

Letters & Sciences Today



COLUMBUS STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Letters and Sciences
Highlights Vol. 5 - Summer 2015

**Alum Spotlight: Soft Drink
Industry Expert** (page 3)

**Graduate Students' Cutting-
Edge Research** (page 5)

**Community Outreach
Programs** (page 9)

In Memoriam (page 10)

**Selma March
Anniversary**
(page 6)



In this Issue Dean's Welcome - 2 | COLS' Future - 2 | Alumni Awardees - 4 | Faculty Spotlight - 7
| New Certificate Programs - 8 | Giving Back - 11 | Observatory Images - Back Cover

Dean's Welcome



Dean Rome with President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter in Plains, GA

We must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education. The complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate. The broad education will, therefore,

transmit to one not only the accumulated knowledge of the [human] race but also the accumulated experience of social being. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Maroon Tiger (Jan-Feb, 1947:10).

I recently attended one of President Jimmy Carter's Sunday School lessons at the Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Georgia. The topic of the lesson was the often debated dichotomy between science and religion. President Carter captivated the congregation with his lecture that was delivered from rote memory. This lecture was so provocative and inspirational that it could have easily been featured on TED TALKS.

We are very fortunate that Columbus State University is situated within a region that is responsible for so much of American history. In this issue, you will read examples of how our College is taking advantage of this region's rich historical roots and how we are engaging our students in various history-making activities. Take, for example, the Selma March Anniversary. Several professors arranged for two buses to take many of our students, faculty and staff to join thousands of Americans at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. There, they honored the sacrifice and bravery of the men and woman who bled there, on that very pavement exactly 50 years ago. It was a day filled with electricity, inspiration, tales of heartache and courage, and the true story of how a handful of ordinary Americans helped to change the course of history with their grace, their peaceful action, and their bold belief in the true spirit of humanity. It gives us great pleasure to know that our students are learning, firsthand, how and why these events took place and that they are encouraged to participant in these and other character-building activities.

At publication time, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia announced that Dr. Chris Markwood (*pictured at right*), from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, would serve as CSU's fifth president, starting June 1, 2015. We welcome Dr. Markwood and his family to CSU!

The following interview with Dr. Hackett was conducted earlier this spring when he served as Interim President. We're grateful for Dr. Hackett's leadership.



Dr. Chris Markwood, President

Provost on Future of Letters & Sciences

With Dr. Tim Mescon retiring from his position as CSU President in December 2014, Dr. Tom Hackett, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, stepped up to lead the university as Interim President while the search for the next president was completed. We sat down and asked him about the future of the College of Letters and Sciences and what he hoped to see in the next president.

How do you see the future of the College of Letters and Sciences growing?

"There's a strong interest in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), as you know, and I think the things that have been happening in Letters and Sciences in the last few years have shown a tremendous interest growing in those fields. For example, we've seen a growth in graduate programs in the sciences, and we've seen Chemistry become accredited by the American Chemical Society. Then, there's the beginning of the Competitive Premedical Studies Program. All this progress tells a great deal about what the college is about.

We have tremendous potential in Letters (the humanities). We have one of the premier poets in the U.S. right here. We have a real emphasis on writing, all kinds of writing. When you think of creative writing you think of fiction, but I think all writing is creative by its very nature. I'm particularly proud of the English department; I'm a graduate of the English department, and it's always been a great department.

When I start thinking, I think of the departments of Biology and Earth and Space Sciences with their emphasis on fieldwork. We've got folks out at Fort Benning and in the various ecosystems around Columbus. The Math department has redesigned its freshman curriculum with the aim of helping more students progress through its program. They've done a lot of creative things to make that happen. I could go on and on. I think that, first, you're going to see interest in the Sciences increase and a continued growth in Letters as well. I know Dennis Rome has a lot of plans in those areas."

What do you hope a new president will bring to the table specifically for Letters and Sciences?

Things change fast in higher education and in the world, and you have to have a lot of flexibility and vision to catch on to where to go as an institution. That said, I think Letters and Sciences has great leadership. I think the world of Dr. Rome and I think he's going to be a great dean. The faculty and leadership are very strong, and the new faculty we've hired are exceptional. We have such a great combination and we'll see a lot of great things going on. I'm very excited about the college."



