



STEADI

Grant to Help CSU Prepare New Employees For Simulation and Gaming Industry



Wayne Summers (standing) discusses STEADI during an April 2 press conference to introduce the initiative. Seated from left: Carmen Cavezza, Mike Gaymon and Frank Brown. Photo by Bill Sutley

CSU has garnered a \$100,000 grant to develop a specially designed computer science curriculum to provide local defense contractors with employees skilled in computer modeling, simulation and gaming.

The initiative, called “Project STEADI” (Simulation Technology Education Assisting the Defense Industry), is yet another public-private partnership for the Columbus area. This initiative started about a year ago and includes CSU, Fort Benning, the Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the Columbus Development Authority and several local defense contractors, some of which are located in the technology incubator inside CSU’s Cunningham Center.

The grant comes from the University System of Georgia through ICAPP (Intellectual Capital Partnership Program). This is the second ICAPP to start at CSU, which originally helped develop the economic development concept in 1996 to provide computer-savvy employees for TSYS.

Project STEADI will build on a CSU computer science program that teaches students the theory, design and programming techniques required for producing games software. That knowledge is used for the fun video games that are popular today, but also for training, simulations, modeling and games that have other uses, such as the Army recruitment game found online at www.americasarmy.com.

“We got a group together to brainstorm ideas,” said Wayne Summers, chair of CSU’s TSYS Department of Computer Science. “The defense industry said they were having a difficult time attracting people to help do simulations for them.”

The problem quickly turned into an opportunity, with the burgeoning gaming program *Continued on Page 2*

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CAMPUS NEWS

CSU Poised to Make Mark Preparing Math and Science Teachers

Buoyed by a recent grant of more than \$400,000, CSU is developing plans in a variety of areas to create a niche for itself in the preparation of science and math teachers.

Citing a desperate need in Georgia, the University System Board of Regents is making a statewide push to increase the numbers of both students pursuing an education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and teachers prepared to teach courses in these fields in the public schools.

CSU already is a leader in this area with educational outreach centers such as Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center, the Coca-Cola Space Science Center and the Columbus Regional Math Collaborative.

With a \$420,000 grant from the Board of Regents, CSU is making even greater strides to combine the expertise of its colleges of education and science to make a real mark in preparing teachers of sci-

ence and mathematics, said Cindy Henning, acting associate dean of CSU's College of Science.

"We're one of very few institutions in the University System of Georgia that already leads students to teacher certification in those fields," Henning said. "I'd like CSU to become an institution of choice if you have an interest in teaching science."

To support that goal, several new initiatives are under way, including:

- A Math and Science Learning Center. Planned for the third floor of University Hall (formerly Fine Arts Hall), the center will provide tutoring, hands-on demonstrations, and learning resources for CSU students and host innovative workshops for teachers-in-training.
- A Future Teacher Academy Camp. CSU faculty will open their labs to high school students to engage them in creative science and math activities at a free two-week camp. Students can later share their enthusiasm for science by volunteering



Cindy Henning

to help at K-8 camps at Oxbow Meadows, the Space Science Center Mathematics Collaborative, or CSU's TSYS Department of Computer Science.

• A new academic minor in physics. All 19 teacher-preparation institutions in the University System of Georgia produced only three high school physics teachers in 2006. CSU hopes to help change that figure.

• Designing new courses in the Earth and space sciences such as "Natural Disasters: Our Hazardous Environments" that look at contemporary issues with a scientific lens.

Henning and her colleagues say there's no time to waste in implementing these initiatives.

Kimberly Shaw, CSU associate professor of physics, said the efforts need to focus on children.

"Little kids are natural-born scientists," Shaw said. "Somewhere between elementary school and high school, they lose that interest."



Kimberly Shaw

STEADI Announcement ... Continued from Page 1

already in place, strong community support and resources available in the Cunningham Center.

John Fuller, a former chief of staff at Fort Benning, will lead the first phase of the project, which will involve working with local defense contractors to fully define the depth and breadth of their needs.

"It's a win-win proposition for everyone that's involved in it," Fuller said. His experience in the Army, as well as with local defense and Homeland Security contractors, has shown him the need in this area for employees with sophisticated

computer skills.

Modeling, gaming and simulators are used extensively by all of the military services in training for combat. Using a computer-driven trainer instead of a real tank or plane allows for better training at reduced costs, without any wear and tear on the actual combat vehicles or systems, he said.

"They have become irreplaceable components of the training and preparedness strategies in all services," Fuller said. "The reality for the military and the defense industry is that with the proliferation of training devices comes the need for

more people educated in the technology disciplines that support these systems. And, that's where we are today — trying to speed up the production of young talent from our colleges and universities to meet this growing demand."

Fuller estimates there are several hundred employees currently in the Valley area with ties to this kind of technology and training. "Not only is the current demand for individuals with this talent growing, it will dramatically accelerate when the Armor School now at Fort Knox relocates to Fort Benning," he said.

CSU Biology Achieves National Honor

CSU has captured the nation's highest honor for biology honor societies — the 2006-2007 Lloyd M. Bertholf Award from the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society.

The designation, according to the society, signifies CSU's 24-member Tri-Beta chapter as the nation's best last year in "scholarship, dissemination of scientific information and promotion of biological research."

