Welcome back, Roadrunners

It is that wonderful time of year when we say “Welcome Back, Roadrunners” but this time around, the greeting has a double meaning.

First, we welcome our students to campus as we launch our 45th academic year, but this year, we also herald the return of Roadrunner basketball. This will be an exciting year of recruitment as Coach Tony Ingle scours the region for the athletes who will wear the Roadrunner uniform in 2013 after a 35-year hiatus.

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New faculty who have joined the College this fall include, from left:

Mr. Travis L. Hayes – Temporary Instructor in Economics, M.B.A., University of Tennessee at Chattanooga;
Dr. Jonathan E. Littlefield – Assistant Professor of Marketing, Ph.D., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University;
Mr. Alex Kumi-Yeboah – Assistant Professor of Education, Ph.D., University of South Florida;
Dr. Bonnie F. Semora – Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Ph.D., University of Georgia;
Dr. Molly Y. Zhou – Assistant Professor of Education, Ed.D., University of West Florida;
Ms. Lynda K. Ridley – Assistant Professor of Nursing, M.S.N., University of Tennessee at Chattanooga;
Dr. Kimberly A. Hays – Temporary Assistant Professor of Biology, Ph.D., Oklahoma State University;
Dr. Eugene R. Mesco – Assistant Professor of Biology, Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley;
Dr. Charles C. Fink – Assistant Professor of Biology, Ph.D., University of Connecticut;
Dr. Nga Ho-Dac – Assistant Professor of Marketing, Ph.D., University of Utah

Not pictured:
Mr. Stephan A. Davenport – Visiting Professor of Accounting, M.Acc, North Carolina State University;
Ms. Natalie J. Johnson – Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, M.S., University of North Texas

Now that fall semester is underway, so is Dalton State’s new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)! The QEP’s title is “Getting on the ‘Write’ Path: Improving the Academic Performance of High-risk Students through Learning Support English.” Students in English 0098, our Learning Support English class, are settling into their new learning communities, studying English together in English 0098, and building college success skills together in FYES 1000, our First Year Experience Seminar. They are also learning their way around the Writing Lab and beginning to use software designed to help them become better writers.

While the students focus on learning and building skills, faculty and the administration are getting ready to show off the QEP’s changes and what the students are achieving. September 18-20, Dalton State will host a visiting team from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools’ Commission on Colleges. SACS is our accrediting agency, and every 10 years they review us for reaccreditation. We’re excited about welcoming them to campus and sharing our students’ hard work and success.

Our visiting committee is chaired by Dr. David Moore, Associate Vice President for International Education at Broward College of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The Lead QEP Evaluator is Dr. Robert Cummings of the University of Mississippi. Our SACS representative, Dr. Claudette Williams,
CAMPUS WATCH

To be included in the October eQuill, submit professional news to lmassey by September 24.

Associate Professor of Communication Dr. Kris Barton’s book *The Big Damn Firefly & Serenity Trivia Book* was chosen as BearManor Media’s Best Book of 2012.

In May, Mr. Nick Carty, Associate Professor of Communication and 2009 Dalton State Foundation Teaching Excellence Award winner, participated in the Senior Olympics district competition in Chattanooga, winning all gold medals in track and field for his 55-59 age group. In July, Carty moved to overall state finals in Franklin, Tennessee, where he earned a gold medal in archery; a silver in the 400 meters; and a bronze in the 100 meters. His state finals performance qualified him for the National Senior Games, which will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, in July 2013. Carty intends to make that competition the culmination of a year-long health and wellness promotion effort which will include a “Months of Health and Wellness” initiative featuring diet and exercise instruction and participation opportunities for Dalton State faculty and staff. Carty also hopes to gain support and sponsorship for a planned 600-mile cycling trip to the 2013 Games, an effort designed to call national attention to the health and wellness benefits of remaining fit throughout life.

Dr. Baogang Guo, Professor of Political Science, was invited to give a series of guest lectures on Chinese politics at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, between August 14 and 17. In addition, another of his new books, *Taiwan and the Rise of China: Cross-Cultural Relations in the Twenty-first Century*, co-edited with Chung-chien Teng, was just published by Towman & Littlefield-Lexington Books in August.

Congratulations to Assistant Professor of Spanish Dr. Nancy Mason for having her original script *Muscadine Wine* selected as the College’s fall theatre performance. Details about the performance, which will take place in November, will be forthcoming.

QEP (Continued from page 1)

will accompany them, as will seven other members of the visiting team and one observer.

A kickoff to introduce Dalton State students to the QEP will be held on Thursday, September 13, just before our visiting team arrives. Keep an eye out for more details, which will be coming soon!

After the September visit, Dalton State College will learn of its reaffirmation at the December meeting of SACS in Dallas, Texas. For more information about our QEP and the SACS reaffirmation process, visit http://www.daltonstate.edu/qep/

Things to Know about our QEP:
• Dalton State College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
• SACS requires its schools to make improvements in student learning by developing a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).
• Improvements to be made at Dalton State are in Learning Support English, ENGL 0098.
• ENGL 0098 class sizes will be reduced, and the course will incorporate greater use of technology, maximize use of the Writing Lab, and improve students’ ownership and control over their own learning.
• ENGL 0098 will also be linked to First Year Experience (FYES) courses, which teach success skills.
• SACS expects the entire campus to know about the QEP.
• SACS representatives will be coming this September to evaluate our campus. Please welcome them.
• The QEP title is “Getting on the ‘Write’ Path: Improving the Academic Performance of High-Risk Students through Learning Support English.”

