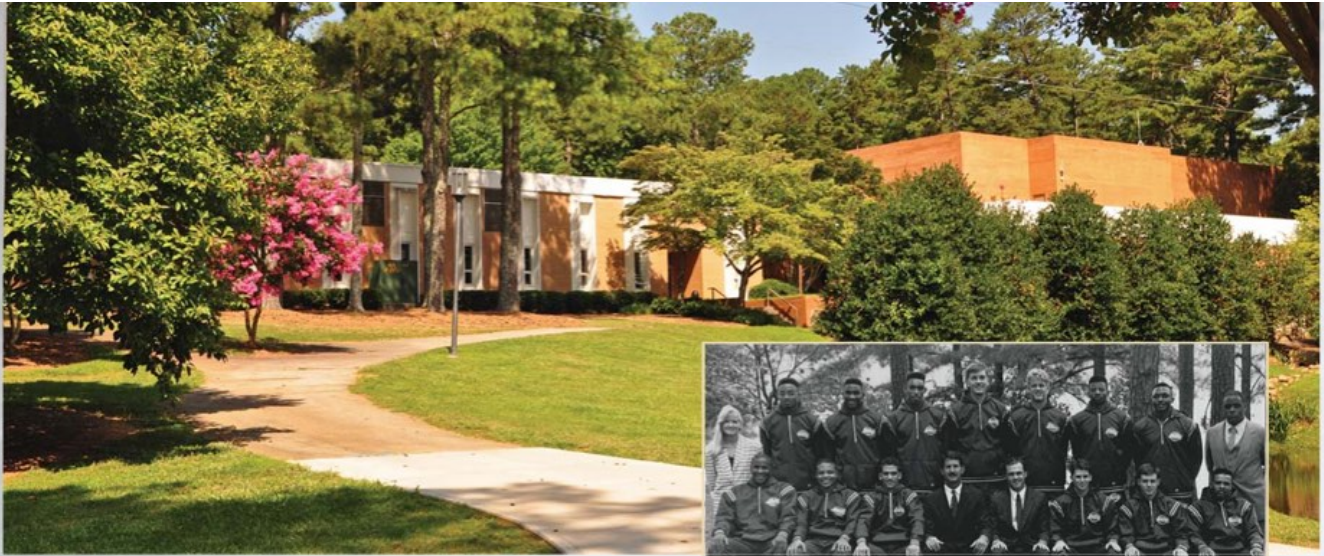
*most rewarding of my 36-year career in arts management. It was an immense joy to participate in the development of Spivey Hall and a personal pleasure to show the world that Clayton State University could be a land of opportunity. Thanks to the inspired leadership of Executive and Artistic Director Samuel Dixon, the Spivey Hall staff and volunteers, the Spivey Foundation Trustees chaired by Alex Crumbley, and enlightened Clayton State presidential leadership; Spivey Hall will continue to fulfill the promise envisioned by its founders to be their musical 'field of dreams.'"*

**SPIVEY'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

Dedicated to excellence, the Spivey Hall Children's Choir Program has provided exemplary choral music education to its singers since 1994. Comprised of both male and female students ages 10 through 18 and consisting of three choirs, the program draws students from 18 metro-Atlanta counties, offering them professional-level instruction in vocal pedagogy, music theory, sight singing, ear training, and presentation as well as exposure to a variety of choral styles. To learn more about the Spivey Hall Children's Choir or to read about other educational programs, visit <http://spiveyhall.org/>.



Performing as part of the Spivey Tour at East Lake in November 2005.



By Mason Barfield



Clayton State's first Men's Basketball team.

# Clayton State Athletics



Clayton State University began its journey of intercollegiate athletics in 1987 when a group of students banded together under the guidance of Dean of Students Bo Bolander and Student Life Director Rob Taylor to solicit the addition of intercollegiate sports to the campus.

Upon the endorsement of this idea by President Harry Downs, a committee of students, faculty, and staff met to determine the proper course of action. A final plan was presented to the student body, and after several months of discussion, a vote was solicited from the entire student body to determine whether they would support the idea of intercollegiate athletics, and pay a student fee to support the program. The vote produced a 78 percent approval for Clayton State to pursue the process of fielding an intercollegiate athletic program.

In September of 1989, I was hired

as director of athletics and head basketball coach. The challenges were enormous in that the program would have to be built with only three, four-year degree offerings, a facility built for a community college PE program that was being used for roller skating classes, and an enrollment smaller than any in the University System that Clayton State would compete against. In spite of these obstacles, Clayton State began the process of putting together an intercollegiate athletic program, which included identifying schools colors, team logo, and a nickname, all of which were decided by a student-driven contest, as well as developing the existing facility to accommodate practice, games, training, and other needs.

The master plan for the development of the program called for the gradual addition of sports over a five-year period, joining the NAIA, and beginning with men's basketball in 1990 and women's

basketball in 1991. The first staff additions included bringing Dottie Bumbalough to the athletic department from PE, Jeff Ozmont as assistant basketball coach, and Lynn Jarrett as women's basketball coach. Mike Mead was hired as the sports information director and John Zubal was brought on as the athletic trainer. The first student-athlete signed to an athletics scholarship was



Current Clayton State mascot, Loch.

BEGINNING THE TRADITION

"Lakers" was first suggested because of the natural beauty of the Clayton State campus. A list of 104 team name suggestions was made by students, faculty and staff. In the end a student contest determined the team name as well as the logo and school colors.



The announcement for the very first Lakers basketball season, 1990-1991.