The chapter earned second honorable mention for the award two years ago and "Outstanding Chapter" status, as among the top 10 percent of all chapters, for 2003-2004.

CSU chapter adviser and biology professor Julie Ballenger said the success stems partly from productive professor-student relationships. "Our faculty members are highly involved in the chapter's meetings and activities, and in turn, help to inspire the students to be active."

College of Science Dean Glenn Stokes said the faculty have created a culture of professionalism and mentorship that exemplifies the society's goals. "Their students actively engage in independent research in cooperation with faculty mentors that has been recognized at the regional and national levels."

Highlighting last year's success, Tri-Beta selected Courtney Blayke Gibson, a science education graduate student, to present her research at its national conference. Five other CSU students presented at district events, including Wesley Ker-Fox and Lauren



Courtney Blayke Gibson

Eklund, who subsequently placed second and third respectively for the national Brooks Award for oral



Representing CSU at last year's Tri-Beta district conference in Columbia, S.C., from left: Julie Ballenger, Contessa Bowman, Amanda Bergren, Lauren Eklund and Wesley Ker-Fox. Ballenger was named Outstanding Advisor for Southeast District II while Ker-Fox, Eklund and Bowman each presented research that drew national honors from Tri-Beta.

presentation of research. Contessa Bowman earned third place for the Johnson Award for poster presentation of her research.

"In addition to scientific research, our chapter stresses environmental and community activism," said Ballenger, who also serves as interim director of CSU's Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center.

The students engage in service activities that range from participation in community cleanup efforts, such as the communitywide Chattahoochee River cleanup initiative "Help-the-Hooch," to promoting departmental activities. Such activities include promoting CSU's biology program to prospective stu-

dents during high school visitation days and sharing their knowledge of reptiles, insects and other topics during community-oriented programs at Oxbow Meadows.

Students and faculty also get together for less formal events such as cookouts and rafting trips.

"We are proud to sustain such high levels of activity and will continue to work to maintain high regard on our campus and in our local community," said Ballenger, who will formally accept the honor on behalf of the CSU chapter during Tri-Beta's April 18 convention at the Association of Southeastern Biologists meeting in Spartanburg, S.C.

Established in 1961, the Lloyd M. Bertholf Award is named for the third president of Beta Beta Beta.

Stokes said Tri-Beta is dedicated to fostering behaviors that will encourage the growth of well-trained and committed biologists and individuals interested in the biological sciences. "The receipt of this award indicates that the CSU chapter not only achieves the ideals of the society but has done it consistently and is doing it better than any of the more than 500 other chapters," he said. "It's a testament to the commitment of our faculty to their students and their discipline and the desire to model the behaviors expected of professional biologists."

Scholastic Honors Convocation April 11

CSU's annual Scholastic Honors Convocation, is 2-4 p.m. Friday, April 11 in University Hall (formerly Fine Arts Hall) auditorium. For more information, call 706-568-2033.

Student Colloquium April 26

The CSU Honors Program will stage its annual CSU Student Colloquium from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26 on the second and third floors of the Center for Commerce and Technology. Presentations, throughout the day, will feature the best of CSU-student research and creative projects over the past year.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 706-565-3677.

Language Studies Re-Emerging

Luis Garcia says his CSU Spanish language degree is serving him well.

The Bronx native and former military serviceman graduated last spring and works for Staffing Solutions in Columbus. As a staffing supervisor and bilingual recruiter, he breaks down the language barrier between prospective local employers and a growing demographic of qualified Spanish-speaking workers.

Eventually, he plans to teach at the collegiate level and further serve area Spanish-speaking residents as a bilingual minister.

Meanwhile, recent French education graduate Jennifer Robinson chairs Shaw High School's Foreign Language Department, leading a team of educators that includes three Spanish teachers and a Japanese language specialist.

Garcia's and Robinson's endeavors reflect the significance of the newly designated Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

The shift—a split of the language and literature department—has separated English from the foreign language programs and has CSU well positioned to prepare students to thrive in an increasingly global professional world.

The change also means a Woodall-to-Faculty Office Building location change by summer and a forthcoming Bachelor's Degree in Modern Languages. The current degree programs in French and Spanish, plus those leading to teaching certification, will become separate tracks under the new degree program.

Additional language, literature and culture-oriented tracks will emerge as the department continues to administer minors in French and Spanish and support minors in Latin American Studies and linguistics. "We're excited about this," said



CSU student Triena Sharpe (seated) gets help with her coursework from her "host mother" in Cuernavaca, Mexico, during last summer's CSU in Mexico study abroad program — an 11-year staple of CSU's Spanish language program.

Associate Professor Alyce Cook, who has taught Spanish at CSU since 1994.

"This expansion will provide students more flexibility, since many will go on to graduate or professional schools to become lawyers, doctors and educators," she said.

For example, recent CSU graduates Leslie Maxwell and Alex Conrad currently are University of Alabama in Huntsville faculty after completing their doctorates at the University of Virginia in the nation's fifth-ranked Spanish Ph.D. program. "Others (like Garcia) go directly into the working world, finding their foreign language major useful for careers in business, the government and international agencies," said Cook, who is joined by full-time faculty Cecile Accilien (French), Jose Barroso Castro (Spanish), Sonia Rivera (Spanish) and chair Jackie Konan (French).

"We'll add a full-time linguistics professor and we're supported by talented adjunct professors and a strong administrative staff," Cook said.