Dr. Jenny Crisp
Assistant Professor of English
QEP Director
Welcome back, Roadrunners

Needless to say, we are not the school we were when Roadrunners last covered the court in Death Valley 30720. For that matter, we’re not the school we were two years ago. Dalton State continues to evolve into the state college we are called to be to serve the students of Northwest Georgia.

We have changed dramatically since the last time Roadrunners played here. We are now a state college offering 15 baccalaureate degrees with additional ones to be submitted this year. Our physical campus has expanded incrementally both north and south with the addition of classroom buildings and student housing, as well as other valuable properties such as the CRI building. We will continue the growth of our physical plant by breaking ground for our new science building next month.

Our student body has more than tripled, and our entrance requirements have been raised to ensure that we admit students who have the best chance of success at Dalton State.

The College has taken a greater role in the cultural and recreational life of the community with the addition of free concerts, recitals, and plays, and the completion of three hiking trails on the mountain behind our campus. We operate a vibrant extended campus in Ellijay and continue to investigate other venues in the region for additional extended campus opportunities, keeping in mind that our Master Plan calls for concentration on our main campus.

One thing that remains the same, however, is the high quality, affordable education we offer our students. Our graduates can get the degree they need for the job they want without incurring excessive student debt. That remains very important to us.

This fall we have enrolled 5,049 students, of those, 43 percent are freshmen, 25 percent are sophomores, 15 percent are juniors, and 16 percent are seniors. Two hundred eighteen students live in College housing; this number is expected to grow as we recruit student athletes from across the state and region. We celebrate the diversity of our student body; our students come to us from 42 different countries, eight US states, and 62 Georgia counties.

In a difficult but necessary move for us, this fall we denied admission to approximately 200 students who would have been accepted a year ago. This is due to new admission standards enacted this year. We remain an access institution for the University System and that is an essential part of our mission, but we can no longer admit students who have virtually no likelihood for success here. This is a difficult adjustment for us, but it is the right thing to do for the College and for the students.

Many things have changed over the decades since Coach O’s Roadrunners ruled the roost on our campus. But the very best things have not changed at all: our students still enjoy small classes taught by outstanding faculty within our halls of Jersey Cream brick. It’s going to be a great year for Dalton State. Go Roadrunners; beep beep!

September Calendar:

Tues., Sept. 11, 6 pm, Goodroe A Shot of Reality with a Comedy Chaser
Please encourage your students to attend this interactive, improv comedy show about alcohol safety. Students will have chances to win $20 gift cards to the College bookstore.
For info: 4428
(Sponsor: Student Life)

Thurs., Sept. 13
SACS Kick-Off Activities
Details to follow.

Mon., Sept. 17, 6 pm, Goodroe Constitution Day Event:
“Political Discourse”
by Matt Hipps
Free and open to the public
(Sponsor: Student Life)

Tues. – Thurs., Sept. 18 - 20
SACS Commission on Colleges team visits Dalton State for the College’s decennial reaccreditation visit.
Please welcome our guests!

Thurs., Sept. 27, 6:30-8 pm, Quad Hispanic Heritage Month event:
Salsa Magic!
Come learn to salsa!
Refreshments served.
DS College ID Required
For info: 4428
(Sponsor: Campus Activities Board (CAB))

Fri., Sept. 28, 9 am - 1 pm
PROBE College Fair – 1000 high school students visit DS
Sponsor: Enrollment Services
Please welcome our guests!

To have College-sponsored events posted to the online Campus Calendar or included in the Bulletin Board or eQuill, email lmassey or call 4587.
August rewind...

A small, but well dressed and enthusiastic, band of faculty and staff (and one very special guest) gathered on August 29 in various items of seersucker for the College’s first annual (we hope) Seersucker Day. The gathering, brain child of Mr. Nick Carty and Dr. Jonathan Lampley, recognized the passing of another summer season. Next year, pink lemonade for all? Plan your ensemble now and join us in 2013. Pictured from left, Dr. Eugene Mesco, Dr. Jodi Johnson, Dr. Marilyn Helms, Dr. Larry Johnson, Ben Laughter, J.D., Carty, Lampley, Dr. Jenny Crisp, President Schwenn, Ms. Donna Lee Sullins holding special guest Nahshon, and Ms. Roschelle Bautista.

Left: Among those who volunteered to help first-time housing residents move in on Saturday, August 11, were: Dr. Sandra Stone, Dr. Schwenn, and Ms. Linda Wheeler

Right:
AD Derek Waugh:
Height: 6’ +++
Age: 40-something

President Schwenn:
Height: Not 6’
Age: Well...he’s already getting AARP solicitations.

Now, just who’s doing the heavy lifting?

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A call for student, staff, and faculty art entries for

**Dalton State College Arts Show – November 2 through 29**

Creative Arts Guild, Dalton, Georgia

Opening reception to be held Friday, November 2, from 5:30 to 7 pm. Details to come.