Dr. Tom Hackett, Provost

Letters & Sciences Today

Editor & Circulation Coordinator - Jill Carroll | Contributor - Christopher Delano
College of Letters and Sciences | LeNoir Hall | Carroll_Jill@ColumbusState.edu

Design & Layout - Sharifa A. Jackson

ALUM SPOTLIGHT

Prem Virmani at the center of the soft drink industry

Columbus, Georgia has been a hotspot for soft drink development as the hometown of Coca-Cola and RC Cola. Today, we see a still vibrant soft drink industry thriving in Columbus in the labs of Cott Beverages. Cott, headquartered in Ontario, Canada, maintains a global concentrate manufacturing facility in Columbus where the company researches and develops concentrates for use in their ever-growing portfolio of brands, including many private labels and energy drinks sold all over the world.

Prem Virmani, the Senior Vice President of Science and Research for Cott Beverages, has been a driving force in the success of the local Cott laboratory. He not only has a Master's degree in chemistry and experience working for both The Coca-Cola Company and RC Cola, but he is also a proud alumnus of Columbus State University, earning an MBA in 1982. Mr. Virmani was one of three people who, in the early '90's, brought Cott Beverages to the United States and opened a small office in downtown Columbus.

Mr. Virmani was, for a time, the sole member of Research and Development in the Cott Beverages office. "Of course, there was no business for Cott in the U.S. at the time," he shared. "One thing led to another and, to make a very long story short, we built a pretty big company. I was the Vice President of R&D. Our office used to be on Whitesville Road, one lab, but then we made two labs, and we made all the products. In ten years, all the products of 75-80% of major U.S. retailers came from Cott."

In ten years' time, Cott Beverages purchased the international division of RC Cola and moved from their small office to the RC Cola factory on the corner of 10th Street and 10th Avenue. Virmani continued to work as the director of science and research for Cott until 2012, when he became semi-retired. Now, he continues to mentor young chemists in the labs at Cott and provides guidance from his years of experience with research and development.

Mr. Virmani fell in love with Columbus and still resides here with his wife. He credits his time at CSU for giving him an edge in business. Now, CSU is providing Mr. Virmani with even more hands to maintain that edge. The College of Letters and Sciences has established an internship program with Cott Beverages. CSU chemistry students will spend a semester working with the science and research teams in the various labs at the Columbus facility.

In April, Mr. Virmani was recognized by the CSU Alumni Association through the **Thomas Y. Whitley Distinguished Alumnus Award**, the highest honor available to any CSU graduate. This award is presented to graduates "in recognition of their dedication to CSU and their community, as well as their high moral character and integrity".



Prem Virmani, Sr. VP Science & Research at Cott Beverages, Inc., still enjoys testing soft drink ingredients and recipes in the lab.

COTT DIRECTOR JOINS COLLEGE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



David Ragland, Senior Director International Product Development at Cott Beverages, has recently joined the College of Letters and Sciences Leadership Council. The role of the council is to advance the college in the community and region and assist it in fulfilling its mission and goals. Council members work closely with the Dean to create opportunities for students and to strengthen the college's instructional and research programs overall.

Mr. Ragland has assisted in formalizing a student internship program at Cott, and he acts as a liaison between the company and CSU for this initiative.

COLLEGE ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

***Humanities* – Ryan Willoughby (B.A. History, 2008)**

Mr. Willoughby received his M.P.A. in nonprofit management from University of Georgia in 2010. He has served as a housing specialist for NeighborWorks Columbus and as construction/program manager for the Columbus Area Habitat for Humanity. In 2014, he was named Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Georgia, Inc., a statewide organization supporting 67 Habitat affiliates that work to build or renovate housing for those in need. In 2009, Mr. Willoughby co-founded Truth Spring, Inc., a non-profit with the mission to develop and strengthen the North Highland community in Columbus with Christ-centered projects and strategies. He is a member of several community organizations, including Young Professionals and the Exchange Club of North Columbus, and he has served as a volunteer for numerous community service projects.