The change culminates a 10-year effort guided by Master of Public Administration Program Director Bill Chappell while he was College of Arts and Letters Dean. "While modern and classical languages his-

torically constitutes the framework of a liberal arts education, the discipline's importance is magnified by the present era of globalization," Chappell said.

The study of languages also goes beyond reading, speaking and writing as students exercise critical thinking skills and analyze abstract concepts, he said. "The students are introduced to the richness of the civilizations of the past, as well as to the mosaic of contemporary culture in the areas of the arts, societal trends, politics and behaviors."

The department collaborates with the Center for International Education to provide students with study abroad opportunities such as summer trips to Mexico and France and other cultural exchange opportunities that include the International Student Exchange Program, through which four CSU students have studies at French universities. "Through the CIE, our department looks forward to increasing CSU participation in these types of programs," Konan said.

The department also will build upon cultural immersion programs on campus, such as the three-year old Cine Club film series and "conversation tables" that support both French and Spanish curriculums each semester. Also, the annual French Immersion Day involves poetry readings, music, art workshops, topical discussions and more with communication exclusively in French. Programs have been staged on campus and at Fort Benning's Uchee Creek.

Chappell said students who participate in such modern and classical language programs learn to view themselves as citizens of the world. "They are encouraged to appreciate cultural diversity, both around the world and here at home."

For more information, go to <http://languages.colstate.edu>.

FACULTY PROFILE

Global Experiences Highlight Career

Jackie Konan was preparing for graduate school in 1971 when an unlikely job opportunity captured her imagination and ultimately set the course for her career.

"I came across an ad from an airline seeking foreign language-speaking stewardesses, and I applied for it," she recalled.

Nashville-based, and now defunct, Capitol International Airways hired Konan, then a 22-year-old Fort Valley State graduate, who had stayed home to earn a French education degree in the community where she was raised with four sisters.

"It was totally unexpected," she said. "I took the job as an opportunity to travel — something I hadn't done before."

The outcome did not let her down.

"I saw many different places — England, Beirut, Germany, Ireland, San Francisco and Germany," she said of the six-month stint. "My favorite memory is of a three-day layover in Barbados."

The globe trekking whetted an ambition for adventure with greater substance.

She joined the Peace Corps and set out for Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) to teach English as a second language to French-speaking high school students in Gagnoa, a city the size of Columbus.

The West African nation was experiencing economic and political stability, but Konan anxiously approached the endeavor. "Back then, we didn't have international study programs and travel opportunities like now, so I had little idea of what to expect."

She discovered bright, talented and disciplined students in a stringent French modeled education system. "Though I was a teacher, it

was one of the most satisfying learning experiences I ever had."

After two years, the Peace Corps transferred Konan to Abidjan (then the capital), where she taught English to other educators at the teaching college, Ecole Normale. The following year, she taught diplomats at Ecole Nationale d'Administration.

She also immersed herself culturally, making close friends among locals including a midwife who taught her culinary skills based on traditional meal staples including the rice and fish-based *cheb yen*.

Returning home was difficult, but the experience reinforced Konan's initiative as she earned master's degree in romance languages at the University of Georgia. She also completed advanced graduate studies in 20th Century French literature, with a minor in Francophone history and political science.

After teaching on the high school level, at Fort Valley State and then Auburn, she joined CSU in 1987. Subsequently, her love for travel and cultural exchange has fueled her leadership of various, related initiatives.

She has led students and faculty



Jackie Konan

Associate Professor of French and Department Chair for Modern and Classical Languages

from CSU and around the University System of Georgia in study abroad programs in France.

While the programs were based at universities in communities such as Ramboillet and Dijon, Konan made time for a nearby destination special to her.

After falling in love with Abidjan, she became similarly drawn to Paris. "On any given day you can find a musical performance at a park or chapel, and it seems you're never far from an art museum."

She also cites landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, Luxembourg Gardens, the Louvre and Beaubourg. But another feature of the city is most endearing, "For me, it's the people — the friendships I've made over shared meals and conversation... It's a different pace of life."

In 1991, she reconnected with another cherished setting, leading a Fulbright delegation of USG colleagues on a five-week trip to Cote d'Ivoire and neighboring countries.

Meanwhile, on the CSU campus, Konan has served as French Club and Immersion Day adviser and as CSU's liaison for the annual Foreign Language Fair for local middle and high schools. She also represents CSU on the USG Foreign Language Academic Advisory Committee.

Also during her CSU tenure, she has raised a son, Moieh, who recently earned a law degree and passed the bar exam, and she has maintained correspondence with friends she's made in West Africa and France.

Recently her career made another significant turn, with her appointment as chair of the newly designated Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

"There's a renewed enthusiasm among our faculty about the challenges and opportunities ahead as we move into our new home (Faculty Office Building) and our programs expand."

This Month in CSU History

April 3, 1959:

Columbus College freshman Margaret Wilson is crowned Miss Columbus 1959. "Women should go to college to develop their personalities," she says.

April 14, 1965:

Georgia Gov. Carl Sanders announces Columbus College will gain four-year status.

Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour Coming April 17

CSU's Turner College of Business will host the nationwide Extreme Entrepreneurship collegiate tour on Thursday, April 17 in the Davidson Student Center auditorium.

