

### Getting to Know You . . .

An interview with Dr. John Schwenn



Q. What initially attracted you to a life as a professor and college administrator?

A. I was working on my Masters degree when a professor asked me if I would consider working on my Doctorate. If I did this, he indicated he would make me one of his Graduate Teaching Assistants. I really enjoyed the experience and thus applied for university teaching positions. The first position I held included some administrative duties. I enjoyed teaching and I enjoyed being an administrator and thus my career evolved, often quite independent of me.

Q. If you had not chosen this field, what other career paths might you have undertaken?

A. I would have been a school psychologist. My education included school psychology and during the initial years of my professional career I did much intelligence and academic testing for special education. I was also interested in being a clinical psychologist.

Q. What excites you about your new role as President of Dalton State College?

A. I am excited about the faculty, staff, and students. I enjoyed meeting everyone during my interview and look forward to working with all. Dalton State is in a good position for growth and doing great things. The foundations are in place so I believe the next few years are going to be exciting.

Q. Given what you know about Dalton State, what do you see as the greatest opportunities and biggest challenges of the next decade?

A. The greatest opportunities are for growth and for creating educational opportunities for students in this geographic area. Challenges include the growth and expansion as resources usually are scarce for what needs to be done and becoming a 24/7 campus.

Q. What do you anticipate will be your first "order of business" when you arrive in March?

A. I want to meet with and listen to all segments of the campus and the community.

Q. As someone new to the region, what are you looking forward to seeing/doing/ experiencing in Northwest Georgia?

A. I am looking forward to returning to the South. I have never lived in a mountain area and this will give us new opportunities for exploring.

Q. Whom do you call family?

A. My wife and I have 3 adult children, Steven and twins Kimberly and Amy. We have two grandchildren, Rivers, 6 and Presley, 1 month. My parents and sister live in Wisconsin.

### February Birthdays

- 2 Patrick Clifton
- 3 Steve Bettis  
Garrett Burgner
- 4 Wes Davis
- 5 Sheila Coley  
Becky Hyde
- 7 Della Sampson
- 8 Rochelle Bautista
- 9 Milton Brown
- 10 Mihaela Blanariu  
Penny Cordell  
Lee Ann Nimmons
- 11 Ken Ellinger
- 13 Donna Mayo
- 14 Tim Hawkins
- 15 Glenda Hobbs
- 17 Darren Crawford
- 18 Larry Johnson  
Kathryn Woody
- 19 Jane Taylor
- 21 Cyrus Kirk
- 22 Natalie Wade  
Gail Womac
- 24 Christy Walker
- 25 John Paul Bellamy
- 27 Cordia Starling



### Birthday Spotlight

**Becky Hyde**

Accounting Assistant/  
Student Accounts

**Age on this birthday?**

I am still in "double digits."  
Really, just glad to be here.

**What do you like best about your job?**

The interaction with students.  
And my job is never boring.

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The sky's the limit.

### Campus Watch

*The Mean World Effects of Reality Television – Perceptions of Antisocial Behaviors Resulting from Exposure to Competition-Based Reality Programming* is the title of a new book by **Dr. Kris Barton**, Assistant Professor of Speech. This study is based upon his dissertation, in which he examined the effects that reality-based competition shows, such as *Survivor*, *The Apprentice*, and *The Bachelor*, have on viewers' perceptions of the world. The book has been published by VDM Publishing.

Accepted for publication in the *Journal of the International Academy for Case Studies* is a publication co-authored by **Dr. Larry Johnson**, Associate Professor of Economics, **Dr. Marilyn Helms**, Sesquicentennial Chair and Professor of Management, and **Dr. Joseph Baxter**, Professor of Management Information Systems. The title of the publication is: "Mohawk Industries, Inc. (MHK): Assessing Financial Performance During a Period of Rapid Transition." Another article by **Dr. Johnson** "The Impact of Volume Risk on Hedge Effectiveness: The Case of a Natural Gas Independent Power Producer Operation" has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Energy Markets*.