***Sciences & Mathematics* – Jenn Collins (M.S. Environmental Science, 2011)**



Ms. Collins has spent many years raising awareness of environmental sustainability issues in Columbus. She has served as the assistant director at Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center, fostering partnerships with numerous community groups. Most recently, she was Director of Outreach and Education for the Chattahoochee RiverWarden, Inc., a non-profit committed to using science, education, and advocacy to protect the middle Chattahoochee River and its tributaries. Ms. Collins is certified as a Georgia Master Naturalist and a trainer for Georgia Adopt-a-Stream (chemical/bacterial monitoring), Project WET, Project WILD and Project Learning Tree. She volunteers with many environmental and recreational groups and organizations in the community. She organized neighborhood cleanups and garden plantings in Bibb City that received the 2007 and 2012 Keep Columbus Beautiful Community Improvement Awards.

***Social Sciences* – Sidney Levine, Ph.D. (B.A. Psychology, 1969)**

Dr. Levine received his M.S. in Psychology from Georgia State University in 1973 and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and Health Services Administration from Columbia Pacific University in 1980. He has numerous certifications and licenses in addiction/behavior therapy and abuse prevention. Dr. Levine has over 30 years' experience as a mental health and addictions practitioner. He has been in private practice as well as various positions related to clinical program management, including Clinical Director/Chief of Professional Services at The Family Center in Columbus and posts with the U.S. Army at Fort Benning, Georgia and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Dr. Levine received two of the highest awards from the U.S. Army for civil service. He has also been a consulting instructor for 13 hospitals and higher education institutions in the south.



GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

M.S. Natural Sciences Students Engaged In Cutting-Edge DNA Barcoding Research

The College of Letters and Sciences is home to the new M.S. in Natural Sciences and numerous dedicated graduate students specializing in one of four tracks: Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Geosciences. Two such students, Kylie Bucalo and Samantha Worthy, have been working on their M.S. in Natural Sciences through the Biology track, studying under Dr. Kevin Burgess.

Samantha Worthy is not far from home, Georgetown, GA, and she's had plenty of time to acclimate to Columbus' natural environment, having completed her undergraduate studies at CSU. Kylie Bucalo, on the other hand, hails from Sydney, Australia, where she received her undergraduate degree at the University of Sydney. She is currently employed at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens while completing her research alongside Worthy.

Worthy and Bucalo study plant genetics and DNA barcoding. This new and rapidly-expanding field, spearheaded on a local and international level by Dr. Burgess, combines the technology of DNA testing with ecology and taxonomy to document biodiversity. With a growing collection of plant samples, the CSU herbarium and molecular labs are a significant starting point for any biologist interested in studying the diversity of local floras. However, these graduate students are able to extend their research to other countries.



Samantha Worthy, graduate student, studies plant samples in the cloud forest of Ecuador.

Both Worthy and Bucalo continue to travel extensively as part of their research, specifically to the Siempre Verde Nature Preserve in Ecuador. "We've all had the dream of going to the rainforest," shared Worthy, "but going to Dr. Burgess and telling him this is what I want to do... He told me, "Let's make it happen," and I was in Ecuador two months later."

"It's such a diverse biological hot-spot," Bucalo said of Siempre Verde. "As a biologist, it's jaw-dropping. You don't see that kind of diversity elsewhere."

The research conducted by these students helps to garner international recognition for CSU (as it is now a repository for many DNA-barcoded specimens) and enables students to be ambassadors to communities across the globe.

"It's such a diverse biological hot-spot," Bucalo said of Siempre Verde. "As a biologist, it's jaw-dropping. You don't see that kind of diversity elsewhere."



Kylie Bucalo and Samantha Worthy prepare plant specimens in the Quito herbarium at Catolica University for their thesis research.



Master's student, Kylie Bucalo, enjoys research opportunities at the Siempre Verde Research Station in the Andean mountains of Ecuador.

COVER STORY

COLS FACULTY & STUDENTS MARCH IN SELMA

Selma, Alabama is not a large city (roughly a tenth the population of Columbus), but its population more than tripled on March 7th, 2015, as more than 70,000 spectators arrived to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the historic Bloody Sunday March. This march in protest of voter intimidation and in support of the passage of the Voting Rights Act was met with extreme police violence. It was led by John D. Lewis, who has served as U.S. Representative of Georgia's Fifth Congressional District since 1986. For this anniversary, Rep. Lewis led the march alongside the first African-American President of the United States and other leaders of the civil rights movement.