Students and community members interested in entrepreneurship are invited to participate in the 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. four-part fair:

- **Keynote presentations** by a pair of accomplished and nationally recognized young entrepreneurs (names TBA) affiliated with the national organization Extreme Entrepreneurship Education.
- A **"How to Start a Business" workshop** presented by Extreme Entrepreneurship co-founder Sheena Lindahl.
- A **panel discussion** featuring successful local entrepreneurs Carla Plazas (New Life Tanning Centers), Kiki Seda, (A1 Postage Meters) and Ashley Hatcher, (Archer Innovation).
- A closing **lunch and networking**

session involving about 15 additional local small business owners, such as Tracy Schoenerr (Plato's Closet) and Al Barber (Al Barber's Driving School).

"The panel discussion and networking session will give students and community members a sense of the variety of small businesses (500 or fewer employees) that are out there, particularly here in Columbus," said event director Kirk Heriot, CSU associate professor of management and the Ray and Evelyn Crowley Endowed Chair of Entrepreneurship.

Hatcher, a former pharmaceutical representative, launched her business after patenting the non-slip serving tray that sells worldwide as "The Lapper."

Like Hatcher, the majority of today's top entrepreneurs did not come from a business background, Heriot said. "The tour reflects this reality by reaching across academic disciplines with a vision for stu-

dents to earn their degrees with an entrepreneurial mindset regardless of their career paths...

Subsequently, this type of program works to keep young, creative people in the local community."

The tour features some of America's top young entrepreneurs — individuals who have established and sold companies for millions before age 30. This includes Lindahl and her Extreme Entrepreneurship co-founder Michael Simmons.

"Students particularly tend to find the age of the tour's speakers refreshing and inspirational," said Heriot, who teaches courses for CSU including "Small Business and Entrepreneurship for Non-Business Majors" and "Small Business Management."

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to <http://www.extremetour.org> or call Heriot at 706-565-1674.

Who's Doing What ... Milestones and Activities

Glenn Stokes, a CSU faculty member since 1981, has been appointed the fourth dean of the College of Science. In 1986, he was appointed associate dean of science, a position held by all three previous deans of the college. He has twice served as acting dean and as acting chair of both nursing and psychology and sociology. He also has served as the faculty service representative to the NCAA since 1993, and on several university, college and department committees.

Turner College of Business Dean **Linda Hadley** has been asked to serve a three-year term on AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) International's Maintenance of Accreditation Committee. The 15-member committee is charged with reviewing the recommendations of peer review teams and voting on the continuing accreditation of all business schools accredited by AACSB throughout the world.

Violinist **Boris Abramov** (senior performance competition string category winner) and clarinetist **Andy Hudson** (senior performance competition woodwind category winner) earned top honors in their categories at the 2007-2008 MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) Conference held in Denver. Both students, accompanied by Schwob pianist Susan Hoskins, performed during the winners concert and received \$2,000 from the MTNA Foundation.

Schwob School of Music students earned prizes and performed in the winners recital at the recent Southeastern Regional NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing) student auditions: **Carrie Beth Barnett**, first prize junior women, student of **Earl Coleman**; **Aneli Wells**, first prize lower level college women music theater and fourth place sophomore women, student of **Kimberly Cone**; **Norman Hardman**, third place freshman men, student of **Michelle DeBruyn**; **Lydia Whitley**, fifth place sophomore Women, student of DeBruyn. Schwob pianists **Janie Lee Bullock**, **Ashley Hawkins** and **Mary Walker** accompanied the students.

Submit items to pr@colstate.edu.

CAMPUS NEWS

Campus 'Goes Green' as Students Lead Campaign By April Davis

CSU is going green and people are starting to follow.

The Student Government Association (SGA) this year has launched a "Go Green" initiative to make CSU more environmentally friendly. "The Go Green Committee was formed to find out what we're already doing to make CSU more sustainable or "greener," as well as to get input on how to do so and to implement ideas and share findings with the student body," said former SGA President Nicole de Vries, who created the campaign.

An MBA student and enrollment services employee, de Vries said her SGA duties motivated her to lead the project. "When I was SGA president last year, I pursued many allies," she said. "But as president, I was pulled in so many directions that I couldn't focus on the issue. Now as a senator, I have been able to really focus on and advocate for this issue."

De Vries initially proposed March to be designated "Go Green" month. Since then, the committee has flourished and so has the response. "The entire SGA senate decided to join my committee in February," she said. "This was a huge help. We went from five to 15 overnight. So most of our members are senators, but there are a few random but dedi-

cated students."

In addition to "Go Green" challenges issued weekly to students, faculty and staff on simple ways to preserve the environment, the campaign has been marked by supporting events including a Global Warming Solutions Teach-In in January. "This was like striking gold for my committee as it was a great event for gathering student input," said de Vries.

On March 11, the committee hosted "Pitching Green," which featured a presentation by New York City-based actor and environmental activist Jens Rasmussen and educational displays by the Georgia Forestry Commission, Trees Columbus, Georgia Power and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We had around 200 people, and many have come up to me since and said they are glad a group finally took the initiative to get something like this started on campus."

De Vries said not only have students supported the initiative, but she also has encountered many faculty and staff members who support the group's effort. "I watched faculty come up just to sign our petition for more opportunities to 'Go Green' on campus."