Carlos Head of Morrow High School. Head went on to not only place himself at the top of many men's basketball statistical categories, but also graduated with his degree in 1995. In spite of experiencing the growing pains of starting new programs from scratch, both the men's and women's basketball programs won respective conference championships in their fourth year. Chris Nastopoulos guided the women's program to their championship in the 1994-95 season and from 1992 to 1995, Clayton State's

men's basketball program won more games than all but one four-year college in the State of Georgia. In 1992, men's soccer was added, with its first coach Adrian Brooks. He guided the inaugural team to an impressive 11-5-1 record.

In the fall of 1994, Rick Skinner was announced as the new president, and his first request to me was to present him with a plan to take the program to the NCAA Division II level. Within a week, he had a plan that called for the addition of women's soccer, women's tennis, men's golf, and men's and women's cross country to bring the number of sports to the mandatory eight required to qualify for NCAA membership. Coaches were hired, including Jimmy Hebron to take over the men's basketball program, Jolyn Smith for women's tennis, and Rob Pendergraft for men's golf. Mike Mitchell, the men's soccer coach, doubled as women's soccer coach, and Mike Mead took the reigns of the men's and women's cross country teams. The entire process of going from a three-sport



Circa 1990: Mason, Josh, Ryan, Jess and Elizabeth



1992: First Men's Soccer team

period as a dual NAIA and NCAA Division II member, earning championship qualifying status with the NCAA in 1998.

During the last 10 years, the Clayton State coaching staff has included Bob Hill, who guided the men's golf team to a seventh place finish in the 1999 NCAA National Tournament; Bill Holleman, who guided the women's soccer team to its first .500 season in 1997; Elizabeth Searl, who guided the women's tennis team to its first NCAA National Sweet 16 appearance in 2002; and A.C. McCullers, who guided the women's basketball program from 1999 to 2004.

Since the year 2000, Clayton State has experienced unprecedented success in the Peach Belt Conference, and at the NCAA national level. The current coaching staff, which includes Gordon Gibbons, men's basketball; Dennis Cox, women's basketball; Pete Pe-

THE SUN

10/12/89

## CSC Names Barfield As School's First AD

H. Mason Barfield, assistant men's basketball coach at Kennesaw College, has been named Director of Athletics and head basketball coach at Clayton State College, according to Dr. Harry S. Downs, president. Clayton State will enter into intercollegiate competition on the NAIA level during the 1990-91 basketball season.

Barfield, 33, graduated from Lowndes High in Valdosta in 1973 and played basketball and baseball at Alabama Christian Junior College in Montgomery. Barfield was team captain of Alabama Christian's conference champion team in 1973-74. After two years at ACC, he transferred to Valdosta State College. Barfield holds both a

Bachelor of Science and Masters Degree in health and physical education from Valdosta State. Barfield has been an assistant basketball coach at Kennesaw the last two years. He coached the boys varsity at Lassiter High in Cobb County from 1985-1988. In 1987-88, Lassiter posted a 23-7 record and reached the final eight in the state tournament.

NAIA program, to an eight-sport NCAA Division II program was accomplished in just eight months, with all teams taking the field (courts)

by the fall term of 1995. The program was admitted to the Peach Belt Conference, and Clayton State served its three year probationary pe-

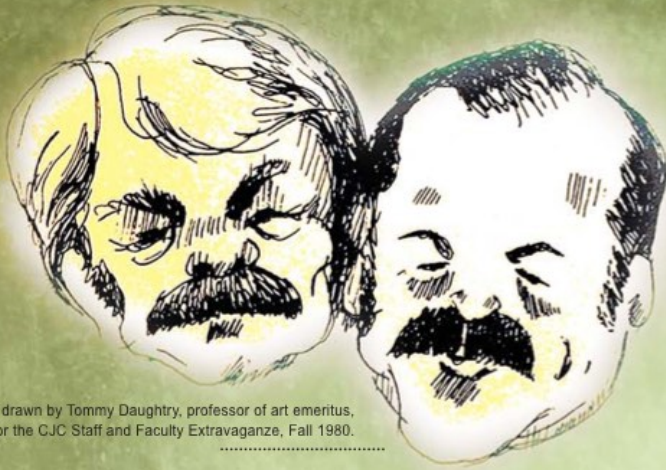
riod as a dual NAIA and NCAA Division II member, earning championship qualifying status with the NCAA in 1998. During the last 10 years, the Clayton State coaching staff has included Bob Hill, who guided the men's golf team to a seventh place finish in the 1999 NCAA National Tournament; Bill Holleman, who guided the women's soccer team to its first .500 season in 1997; Elizabeth Searl, who guided the women's tennis team to its first NCAA National Sweet 16 appearance in 2002; and A.C. McCullers, who guided the women's basketball program from 1999 to 2004. Since the year 2000, Clayton State has experienced unprecedented success in the Peach Belt Conference, and at the NCAA national level. The current coaching staff, which includes Gordon Gibbons, men's basketball; Dennis Cox, women's basketball; Pete Petersen, men's soccer; Totty Totty, women's soccer; Tamas Szabados, women's tennis; Barry Harwell, men's golf; and Mead, men's and women's cross country/track and field, have taken their respective teams to a high level of success, with 19 Peach Belt Conference regular season and tournament championships, 46 trips to NCAA national tournaments, nine Sweet 16 or better NCAA national appearances, and 39 NCAA All-Americans and Academic All-Americans. In addition, the program has finished as one of the top three programs in the Peach Belt Conference Commissioner's Cup four times in the last six years, and culminated its most successful year to date with a top 40 finish in the prestigious NACDA National Directors Cup in the 2007-08 year, putting Clayton State in the top 15 percent of all NCAA Division II institutions. More importantly, the student-athletes have represented the image and ideals of Clayton State University not only as athletes, but also as students and

good citizens as well.

