

Campus Review

Vol. 41 No. X

Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

May 11, 2009

Clayton State Commencement Honors Starr, Lee

by John Shiffert, University Relations

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, bachelors and associates 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.

The dual spring commencement ceremonies also marked the final official act of Harden's nine-year tenure as the University's president, as he will leave to become chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Green Bay next month. Although he declined making a farewell address, stating that commencement was about the graduates and not the president, Harden's standard introduction as he presided over his final Clayton State commencement was unintentionally fraught with symbolism in regards to his legacy at

the University he has led since July 1, 2000.

"Over the years, Clayton State has evolved into a comprehensive metropolitan university, adapting and developing academic programs to meet the ever-changing and expanding needs of its students and the world around it," he said. "In addition to associate degrees and bachelor degree programs, Clayton State offers graduate programs..."

"Clayton State is recognized for its outstanding educational programs and for the contributions of its faculty and alumni. Clayton State currently enrolls more than 6,000 students."

Commencement, cont'd., p. 8

Inside

Departments:

Across the Campus	4
Trivia Time	18
Sports	19

In This Issue:

Farewell to the Hardens	2
Alumni Annual Dinner	2
Swine Flu Precautions	3
Orientation Leaders Win At SROW	5
Study Abroad in South Africa	7
Burton Governor's Teaching Fellow	8
Walley-Jean Selected For Fulbright-Hays Seminar	8
New Student Programs	10
First MBA Cohort	13
Graduation Photos	16

Antoinette Miller and Celeste Wade Named 2009 Smith Award Winners

by Erin Fender and John Shiffert, University Relations

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

Miller and Wade received their awards at the Apr. 28 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. A 1990 graduate of Columbus High School in Marshfield, Wi., Miller earned a B.S. in Biology from Duke University, and her M.S. and doctoral degrees in Psychology from Northwestern University. Miller is married with two daughters. She enjoys making beaded jewelry and being a part of the unofficial book club at Clayton State with other faculty and staff.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive this award, and I was honestly flummoxed when my name was announced," said Miller shortly after receiving her award. "There were so many excellent candidates! I drew a total blank when Dr.

Smith Awards, cont'd., p. 17

Clayton State Bids Farewell to the Hardens

by John Shiffert, University Relations



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 on Apr. 30.

After nine years as Clayton State's president, Harden will be leaving the University at the end of the month to become the chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Green Bay. Although there were several humorous references (and gifts) to Green Bay and the frozen north during the two-hour long event, the depth of sentiment the University has for the Hardens was made clear by the number of speakers on the program. No less than 10 individuals, representing departments and organizations ranging from the Board of Regents of the University System of

Georgia to the Clayton State Student Government Association, made presentations about and to the Hardens. Included in the tributes were those from three Clayton State organizations that were founded during the Harden Administration – Staff Council, the Clayton State Retirees Association and the Clayton State Women's Forum.

Among the comments shared with the 200+ individuals in attendance was one by Dr. Susan Herbst, chief academic officer and executive vice chancellor of the University System of Georgia, to whom Harden has reported in his role as Clayton State's president.

Farewell, cont'd., p. 6

Crawford Named Outstanding Alumnus

Alumni Association Holds 17th Annual Awards Dinner

by Gid Rowell, Alumni Relations

The Clayton State Alumni Association "Welcomed Home" 130 alumni and friends for its 17th Annual Alumni Dinner on Saturday, Apr. 18 in the University's Student Activities Center Ballroom.

The highlight of the event was the naming of the Outstanding and Distinguished Alumni Award winners, where an alumnus is honored from all five of the University's respective Colleges and Schools, including an Overall Alumnus of the Year. This year's Overall Alumnus of the Year was Hugh "Tim" Crawford, a 1984 graduate with a degree in Business Administration.

Along with Crawford, other honorees were: Dr. Wendell A. Turner, Distinguished College of Arts & Sciences Alumnus; Sheila L. Rambeck, Distinguished College of Professional Studies Alumnus; Robin M. Stanton, Distinguished School of Nursing Alumnus; and Jeremy C. Brooks, Distinguished College of Information & Mathematical Sciences Alumnus.



In addition, the Alumni Association made special presentations to both Dr. Thomas K. Harden and College of Professional Studies Associate Dean Dr. Benita H. Moore.

Harden, who will be leaving Clayton State to become the chancellor at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay, was honored for his support. In recognition of his establishment and participation in the

Association's Annual Pancake Breakfast during Homecoming, the organization presented him with the "Perfect Pancake Award." In each of the last nine years, Harden and School of Business professor Dr. Michael H. Deis have flipped pancakes at the breakfast for guests, conducting a contest to determine who can make the perfect pancake.

Alumni Dinner, cont'd., p. 9

Clayton State Observes Swine Flu Precautions

Like officials at colleges, universities, and health centers and millions of others in all 50 states, Clayton State leaders are keeping a watchful eye on the latest news from the Centers for Disease Control regarding the H1N1 or Swine Flu. The news media and others are staying on top of the latest developments concerning the H1N1 influenza virus infection in Mexico, and the US. Clayton State has a plan in place that reflects American College Health Association guidelines should an emergency arise.

With a few confirmed cases of the H1N1 Virus in the metro Atlanta area, it's now even more important to recognize the symptoms of the flu and to take precautions to prevent the spread of the virus.

The symptoms of the H1N1 virus in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human seasonal influenza and include:

- Fever
- Lack of appetite
- Lethargy
- Coughing.

Some people with the H1N1 virus also have also reported:

- Runny nose
- Vomiting
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Nausea

Remember these everyday actions to stay healthy.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it and wash your hands.
- If you don't have a tissue available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.

• Wash your hands often with soap and water. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth at any time. Germs spread that way.

Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

• Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.

• If you get sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

For more information, please refer to the CDC website: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key_facts.htm.

Zeller Helps Tell “What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body”



Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, director of Opera and Vocal Studies in the Department of Music at Clayton State University, is one of three co-authors to a new

book that illustrates how a singer uses more than the larynx.

“What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body” (ISBN10: 1-59756-324-2, ISBN13: 978-1-59756-324-6) is an illustrated, 232-page softcover practical resource recently published by San Diego-based Plural Publishing (<http://www.pluralpublishing.com/>), and authored by Dr. Melissa Malde, MaryJean Allen and Zeller.