During the March 11 "Pitching Green" event, Ashley Smith (left), of Trees Columbus, poses with CSU Go Green committee members, from left, Jim Bunn, Nicole de Vries, Michaela Chmielewski, Kevin Cooth and Jeremy Zwaga

De Vries said the "Go Green" initiative also has attracted media attention from WTVM news, the *Saber*, the *Columbus Ledger-Enquirer* and a recent Trees Columbus newsletter.

But the attention hasn't blurred the group's focus. "The campaign is all about awareness," said de Vries. "Whether global warming is happening or not can be debated, but being environmentally friendly only makes sense when it can save you money and the environment. We have been trying to educate students about environmental issues and share tips with them on what they can do to help."

De Vries said CSU can look forward to a lot more from the Go Green committee. Plans to commemorate Earth Day on April 22 are already under way. "We would also like to do departmental challenges — like a 'clean out the files' contest to see which can recycle the most or just simply send out green administrative tips to staff."

Hallock Lecture: Speaker Discusses Islamism, Democracy

Dr. Zuhdi Jasser, standing, speaks to a class of political science students as part of a March 19 Hallock Lecture Series visit to CSU.

Jasser, a physician from Arizona and a devout practicing Muslim, delivered the Hallock Lecture later in the day in the Cunningham Center's Blanchard Hall.

His discussions centered on the importance of being part of a democracy and his activism for fellow Muslims to oppose radical Islamism.



In the Spotlight By Virilinda Holmes

Larry Pallotta is on a mission to “make Columbus an exciting place to visit.”

The endeavor started in the early 1990s with Uptown Columbus, Inc. He was a part of a project development team that established CSU’s Coca-Cola Space Center to be a cornerstone of riverfront development in Columbus.

When the center opened in 1996, Pallotta, also “a fan of science,” joined the staff and has since served as an assistant director and coordinator of visitor services. His duties include coordinating activities at the center for school and community groups.

He also supervises part-time employees, oversees promotional publications and promotes the center through presentations around the community and for local schools.

Pallotta’s selling points are based on the center’s four major components:

- A Challenger Learning Center for simulated space missions
- The Omnisphere Theater: a 110-seat planetarium featuring astronomy based educational presentations and musical laser concerts. The facility is the first of now six planetariums in the world to feature the state-of-the-art Digistar® 3 Sony projection system.
- The Mead Observatory, which includes a solar observatory and provides the community with mobile astronomy at various locations throughout the state.
- The Plaza: a main lobby featuring seven simulators that allow visitors to fly a jet, land the space shuttle or dock a Gemini capsule in outer space. It also features displays on the weather, infrared astronomy, the Space Shuttle and “working” Mars rovers.

Pallotta reminds the CSU community that faculty, staff and students are admitted half-price to the center. (Go to <http://www.ccssc.org> for more information.)

The center, supported by the Public Space Science Institute, also partners with Providence Canyon, Callaway Gardens and FDR State Park, which host astronomy night sessions — a popular educational outreach activity.

The center also facilitates College of Science astronomy courses and provides about 3,000 visiting sixth-graders each year with a Challenger mission, planetarium show and other learning activities. “We aim to increase the science results for middle school standards,” said Pallotta. He also notes a forthcoming solar observatory that will allow k-12 students to view and capture images of the sun by controlling a remote telescope via the Internet.

Pallotta graduated from U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1976 and has been a resident of Columbus since 1994, when he retired from the Army as a major and deputy chief of staff at Fort Benning

Born in Natick, Mass., Pallotta is a Red Sox fan and hockey enthusiast, as he has coordinated the “off-ice” officials for Columbus Cottonmouths’ games for 10 years. He also enjoys golf, racquetball and loves to cook (favorite dish: lasagna). A film buff, he’s collected more than 1,000 movies, including favorites “The Day the Earth Stood Still,” the “Star Wars” series and the 1930s “Thin Man Series.”



Larry Pallotta

Assistant Director and Coordinator of Visitor Services for CSU’s Coca-Cola Space Science Center

April Service Anniversaries

30 years

Denise Cotton

27 Years

Herbert Greene

18 Years

Calvin Waterman

17 Years

Sharon Wiley

15 Years

Phyllis Chisolm

14 Years

Alvin Harris
Otto Land

11 Years

Mario Juestel

10 Years

Dana Larkin
Antonio Lawson
Clayborn Hall

8 Years

Roberta Ford
Sharon May
William John Mallett

7 Years

Brenda Jenkins
Patricia Rutledge
Wade Branch

6 Years

Mary Smith

5 Years

Benjamin
Crowley

4 Years

Abraham George
Vallory Ginn

3 Years

Linda Hurst
Steve Rutledge
James Moore
Terry Hutchinson
Frank Lazzara

2 Years

Paula Raike
Ricky Thomas
Ramadevi
Ramdas
Napoleon Young
Steve Morse
Dianne Stringer

1 Year

Michelle Viers
Marcus Turner
Daniel Walker
Sandra Coleman

New Personnel

- **Joshua Taylor**, recruitment associate. Enrollment Services
- **Marcus Thomas**, custodian. Plant Operations
- **Kimberly Hovey**, part-time secretary Adult Re-Entry Program
- **Yumiko Lawhorn**, receptionist, One Stop Shop, Enrollment Services
- **Kelly Mangol**, officer, University Police
- **Shannon Davis**, part-time custodian. Plant Operations
- **Reginald Hill**, part-time custodian, Plant Operations
- **Sandra Ingram**, part-time custodian, Plant Operations

Catching Up With ... Ellen Brown

By April Davis

Walking among the newer buildings and custom landscapes at CSU, few know the story behind the university's humble beginnings like Ellen Brown does.