*In addition to being Clayton State's first basketball coach, H. Mason Barfield is the University's first and only Director of Athletics.*



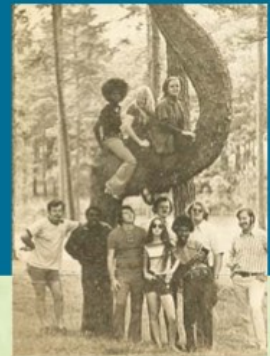
2006/2007 Women's Basketball made national headlines, including a first-time appearance on ESPN, as part of the NCAA Division II Final Four.



Bo and Rob as drawn by Tommy Daughtry, professor of art emeritus, for the CJC Staff and Faculty Extravaganze, Fall 1980.

BENT TREE: ICON AND LEGACY

Although known by most current students as the name of the student run newspaper, the Bent Tree - originally located in the footprint of the James M. Baker University Center (UC) - was a campus icon. Also called the Question Tree, it was said to symbolize questioning students seeking an education. A cast of the tree is located at Legacy Court near the Quad entrance of the UC.



# Student Life at CJC/CSC/CCSU

*By Rob Taylor & Robert C. "Bo" Bolander*



Lt. Governor Lester Maddox (top right) acts as Grand Marshall of the Second Annual Tricycle Race.

Bo arrived at Clayton Junior College for the fall quarter of 1970, the first Director of Student Activities, promoted to the Dean of Students position later that academic year. Bo hired Rob as Director of Financial Aid in August 1971 and Rob "dabbled" in Student Activities for two years before he was named Director of Student Activities in 1973. They both saw many changes over the next 30 years.

Student life in the early days was different from student life today. A highlight activity in the fall of 1972 was the second annual tricycle race with Lt. Governor Lester Maddox as the "Grand Marshall"

of the event. Looking through copies of "The Centurion" yearbook (yes, CJC had two yearbooks in the 70's) you notice that hair was longer and plaid seemed to be a major fashion statement.



Bo hails Rob "Krystal Kid" Taylor the winner of the "Gourmet-Glutton Cheeseburger Challenge" in 1972.

A number of fun and foolish activities took place. Like when the "Gourmet-Glutton Cheeseburger Challenge" pitted Rob against the SGA president in a contest to see who could eat 20 Krystal cheeseburgers the fastest (Rob won). Bo and Rob challenged the SGA leaders to a croquet tournament on the "Earth Pimple" a raised area of lawn in front of what is now



Snow Jam: Early 1990s

the entrance to the Library. For several years Rob hosted the annual "CJC Trivia Bowl" contest which featured ar-

cane questions and ridiculous prizes. The "Snow Jam" activities in the early 90's included snow sledding behind the Student Center two years running (or rather, sledding).

Student Government was large and active on campus in the 70's and 80's. Current Director of Libraries Gordon Baker was an SGA Representative in 1972-73. The average age of the SGA officers hovered around 30 and most of the SGA members were also active in other campus clubs and organizations.

The SGA sponsored Halloween parties for underprivileged children in the local area. Santa visited campus in December. James Sellers, an African-American, was the College's first SGA President. Former SGA President Cynthia Dollar became the first junior college SGA President to chair the University System's Student Advisory Council. Many SGA leaders have gone on to solid careers over the years. Dollar is now an attorney and James Jernigan, an SGA President in the late 1970's, is founder and president of the 1-800-TVCREWS video production company.

The Christmas Ball took place at locations like the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel located in mid-town Atlanta and the Crowne Plaza near the airport. Most years the Ball was held at an Atlanta hotel or conference center with one attracting 700 students, faculty and guests. Tuxedos abounded and most of the male students at least dressed up in a coat and tie in the early years, though later years saw more casual attire. Normally there were nine dances on campus each year in the 70's (they took place in the cafeteria, then located in the lower level of the Student Center Building). Each year up to 20 feature



A Christmas Ball from the early 1970s.

films were presented as part of the Friday Night Flicks series and thousands of children were entertained at the "kiddie" films over the years.

Intramural sports in 1972-73 featured teams like the Flatworms, Budboys, Cut Throats and the faculty team, Hombres. An All-Star team represented CJC at the Carling Beer Bowl in Atlanta in the fall of '72. You got to play flag football and drink all the beer you wanted after the game. Who could resist?

Lyceum was in its early days in 1972. Programming staples included student and faculty recitals, lectures by faculty and guest speakers and art exhibits. Lyceum programming grew much stronger later that decade and into the 80's and beyond. Lecturers included four Nobel Prize winners, Oscar and Emmy-award winning ac-

tors and major authors like Alex Haley of "Roots" fame. Georgia Governors, U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives frequently spoke in G-132, the cafeteria and B-15 in those days. The annual purchase award art competition began in the mid-70's... many of the paintings around campus were provided through these contests.

Presidents at other University System schools frequently asked, "Why can't we have this sort of quality program at our school?" This was a source of



Bo, flowers in hand, kisses a pig for a fundraiser.



The face of a man very prepared to be dunked. Rob at the 1996 Southern Crescent Celebration.



Rob and Bo at the groundbreaking for the University Learning Center, now named the James M. Baker University Center

Rob and Bo shared their memories of campus life during the early years of Clayton State. As we turn 40, Clayton State wants to hear your memories. Whether you experienced Clayton State as a student, faculty or staff member, or as a supporting member of the community, please share your favorite moments from your time at Clayton State. Email your memories to the Office of University Relations at [PR@clayton.edu](mailto:PR@clayton.edu). Submissions will be posted on Clayton State's 40th Anniversary celebration website. Visit [www.clayton.edu](http://www.clayton.edu) and click on the link to our 40th Anniversary page to begin your stroll down memory lane.

faculty advisor of "The Bent Tree" while Rob served as faculty advisor for 14 years (and even Bo was the advisor one year). Editors and staff members of "The Bent Tree" have gone on to write for the "AJC" and other papers and into broadcast journalism. Art Rogers, WSB-TV director of programming, was editor of "The Bent Tree" in 1978 and the 1977 editor, Cindy Glozier, went on to become a senior producer at Court TV. Former staffers now work at WAGA-TV and other broadcast outlets.