Joining with the tens of thousands of participants from around the nation were close to fifty Columbus State University students and faculty from several departments and colleges across campus. "Several faculty members in political science, including myself, Dr. Okura, and Dr. Gordon, heard about the opportunity early on and decided we should go," shared Dr. Nick Easton, one of the professors who led the trip to Selma. "We talked with Dr. Gary Sprayberry to see if his department (History and Geography) also wanted to participate." They were very interested and were already in the process of organizing a trip of their own. Several departments, organizations, and individuals on campus had already decided that this anniversary was too important to miss. With a combined effort, the professors realized they

could secure funding to make this trip cost-free for interested students.

"The students were thrilled to be there," Dr. Sprayberry said regarding



A view of the crowd gathered for the 50th anniversary march.



CSU faculty and students gather for the commemorative march in Selma, AL.

student engagement. "They snapped countless photographs, enjoyed the food, marched across the bridge with thousands of other people, and, all in all, had a great time. It was such a moving experience for everyone involved. I was so happy that we were able to make it happen and take dozens of students with us."

The historic significance of the event was not lost on students or faculty. Dr. Fred Gordon, Political Science department chair, remarked that he had a cousin who marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the '60's, and that he had traveled to Selma independently in the past. Dr. Sprayberry's research has followed the civil rights movement as well, and Dr. Easton shared stories of his participation in protests in the 60's. "I was very involved in the civil rights movement in some of the later years--my wife and I met at a sleep-in for fair housing at the Rhode Island State House in 1968."

The experience exceeded the expectations of the students and faculty who traveled to Selma. The excitement in the air was the product of not only fifty years of civil rights progress, but also the renewed focus on issues facing African-Americans following recent protests in Ferguson, Missouri and other cities.

Dr. Sprayberry discussed the work that still remains for voting rights in the United States today. "Frankly, I hope this trip turns our students into activists for voting rights. To me, voting is a fundamental responsibility of all citizens. It is a sacred duty that should not be taken lightly. It is the citizen's one opportunity to effect change and hold our leaders accountable. To squander such a right is to abdicate your responsibility as a citizen of this country."

Dr. Easton advises the student groups of the NAACP and the SPAA (Students for Political Awareness Association) and was glad to see many members at the march, along with students outside of Political Science. He stated that "CSU's delegation was impressive in its size and visibility" among the participants. One student, Kwan Boyd, was interviewed by NBC News. "This would be a perfect opportunity for young students, young people to become more informed, to become more aware of the difficulties that people had to go through in order to receive those rights," Boyd said in his interview.



The 70,000 spectators gathered and marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge together, where the protesters of 1965 had been met with violence from police and Alabama state government who opposed their struggle for equal voting rights.

"The highlight of my day came when we marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. I was surrounded by dozens of people singing 'We Shall Overcome,' the anthem of the civil rights movement," Dr. Sprayberry shared. "I have read about the song, and I have heard recorded versions of it. But nothing could have prepared me for its emotional power. I was swept up by it. It gave me chills. I'll never forget that feeling."

Dr. Easton had a similar response to the experience. "The most moving thing was the size of the crowd. For those of us who have spent a lot of years in protests – civil rights, anti-war, political issues, etc. – there was, particularly in light of Ferguson and similar protests, a sense of a return to the 60's era of protest and activism. It is clearly too early to know if this event marks the beginning of a more activist era such as we saw in the 60's, but seeing that many people together again certainly gave one an indication that we might be at the beginning of another such era."



The CSU group visits the Civil Rights Memorial at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, AL on the way to Selma.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT*

Dr. Felix Harcourt, English Native, Loves American History

Dr. Felix Harcourt, a native of England, brings an exciting new perspective to the Department of History and Geography. Dr. Harcourt completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Warwick where he participated in a study abroad program to the University of California Davis and fell in love with American history. When asked why a boy who grew up in a small fishing village near London would want to study American history, Dr. Harcourt replied, "There are only so many Kings and Queens to memorize." Dr. Harcourt completed his graduate schooling at George Washington University in Washington D.C., the heart of American history, and there his interests became more focused.

In a class on U.S. History between World War I and World War II, Dr. Harcourt became interested in the history of extremist groups in the U.S. during that time. He felt as if they were strikingly similar to Fascist groups in Europe during the same first half of the 20th century. Specifically, his focus shifted towards the history of the notorious Ku Klux Klan. Dr. Harcourt found the research fascinating and the mindset of the Klan was "so alien" to someone not only unable to sympathize with their beliefs but also someone from another country.