“What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body” gives singers and their teachers a resource – from anatomy and physiology to body awareness – that helps them discover and correct misconceptions

about the way their bodies are built and the way they function. The illustrated part of the book provides maps with detailed descriptions of the structures and movement used in breathing, phonation, resonance, articulation and gesture. And, the illustrations are supported by many exploratory exercises.

“MaryJean, Melissa, and I, have each written about one-third of the book, and Barbara Conable and T. Richard Nichols, a professor at Georgia Tech, each wrote a much smaller, but absolutely significant, contribution to the book that is appended to the main part of the book,” explains Zeller. “Barbara wrote an introduction and an appendix that is one of the most important article-length treatments of performance anxiety that I’ve ever encountered, and Dr. Nichols, who is a neuroscientist, contributed an article on the scientific basis for our principles of Body Mapping, which is another appendix.”

“What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body” is the first book to

describe the movements of singing with accuracy and detail so that singers may experiment on their own and communicate with each other more effectively. The Plural Publishing website also notes that, “understanding and mapping the structures and movements used in singing provides the technical foundation for all singers. The purpose of this book is to provide singers with that foundation. This book does not espouse a single method or attempt to teach singing techniques.”

Zeller is a certified Andover Educator and performs frequently as a singer of theatrical, concert and early music. He is also active throughout the country as a vocal adjudicator and clinician. His most recent work at Clayton State was directing the 2009 Clayton State Opera performance of “Noye’s Fludde.”

Zeller holds undergraduate degrees in Music and Theatre from the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist

Zeller, cont’d., p. 7

Across the campus...

Athletics

Running at the Division II South Regional meet at Morehouse, the Clayton State 4x400 women's relay team put itself in position at a shot for a trip to the NCAA Division II outdoor championships later this month. The quartet of seniors Kara Stokes and Jon Taylor, sophomore Keisha Etienne and freshman Masiah Hutchinson ran a time of 3:50.29, bettering the NCAA Division II provisional time in the event.

Career Services

Director of Career Services Dr. Angelyn Hayes is going to be a guest on the radio station 92.5 The Bear on Tuesday, May 12, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

English

Associate Professor of English Dr. LaJuan Simpson has been invited to speak at the Fayette County Library on Tuesday, May 19. The Library is preparing to begin several months' worth of activities in conjunction with its second annual "Fayette on the Page," a countywide "One Book, One Community" initiative, being held in partnership with Clayton State -- Fayette. The book the Library wants to get everybody in Fayette County reading and talking about this year is "A Lesson Before Dying," by Ernest J. Gaines. Simpson is a recognized expert on Gaines' work, and thus the first choice for speaker at the Fayette County Library's (1821 Heritage Park Way, Fayetteville) "Fayette on the Page" kickoff event on the evening of Tuesday, May 19. Simpson's presentation will start at 6 p.m. May 19 is also the first screening in the Library's Ernest Gaines Film Festival. Showing that evening will be "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman." In June, the festival will show "The Sky is Gray," in July, "A Gathering of Old Men," and "A Lesson Before Dying" in August.

Graduate Studies

Clayton State University graduate student Anna King recently had her poem titled "Massacre of Light" selected to be published in the literary journal *So to Speak*. "This piece is really about things that don't go the way we planned," King says. "In many ways, the structure of the poem reflects this -- this is a work of prose poetry, which by some standards is a contra-

diction in terms. Lines such as 'you have become the happenstance' show that much of what we wanted in the past becomes little more than a memory when life continues into the present. I'm often inspired by images or unusual pairings of images. I usually write these down and then create a poem from them later. For example 'thinner than a Christian' was the starting point of this poem. I saw a picture of a missionary who was very thin and the idea just stuck."

Library

The Clayton State University Library will be closed to the public during the week of Monday May, 18 to Friday, May 22. According to Clayton State Director of Libraries Dr. Gordon Baker, the carpet tiles in the main portion of the Library are being repaired, refitted and reglued to prevent them from possibly becoming loose. Clayton State students will not be inconvenienced by the closing, since May 18 to May 22 coincides with the University's semester break between the spring and summer semesters. The Library is expected to reopen to the public on Tuesday, May 26 (Monday, May 25 being Memorial Day.)

Attention faculty, staff and students, beginning May 7, the following library services will be intermittent: Interlibrary Loan, GIL Express, and Course Reserves. These services are relocating to the Circulation Department and full-time staff will be involved with moving preparations. Full services will resume on June 1. Please plan accordingly if you need to request materials from other libraries or place materials on reserve for your Summer Semester courses. Reserve requests for Summer classes need to be in by May 18. ILL materials need to be submitted by May 7. GIL Express materials need to be submitted by May 18.

Procurement

May 8, 2009 was the last day to use the P-card for this fiscal year. Please remember for best assurance that purchases will be charged to fiscal year 2010, please resume usage of the p-card on June 16, 2009. Also, May 15, 2009 is the deadline for all purchases requiring a purchase order. Any purchases requested after this date

must be approved by Budget & Finance.

School of Business

For highlights from the 2009 VITA season, go to [http://business.clayton.edu/jogden/VITA%20Pictures_2009\[1\].ppt](http://business.clayton.edu/jogden/VITA%20Pictures_2009[1].ppt).

John Mascaritolo, assistant professor of Supply Chain Management in the School of Business at Clayton State University, was named to the 2009/2010 Board of Directors of the Warehousing Education and Research Council (WERC) at that organization's 32nd Annual Conference in Atlanta. Mascaritolo will serve with his fellow distribution professionals for the next two years as the WERC's National Director of Education. "My responsibility will be to provide strategic direction and leadership to the Education Committee in planning and managing educational events, services and products that will meet the objectives of WERC's long-range strategic plan and member needs," he explains.

The Clayton State University School of Business is partnering with the United Nations Development Fund for Women -- Georgia Chapter (UNIFEM), as a sponsor of the Fifth Annual Spring 5K Walk to Fight Violence Against Women. According to Dr. Diane Prince, associate dean of the Clayton State School of Business, a member of the Spring Walk Event Planning Committee and a UNIFEM board member, the event will be held in Piedmont Park in Atlanta on Saturday, June 6, starting at 10:30 a.m. In addition to Prince's personal involvement, the School of Business is a corporate sponsor for the event and several additional faculty members are volunteers and participants. Registration for the event is \$25 for non-members; \$20 for members; \$15 for students; and children and dogs are free of charge. You can register online at: www.unifem-usnc.org/georgiawalk.

