

Reminder: A comprehensive **CAMPUS CALENDAR** is located at the top of our www.daltonstate.edu homepage. To have College-sponsored events, meetings, or activities posted to the calendar and/or included in the monthly *eQuill*, email information to [lmassy](mailto:lmassy@daltonstate.edu) or call 4587.



The Bird is Back!
**Press Conference:
New Basketball Coach**
Thursday, August 2
11 am, Brown 105

Community United Around Education

I am proud to live in a community that embraces education the way Dalton and Whitfield County are doing so now.

It was an extraordinary moment in June when our mayor and county commission chair stood alongside the chairmen of the Dalton and Whitfield Boards of Education and other business and civic leaders to pledge their commitment to an education initiative that will have far-reaching benefits not only our children and schools, but for the entire community.

The specific goal of the initiative is to support, encourage, and nurture early literacy in all area children who attend our public schools. We want to create a culture that values literacy and that expects every child to be a proficient reader at an early age. We do not want any child to slip between the cracks and end up excluded from the vast and varied opportunities that are available to those who can read well and write proficiently.

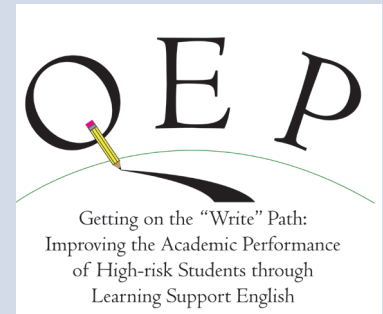
Research tells us that up to third grade, students are learning to read. From fourth grade on, they're reading to learn—using the reading skills they've acquired to understand the content-rich subjects of science, math, and social studies while also developing problem-solving, critical thinking, and analytical skills as well. The child who has not mastered reading is at a distinct disadvantage when approaching content-rich higher-level classes, and it's a problem that only gets worse with time.

We know that children who are not proficient readers by the end of third grade are already on track to drop out from high school, and we know too that a high school dropout earns, over a lifetime, an average of \$260,000 less than a high school graduate. The personal impact of lost earnings is significant but is multiplied when considering the loss of taxes paid and other dollars that are not pumped into the economy by the lower wage-earner.

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Dr. John Schwenn



Fall semester is approaching fast, and this year that means extra excitement! In addition to the usual buzz of activity with new students learning their way around and returning students settling into new classes, Dalton State College is getting ready for visitors.

Between September 18 and 20, the College will host a visiting team from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' Commission on Colleges. SACS is our accrediting agency, and every 10 years they review us for reaccreditation. This gives us a chance to show all the good things we've been doing, and this year, we also have a big new project to share, our **Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**.

Our visiting team is chaired by **Dr. David Moore**, Associate Vice President for International Education at Broward College in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and the Lead QEP Evaluator is **Dr. Robert Cummings** of the University of Mississippi. Our SACS representative, **Dr. Claudette Williams**, will accompany them, as will seven additional members of the visiting team and one observer. Dalton State faculty and staff will want to be available for interviews and other meetings.

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Dalton State... Growing again!



Dalton State Foundation has purchased the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) property located on College Drive for use by the College. The property consists of 5 acres of land and a 15,000 square foot building with parking. Pictured in front of the building are, from left: Dalton Mayor and Dalton State alum **David Pennington**; **President Schwenn**; **Werner Braun**, President of CRI; and **David Elrod**, Director of Institutional Advancement for Dalton State.

CAMPUS WATCH

Submit professional news (after the fact) for the September issue to Imassey by 8/27. Items received later will be held for the next issue.

Associate Professor of English **Dr. Marsha Mathews'** first published fiction "More than a Mess of Greens" has been published in *The Broad River Review: The Literary Review of Gardner-Webb University*. In addition, author Silas House selected her piece as one of the top three fiction submissions in this year's Rash Awards. Mathews also has a poem, "Scottish Countryside," in the recent release of California State's *Dash Literary Journal*. Another poem, "The Day the Principal Called," can be read in *Cradle Songs: An Anthology of Poems on Motherhood*. In addition, two of Mathews' poems, "Pileated Woodpecker" and "Chorale Evensong" are published in the Summer 2012 issue of *Victorian Violet*. And she is excited to announce that her first book, *Northbound Single-Lane*, has received another favorable review, this time in *Southernreader.com* <http://www.southernreader.com/SouthRead15.13.html> (Follow this link and scroll to the bottom of the page to see the grasshopper turn color. Push the link under the grasshopper to hear Mathews read "Grasshopper.")

On July 12, Associate Professor of Political Science **Dr. Tom Mullen** presented "America, the Middle East, and The Arab Spring" at a Sons of the Revolution meeting at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Dalton.

Dr. Christy Price, Professor of Psychology, and **Dr. Sandra Stone**, VP for Academic Affairs, presented "The College Completion Game: May the Odds be Ever in Your Favor" at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Academic Affairs summer meeting in San Francisco on July 27.



Dalton State's **Office of Veteran Services** has a Facebook page to help students keep up with important information relating to military and military dependent students.