In the past few years, Dr. Harcourt has been working on a much-anticipated manuscript on the culture of the "Second Klan," the group that formed in Stone Mountain, GA and became the recognizable Klan during the middle of the century. This incarnation of the Klan spread across the entire country, with huge political presences as far out as Colorado. His desire to study their cultural heritage (such as music, art, movies, etc.), rather than the history of their

violent demonstrations and crimes, comes from the need to better chronicle not only the sensational aspects of their pervasiveness, but also the commonality of the Klan's presence. "There are plenty of books about their crimes, but what about the movies they made, or the music they recorded? They had baseball teams that played against Jewish or Catholic or Black teams. They recorded music in the same studios as blues musicians and jazz bands."

While at school in D.C., Dr. Harcourt says he traveled often to Atlanta for research purposes. When he discovered the Department of History and Geography at CSU, he was excited to join the faculty. The position allows him to take advantage of the proximity to Atlanta and the Southern hospitality he's come to enjoy. Dr. Harcourt said the digital growth of the department and the level of student engagement helped him choose CSU. He hopes that his research can be shared with the community, which has a long historical association with the Klan. *The Ledger-Enquirer*, Columbus' own newspaper, won the 1926 Pulitzer Prize for "its brave and energetic fight against the Ku Klux Klan" [quote from the Pulitzer Prize website]. This helped curb the presence of the Klan in the city. Dr. Harcourt is excited to be so close to the history that he has researched.



Dr. Felix Harcourt

* At publication time, Dr. Harcourt accepted a position at another institution.

NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE

Dr. Becky Becker, theatre professor, coordinates the International Studies Certificate through CSU's Center for International Education. She was an exchange student in Sweden for a year after high school; this experience influenced Dr. Becker's studies and her teaching. When she came to CSU she jumped into the International Learning programs. "Coming here and discovering that there were all these study abroad programs was really exciting," she shared.

The International Learning Community, an existing program that includes courses with an international focus, was the starting point for the new certificate. Dr. Becker works with a committee to designate which courses count towards the certificate. The requirements for the certificate are broad and open to personal interests: 18 hours total, with the only required courses being *Introduction to International Studies* and the Capstone course. The remaining hours are met by taking courses that are part of the International Learning Community, upper-division international or cross-cultural courses in any field, and "experiential" courses – courses taken abroad or work completed with international communities in the U.S.

"On a smaller scale, I've been trying to get students in the certificate involved with international students on campus by inviting English Language Institute students into the INTS 2105 course and supporting engagement with the International Club on campus," Dr. Becker explained. She has also been encouraging students to become involved with the International Friends program on campus. "A lot of times, students will study abroad and they have a great experience. It's life changing, and then they come back and don't know what to do with it," said Dr. Becker. "This is a way for them to see its reflection in the course work they're taking and in their degree." For more information, visit the Center for International Education website: cie.columbusstate.edu.



Theatre in Japan students and faculty and International Studies Certificate coordinator, Becky Becker, dress in kimonos during their study of Japanese culture and theatre.

MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES CERTIFICATE

When Dr. Shannon Godlove came to CSU in the fall of 2012, she didn't expect to be the director of an academic certificate within a year's time, but her background in Medieval Studies had garnered attention during the early hiring process. "When I came to CSU to interview for the position," Dr. Godlove shared, "Dr. Daniel Gullo said he was interested in putting together a Medieval and Renaissance Studies program, which is something that few regional state schools can offer." They immediately continued work on the program, realizing that there was already a high level of Medieval and Renaissance scholarship at CSU in various disciplines. "Professors were already offering courses, but they weren't visible to students who were not in their major," Dr. Godlove explained. "So we saw this as a way to create a community of people interested in studying earlier periods in European history, literature and art."

The certificate program began in fall 2013, with Dr. Godlove as faculty coordinator and eleven affiliated professors who regularly teach courses that count towards the certificate. This semester alone, there are ten courses in the program across several disciplines, including History, English, Philosophy, Theatre, and Art History. While the certificate is housed within the College of Letters and Sciences, it's very interdisciplinary. "The certificate allows you to move outside of your major," Dr. Godlove shared, "and entertain different perspectives on a particular subject."