Staff Council

Mark your calendars now for Staff Appreciation Days, May 13 and May 14. On May 13 look forward to hearing motivational speaker Earl Suttle and light refreshments. He will be speaking from

Across the campus...

10:45 a.m. to noon in the Atrium of the Downs Center. On Thursday, May 14 we will have a "Picnic in the Park" from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will be located in the area behind the Student Center and the Library in the grassy area by Swan Lake. There will be fried chicken and all the fixin's to go with it. There will be music, popcorn and door prizes too.

University System of Georgia

A new issue of the University System of Georgia's The System Supplement is now available at http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/.



Congratulations on your retirement, Dr. Benita Moore! You will be missed!

Update on Bo Bolander

Good news - Bo has been transferred back to New London. Thankfully, his room was held for him during the 2+ weeks he was at St. Mary's Hospital and he is glad to be settling in and resting.

Today (May 8) the whole team at New London is helping Bo celebrate his birthday. I'm sure there will be plenty of cake and birthday songs! Thank you for the many cards and birthday wishes you have sent to cheer his special day.

Your prayers, and God's Grace, continues to sustain us throughout this long journey. Ultimately, neither the tests nor MRIs at St. Mary's gave the doctors an exact diagnosis of the abnormality in Bo's spinal cord. Therefore, there is no treatment. But, we are blessed to learn that it is not an infection, nor malignant.

While Bo is very weak and has lost a lot of weight, he can have visitors and there are no time restrictions. His cell phone number is: (404) 275-2093 (please do not leave a message). Please bear in mind that he doesn't have much strength for phone calls.

His contact information is; New London Health Care, 2020 McGee Rd., Room D-24, Snellville, Ga. 30078, (770) 978-7250.

As always, please continue your prayers.

Student Orientation Leaders Win Case Study Competition at SROW

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University's student orientation leaders recently won first place in the case study competition at the Southern Regional Orientation Workshop (SROW) conference held at the University of Mississippi.

"SROW is a three day workshop geared towards student leaders and professionals in orientation," Barbre Skwira, Clayton State assistant director of Orientation & New Student Programs, explains. "Sponsored by the National Orientation Directors Association, the three day workshop provides education, leadership and professional development in college orientation, transition and retention.

Highlights of the conference included the opportunity to attend educational sessions, compete in the song/dance/skit competition, and participate in the case study competition. Laker Orientation Team Leader Starr Densley and Assistant Team Leader Paige Lee participated in the case study and received the First Place Overall award out of 21 teams for their case study presentation. (Clayton State also participated in the song division of skit competition.) Lastly, a huge part of SROW is demonstrating institutional pride. According to Skwira, this year's Clayton State Orientation Leaders definitely made Clayton State proud by the

pride they showed through chants and cheers throughout the weekend.

Orientation teams from universities, colleges and community colleges in the National Orientation Directors Association (NODA) Southern region, which includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, attended this year's conference. During the weekend, participants had the opportunity to meet and network with other orientation leaders and professionals from their NODA region.

"From attending workshops, to swapping stickers and t-shirts, to listening to motivational speakers, the weekend was truly a once in a lifetime experience for our Orientation Leaders, says Skwira. "For students, SROW is an indescribable event that has the power to truly bond and unify a team. Regardless of how long the days are or how tired the students get, the energy and enthusiasm in the air, can make any day not seem as long or someone not feel as tired. The memories that students create at SROW are something that extend well after one leaves SROW, it is something that stays with students forever. It is the chance to get outside of your comfort zone while learning more about themselves and their team." ■

Farewell, cont'd. from p. 2

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

Another particularly meaningful presentation was that of Audreianna Smith, vice president of the Clayton State Student Government Association, who read a proclamation that listed some of Harden’s most significant legacies at Clayton State; support of academic programs and core programs, support of the Clayton State University Foundation, increased enrollment, more than doubling the University’s

undergraduate programs, and the establishment of graduate programs.

Dr. Margaret Thompson, president of the Clayton State Women’s Forum, remembered Cathy Harden, one of the founders and pillars of the Women’s Forum.

“Your grace and kindness will be a continuous reminder to us,” she said.

As the final part of the program, an emotional Clayton State president took the podium. Crediting his wife, the faculty

(“I’ve bragged on the faculty for nine years, and never exaggerated”), staff and students (“They are fantastic”) for much of the University’s success, he quoted from an “Eagles” song, saying, “It’s been great. I couldn’t have asked for more, but it’s your world now.”

Harden’s final official act at Clayton State came on Saturday, May 9 with the spring 2009 Commencement. It is now another world at Clayton State. ■



Clayton State Study Abroad to South Africa Preparing for Third Year

Clayton State University's successful Criminal Justice Study Abroad Program to South Africa is preparing for its third trip to the land of the Cape of Good Hope.

In 2007, Clayton State participated in a joint program with Albany State University, with eight Clayton State students journeying to South Africa for 30 days. In 2008, Clayton State started its own campus-based program to South

Africa. For 2009, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Dr. Hamin Shabazz, who will once again lead the program, has announced that 10 Clayton State students will be traveling to South Africa to participate in the Criminal Justice Study Abroad Program.

The students are; Essence Beal (Decatur), Hillary Cram (Mansfield, Ga.), Terrell Dark (Atlanta), Jarrita Blackmon (Atlanta), Petra Evans (Morrow), Gary

Heisterkamp (Morrow), Shacourtney Jackson (Ellenwood), Hieu Nguyen (Ellenwood), Virginia Taylor (Fayetteville) and Olubunmi Ijose (Upatsi, Ga.)

This year, the Clayton State classes will be held at the University of South Africa. Shabazz will be meeting with the participants on Friday, May 23 to finalize the details and take a group photo. ■

Zeller to Present Body Mapping Workshop at College Music Society National Conference

The College Music Society (www.music.org), the major American professional organization for music faculty, is going to learn about Body Mapping and its applications in music instruction.

There's no one better to present an hour-long workshop on the use of Body Mapping in applied music instruction at the next College Music Society national conference, to be held Portland, Ore., Oct. 22 to Oct. 25, than Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, Clayton State University's director of Opera and Vocal Studies. Zeller, is one of three co-authors to a new book that illustrates how a singer uses more than the larynx, "What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body" (ISBN10: 1-59756-324-2, ISBN13: 978-1-59756-324-6), an illustrated, 232-page soft-cover practical resource recently published by San Diego-based Plural Publishing (<http://www.pluralpublishing.com/>), and authored by Dr. Melissa Malde, MaryJean Allen and Zeller.