LIKE US at: <http://www.facebook.com/DaltonStateCollegeVeteranServices>



Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., M.D., left, of Griffin, Georgia, visited Dalton State on July 27 and toured the campus with President Schwenn. In addition to serving on the University System's Board of Regents, Dr. Hopkins, a board certified orthopaedic surgeon, has served on the Georgia Health Strategies Council and the Governor's Physician Partnership.

Getting on the 'Write' Path

(Continued from page 1)

A kickoff to introduce the students to the Quality Enhancement Plan will be held on September 14, just before our visiting team arrives. The QEP's title is "Getting on the 'Write' Path: Improving the Academic Performance of High-risk Students through Learning Support English." Faculty members are encouraged to include information about the visit and the QEP on their syllabi for this semester and to draw students' attention to the videos that will be available as well. A "Frequently Asked Questions about the QEP" sheet has been distributed electronically to faculty for inclusion on syllabi and discussion in class, and students will receive bookmarks with information.

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

Things to Know about the QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan)

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

August Calendar of Events:

Thursday, August 2

Press Conference: New BB Coach!
11 am, Brown 105

Tuesday, August 7 (Info: dwest)

New Faculty Orientation
8:45 am – 3:30 pm, Brown 202

Tuesday, August 7

Faculty/staff portraits, 9 am– 3 pm
Brown Center – Details to follow

Wednesday, August 8

8 am – 3:30 pm – Fall Assembly
5:30 – 7 pm – Reception/Keynote:

Dr. Mary Clement, Berry College
“Helping Students Transition
from High School Learning
Environments to College”

Please attend if your schedule allows.

Monday, August 13

First day of A & B Session classes

August 13 – 17 (Dalton Campus)

Week of Welcome*

- 8/13 – Snack Attack
- 8/14 – Volleyball Tournament
- 8/14 – Ice Cream Social
- 8/14 – Hot Wing Eating Contest
- 8/15 – Day for Dalton
- 8/16 – RSO Fair
- 8/17 – Headphone Disco Party
- 8/17 – Family Outdoor Movie

August 20 – 24 (Gilmer Center)

Week of Welcome*

- 8/20 – Snack Attack
- 8/21 – Ice Cream Social
- 8/21 – Tye-Dye T-Shirts
- 8/22 – Bingo
- 8/23 – Back to School BBQ

*For times/locations, go to www.daltonstate.edu and click on Campus Calendar or call 4428. Week of Welcome sponsored by Campus Activities Board (CAB).

Community United Around Education...

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Estimates are that by 2020 some 60 percent of jobs will require education and training past high school, whether in the form of a technical certificate, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree. In Georgia, about 42 percent of young adults today are college-educated (far fewer in Northwest Georgia), so a huge gap exists between future demand and the current supply. We need to create a pipeline of educated, trained, skilled young men and women to take the jobs of the future, and those opportunities will simply not be available to those who cannot read and write.

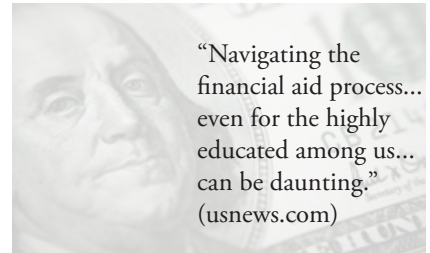
At Dalton State, we know we are expected to turn out many, many more college graduates in the next few years to meet our local workforce needs. But to have college graduates we first need to have college students, and to have college students, we need to have high school graduates. And we will not have high school graduates if students cannot read and write.

More college-educated graduates working in higher-paying jobs will translate into a more robust local economy as dollars are earned and re-spent in the community. Furthermore, crime rates are lower in communities with higher educational attainment.

A more educated community is also more attractive to young professionals and companies looking for a place to locate. Smart people are drawn to places where smart people live. The emphasis on early literacy in our schools also communicates effectively that we are a community that values education.

Implementing the literacy curriculum our local school systems have chosen is a pricey proposition, but addressing the matter on the front end—when children are young—is far less costly to the community than tackling it on the back end in the form of remediation, increased crime, and lower-paying jobs.

We've all heard it said that knowledge is power; I believe literacy is the key to accessing information and knowledge. I am proud to support the Readers to Leaders literacy initiative. It's good for the children of Dalton and Whitfield County; it's good for Dalton State College; it's good for our entire community.



“Navigating the financial aid process... even for the highly educated among us... can be daunting.”
(usnews.com)

To learn more, the Office of Student Financial Aid and Veteran Services recommends: http://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/the-scholarship-coach/2012/07/19/12-college-financial-aid-terms-defined?s_cid=rss:the-scholarship-coach:12-college-financial-aid-terms-efined&asid=bfce4c43

TRANSITIONS

Welcome to

Richard Skeel
Athletics

Farewell to

Lynne Cabe
Social Work

Janethia Caldwell
Advising Center

April Coker
Fiscal Affairs

James Coleman
School of Business

Charles Elfer
School of Education

Marilyn Fitzpatrick
Institutional Research

Donna Mayo
School of Business

Alex Swan
Marketing/Communications

Jody Trost
Academic Resources



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