Some fads that were memorable were bomb scares (we had three in the 70's and Rob had to clear the lockers in the Student Center every time) and streaking by a few students. The most memorable streaking incident was the husband of an SGA officer who streaked on a motorcycle. Another time, a student removed a metal pole between two doors in the lower level of the Student Center and drove a VW

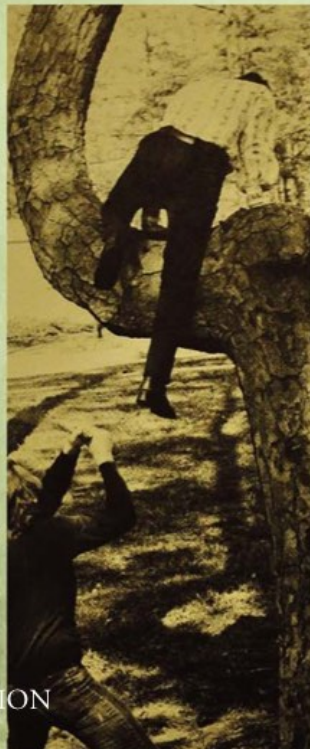
Beetle into the hallway. All part of a day (albeit a very long day) in student life.

*Rob Taylor - Rob Taylor is Emeritus Director of Campus Life, and one of the more memorable people in the University's first 40 years.*

*Robert "Bo" Bolander - Dean Emeritus of Students and Assistant Professor Emeritus of History Robert "Bo" Bolander passed away on July 5, 2009, leaving behind many people, both on and off the Clayton State campus, who fondly remember him.*

pride for members of the Lyceum Committee.

When CJC opened in the fall of 1969 the first newsletter, "CJC Announces," appeared the first week of class. The next issue was called "The Spirit of CJC." By December it was "The Bent Tree." Recently-retired faculty member Dr. Tom Barnett was an early





# Student Life: The Later Years

By Jeff Jacobs



From the mid-1990s through the millennium and beyond, the campus saw a significant transformation of Student Life. Student Activities, officially renamed the Office of Student Life in 1995, continued to grow and evolve while accomplishing its key mission of providing an array of social and learning opportunities for students.

Dean Bo Bolander led the charge for a revitalized orientation program by establishing the "Dean's Team," a select group of student leaders who were charged with assisting new students during their "Day 2" orientation visit.

Shortly thereafter, Clayton State was offering a full-day, comprehensive introductory program for new students which included a concurrent program for parents and guests.

To compliment the range of social activities, Lyceum, a series of cultural enrichment programs, continued to offer the campus community the best in arts, music, and theater entertainment through Artist-in-Residence programs, Department of Music Opera productions, and an expansive showcase of music artists featured in Spivey Hall.

Additionally, Greek Life was established in 1998, with the chartering of several national fraternities and sororities. Within 10 years, a total of six organizations were governed by a Greek Council and had a major presence on campus.

In 2000, the first fall Homecoming took place. One of the highlights of this change was the new setting for the

Laker Homecoming King and Queen Coronation Ceremony – occurring at halftime on the soccer field. And, to this day, people still talk about the surprise first place appearance of "The Village People" during the revived faculty/staff Fall Frolics talent show.

Along with the inaugural fall Homecoming event came the University's first homecoming parade which showcased floats and banners by student organizations, the Homecoming King/Queen Court, and other marching units from

the faculty, staff and community participants.

As the University evolved and enrollment grew, so too did student extra-curricular activities. SGA would no longer devote its focus to planning the University's major student events. Rather, student government's role shifted to addressing issues and concerns of the student body. Along with this change came the establishment of the Uni-

versity's student programming board, SLAC, the Student Life Activities Committee. This student organization became the premiere programming organization on campus, and students were empowered more than ever to bring to campus a new generation of student activities including "coffee-house-style" music events and major concerts, comedy shows, dance parties and outdoor movies. Old favorites continued such as the family night dinner and movie, casino night, and the traditional Spring Fling.

By 2005, Student Life featured nearly 70 student organizations, offered an annual weekend leadership conference retreat for emerging student leaders, and promoted community service experiences through Volunteer Services. The student intramural program was reestablished along with a recreation component and featured such competitions as flag football, basketball, softball, and table tennis, as well as new sporting activities such as paintball, white-water rafting, skiing, and rock climbing. At the start of each

semester, students flocked to the Involvement Fair and Marketplace event where they could discover all that was offered and connect with a host of campus organizations and local vendors.

At our 40th-year mark, Student Life (now known as Campus Life) continues to engage students across the campus. Welcome Week, Alternative Spring Break, and The Wrecking Crew are just a few of the countless activities and events in which students participate. Furthermore, students can check out live streaming and on-location remotes through the Clayton State Internet Radio station, which is headed into its second year of operation. And with the opening of Laker Hall and approximately 450 students living on campus – along with a state-of-the-art Student Activities Center – the future of student/campus life looks even more promising.

*Jeff Jacobs is Clayton State University's Associate Dean of Students and the University's former Director of Student Life.*



Homecoming 2008



Volunteering at Alternative Spring Break 2009 in New York



Hanging out at the SAC



Greek life



The footbridge in 1974, the year Benita earned her associate degree from Clayton Junior College.