Zeller is a certified Andover Educator and performs frequently as a singer of theatrical, concert and early music. He is also active throughout the country as

a vocal adjudicator and clinician. His most recent work at Clayton State was directing the 2009 Clayton State Opera performance of "Noye's Fludde."

"The word is getting out about the importance of this information," he says of the applications of Body Mapping to music. "It's kind of amusing that I'm going to Portland to do this. Barbara Conable, the founder of Andover Educators, lives in Portland, and there's quite a concentration of certified Andover Educators already in the Pacific Northwest, whereas I am the only certified AE in the entire Southeastern United States.

"Right now the main interest in Body Mapping seems to be coming from music professionals — I've been giving Body Mapping lessons to several prominent instrumentalists, ASO members, etc., in the area. [However], as more of the neurological research on music and movement trickles farther down, I expect [having an AE at Clayton State] will become a recruiting advantage for our Music Department." ■

Zeller, cont'd. from p. 3

University. His graduate degrees are from the College-Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati. He has done further study at the Early Music Institute of Indiana University and the 1995 National Association of Teachers of Singing Internship Program at Florida State University.

Lead author Malde is a certified Andover Educator and an active performer in opera, concert, recital and musical theatre. She has presented papers and clinics at numerous national and regional conferences. She received her D.M.A. in Vocal Performance and Stage Direction from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. Other degrees are from the Hochschule für Musik in Munich, Northwestern University and Oberlin. She taught at the University of Wisconsin at Platteville and Luther College before returning to her home state of Colorado, where she now teaches Voice and Vocal Pedagogy at the University of Northern Colorado.

Allen is a certified Andover educator and a private voice teacher in Chicago. She holds a Master of Music and an Artist Diploma in vocal performance, with a minor in piano performance. She travels frequently to teach the course What Every Musician Needs to Know About the Body to all kinds of musicians in colleges, universities, high schools, and church choirs. ■

Burton Selected As Governor's Teaching Fellow



Dr. Christie H. Burton, assistant professor of Technical Studies at Clayton State, was recently selected as a fellow for the Governor's Teaching Fellows program for the 2009/2010 school year. The Governor's Teaching Fellows program is sponsored by the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia.

The Program is designed for faculty members who teach at accredited public or private colleges or universities, other than the University of Georgia, in the state of Georgia. Participants are selected on the basis of their teaching experience, on their interest in continuing instructional and professional development, on their ability to have an impact on their own campus and on a strong commitment by their home institution for release time and other forms of support for the duration of their participation in the program.

"The application process is competitive and required various materials including a recommendation by [Clayton State] President Harden," Burton says. "In fact, I applied last year and was unsuccessful so I am pleased that persistence paid off."

Burton is enthusiastic about being selected and admits the process was very rewarding.

"It is rewarding because selection is based on the strength of your previous teaching innovation and success among faculty from all over the state of Georgia," she says. "Of all of my job responsibilities, teaching is the most fun and has its own rewards, so being recognized in this way is like the 'icing on the cake.' Did I mention that I really love icing, too?"

"Being selected is beneficial because I will get the opportunity to devote uninterrupted time to improve my teaching. By design, the scholarship of teaching and learning is my focus in the classroom as well as in research, so learning more will benefit my students and improve the quality of my research. ■

Celeste Walley-Jean Selected for June Fulbright-Hays Seminar

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Dr. Celeste Walley-Jean, assistant professor in the Psychology Department of Clayton State University, was recently selected for a Fulbright-Hays Seminar in Brazil this summer.

The content for the program which will run from June 2 to July 3 is as follows:

The Fulbright-Hays Professional Curriculum Development Seminar in Brazil is a project that will focus on the



interrelationship between tradition and change in the context of Brazil. Academic and cultural learning will be interwoven with lectures, presentations, workshops, meetings, travel, guided tours and other activities. The seminar will deal with challenges to economic development, explore the relationship between culture and social structure and enable

participants to gain insights into the contributions of Brazilians in the areas of art, architecture, music, dance, and drama. Major sites to be visited will include; Sao Paulo, Brasilia, Manaus, Recife, Salvador and Rio de Janeiro.

"I was selected after submitting an application and personal statement outlining how the experience would inform my development of a potential study abroad program to Brazil," says Walley-Jean adding that attending the seminar will be very beneficial. "It will allow me to gain knowledge that will provide a strong foundation to develop a study abroad program for students.

"The opportunity to spend devoted time to learn about a different country and its cultural foundations is phenomenal. Additionally, I'm honored to represent Clayton State University and the Psychology Department." ■

Commencement, cont'd. from p. 1

Significant and in fact historic statements, given that it was during the Harden Administration that the University's academic programming more than doubled, and graduate programs were first instituted. Similarly, the total enrollment of the University during that time grew from 4,200 to 6,000.

Fittingly, 32 of the 628 students eligible to graduate received master's degrees, including three Clayton State staff members; Dolores Cox (Stockbridge), communications coordinator in the Clayton State Office of University Image and Communications, who received a MALS, and Liz Wellington (Stockbridge), who is fittingly-enough the graduation evaluator and coordinator in the Registrar's Office, and Alisa Kirk (Jackson, Ga.), administrative specialist in the Center for

Instructional Development, both MBA grads.

The two honorary doctorates were also historic moments for Clayton State and the recipients.

"This institution has been an inspiration to me over the years," said Lee. "I'm proud of this institution. Proud of what it does."

"My father was extremely honored by this degree" said Starr. "It was one of the biggest honors he felt he had received because he always put education as his highest priority.

"Thank you for this great honor. We will treasure it always."

See photos from the 2009 spring Commencement on page 16. ■

Alumni Dinner, cont'd. from p. 2

For Moore, who will be retiring from the University at the end of the semester, the Association recognized her with the establishment of the Dr. Benita H. Moore Scholarship in her honor. A 1974 graduate of Clayton State, Moore has been a huge supporter of the Alumni Association during her 25 years at Clayton State. She was a charter member of the Association's Board of Directors in 1991 and also served as the Interim Director of Alumni Relations at one time.

"This year our dinner was extra special, since we had the opportunity to recognize both Dr. Harden and Dr. Moore, two great supporters of the Alumni Association," said Rowell. "They both made great contributions to the growth and success of our organization."

Crawford is a native of the south side of Atlanta and currently resides Douglasville, Ga. After graduating from Clayton State, he attended Georgia State University where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. He and his wife Sabrina have four children and two of their daughters are enrolled at Clayton State.