Assistant Professor of English **Dr. Joe Keener's** book *Shakespeare and Masculinity in Southern Fiction: Faulkner, Simms, Page, and Dixon* has been published by Palgrave Macmillan and will be released on February 5.

**Dr. Keith Perry**, Associate Professor of English, has collaborated with Jean W. Cash to co-edit *Larry Brown and the Blue-Collar South: A Collection of Critical Essays*. The manuscript has been accepted for publication by the University of Mississippi Press and is due out this spring.

An article by **Dr. Kenneth Pestka**, Assistant Professor of Physics, has been accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of *Physical Review Letters*. The article is entitled: "Measurement of the Elastic Constants of a Columnar SiC Thin Film."

"Fast Computation of Minimal Fill Inside a Given Elimination Ordering" was the title of a presentation made by **Dr. Barry Peyton**, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, at the 2007 Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) Workshop on Combinatorial Scientific Computing in Costa Mesa, California. He collaborated with Pinar Heggernes of the University of Bergen in Norway on this project.

**Dr. Tom Veve**, Associate Professor of History, has contributed four articles to the *Encyclopedia of Imperialism, 1800-1914*, which is published by the Greenwood Press. The entries are: "The Battle of Antietam," "The Battle of Chancellorsville," "The Battle of Fredericksburg," and "The Battle of Ligny."



Dr. Kris Barton



Dr. Joe Baxter



Dr. Marilyn Helms



Dr. Larry Johnson



Dr. Joe Keener



Dr. Keith Perry



Dr. Kenneth Pestka



Dr. Barry Peyton



Dr. Tom Veve



Dr. Jack Waskey

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Congratulations to the following student leaders

**Merith Espinoza**  
**Emily Jones**  
**Corey McAllister**  
and **Shaun Mursell**

whose proposal "It Takes a Village to Raise SI" was accepted and will be presented during the Georgia Tutoring Association's 8th Annual Conference in Macon on February 23. Joining them will be **Jody Trost** and **Ginger Almon**.

(Campus Watch . . . continued from page 2)

**Dr. Jack Waskey**, Associate Professor of Social Science, has had several entries published in the six-volume work *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Love, Courtship, and Sexuality throughout History*. Entries in Volume 2, *The Medieval Era*, include: "Albertus Magnus," "al-Razi," "Avicenna," "Bhakti Devotion," "Peter Damian," "Rabbi Gershom ben Judah," "Ibn Gabirol," "Ibn Rushd," "Ellora Kailasanath Temple," "Cult of Krishna," "Maimonides," "Sharia Law," "Sufism," "Tantric Buddhism," and "Theophylactus of Ochrid."

Entries included in Volume 3, *The Early Modern Era*, include: "Buddhism," "Castes," "Hinduism," "Islam." In addition, Dr. Waskey has contributed several entries to the *International Encyclopedia of Social Science*, including "Conundrum," "Occam's Razor," "Sudras," and "Vaisyas."

### Becky Hyde

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#### Where did you grow up and where have you lived?

I grew up in the Fort Oglethorpe area, and I have lived in Guam, Texas, Indiana, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

#### What are your hobbies?

Shopping.

#### What is your favorite home-cooked meal?

My homemade lasagna.

#### Whom do you call family?

My husband Baker and son Brad. My parents live next door to us. I also have two brothers and one sister and their families.

#### Favorite vacation and why?

All vacations are favorites.

#### That of which you are most proud?

My son Brad, of course.

#### How long have you been employed here?

12 years.

#### Favorite movie of all time?

*Wizard of Oz*. I seem to relate to the Wicked Witch.

#### If you were not working here, what would you be doing?

I should have been an actress.

#### What will you do when you retire?

Relax, relax, and relax some more. Go to the beach during the winter. I guess my new name would be "Snow Bird."

*You are invited to a luncheon reception honoring Dr. James A. Burran on Tuesday, February 26 12:00 - 2:00 pm Room 105 The James E. Brown Center*



## Transitions

### A Fond Farewell to:

**Mary Andrews**  
Academic Resources  
**Norm Presse**  
Social Sciences

### Welcome to:

**Charles Harris**  
Public Safety

The sky's the limit.