In Brown's first quarter, Columbus College was housed in the Shannon Hosiery Mill on Talbotton Road with 15 faculty and nearly 300 students. In 1963, the school moved to its present location, and Brown was among students who followed. "It was great," she said. "Everybody knew everybody back then because there were so few of us." Just four buildings existed.

After earning an associate degree, Brown joined the staff at Columbus College. Through her career, she watched the university evolve. "This may be telling my age, but I started as a student assistant working the telephone switchboard," she said. "You know, like the one on 'I Love Lucy,'" she laughed.

Brown said the call to work in admissions came unexpectedly. "I was preparing to take a typing test

when (James) Sanders, who was controller then, approached me about a regular position opening in admissions," she said. "I ended up working there for eight years."

With her career well under way, Brown decided to take a break and stay home with her children. She later returned and began working as a clerk in the nursing department. "I was mostly typing for the faculty, making handouts and things," she said. A position in the department opened and Brown took the job. "I spent 30 full-time years working in the nursing department," she said.

Brown continued to climb the ranks and worked as an administrative secretary and eventually administrative assistant. "In the beginning, I worked for Helen Milian and then finished my career working for Dr. June Goyne," she said. "All in all, I worked for five chairs during my career in the nursing department."

As a student, Brown watched



Ellen Brown

buildings multiply and course offerings expand. As a member of the staff, she watched three presidents lead CSU to new heights as the nursing school contributed to the university's reputation for having a team of people committed to working for students.

Brown said she most enjoyed her time at CSU as part of the nursing department. "I loved it," she said.

She also appreciates her time with admissions. "I remember a time when I was the only one processing student applications in administration. There was two of us then and it's just grown from there."

Brown said her overall experience at the university was good. "I've been all over the campus," she said. "I've worked for the physical education office, chemistry department and filling in here and there when needed. No matter where I was, I enjoyed it because of the wonderful faculty and staff. CSU is a great place to be."

Brown, who has two grown children, still resides in Columbus. She retired last year in February after nearly 40 years of service, "I thought I had worked long enough," she said. "Now I'm just having fun and enjoying time with my five grandchildren."

International Association Recognizes Continuing Education Brochure

The Learning Resources Network, in its February 2008 magazine, cites CSU Continuing Education's fall 2007 brochure for its music and ballet programs, right, as exemplary for targeted marketing practices.

According to LERN, an international association that advocates lifelong learning, the CSU brochure exhibits "a simple but artistic design appropriate for the target audience... The brochure and practices from Columbus State are illustrative of the growing importance of targeted marketing in the field of continuing education."

Previously, LERN (<http://www.lern.org>) designated the CSU Continuing Education summer 2006 catalog as a "Best Brochure" as part of the network's 2007 International Awards program.

Continuing Education's "Activ8" summer catalog is available and details the new Activ8 summer programs for kids. Call 706-507-8070 or read more at <http://www.activ8er.com> or go to <http://conted.colstate.edu> for all Continuing Education programs for which CSU faculty and staff receive one 25-percent discount per year.



Schwob School to Commemorate Diazes' Retirement

By April Davis

The Schwob School of Music will honor professors Manuel and Betty Anne Diaz as they each conclude nearly two decades of service at Columbus State with an unforgettable musical celebration designed to leave a lasting impression of their legacy.

The Diaz Benefit Concert and Scholarship Benefit is scheduled for 4 p.m. Sunday, May 11 in RiverCenter's Legacy Hall.

The program will include Brahms' G Minor Piano Quartet and feature three of the Diazes' children who are accomplished musicians:

- Violist **Roberto Díaz**, President of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and former principal violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra (1996-2006);
- Cellist **Andres Diaz**, a Southern Methodist University faculty artist and an artist with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center;
- Violinist **Gabriela Diaz**, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and a Boston-area performer who has performed worldwide.

Andres and Roberto Diaz also perform with violinist Andrés Cárdenas, the third member of the



Betty Anne and Manuel Diaz

internationally renowned Diaz Trio.

The Diaz brothers and sister will be accompanied on the Legacy Hall stage by pianist Eugenio Urrutia, a student of Betty Anne Diaz in the mid-1990s at CSU and an internationally respected performer, who will join the performance in celebration of his studies and friendship with professor Diaz.

Another of the Diazes' daughters, Jenny, will join her parents in the audience.

Throughout the couple's career at CSU, the Diazes have made an impression that has touched the lives of students, faculty and staff.

"What stands out to me in the careers of the Diazes is the combination of high standards and caring about their students," said Ron Wirt, associate director of the Schwob School of Music. "Behind the scenes are countless hours they have spent with individual students and small instrumental groups.

Occasionally, one of these students or groups emerges in a competition,

revealing the high standards and consistent hard work they inspire. Both are wonderful musicians, and I have enjoyed my many collaborations with them," he said. "They also set a most faithful example in attending performances by their students and colleagues: Go to any concert at the Schwob School, and the Diazes will be there."