For the past six years, Tim Crawford has been the President and Co-Owner of Heritage Cadillac Saab in Morrow, the 2007 Clayton County Business of the Year. Sabrina Crawford is also in the business and serves as co-owner and service director of the dealership.

Offering his time back to the community is very important to Crawford. He is a member and volunteer for many organizations including the Clayton, Henry, and Fayette County Chambers of Commerce, the Clayton County Rotary Club, a Board member of the Keith Brooking Children's foundation and is a member of the Clayton State University Foundation Board of Trustees. Crawford is also a long time supporter of the Clayton State Athletic Association. In addition, he gives his time to the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children and Habitat for Humanity.

Alumni Dinner, cont'd., p. 11

Following in the Footsteps of her Thesis Director

Anna King a Finalist For Seminar in Lithuania

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University graduate student Anna King was recently chosen to be a semi-finalist for the Summer Literary Seminar (SLS) in Lithuania and was offered partial tuition to attend.

"Anna submitted three poems to the SLS annual contest, and the quality of her work placed her as a semi-finalist," Dr. Brigitte Byrd, an assistant professor in the Clayton State Department of Language and Literature, explains. "There were more than 1,000 entries submitted to the contest. Anna was one of the 20 percent chosen for this merit based scholarship for which she has been offered a 20 percent tuition waiver to attend the writing seminar in Lithuania."

Byrd, herself a respected poet, is currently directing King's creative thesis in poetry: "Twilight at the Aegean."

"'Twilight at the Aegean' is a manuscript of poetry using a variety of poetic techniques — both innovative and traditional," Byrd says. "Composed of prose and delineated poems, the collection is broken into four sections, each including epigraphs from Greek poet George Seferis. The text is influenced by authors such as Edith Hamilton, Sappho, Anne Carson, Sylvia Plath, and Pablo Neruda. The project focuses upon demonstrating how location can elicit numerous emotions, and in return how the speaker interprets those feelings long after the experience has passed. Major themes include travel, the sea, Greek mythology, and relationships."

King refers to "Twilight at the Aegean" as "poetry of place."

Byrd also had the opportunity to participate in SLS.

"I won the 2001 first prize in poetry for my poem 'Semiotics,' she explains. "The judges were Maxine Chernoff and Paul Hoover. I hesitated to enter the contest because I was not sure how I would be able to afford taking my eleven year old

daughter with me to the seminar in St. Petersburg, Russia if I won. But I was very tempted because the winners of the contest were to be published in the literary magazine *New American Writing*, which was one of my favorite journals. One of my very best friends, a poet as well, entered the contest and told me 'you'll worry about that afterwards, anyway, you probably won't win.'

"Well, I did. So my friend and I decided to put our money together to cover my daughter's expenses. My friend received a scholarship and had to worry about the airfare only."

Byrd recalls her SLS seminar as a wonderful experience.

"We worked and hung out with authors such as Sandra Gilbert, Josip Novakovich, Dagoberto Gilb, Amy Boutell, and Ron Carlson," she says. "At the time, St Petersburg was being renovated, so around Nevsky Prospekt, the main avenue of St Petersburg, I felt as if I was walking through the bowels of the city or through a city after a war, which was unsettling. Then a few blocks further, I would find myself taking pictures of the extraordinary Church of the Savior on Blood by the canal before taking a stroll through a shaded park. Since I stayed in St Petersburg during the summer, I also experienced the white nights—when the sun does not set until after 10 pm and the twilight lasts almost all night. "

Byrd is confident that the seminar will similarly benefit King.

"The writing workshops offered would help Anna expand her writing and meet and work with other writers," Byrd says. "The experience of traveling to Lithuania would be a source of inspiration for more poetry writing since her poetry focuses on poetry of place. And indeed, this experience at SLS in Lithuania would add to her curriculum vitae." ■

Bookstore Implements Online Ordering System

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University's Bookstore recently implemented a new online ordering system in an effort to improve the process that the faculty uses to order books for their classes. This was a joint effort between the bookstore, the bookstore's software vendor, the faculty and Tom Marshal of the University's Administrative Systems Department.

The online ordering system is a site where faculty can login to and submit their textbook options for each semester. The site allows them to enter new textbooks being used for their classes and to view textbooks used in previous semesters (the system provides up to three years of course history). Once the faculty members submit their orders, the coordinators login and approve these orders. The coordinators are normally the academic department heads. Once the orders have been approved, the bookstore can post the

orders so they transfer over to the bookstore's inventory management system and the books can then be ordered.

"The online ordering system provides faculty with an easier way to order books for their classes, and allows them to update and change information themselves," Desmond Turner, bookstore manager, explains. "As a result, book orders are more likely to be accurate and submitted in a timely manner. This also helps the bookstore with its efforts to procure more used textbooks, which in turn lowers textbook costs for students."

"The new textbook order software will provide a digital record of all submitted textbook orders, useful both for its convenience and for the information we may draw upon when we go into the system to order textbooks the next time the same course is offered. The support provided by

Desmond Turner and his staff has been excellent," says Dr. Joe Trachtenberg, Political Science program coordinator.

The key benefits of the new online ordering system are:

- Completely electronic
- Increased efficiency and accuracy
- Earlier book orders allow procurement of more used books
- Elimination of paper supports Clayton State's efforts to "go green"

"Being able to have direct access to my book orders before they are posted to the Clayton State University E-Store website is very beneficial," says Dr. Antoinette Miller, textbook coordinator for the Psychology Department. ■

Fourth Annual New Student Convocation, Aug. 14

The Fourth Annual New Student Convocation will be held on Friday, Aug. 14 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Spivey Hall. This ceremony will inspire, motivate and officially welcome new students to Clayton State University. The program will provide an opportunity for students to connect with faculty, staff and classmates. A reception is scheduled following the ceremony's conclusion.

Faculty and staff support at last year's event was outstanding. Your continued support and assistance is greatly needed and appreciated. Academic regalia is requested for faculty for this year's event. For faculty who wish to rent regalia, please allow eight to 10 weeks for turnaround and receipt. Contact Linda Campbell in our University Bookstore at LindaCampbell@Clayton.edu for additional ordering information.