The students in the program are as multidisciplinary as the program itself, representing majors from various departments and colleges at CSU. The students in the program travel together to museums and participate in on-campus events. In Fall 2014, Dr. Godlove and Dr. Kristen Hansen from the Schwob School of Music worked with students on the production of a Renaissance Masque. Student participants in the program, from various majors, created a production of Ben Jonson's *News from the New World Discovered in the Moon*. Students acted, danced, and performed music from the time period that coincided with Jonson's 1620 production.

More information regarding the Medieval and Renaissance Studies program can be found at medren.columbusstate.edu.



Students collaborated on the reproduction of a Renaissance Masque, Ben Johnson's *News from the New World Discovered in the Moon*.

AT&T Supports New UTEACH Tutoring Initiative

AT&T representative Terry Smith presented a \$2,000 check from AT&T to Columbus State University's UTeach program in the fall to support a STEM tutoring initiative for at-risk high school students in Columbus. This funding will enable CSU UTeach students to provide 200 hours of free tutoring in math and science to high school students in need. Five local high schools are classified as Title I schools and will benefit from targeted tutoring for students. Title I is designated for schools with the highest percentages of children from low-income families.

The STEM tutoring initiative aims to improve graduation rates for local high school students and enhance their college and career readiness. The program will also enhance the work experience of UTeach students at CSU. Best practices training provided by the UTeach program ensures that UTeach students are highly qualified to teach critical math and science concepts to high school students. AT&T has previously contributed \$125,000 to support UTeach Columbus and CSU's STEM Honors Camp.



(From left) College of Education and Health Professions Dean Deidre Greer, AT&T representative Terry Smith, Provost Tom Hackett, Earth and Space Sciences professor and UTeach Columbus Science Co-Director Kimberly Shaw, and UTeach Columbus Education Co-Director Deborah Gober.

PSYCHOLOGY IN THE COMMUNITY

Two professors from the Department of Psychology have been making a substantial positive impact in the community. Drs. Diana Riser and Katherine White partnered with the Columbus branches of Girls Inc. and the YMCA in 2014 to implement a series of programs aimed toward improving academic and social experiences for middle and high school students. These "intervention programs" were developed by Heroic Imagination Project, an organization founded by famed social psychologist Philip Zimbardo.

"The programs acknowledge that academic and social outcomes are intertwined and thus deserve simultaneous attention," shared Dr. White. The professors involved undergraduate psychology majors in the implementation of these programs that included about thirty students. The first intervention focused on the adoption of a "growth mindset" instead of the harmful "fixed mindset." Dr. White explained that "a person who has a fixed mindset tends to believe that their abilities and talents are fixed and unchangeable [but] a person with a growth mindset recognizes that one's abilities can be improved through the application of consistent work and practice." This shift in mindset is valuable for success in academics and athletics, as well as in social relationships and daily activities.

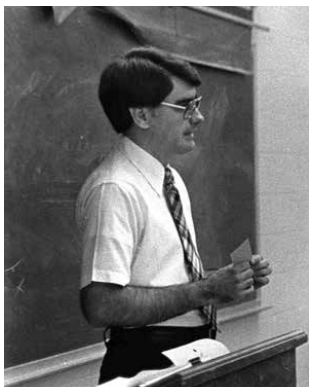
The second intervention built upon the first and taught the students about "attributions," or explanations for events and occurrences in our lives. "Some attributions are more adaptive than others," Dr. White continued. "For example, if a student fails an exam, they can attribute this to being "dumb" or they can attribute it to being "unprepared". The first attribution is less adaptive because it breeds negativity and encourages inaction; after all, what can you do about being "dumb"? The second attribution is much more adaptive because being "unprepared" is something that you can change and improve upon."

The third intervention, designed to address issues relating to stereotypes and prejudice, was aimed at helping students become aware of the harmful impacts of their assumptions and judgments, as well as cope with stereotypes which they may have to personally deal with. The fourth and final intervention built upon the previous three by addressing the "bystander effect," or how people are less likely to help when there are other people around. Dr. White explained that addressing this effect is important for these students. "For students of this age, this applies especially to situations like bullying and fights where they may not consider intervening, such as going to get a teacher. The goal is to empower students to offer their help and assistance when it is safe and appropriate so that they too can become everyday heroes."

