

Campus News

Provost-to-be:

Dr. David Lyle Jeffrey will be Baylor's new provost and academic vice president.

Academic Agenda

Write, write, write:

A faculty study recommends ways to enhance campus writing programs.

January Profile

Making Merry:

Baylor nursing professor believes clowning around aids healing.

Last Glance

One Book, One Waco:

This spring, many will be reading and discussing *A Lesson Before Dying*.

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BaylorNews

Monthly News for the Baylor University Community

Celebrating 50 Years of Sing

Baylor's entertainment showcase celebrates a special anniversary

By Barbara Elmore

Each spring the phenomenon known as Sing displays the talents of Baylor students and welcomes thousands of lucky spectators who obtain tickets to one of the sold-out performances.

When the event began some 50 years ago, its future as a mainstay of Baylor entertainment and tradition was anything

but assured. Marie Mathis, Sing's founder, was serving as director of the Student Union Building in 1953 when she wrote a letter on March 25 inviting others to share her idea for a new "all-campus activity." She called the event a "sing-song" and her letter politely summoned clubs and

See Sing on page 3



More than 1,500 Baylor students participated in the 2002 edition of Sing. This year, participants and audience members will be able to tour a Sing museum and order a commemorative book and video.

Chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas, Baylor University is the state's oldest continually operating institution of higher learning and is the largest Baptist university in the world. With more than 14,000 students and approximately 750 full-time faculty, Baylor offers undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees through the College of Arts and Sciences, the Hankamer School of Business, the School of Education, the School of Music, the Honors College, the Louise Herrington School of Nursing, the School of Engineering and Computer Science, the School of Law, the Graduate School and George W. Truett Theological Seminary. Baylor is consistently ranked among the top college values in the country by such publications as *Fiske Guide to Colleges* and *The Princeton Review*.

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President's Perspective

A Time of Transition

In November, I had the distinct pleasure of announcing the selection of David Lyle Jeffrey as provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Dr. Jeffrey follows in the footsteps of Don Schmeltekopf, whose leadership over the last 12 years has been part and parcel to the growth and success of Baylor University, its mission and the initial implementation of Baylor 2012, the 10-year Vision.

I am tremendously grateful for Dr. Schmeltekopf's faithfulness over the years. He has served as a wonderful colleague, a wise leader, an agent of positive change for this University and, personally, a true friend. I know that his continued service in the Department of Philosophy and in a number of leadership-related initiatives will maintain his vital presence in the life of Baylor University.

Times of transition afford us opportunities for reflection, as well as exciting possibilities for the future. It is probably no exaggeration to say that the amount of change over the last 12 months at Baylor rivals any in our history. I deeply appreciate the faithful support of our faculty — new and seasoned, “A” profile and “B” — as we move through this time of change. I am confident that Dr. Jeffrey will be faithful to honor and celebrate the rich history of excellence that has brought us to this point while challenging each of us to think about our calling — the vocation of teaching, mentoring and discovering new knowledge — in new and creative ways.

It is no accident that the imperative of “building a world-class faculty” is featured so prominently in Baylor 2012. In so doing, we intend to affirm the faithful work of those who



President Robert B. Sloan Jr.

have made it possible for us to envision new levels of excellence.

Thank you for all you do to make that Vision a reality.

Jeffrey Selected Next Provost

Will succeed Schmeltekopf as provost and academic VP in June

After a comprehensive national search, Baylor President Robert B. Sloan Jr. has announced the appointment of Dr. David Lyle Jeffrey, Distinguished Professor of Literature and Humanities, as provost and vice president for academic affairs, effective June 1, 2003.

Dr. Jeffrey, who currently serves as senior vice provost, will succeed Dr. Donald D. Schmeltekopf, who announced last August that he will retire as provost in May 2003. A tenured professor of philosophy, Dr. Schmeltekopf will remain at Baylor after his retirement and engage in a project of leadership development among Christian colleges and universities throughout the United States.

As the University's chief academic officer, Dr. Jeffrey will be responsible for the recruitment and retention of faculty who share a commitment to the University's mission, who pursue excellence in scholarship and who model a life of service to students. An eminent Christian scholar, teacher and author, Dr. Jeffrey also will provide leadership to all academic programs as implementation of Baylor 2012, the University's 10-year Vision, continues.

“David Jeffrey is a most worthy successor to Don Schmeltekopf, who has led in the creation of Baylor's academic vision through Baylor 2012 and has been integral in the first year of its implementation,” Dr. Sloan said. “Dr. Jeffrey will bring enormous vision, energy and intellectual power to this office. He has a keen ability to relate to all generations of the Baylor family and exudes to everyone he meets a warmth of spirit, breadth of knowledge and ability to communicate across disciplines. I am thrilled that he has accepted the challenge of serving as provost and look forward to his leadership in Baylor's academic life.”