Additional information for this event is forthcoming. If you have questions about the event, please contact Celena Milner at (678) 466-5443 or via e-mail at CelenaMilner@clayton.edu. ■

StartSmart New Student Conference – Calling for Program Presenters, May 15

The Fourth Annual StartSmart Student Conference is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 14 at Clayton State University. The StartSmart program is a fun and interactive student conference for students that involve various workshops and activities to assist students in becoming more acclimated with the campus while helping to prepare them for their educational career at Clayton State. This year, all students living in Laker Hall will participate in StartSmart as part of the required move-in weekend activities, so we expect atten-

dance to be at an all time high with approximately 400 students.

We need your help. The StartSmart Committee is currently seeking presentation proposals for this year's program workshops. The conference committee is looking for workshops that are interactive and allow for participation from the students attending your session. Each workshop will last 40 minutes. If you are interested in participating as a presenter, please go to the following to submit your

proposal by answering a few short questions about your proposed program <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/orientation/StartSmart/workshop.htm>.

The deadline for program submission is Friday, May 15 by 5 p.m.

For more information, please contact BarbreSkwira@clayton.edu; KathyGarrison@clayton.edu; or sking@clayton.edu. ■

Seminar Focuses on Challenges Facing African American Males At Clayton State University

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

André L. Clanton, assistant director of Student Conduct at Clayton State University, and the Office of the Clayton State University Provost, recently hosted, "A Faculty/Staff Perspective: Challenges Facing African American Males at Clayton State University." The goal for this event was to engage students, faculty and staff in a conversation to identify what faculty and staff members perceive as challenges facing African American male students at Clayton State University.

The panel for the event included the following faculty members: Dr. Hamin Shabazz, Department of Criminal Justice; Dr. LaJuan Simpson, Language & Literature; Dr. Eric Bridges, Department of Psychology; Bruce Ingram, Office of Information Technology Services; and Dr. Keisha Tassie, Communicative Arts. The group discussed several topics regarding African American men and their communities.

Faculty and staff feel that this event was very beneficial.

"Rarely do African American males have the opportunity to openly, honestly communicate with educated/professional African American men and women about topics such as; success, life chances, road blocks, professional opportunities, missed opportunities, ego and goals," Tassie says. "Take self-presentation skills; the fact is that Black males simply don't know how to behave in certain situations because they lack role models, father-figures, and mentors."

"It was beneficial to our African American male students because it helped them realize the African American faculty and staff here at

Clayton State recognize the challenges and struggles they face as students," Clanton says. "The interactions between African American male students and the African American faculty and staff on campus has been rewarding. Since the beginning of the year, there has certainly been growth and we hope to continue that growth next year not only with African American males, but African American females as well."

The African American Male Initiative committee members are:

Marcia Bouyea-Hamlet
Coordinator of Evening Services -
Chairperson

André Clanton
Assistant Director of Student Conduct

Ryan Whitfield
Assistant Director of Career Services

Celena Milner
Director of Orientation and New
Student Programs

J. Yvette Gardner
Assistant Professor of Biology

Mario Norman
Associate Professor of Psychology

Jeff Jacobs
Associate Dean of Students

Joseph Echols
Admissions Counselor

Deborah Dupree
Director of Special Projects

Alumni Dinner, cont'd. from p. 9

When asked why he gives so much of his time to others he states, "as someone who has experienced success in many aspects of my life, I consider it a responsibility and a privilege to give back to others who are less fortunate. As a business owner, I understand supporting the community that supports my business and how the cycle contributes to the success of all."

Turner graduated in 1976 from Clayton Junior College with an Associate in Arts. He began school at Clayton State in 1975 as a joint enrollment student, receiving credit for his studies both as a senior at North Clayton High School and a freshman at the College.

Later, he continued his studies, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 1978 from Georgia Tech. He earned his Doctor of Medicine from the Medical College of Georgia and completed his OB/GYN Residency at the Medical College of Georgia from 1982 to 1986.

Turner has practiced medicine in Gainesville, Ga., since 1986 and recently 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. He is also a member of the Medical Association of Georgia, the Hall County Medical Society, the Ninth District Medical Society and the Georgia OB/GYN Society. He has published several articles during his residency covering the topics of Feto-Maternal hemorrhage, Neuro-Endocrine Carcinoma of the Cervix and research on estrogen receptors.

In the community, Turner is also active as a Deacon and a member of the choir in his church, a volunteer coach and referee in the Georgia Mountains Soccer Association, a Board Member of the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children and a Board member and volunteer for the Crisis Pregnancy Center at the Gainesville Care Center. Additionally, he has traveled to Chile and Spain on several mission trips to aid college ministries.

TEAM GEORGIA



Customer Service: From Good to Great

There's good customer service and there's great customer service. Good customer service is what you expect. Great customer service makes you want to run and shout it from the rooftops.

You have the unique opportunity to create great customer experiences every day. Hand in hand, all state employees will be discovering new ways to move from good to great. And we'll provide an online coach to inspire and inform you.

Over the next four months, we will focus on being **helpful**. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting initiative in the coming weeks.



Georgia Celebrates State Employees Recognition Week

WHEREAS:

The state of Georgia is proud to recognize May 6, 2009, as State Employees Recognition Day and the week of May 4-8, 2009, as State Employees Recognition Week, a time to honor the men and women who serve in our state and local governments; and

WHEREAS:

Georgians are fortunate to have government employees who excel in the workplace. These hardworking men and women demonstrate dependability, initiative and practical stewardship of state resources; and

WHEREAS:

Throughout Georgia, public employees will use this time to educate citizens about the many ways state and local government serves the people and how government services make life better for individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS:

Georgia's state employees often work behind the scenes, performing valuable and vital services that benefit our citizens. From adoption, aging and mental health services to public education, revenue collection and disaster and emergency relief services, dedicated men and women serve their fellow citizens with a caring spirit, a determined purpose and much persistence; and

WHEREAS:

During the week of May 4-8, 2009, the state of Georgia will recognize the contributions of thousands of state employees who daily give of themselves in service to Georgia and its citizens by solving problems, designing and implementing programs, writing budgets, guarding our safety and protecting our natural resources. ■

Staff Appreciation Days, May 13 & 14

Mark your calendars now for Staff Appreciation Days, May 13 and May 14. On May 13 look forward to hearing motivational speaker Earl Suttle and light refreshments. He will be speaking from 10:45 a.m. to noon in the Atrium of the Downs Center. On Thursday, May 14 we will have a "Picnic in the Park" from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will be located in the area behind the Student Center and the Library in the grassy area by Swan Lake. There will be fried chicken and all the fixin's to go with it. There will be music, popcorn and door prizes too.