While data is still being collected and processed, the professors and students involved in this research are hopeful that they've already made a positive difference in the young lives of their study participants.

IN MEMORIAM

Associate Dean Pat McHenry remembers colleagues who died this past year



John Murzyn

John Murzyn taught American History at CSU from 1970 until his retirement in 2002. He was a graduate of Villanova University and held a Ph.D. from New York University. Although I was barely getting started at CSU when John retired, I found him to be a colleague I much admired. In committees and faculty meetings, which is where I got to know John, he was quiet by temperament and graceful when speaking. This made his contributions to the conversations at hand all the more profound. John's colleague Craig Lloyd, a member of the History faculty, remembers him as a child of Polish immigrants with deep family connections in Philadelphia, and Patty Chappel of History and Geography remembers his love of baseball and dedication to the Phillies. John well deserved Emeritus Faculty status, which his colleagues granted him soon after his retirement.

Caryl Lloyd

Caryl Lloyd taught French at CSU from 1971 until 1985, when she joined the faculty of the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Later she moved to the University of West Georgia, where she chaired the Department of Foreign Language and Literatures until her retirement in 2002. Even in these years of professional appointments elsewhere, she maintained strong connections to Columbus through her husband, History Professor Craig Lloyd, and her many friends at CSU and in the city. I met Caryl and Craig shortly after I arrived in Columbus in 1996, and indeed it was Caryl's advice that I sought out early in my career when I needed a bit of career direction. Caryl had great savvy in professional matters, a quality her colleagues recognized and appreciated. She was also a teacher and scholar of the first rank, having received a Ph.D. in French from the University of Iowa, mentoring her students into successful pursuits, and becoming internationally noted as an expert on eighteenth-century French writers. Craig and Caryl welcomed many colleagues and friends to their summer house in France over the years. She was much beloved for her quick wit, her activist streak, her warmth, and her humor.



Retired History Professor Craig Lloyd has established the Caryl L. Lloyd Memorial Scholarship Fund, in memory of his beloved wife, to encourage the study of foreign languages at CSU. Tax-deductible contributions can be made online at ColumbusState.edu/Giving or checks (made payable to CSU Foundation) can be mailed to Advancement Services, Columbus State University, 4225 University Ave, Columbus GA 31907.



Jim Brewbaker

Strictly speaking, Jim was not a faculty member of Letters and Sciences, but certainly an honorary colleague. As Professor of English Education in the College of Education (now Education and Health Professions) since 1971, he mentored a generation and more of English teachers, sharing with them the infectious delight he took in poetry, fiction, drama, and especially children's literature. He loved to read at the annual Banned Books event sponsored by the Library. I was as shocked as everyone to hear of his death. Only a few days before I chatted with Jim about the Saturday market, about how he and I often wound up at Owen Ditchfield's pepper table at the same time. His funeral was a fitting and elegant expression of Jim's devotion to his family and theirs to him. He was also a beloved figure among students and colleagues at CSU, and through his work with so many teachers, he has made an indelible mark on Columbus and on every place where CSU graduates teach English.

Lon Marlowe

No one who met Lon Marlowe could ever forget him, his booming voice, his impossible height, his enterprising mind. Lon was already an institution at CSU when I arrived in 1996. As Executive Director of the CSU Foundation, Lon's influence on the direction of CSU was profound. He was instrumental in creating the Riverpark Campus downtown, student housing, and CSU's presence in Oxford. The Spencer House in Oxford, one of CSU's proudest assets thanks to the generosity of Kyle Spencer, was a favorite of Lon's, and he was involved in every detail of its acquisition, right down to selecting the furnishings. For nearly fifteen years, the Spencer House has made it possible for CSU students and faculty to study in Oxford. The last time I saw Lon was at an event sponsored by Kyle Spencer for Oxford program participants. Though weakened a bit by illness, he was delighted to be among the large number of people whose lives had been enriched by the Oxford experience.



GIVING BACK

HONORING A FALLEN OFFICER

The Thomas Keith Slay Memorial Scholarship was established in September 2013 to memorialize Corporal Slay, who died that year, and his commitment to law enforcement in our community. Corporal Slay was assigned as a Special Agent with the Columbus Police Department's Metro Narcotics Task Force and was the primary helicopter pilot for the unit. He served in law enforcement for over 32 years in Columbus, first with the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office, then with the City of Columbus Police Department. The fund was established through a generous donation from The Grainger Foundation, an independent, private foundation in support of Columbus



Columbus Police Chief Rick Boren presents scholarships to Amaka Iloegbunam and Ernestine Dozier (on left) and James Fielding and Dustin Rivera (on right).