As the Diazes prepare to move on, they leave behind a gift to continue their legacy of dedicated service to students in musical education. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the newly created Betty Anne and Manuel Diaz Music Scholarship, recognizing excellence in performance on piano or viola.

"We were extremely fortunate to receive a significant lead-off gift from Mrs. Effie Bowers," said Fred Cohen, director of the Schwob School of Music. "We are hoping to raise additional funds from this wonderful benefit concert. All of us at the Schwob school are grateful to the entire Diaz family—from Manuel and Betty Anne to Roberto, Andres, Gabriela and Jenny—for giving of themselves so generously in guiding and providing positive futures for aspiring musicians."

Cohen said he anticipates the first award will be made during 2009-2010.

For tickets (\$100 apiece) call 706-649-1986 or e-mail fivecoat_hallie@colstate.edu.

McCullers Center Resident to Give 'Music of Radiohead' Lecture

Guitarist Carlos Rafael Rivera, a Carson McCullers resident composer in guitar, will lecture on "The Music of Radiohead," at 4 p.m. Friday, April 18 in RiverCenter room 1714. Rivera is internationally known as a "cross-cultural" folk musician, whose recorded work includes performances on feature soundtracks for Lionsgate Films. His program at CSU is free, open to the public and sponsored by CSU's Carson McCullers Center for Writers and Musicians. For more information, call 706 565-4021.

Guitar Recital to Feature World Premiere

A Schwob School of Music guitar ensemble will premiere Carlos Rafael Rivera's "Lula's Prayer" as part of a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 21 in RiverCenter's Legacy Hall. Rivera's piece was commissioned by the McCullers Center as part of the artist's residency at CSU. For more information, call 706-649-7287.

UPCOMING

COE 'Spring Fling' Set for April 25

The College of Education will stage an inaugural "Spring Fling" from 4-8 p.m. Friday, April 25 at the Mock Pavilion and intramural fields at University Avenue and Clearview Circle.

The event targets families and will feature air rockets and solar telescope viewing, a dunking booth, speed croquet, big slides, a football throw, basketball shoot out, karaoke, face painting, a silent auction and more.

Hand stamps for unlimited activity participation are \$10 per person or \$50 for a family pack. Non-participants are welcome at no charge and food and drinks will be sold.

The event benefits the College of Education's annual fund. For more information, contact Lisa Shaw at 706-568-2191 or e-mail shaw_lisa@colstate.edu.

CSU to Celebrate National Library Week April 13-17

CSU Libraries will commemorate National Library Week with daily 4 p.m. contests and prize giveaways for students and a series of programs at the Schwob Library that are free and open to the public:

- **Monday:** *National Library Week kick-off* with cake and punch served on the veranda, 11 a.m.
- **Tuesday:** *Student poetry read-out*, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday:** *Book donation drive*, all day
- **Thursday:** *Columbus Area Library Association LIBRA Award ceremony* and tea, 3:30 p.m. (Presented to CSU Associate Professor of Library Science *Erma Banks* for her contributions to Columbus-area libraries)
- **Thursday:** *Raffle* open to faculty, staff and students, 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call 706-568-2080 or go to <http://library.colstate.edu>.

New Campus Recreation Center: Students to Vote April 24

Students will vote in an April 24 referendum on a proposed fee structure for a new Student Recreation Center.

The \$16 million, 70,000 square-foot facility would open in 2010-2011 as a major hub for student life.

Amenities are to include specialized fitness areas and aerobics rooms; basketball, volleyball and multi-activity (rollerblade, volleyball, soccer, etc.) courts; a walking-running track; a game room; a ballroom for social events; office and retail space and more.

Read more at <http://campusrec.colstate.edu/recbuilding>.

More Events to Close Out Month

April

- 12 - **PRISM Concert**, 7:30 p.m. Legacy Hall: 225 music majors in various instrumental and vocal ensembles, including chamber and solo performances, in a non-stop, 70-minute musical extravaganza (See story at <http://www.colstate.edu/news>)
- 12 - **Astronomy Night**, 8 p.m., CSU's Coca-Cola Space Science Center
- 13 - **Second Sunday: "Butterfly Gardens,"** 2 p.m., CSU's Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center
- 14 - **Guitar and Voice Studio Recital**, 7:30 p.m., Legacy Hall
- 17 - **CSU Wind Orchestra and Wind Ensemble**, 7:30 p.m., Legacy Hall
- 18-19 - **Cougar Baseball:** Armstrong Atlantic State, 7 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday, Ragsdale Field.
- 19 - **Graduate School Open House**, 10-11:30 a.m., Cunningham Center's Blanchard Hall. (Contact Kristin Bagley at bagley_kristin@colstate.edu or call 706-507-8848)
- 21 - **Guitar Studio Recital**, 7:30 p.m., Legacy Hall
- 22 - **Student Art Exhibition Closing Reception**, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Corn Center for the Visual Arts Bay Gallery
- 22 - **Faculty Horn Recital:** Kristen Hansen, 7:30 p.m., Legacy Hall
- 23 - **Cougar Baseball:** West Georgia, 4 p.m., Ragsdale Field
- 23 - **Relay for Life** Kick-Off Event, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m., clock tower (Career Center to host program in advance of American Cancer Society's annual event, call 706-569-3198)
- 24 - **Piano Studio Recital**, 7:30 p.m., Legacy Hall
- 25-28 - **Student Music Recitals** (for lineup go to <http://music.colstate.edu>)
- 30-MAY 10 - **Senior Art Exhibition**, CSU's Corn Center for the Visual Arts Bay Gallery