The footbridge in 2009, the year Benita retired from Clayton State University.

# Same but Different...

*By Dr. Benita H. Moore*



How have you been able to go to school and then work at the same place for so many years? Aren't you bored? This statement and question was often made to

me while working at Clayton State. My response was "you are right . . . I work at the same place, but the place is not the same—it is a different work place than when I began." Let me explain.

When I began as a student in 1972 at Clayton Junior College, there were fewer than 1,000 students and only two-year programs. The student body was closer to 20 years of age and much less diverse than in 2009. However, CJC prepared me academically for four more formal degrees and a successful career. Academic standards were important then and are still important now.

In 1982, when I joined the faculty, CJC had just been approved to house the "vocational/technical" school for Clayton and Henry counties and to offer "vocational" programs. I was part of the "staffing up" hired to prepare students for jobs in electronics, drafting, business/office, computer programming,

avionics, aviation maintenance, telecommunications, marketing/merchandising, and management and supervision careers. At the peak of "vocational" enrollment, there were more than 1,400 students.

CJC was approved to offer baccalaureate programs, and CJC became Clayton State College in 1986. Approved to offer BBA and BSN degrees, Clayton's mission began to change with more focus on bachelor programs. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, CSC was approved to offer a few more bachelor programs—but still limited choices existed in baccalaureate programs.

In 1990 intercollegiate athletics came to CSC. This changed the look of Clayton students—having students on campus for more than just classes and students coming from different areas of the state and country as well as outside the USA. Athletics brought students to CSC for academic and athletic reasons.

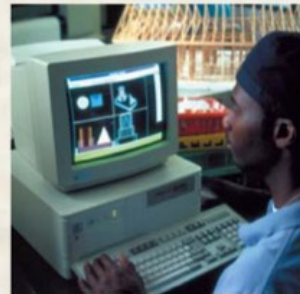
In 1994, a new president, Dr. Richard Skinner, replaced founding president Dr. Harry S. Downs. Dr. Skinner, known as a change agent and innovator, moved CSC forward in technology. CSC went from a main frame computer system to a laptop university in a few years.

The Information Technology Project made Clayton State the third public university in the United States to require students to have laptops. This involved more than just equipping students with laptops; it involved re-educating faculty members to teach in a way that was not familiar to them.

Faculty members learned

to use technology in the classroom and in assignments, much different than lecturing!

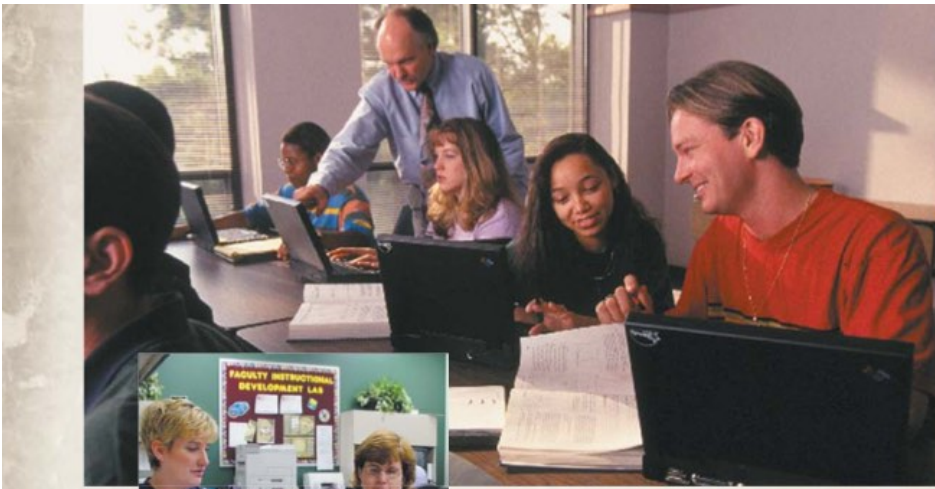
The Board of Regents bestowed a new name in 1996—Clayton College & State University. In 1998, the University System of Georgia converted from the quarter system to semesters. This conversion involved more than "pressing a



Computer Programming



Aviation Maintenance



ITP not only equipped students with laptops; it involved re-educating faculty members to use technology in the classroom and in assignments - a departure from the old way of lecturing.

button," it involved reviewing and revising curriculum and developing policies to be sure currently enrolled students would not be penalized because of the change. Many hours were spent not only converting the curriculum but also advising individual students. Clayton State was fair to the students and erred on the side of the student.

Dr. Thomas Harden was appointed Clayton's third president in 2000, and Dr. Sharon Hoffman became the Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs in 2002. It was during Dr. Harden's and Dr. Hoffman's years that program offerings increased to more than 30 baccalaureate degrees.

In 2005, the name changed again—to Clayton State University. In 2006, the University began offering graduate programs and now has seven master's degrees. The number of bachelor's and master's programs represents a change in Clayton State's focus from

vocational/technical programs in the 1980s and 1990s, to bachelor and master's programs in the early years of the 21st century.

Clayton State offers classes more than just on the Morrow campus... it now offers classes in Fayette County and many classes are offered online. However, when you come to the Morrow campus, the beauty of the campus still exists.

During my 27 years as a faculty member, I reported to more than 15 different bosses—ranging from controlling and calculating to genius and unpredictable. I must say, it was a pleasure working for most of them, and I was afforded many opportunities and am thankful for a wonderful career. You don't have the luxury to choose your family nor do you get to choose your bosses. You



Benita's early years on the faculty.



can learn and grow from the experience you have with each person you work with. I feel blessed to have had 27 wonderful years at Clayton State – I learned so much and matured in so many ways.