A hooding ceremony for Clayton State's spring 2009 master's level degree recipients was held in Spivey Hall on Thursday, May 7.

School of Business Celebrates Graduation of First MBA Cohort

Thursday, May 7, 2009, was a big day for the Clayton State University School of Business... and an equally big day for 31 members of the first cohort of students in the Masters of Business Administration program.

In a special hooding ceremony in the University's Spivey Hall, the School of Business honored 31 Clayton State graduate students -- the first graduates of the School of Business' successful MBA program.

Included in the 31 MBA honorees were two Clayton State employees, Alisa Kirk (Jackson, Ga.), administrative specialist in the Center for Instructional Development, and Liz Wellington (Stockbridge, Ga.), who is fittingly-enough the graduation evaluator and coordinator in the Registrar's Office. Both Kirk and Wellington, and their fellow MBA graduates, received their diplomas at the 9 a.m. ceremony at tomorrow's spring 2009 Commencement ceremonies.

The entire list of the first cohort of Clayton State MBA graduates is as follows... Among the 31 graduates are a

dozen from Henry County, four from Clayton County, one international student, former Clayton State basketball player Barbara Bukowska, and one from Fayette County... Fayetteville resident Ernest Coward, the oldest member of the cohort at the age of 74.

Tami Adams (Thomaston)
Charletta Anderson
Jennifer Blackwell (Griffin)
Barabar Bukowska (Poland)
Tanisha Coffey (Stockbridge)
Melissa Conner (Hampton)
Ernest Coward (Fayetteville)
Kimberly Dager (Locust Grove)
Shearin Donnell (Locust Grove)
Erica Fleming (McDonough)
Jennifer Free (Jonesboro)
Renarda Hadley (Lithonia)
Percy Jernigan (Conyers)
Joseph Junca (Locust Grove)
Alisa Kirk (Jackson)
Oretta Kirkland (Stockbridge)
Dianna Knight (Morrow)
Ethel Lane (Jonesboro)
Juana Leary (Ellenwood)



Artrice Love-Collins (Newnan)
Doyle McElhaney, Jr. (Smyrna)
Deidre McIntyre (Covington)
Rebecca Meeks (Hampton)
Chiddy Mgbor (Fairburn)
Curtis Porter, III (Stockbridge)
Paula Quant (Stockbridge)
Martin Sanz (Hampton)
Luke Stubblefield (Smyrna)
Elizabeth Stilwell (Decatur)
T.L. Walker (Fairburn)
Elizabeth Wellington (Stockbridge) ■

Alumni Dinner, cont'd. from p. 11

He and his wife, Beverly Hancock Turner, have been married for 30 years and have three grown children. His hobbies include golf, fitness training and tennis.

Rambeck, of Peachtree City, Ga., is an attorney licensed in the State of Georgia. Rambeck actually holds two Clayton State degrees and a certificate, the latter in Marketing and Merchandising in 2001, plus an associate in Marketing in 2002, and Bachelor of Applied Science in Technology Management in 2003. After graduating magna cum laude from Clayton State, she graduated from Georgia State University College of Law in 2006.

As a non-traditional student with a husband and a child, Rambeck began her college career at Clayton State in 2000 to learn about marketing and advertising for

her internet business selling figure skating themed gifts and apparel.

"I don't know that I would have gone back to school if it wasn't for the website," said Rambeck. "Law had always been a background thought."

Now, after getting her start Clayton State, she is licensed to practice in the Superior Courts of Georgia, the Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia, and the Supreme Court of Georgia. She has also been sworn in to the Northern District of Georgia Federal Courts and the Middle District of Georgia Federal Courts.

Rambeck is also a member of the Christian Legal Society, the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers, Phi Alpha Delta, and the Fayette County,

Atlanta, Georgia and American Bar Associations. She is also a member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and the American Bankruptcy Institute.

Stanton, of Locust Grove, Ga., graduated with her nursing degree from Clayton State in 1994. Currently, she is the CEO of Sacred Journey Hospice in McDonough, a hospice formed to serve the residents of Atlanta's southern crescent. The facility is owned and operated by an all nurse executive team. Sacred Journey Hospice provides home care and assisted living services as well as operating a 12 bed inpatient facility.

She gives back to the community and is active in local nursing organizations.

Alumni Dinner, cont'd., p. 15



Alumni Dinner, cont'd. from p. 14

Sacred Journey helps support a scholarship for a nursing student every semester at Clayton State University, and requests Clayton State nursing students for clinicals at its facility.

One of the nursing faculty members in her nomination on Stanton said, "Robin exemplifies professional nursing behavior, and is a wonderful representative of the alumni that Clayton State has working in the community."

Stanton holds certifications in Oncology and Palliative Care Nursing. She is a member of National Hospice Palliative Care Organization and Georgia Hospice Organization and she currently serves on the board of the North Georgia Hospice Nurses Association.

After excelling as a student, Brooks, of Conyers, Ga., entered the software development industry, taking a position at a research lab as a lead developer. The company, Virtually Better, is known worldwide as an innovator in the area of virtual reality environments to address mental health needs of the public. He actively worked with psychologists to develop virtual environments to treat substance abuse, post traumatic stress disorder and the fear of flying.

Later, Brooks became a product development manager for 3d MD. During this time, he designed and implemented medical visualization algorithms which enables medical teams to visualize volumetric data. He also worked to improve surgical simulation systems. His work led to him receiving the Joseph E. Johnson

Clinical Award at the 2007 AAO Annual Session.

Brooks is currently developing augmented reality applications that can be used in surgical settings and is a student at Georgia State University, where he intends to complete his Master of Science in Computer Science.

A Clayton State faculty member stated in his nomination, "Jeremy is applying his skills in ways that make an impact in the community. We are proud of his accomplishments and look forward to seeing his future role in both academic and industrial research. I have known Jeremy for nearly 10 years and believe him to be an excellent example of the caliber of student we are trying to foster at Clayton State." ■





Snapshots from Clayton State University's 2009 spring Commencement Ceremonies

Smith Awards, cont'd. from p. 1

Harden asked me to say a few words, and it was all I could do not to burst into tears right there on stage!

“I have loved teaching for more years than I can count, and to be recognized by my peers for that is an incredible feeling. I’ve been fortunate to work in an environment that not only values creativity, but encourages it. I also think that my department and our students had a huge role in this; because of them I’ve managed to do more things with instruction than I ever thought possible.”