For more information

Oxbow Meadows: 706-687-4090 or <http://oxbow.colstate.edu>
Schwob School of Music: 706-649-7287 or <http://music.colstate.edu>.
Athletics: 706-568-2204 or <http://www.csuougars.com>.
Department of Art: 706-507-8300 or <http://art.colstate.edu>
Space Science Center: 706-649-1470 or <http://colstate.edu>

Cabaret Theatre April 18-20

The Schwob School of Music's opera and musical theater division will stage a song and dance review — Cabaret Theatre — in RiverCenter's Studio Theatre. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday.

CSU voice performance majors will present a review of singing and dancing styles from Broadway, Hollywood, Blues, and standard cabaret and jazz.

The April 18 performance begins with a champagne-coffee and dessert social.

Archivist's Book Chronicles CSU History in Photos



A new book by CSU Archivist Reagan Grimsley, *Enriching Lives: A Pictorial History of Columbus State University*, is now available.

The 128-page, \$29.95 book chronicles the transformation of a small two-year college into a thriving 7,600-student regional university.

The CSU Bookstore will be the only outlet selling the book initially, and buyers may also buy the book with a credit card through the store's secure Web site, <http://columbusbkstr.com>.

"This pictorial history is an important document in the story of the development of Columbus and this region," CSU President Frank Brown said. "The written word is rivaled only by the instant stories told by pictures of events as they unfold. Lives have been changed, communities transformed and generations enriched by this college. It's a living story of yesterday, today and, most importantly, tomorrow."

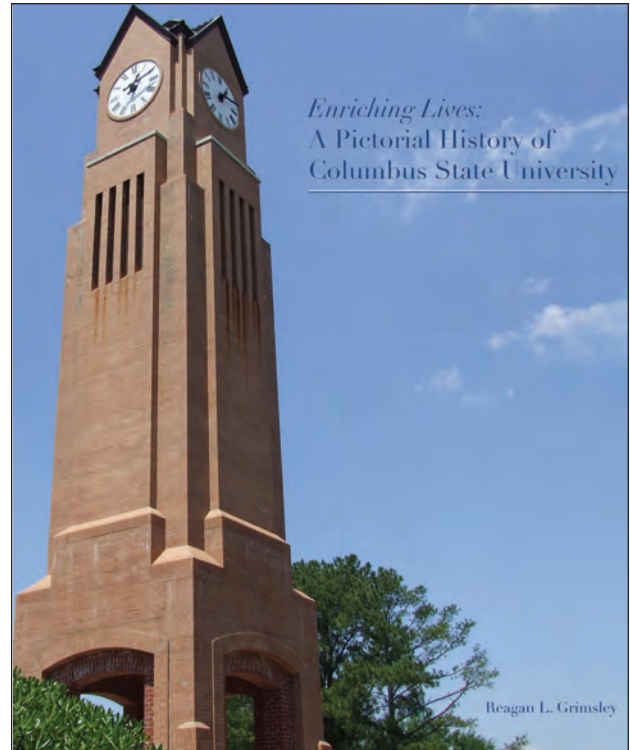
Grimsley, an assistant professor in addition to directing CSU's Archives, said he was encouraged by Brown's support of the project, as well as that of Libraries Dean Callie McGinnis, chair of CSU's 50th Anniversary Committee, who first proposed the book. Publication by Donning Co. Publishers of Virginia Beach, Va., was underwritten by the CSU Foundation.

As the title implies, the book is packed with more than 180 color and black-and-white photos. But there's also analysis that only a historian can offer.

"As time has passed, we can evaluate some events a little better," Grimsley said. "In looking at the school's early years, you've got to remember life was a lot simpler back when we had 500 students versus (the current enrollment of about 7,600)."

The book describes CSU's history chronologically, each of its four chapters focusing on a different era:

- Events leading up to the founding of Columbus College in 1958 and its first five years at the former Shannon Hosiery Mill on Talbotton Road.
- From 1963 -1979, starting with the college's move to what's now the main campus and wrapping up with the retirement of founding President Thomas Y. Whitley.



- The 1980s, which Grimsley calls a "volatile period of history," when Columbus College experienced enrollment declines, budget cuts and a president who clashed with faculty before resigning. One bright spot was the college's first, successful capital campaign.
- The 1990s to the present, focusing first on the successful bid to achieve university status and wrapping up with development of CSU's RiverPark campus in recent years.

Beyond history-shaping events, Grimsley touched on lighter moments, including sunny days in March 1974 when a few students shed clothes and joined college counterparts across the nation in "streaking."

"I probably had the most fun with the streakers," Grimsley said.

One common thread that Grimsley witnessed from the college's early years to the present was its commitment to the community, and the community's commitment to CSU.

"Early on, the idea was to build a middle class – to make it possible for someone who was blue collar to become white collar," Grimsley said. "We educated a lot of people who wouldn't have had opportunities otherwise. It's been a good mutual relationship."

For more information, visit <http://www.colstate.edu/50years/book.asp>.

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