CAMPUS BEAUTY - OUR SWANS

While the campus has evolved in its 40 year history, Clayton State's beauty has remained unchanged. A history of the University would not be complete without a nod to the mute swans have inhabited the University's main, 12-acre lake - Swan Lake - for the past 14 years. The current pair are Rhett II and Belle. To learn the entire history of the swans, visit our website: <http://about.clayton.edu> and click on "University" and "legends/mythology."



So I ask you – did I work at Clayton State doing the same thing for so many? I can honestly say "no," and I was not bored. Clayton State is a changing university, and it was a great place to begin my college career and to work for 27 years.

*Dr. Benita Harris Moore is a Clayton State graduate (class of 1974), former long-time (27 years) Clayton State faculty member, a two-time interim Dean of the School of Technology, and a former director of the Alumni Association.*



Clayton State University - Fayette

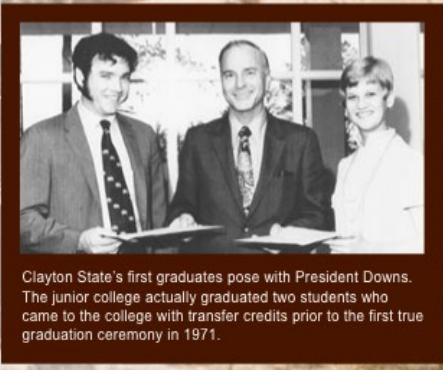


The Moore family at Benita's retirement celebration in 2009.

# Class Notes



First faculty processional at Clayton Junior College in 1971. Leading the processional is President Dr. Harry S. Downs.



Clayton State's first graduates pose with President Downs. The junior college actually graduated two students who came to the college with transfer credits prior to the first true graduation ceremony in 1971.

Alumni group at the 2003 Fall Frolics



Spring 2009: First MBA Cohort graduates



Alumnus Art Rogers



Clayton Junior College's first graduating class, 1971



Alumni director Gid Rowell (far left) and alumni gather around their float for Homecoming 2006.



Alumni Dinner 2004: Long-time faculty member Dr. Gene Hatfield and alumnus Jim Baker, for whom the James M. Baker University Center was named.



Early nursing graduates.



Interim President Dr. Tim Hynes and alumna Shawn Nelson at an alumni Braves game event, 2009.



Alumna Gina Papa with President Skinner in 1999.

Dr. Tom Barnett leads the student processional for his final time during the spring 2009 commencement.



**SUPPORTING CLAYTON STATE**

The Alumni Association is accepting orders for commemorative bricks for display in the Legacy Courtyard at the Bent Tree. Clayton State graduates, students, faculty, staff and community members have the opportunity to celebrate Clayton State's 40th Anniversary by purchasing a brick. A gift of \$50 or more means that a brick presenting the name of an honoree will guide the way for tomorrow's students, as they walk the path that today's students leave behind. To place an order, contact Gid Rowell, Clayton State's Director of Alumni Relations at (678) 466-4477.

# Class Notes

## 1973

GORDON BAKER  
(A.A. Education '73)

Baker, of McDonough, was recently voted president-elect of the Henry County Retired Educators. Baker, who currently serves as Director of Libraries for Clayton State, worked 29 years in the public school systems of Clayton and Henry Counties.



## 1975

CLAUDIA (TARVER) MELEAR  
(A.A. Biology '75)

Melear, of Riviera Beach, FL, recently retired from the University of Tennessee, where she was an Associate Professor of Science Education. She received the College of Education's Outstanding Faculty Award in 2008.



## 1978

DR. WENDELL A. TURNER  
(A.A. '78)

Turner, of Gainesville, was named the Clayton State Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus of 2009 for the College of Arts & Sciences. He has practiced medicine in Gainesville since 1986 and founded Gainesville Gynecology. He is a Diplomate with the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In collaboration with Dr. William Greene, he developed a method to reverse the Essure per-



manent sterilization procedure, enabling an option for women that might change their minds about pregnancy. Their innovative treatment documented the first pregnancy in the United States occurring after Essure reversal.

## 1984

H. TIM CRAWFORD  
(A.A. Business '84)

Crawford, of Douglasville, was named the Clayton State Alumni Association Overall Distinguished Alumnus of 2009. For the past six years, Crawford, who is also a member of the Clayton State Foundation, has been the President and Co-Owner of Heritage Cadillac Saab in Morrow. The dealership was the 2007 Clayton County Business of the Year. He and his wife, Sabrina, have four children and two of their daughters are enrolled at Clayton State.



## 1985

LANELLE U. LARUE  
(A.A. Business Administration '85)

LaRue, of Lake City, was named the Clayton State Alumni Association Secretary to serve from 2009 through 2011. A charter member of the Board of Directors in 1991, LaRue served as President from 1997-1999. She has also served as Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary over the years. She recently retired from the Atlanta Airport Marriott after 31 years of service. During her tenure with Marriott, she received many awards, including the Bill Tiefel award, one of the most coveted corporate awards. LaRue and her late husband, Herbert, were



SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US!

Are you an alum? Share your personal and professional news with friends and classmates in the Class Notes section of our next magazine! Submit your information about special milestones in your life, including births, marriages, careers, family events, etc. to Director of Alumni Relations Gid Rowell at [gidrowell@clayton.edu](mailto:gidrowell@clayton.edu).

married for 46 years and had three children.

## 1990

JAMES (JAMEY) E. HICKS  
(A.A. Business Management '90)

Hicks, of Douglasville, was named the President of the Clayton State Alumni Association for the 2009/2011 term. He is currently the manager of Randstad, an employment services provider in Morrow. Hicks was a Business Management major at Clayton State and also served in the Marine Corps. He and his wife, Melissa, have two children. He is an accomplished scuba diver and enjoys teaching lessons in his spare time.