“When first coming to Baylor, I had not anticipated an administrative role, but was compelled simply by the unique vision and heightened sense of mission which had been developing under Dr. Sloan's leadership. To be offered a chance to partner in this way with the president, his administration and all of Baylor's faculty, staff and

students, I count as the signal honor of my academic life,” said Dr. Jeffrey, who will report to the president and serve on the executive council.

“Our challenge is great, but extraordinarily energizing,” he added. “I invite the prayers of all our community as together we strive for faithfulness and perseverance in fulfilling Baylor's historic Christian mission, not merely in terms of our ongoing commitment to academic excellence, but through our dedication to service both within and far beyond the University community.”

Dr. Jeffrey joined the Baylor faculty as Distinguished Professor in fall 2000 after spending more than two decades at the University of Ottawa. A 1965 graduate of Wheaton College, Dr. Jeffrey earned his master's degree and doctorate in English from Princeton University. He began his tenure at Ottawa in 1978, serving as professor and chair of the English department. He also taught at the University of Victoria, where he was as English department chair, University of Rochester, University of Hull and Regent College, and was a guest professor at Peking University from 1996-2000. At Ottawa, Dr. Jeffrey was named the inaugural Professor of the Year in 1995 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1996.

A noted scholar in medieval studies and the Bible and literature, Dr. Jeffrey is general editor and co-author of *A Dictionary of Biblical Tradition in English Literature*. He also is the author or editor of 12 books, including *People of the Book: Christian Identity and Literary Culture*, which was named one of *Christianity Today's* Top Ten Books of 1997 and was translated this year into Chinese, *Rethinking the Future of the University*, edited and co-written with Dominic Manganiello, *By Things Seen: Reference and Recognition in*



Dr. David Lyle Jeffrey

Medieval Thought, Chaucer and Scriptural Tradition, English Spirituality in the Age of Wesley and *English Spirituality in the Age of Wyclif*. His research interests involve the cultural relationship of the Bible to the history of biblical interpretation, especially the literary and artistic expression. He and his wife, Katherine, are members of Highland Baptist Church in Waco.

While teaching at Baylor, Dr. Jeffrey was appointed by President Sloan in June 2001 to the newly created position of associate provost and three months later was named senior vice provost. In that capacity, he assisted Dr. Schmeltekopf with recruiting nationally and internationally distinguished scholar-teachers, interviewing prospective faculty, developing faculty summer seminars for the enhancement and professional development of faculty, overseeing academic planning and policy committees and distributing Baylor's annual post-doctoral appointments. Dr. Jeffrey also served as a resource and mentor for junior faculty in the development of their scholarly objectives.

The national search for Baylor's provost began in August 2002, when President Sloan announced a 16-member search committee of Baylor faculty, deans and executive staff, chaired by Dr. Robert J. Yinger, dean of the School of Education. After gathering input from Baylor students, faculty and staff during several open meetings held throughout fall 2002, the search committee, council of deans and the president's executive council unanimously recommended Dr. Jeffrey's selection to President Sloan on Nov. 14.

“Having conducted a thorough and comprehensive national search, the committee is extremely pleased with Dr. Jeffrey's appointment,” Dr. Yinger said. “From among 100 nominations and more than 20 applicants, Dr. Jeffrey quickly emerged as a leading candidate. His scholarly prestige, leadership abilities, strength of character and strong Christian commitments will enable him to lead the faculty in achieving the academic goals of Baylor 2012.”

— BN

Sing's 2003 Performances Feature Commemorative Extras

continued from page 1

organizations to enter, prepare to sing at least two numbers from a list of ballads, spirituals and folk songs that she would prepare, and have their members “dress more or less alike” the night of the performance.

The event took place one month later, with eight acts and an audience of 13 adventurous souls.

Growth and change

If Mathis could be in the crowd next month at the 51st annual performance of her creation, she might be surprised to learn that her “all-campus activity” is that and more, having become an amateur entertainment revue with professional presentation standards. When the curtain rises Feb. 20 on the first night of Sing 2003, Mike Riemer, Baylor's coordinator of special performances, said familiar elements will include:

- Some 1,500 to 2,000 cast and crew members as representatives of 18 student organizations;
- Amazing creativity by students who have spent months planning, practicing and praying to present sparkling costumes, execute complex choreography and develop fascinating props from fog machines to elaborate backdrops;
- Delighted audiences of 12,000 or more, and
- Selection of winning acts which will reprise the performances for the following Homecoming's Pigskin Revue.