Other Smith Award faculty nominees included Dr. Alexander W. Hall, Dr. Melanie S. Poudevigne, Dr. Kelli Nipper, Dr. Nikki Finlay and Susan Walsh.

Wade began working at Clayton State University 14 years ago as a clerk in Physical Plant Operations. In 1999, she moved to the Administrative Systems department to work as an analyst. During 2005 she moved to the Budget & Finance Office to provide support for PeopleSoft Financials and the accounts receivable side of Banner. Wade says she enjoys her job for many reasons, namely the outstanding people with whom she works, the challenge of her job, and the beauty of the campus.

Wade grew up in East Point, but currently lives in Locust Grove. She has two daughters... Crystal is a 2004 Clayton State graduate and Jessica is currently a medical assisting student.

Wade enjoys spending time with family and friends, but most recently is spending more time exercising. Her latest challenge is the Nintendo Wii Fit.

“I was very surprised and my knees starting shaking!” said Wade of the moment when her name was announced as the staff winner. “I barely remember walking across the stage. Maybe that is because the tears were blurring my view. After working here for 14 years, the people here are no longer co-workers, they are my friends and it’s hard to describe how you feel when thinking about all the people who took time out of their busy day to write all those nice things. It’s just overwhelming.

“If you had asked me what I am doing next - I’m planning a trip to Disneyland!”

The other finalists for the Smith Staff Awards were; Kathy Garrison, Seth Davis, Shiraz Karaa and Bernadette Pascual. ■



Dr. Antoinette Miller

Celeste Wade





Trivia Time

60 Years On the Job

by John Shiffert, University Relations

It's a little hard to imagine anyone spending 60 years doing one job, and for one organization, but Los Angeles Dodgers radio/TV broadcaster Vin Scully started his 60th year on the job in April by throwing out the first ball at the Bums' season opener. Scully has been on the job so long that, when he started, the Dodgers were in Brooklyn, and there were hardly any televised regular season games.

Coming up with the correct answer (as to who was the longest-tenured baseball broadcaster) were; Kelly Adams, Todd Birchfield and Robert Caine.

In honor of Trivia Time Star Trek expert Dolores Cox earning her MALS degree this weekend, who was the only non-Star Fleet character to appear in more than one episode of the original Star Trek? Beam your answers to johnshiffert@clayton.edu.

Clayton State Finishes 16th at NCAA Division II South/Southeast Super Regional

A stellar 2008-09 season came to a conclusion on Wednesday for the Clayton State Laker men's golf team. The 14th-ranked Lakers shot a final round score of 295 in the final round of the NCAA Division II South/Southeast Super Regional, finishing 16th overall with 904

at the Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals Golf Course.

With only the top five teams advancing to the NCAA Division II National Championships from a loaded 20-team field, Clayton State missed out on advanc-

ing to the national finals for a second straight season. Individually for Clayton State, junior Wade Binfield was the Lakers' top finisher at 2-over-par 218 (73-74-71), tying him for 20th overall. ■

Sports

Binfield and Wilcox Lead Clayton State to Peach Belt Golf Championship and NCAA Regional Berth

Three seasons of ascending the ladder in NCAA Division II golf came to fruition for the Clayton State Lakers on Apr. 21 as they captured their first-ever Peach Belt Conference championship at the Little River Golf Club in Carthage, N.C..

With strong play on the final nine holes, Clayton State shot a final-round score of 288 and finished overall with a 2-over-par 866. The 10th-ranked Lakers won by five strokes over nationally top-ranked Columbus State University and by seven strokes over nationally second-ranked Georgia College. Clayton State earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional.

Clayton State junior Wade Binfield became the second straight Clayton State player to win the Peach Belt Conference individual title. He finished with a 6-under 210 (67-70-73), edging teammate and 2008 Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year Will Wilcox and 2009 Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year Jordan Walor from UNC Pembroke each by one stroke.

"This is fantastic – I don't know what else to say," said third-year Clayton State head coach Barry Harwell. "This is a big deal for these guys. We kind of set the tone last season with our runner-up finish at conference, and then this season we've beaten some tremendous teams – especially including the two here today."

Heading into Tuesday's final round, it was shaping up to be a three-team race for the PBC championship between Clayton State, Columbus State and Georgia College. However, a struggling front nine left the Lakers six strokes behind both teams with eight holes remaining. But Clayton State made its move late with eight birdies on the back nine.

Wilcox and Jordan Massey started the rally as each recorded a birdie on the par five 11th hole, and Massey and Binfield both followed with birdies on the par three 13th.

Binfield, who had a two-stroke lead entering the final round, struggled on the front nine with four bogeys on the first 10

holes. But his birdies on 13 and 15 put him back in a tie for first with Walor, who had just finished his round.

Wilcox made a late rally by finishing his round with birdies on 17 and 18, momentarily establishing a three-way tie between himself, Binfield and Walor. However, Binfield picked up a key birdie on the tricky par three 16th hole and recorded pars on the final two holes to seal the title.

In addition to Wilcox and Binfield, Massey had a tremendous final round at 1-under and finished tied for seventh overall with a 2-over 218 (74-73-71). Junior Neil Thomas finished 30th with a 229 (78-77-74) and senior Neil McBride finished tied for 34th with a 236 (81-75-80). ■

Chino Ties Team Steeplechase Mark at Division II South Regional

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

With a limited number of team members chasing NCAA Division II qualifying marks or team records, the Clayton State Laker men's track & field team concluded its regular season last Saturday at the Division II South Regional meet at Morehouse.

Senior All-American Ahmad Rolle competed in his final regular season meet in the hopes that his Clayton State outdoor career-best of 49' 1/4" will be good enough to get him to the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships later this month

in Texas. Rolle jumped 48' 8 3/4" at Morehouse for the meet's second best jump of the day.

"This is Ahmad's last meet before nationals because he will be graduating Saturday and we're confident he will advance to the outdoor national meet," said Clayton State Coach Mike Mead.

Sophomore Joey Chino added his name to the Lakers' record book at Morehouse, tying the team mark in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. His time of 9:53.23 ties for-

mer Laker Manny Aguilar's time set in 2005. ■

Campus Review
May 11, 2009

Editor: John Shiffert

Writers: Erin Fender
CiJi Fox
Lauren Graves

Layout: Lauren Graves

Photography: Erin Fender

Graphic Design: Lauren Graves