## 1991

CHRISTI (MUSE) ZUNIGA  
(A.A. Music Performance '91)

Zuniga, of Omaha, NE, returned to Clayton State earlier this spring to perform a piano recital of Schubert classics during "An Evening of Schubert" at Spivey Hall. She is the principal keyboardist for the Omaha Symphony Orchestra. Before moving to Omaha, Zuniga was the staff accompanist and classical piano instructor at Clayton State. She later received a Master of Music



# Class Notes

degree in Chamber Music and Accompanying from the world-renowned Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

## 1994

**ROBIN STANTON**  
(A.S. Nursing '94)



Stanton, of Locust Grove, was named the Clayton State Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna of 2009 for the School of Nursing. Stanton is the CEO of Sacred Journey Hospice in McDonough. The facility is owned and operated by an all-nurse executive team and provides home care and assisted living services as well as operating a 12-bed inpatient facility.

## 1995

**DR. KELLI NIPPER**  
(B.A. Middle Grades Education '95)



Nipper, of Social Circle, was a finalist for the prestigious 2009 Clayton State University Alice Smith Faculty award, honoring the top faculty on the Clayton State campus each year. Nipper is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Clayton State. She received her master's and Ph.D. from the University of Georgia.

## 1997

**DINA M. SWEARNGIN**  
(B.S.N. '97)



Swearngin, of Tyrone, was recently named Vice-President of the Clayton State Alumni Association. She served as the Board's President from 2005 to 2007 and also as the



Clayton State's first Alumni Board of Directors.

Board's Vice President and Secretary. Along with homeschooling her two daughters, she currently works part-time at DeKalb Medical Center in Decatur. She will complete her Master of Science in Nursing from Clayton State later this year.

## 1998

**LETARCIA DEAN**  
(B.B.A. Marketing '98)

After graduation, Dean continued her education, receiving a master's in Information Technology from the University of Phoenix. She currently works for Wells Fargo as an IT Project Manager. She is also a real estate agent for Metrobrokers/GMAC Real Estate out of the Morrow office.

**STARR S. HELMS**  
(B.B.A. Accounting '98)



Helms, of Tyrone, was named Chairperson of the Clayton State University Foundation in July of 2009, becoming the first woman to hold that position on the University's Board of Trustees. Helms is an accountant at Hartley, Helms & Wilkerson, Inc. in Forest Park.

## 2000

**CORY E. BALDWIN**  
(B.S. Health Care Management '00)

Baldwin was recently named the head basketball coach at Waycross College, the school's first men's basketball coach. Prior to his current position, Baldwin was the head coach

at Truett-McConnell College, compiling a 53-39 record in three years, the third best record in team's conference during his tenure. At Clayton State, Baldwin was an assistant coach for six years after playing for



the Lakers in the late 1990s. He also served as an instructor at Clayton State, teaching Critical Thinking courses.

**JUSTIN MCAUSLAND**  
(B.B.A. Management '00)

McAusland, of Smyrna, was named the Vice President of Production for the The Hoots Group, an Atlanta based builder and renovator, that designs and builds eco-friendly, cost efficient homes. Before joining The Hoots Group, McAusland was a Senior Operations Projects Manager for Housing Trends, an upscale custom homebuilder in Georgia and the Caribbean. After receiving his Clayton State B.B.A., he received an MBA from Georgia State University.

**ADAM SHORT**  
(A.A. Business Administration '00)



Short, of Vineland, Ontario, Canada, and a veteran of the Canadian Tour, has qualified for several Nationwide Golf Tournaments this year. His best finish has been a 22nd place at the Nationwide Tour Players Cup in June. He is a former All-

# Class Notes

American golfer at Clayton State and helped the Lakers to a 7th place national finish in 1999.

**HAHNAH WILLIAMS**  
(B.S. Nursing '00)

Williams, of Covington, was part of a two-person team that won the 2008-09 Southern Region Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition (FDMCC). She is pursuing a Juris Doctorate degree at Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law.



## 2001

**ERIC LOGAN**

(A.A.S. Computer Networking Technology '01)  
Logan is currently the Sr. Application Support Analyst for the Research & Health Science IT Division at Emory University. He graduated from Shorter College in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in Management. He currently resides in Thomaston with his wife and daughter.

**BRIAN MAGILL**

(B.I.T. General Information Technology '01)  
Magill is currently an Advanced Firefighter for the Savannah Fire Department. He also owns a documentary filmmaking and photography company and travels around the world during his vacations to raise awareness about social issues and the persecution of Christians, utilizing technology and filmmaking to communicate the gospel to unreached groups. Magill was Clayton State's SGA President in 2000/2001 and served as the first Loch mascot following its revival in 2000.

## 2002

**ASHTON C. ADAMS**  
(B.B.A. Marketing '02)

Adams is a Vice President of Mid-

south Steel, Inc, located in Atlanta. He and his wife, Cady, also reside in Atlanta.

**JACKY (NIETO) CLEMENTS**  
(B.B.A. Management '02)

Clements was married in 2006 to Jay Clements, who also attended Clayton State and worked at the HUB. The couple just bought their first house in Roswell. A former All-American tennis player, Clements is the evening manager at United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta, where she has worked for the last four years. Jay Clements works at The Galloway School, a private school located in Buckhead, as part of their IT staff.



**LISA D. CONLEY**

(B.S. Integrative Studies '02)

Conley, of Mableton, is completing a Master of Education in Human Resource and Organizational Development at the University of Georgia with plans to graduate in August 2009.