State University's mission. Donations by The Grainger Foundation in 2013 and 2015 were recommended by Brian Brock, Market Manager of W.W. Grainger, Inc.'s Columbus location. The scholarship provides financial support for select Columbus State University criminal justice students. The inaugural scholarships were awarded to two outstanding students, **Amaka Iloegbunam** and **Ernestine Dozier**, in April 2014. This presentation was attended by many members of local and regional law enforcement agencies. In April 2015, another two students, **James Fielding** and **Dustin Rivera**, were recipients of this scholarship. **Columbus Police Chief Rick Boren** was present to pay tribute to Corporal Slay and present the students with their awards.



DONORS HELP TO BOOST STUDENT RETENTION THROUGH NEW SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP

The Friends of Letters and Sciences fund was established in 2010, and since that time, alumni of our college have made more than 500 contributions, generating over \$17,000 to support students and faculty. Sierra Johnson (**pictured on the right**), a French major, recently completed her studies in Quebec. This opportunity was made possible by contributions to the fund.

We're excited to announce a new scholarship that will use Friends funds to encourage junior students to take summer courses, especially those who are academically motivated but not HOPE eligible. The junior year is a critical juncture for students, many of whom face financial pressures that become obstacles to their academic progress. This new scholarship will help students stay on the path to graduation.



BIRKHEAD SCHOLARSHIP FOR BIOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Department of Biology at CSU has recently established the **William S. Birkhead Fund for Biology** to provide stipends for graduate students in the new Master of Science in the Natural Sciences Biology Track. This fund provides the opportunity to honor Dr. Birkhead's 33-year career at CSU and his passion and drive working with students, conducting field work, and mentoring young scientists. Contributions to the William S. Birkhead Fund for Biology can be made online at ColumbusState.edu/Giving.

SUPPORTING THE COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCES

With the help of our alumni and friends, the College of Letters and Sciences is able to provide scholarships and other significant opportunities that help make CSU *a first choice* for students, faculty and supporters.

Tax-deductible contributions to our scholarship funds or other programs can be made online at ColumbusState.edu/Giving. For more information about our programs and initiatives, please contact Jill Carroll, Development Director: 706-565-7874; Carroll_Jill@ColumbusState.edu.



COLLEGE OF
LETTERS AND SCIENCES
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY



COLUMBUS STATE
UNIVERSITY

4225 University Avenue, Columbus, GA 31907

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 10
Columbus, Georgia

MEADWESTVACO OBSERVATORY CAPTURES STUNNING IMAGES WITH NEW EQUIPMENT

The Coca-Cola Space Science Center's Mead WestVaco Observatory has undergone a complete upgrade, from the installation of a new 24-inch PlaneWave telescope to the newest addition: a research-grade CCD camera by Apogee Alta, complete with a filter wheel that allows researchers to select specific wavelength bands (colors) of light to observe. Installation of the Alta camera was recently completed and preliminary photos were taken to show the capabilities of the new instrument. "We're very pleased with how the equipment is performing right out of the gate," shared Dr. Rosa Williams, professor of Astronomy. "These are only from our first month's images - we will actually be able to do better than this long-term by perfecting our calibrations and using more sophisticated imaging strategies, which we now have the tools for."

The Mead WestVaco Observatory works closely with faculty of the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, whose students are involved constantly in the telescope work, getting a great deal of hands-on experience. The CCSSC also engages the public through webcasts of astronomical events, image sharing, and the interactive solar-observing program with local and national K-12 schools.

These are two of the first stunning images taken by the telescope:

The Orion Nebula in two wavelengths (red: hydrogen H-alpha, blue oxygen [O III]). This is a star-forming region in which the gas is energized by the radiation from newborn stars to show the glow you see in the image. The darker shadows across this bright background are regions of much colder and denser gas and dust, out of which the newest stars form.

The Moon shows up here in sharp detail over a very wide field for such a powerful camera. The full Moon takes up about half a degree on the sky, which can be covered by this telescope and camera combination without significant distortion even at the edges of the field.