**MELISSA (BURRELL) CROWNOVER**  
(B.B.A. General Business '02)

Crownover recently relocated to northern Virginia and is now working for a government consulting company, ICF International, as a Senior Associate for the Technology Management Solutions Energy Team. She and her husband, Charles, a 2002 Clayton State grad who earned a B.A.S. degree, are expecting a baby girl in early December.

**JAY R. RICHARDSON**

(B.I.T. Information Technology '02)

Richardson, of Jonesboro, recently graduated Cum Laude from The International Culinary School at the Art Institute of Atlanta. He is a Certified Culinarian, and Certified Pastry Culi-

narian. He works as a Chef Manager with Eurest Dining Service, running the kitchen at Caterpillar Inc., in Griffin. He also operates his own personal chef business, J. Rodney Dining.

## 2003

**ADRI L. BEKKER**

(B.B.A. Management '03)

Bekker, of Amherst, MA, is the Office Manager of Innovara, Inc., located in Hadley, MA.

**JEREMY BROOKS**

(B.I.T. Software Development '03)

Brooks, of Conyers, was named the Clayton State Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus of 2009 for the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences. Brooks is a product development manager for 3d MD, where he is developing augmented reality applications that can



### REMEMBERING THE EARLY YEARS

**Claudia (Tarver) Melear**  
(A.A. Biology '75)

"I loved CJC (Clayton Junior College), and it had a powerful impact on me. It provided me a great place to start my educational journey. I loved my professors and can still name all my science instructors, including Helen Brown, O.C. Lam, Brooke Pridmore and Miriam Perry. Rebecca Halyard was my advisor. In fact, I am still in touch with Dr. Brown... Clayton provided me with the support I needed as a non-traditional student (I was 29 years old when I began in 1972). There were many great teachers who cared about me."

Thomas George  
B.B.A. '90 (Alumni  
Association President  
2001-03)



"Clayton State means the world to me, so I don't even know where to begin. I am

where I am today because my teachers at Clayton State opened their doors, their arms, and their hearts to me. No matter where I go, I will always take a part of Clayton State and the spirit of my teachers with me."

be used in surgical settings. His work led to him receiving the Joseph E. Johnson Clinical Award at the 2007 AAO Annual Session. He is also working on his Master of Science in Computer Science at Georgia State University.

MARCO CAPAZARIO  
(B.B.A. Marketing '03)

Capazario, of Johannesburg, South Africa, is the Business Development Manager for AdvanceNet. Capazario starred on the men's soccer team from 1998 to 2001, holds several school records, and is a former Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year.

GORDON CLARK HALL  
(B.I.T. General Information Technology '03)

Hall, of Conyers, received an MBA from Georgia State in 2007, married Julie Dale Helton in 2008, and received Juris Doctorate from Atlanta's John Marshall Law School in 2009. He plans to practice in Conyers.

SHELIA RAMBECK  
(B.A.S. Technology Management '03)

Rambeck, of Peachtree City, was named the Clayton State Alumni As-

sociation Distinguished Alumnus of 2009 for the College of Professional Studies. Rambeck is an attorney licensed in the State of Georgia. After graduating magna cum laude from Clayton State, she graduated from Georgia State University College of Law in 2006.



DAPHNE (ROBINSON) SHAW  
(B.B.A. Management '03)

Shaw is currently a paralegal for Balch & Bingham, LLP. She will complete her B.A.S. in Administrative Management in August of 2009 from Clayton State and has been accepted to Florida A&M University's College of Law. She and her husband, Reginald, live in Atlanta.

## 2004

ALICIA MICHELE (WALKER) KELLEY  
(B.S. Psychology & Human Services, '04)

Kelley was named the 09-10 Teacher of the Year for Ash Street Elementary School. Kelley holds a master's degree in Interrelated Special Education and has taught in the Clayton County Public School System since 2004.

ZULYNETTE (OLIVO) MARULANDA  
(B.S. Health Care Management '04)

Marulanda, a standout soccer player at Clayton State, lives in Atlanta, and is an Assistant Account Manager of Johnson & Bryan, Inc.

## 2005

SANDRA HILL  
(B.A. Communication & Media Studies '05)

Hill, of Riverdale, works at IBM as a Security Analyst. She has a 12 year-old daughter who is a 7th grader at Rex Mill Middle School and part of the Magnet program. Hill hopes to start a master's program this fall.

AMANDA K. ORI  
(B.B.A. Accounting '05)

Ori and her husband had their first child, Leo, in July of 2008, and says she, "still loves accounting work and being a mom!" A resident of Fayetteville, she has been employed as a staff accountant with Hargrave, Freeman & Leto, P.C. since graduation.

LAUREN SINGLETON  
(B.S. Integrative Studies '05)

Singleton, of Sharpsburg, received a Clayton County Golden Service Award earlier this year for her outstanding customer service at the Morrow Tourist Center. She works at the Center as a Tourist Information associate and event coordinator.



STACEY RIVERS  
(B.A.S. Technology Management '05)

Rivers, of McDonough, was recently named the Clayton State Alumni Association's Treasurer to serve from 2009 to 2011. She is employed by Turner Broadcasting and was recently promoted to the position of Director of Broadcast Production for Turner Studios. She was named the Association's Alumnus of the Year from the College of Professional Studies in 2007.



## 2006

MIRRA D. CLEVELAND  
(B.S. Health Care Management '06)

Following graduation, Cleveland pursued a master's degree in Early Childhood Education, which she earned in May 2009. Cleveland, of McDonough, is currently a candidate for a Doctorate in Higher Educational Leadership and Policy (Ed.D).