Special features

This year's Sing also will feature a number of things created specifically to celebrate 50 years of Sing:

- *A museum.* The Sing museum that debuted during Homecoming will return. It features displays of photos, *Lariat* stories, costumes and the historic Mathis letter. Riemer said between 1,200 and 1,500 people visited the museum during Homecoming 2002. He said the revised display likely

will be twice as large to include numerous items donated after the museum's debut.

- *A documentary video.* Local videographer Bruce Johnson has been busy since last fall creating a 52-minute documentary video that will exhibit the quality of documentaries shown on PBS. It will use numerous interviews and research to describe the elements of a Sing performance and give a 50-year history of each element. The documentary will include shots from the February 2003 performances, and it will be made available for purchase this spring or summer in DVD and VHS formats. The video may be pre-ordered for \$35 before Feb. 1. It will cost \$40 beginning Feb. 1.

- *A commemorative book.* A hardbound book with a print run of 5,000 will detail Sing's history through photos, headlines and stories. The book will sell for \$15 before Feb. 1 and \$20 beginning Feb. 1.

Sing's popularity

Those who have worked closest with Sing say it has thrived amid the changing entertainment tastes of the last half century for one simple reason — it's a tremendously enjoyable experience.

“People look forward to it. Kids know it's a great experience, and they want to be a part of the anticipation and expectation,” said Lois Ferguson, assistant provost for academic services and coordinator of Sing during six years in the early 1990s.

Sing remains popular with University officials because they know it's proven to be a distinctive recruiting tool.

“So many high school students see Sing, and that's why they come to Baylor,” Riemer said. “The level to which it's done is unique to Baylor. Certainly kids who are interested in performance are not going to get this at another school.”

Riemer said the professional performance quality level is preceded by almost a full year of planning. He said student groups typically appoint a Sing chairman in March and begin meeting in April to generate plans for the next year's performance.

The physical work of building sets and preparing other materials typically begins in November, Riemer said. Students return soon after New Year's to finalize details and begin five weeks of intense practice sessions before the first performance in February.

“It's like a giant train coming down the track once they start rehearsing,” he said.

Guidelines introduced

If criticism exists regarding Sing, it centers on two aspects: the number of student hours and the amount of money spent on producing acts. Through the years, policy changes have been implemented to prevent excess in either area. A 15-page contract and a Sing Procedures Committee are among the changes



The first Sing attracted 13 audience members. In 2003, organizers expect 12,000 or more persons to see at least one performance.

that ensure students maintain their focus on academic obligations. Sing chairs must sign the contracts, which spell out such things as when practices may begin.

“Back in the 1980s they were rehearsing all the time,” Ferguson said.

Sing participation now follows strict guidelines. Fraternity and sorority pledges are prohibited from participating. Maximum cost limits are set on the amounts allotted for costumes and props. The same music director and band must be used by all participating groups, which Ferguson noted prevents any one group from gaining an unfair advantage by bringing in a big-name performer.

Participation benefits

Competition runs high. Winners receive money, and the group determines how to spend it. Riemer said most of the time the prize money goes into a general operating account. It is not just money that draws students to compete.

“The biggest single motivator is the

recognition,” Riemer said. “It's also a ton of fun. There's nothing like working hard together to bring a concept from the page to the stage.”

Beth Morlang, a junior whose Kappa Alpha Theta sorority's “Greasy Spoon” act won second place at Sing in 2002, agrees.

“I will never be able to replace the moments I had with the girls in that act,” she said. “Working so hard at something and not planning on winning just makes you want to participate again.”

Randy Primrose, a graduate student who participated in Sing twice, said his fraternity, Kappa Sigma, went to Pigskin both years he was involved.

“We were pumped,” he said. “It was fun to win.”

Riemer, who was a Sing chair for Phi Kappa Chi during his years as a Baylor undergraduate, said the stress and hard work Sing participants put themselves through is worth it.

“I don't regret it at all,” he said. “It was probably the biggest period of growth in my college career. It's one of

the most visible things a person can do on campus.”

Ferguson said the successful planning of a Sing act provides students with skills they can use later in life.

“They don't always realize what they're learning,” she said. “They are running a business. The (Sing) chairs must be creative, run a budget, work with a music arranger and hire a choreographer or do (the choreography) themselves. During rehearsal they find themselves a leader among peers.”

Riemer said he hopes to create an endowment from the \$200,000 in revenues generated each year by Pigskin and Sing. The fund would assist other groups to scale the financial obstacles faced when trying to compete.

The endowment fund is one idea of how to plan for Sing's future, which University officials believe is bright.

“I do think it will be here for a very long time,” Ferguson said.

Baylor's First Chaplain Dies at 84

Dr. WJ Wimpee, retired administrator and chaplain emeritus at Baylor University, died Dec. 1 at a Waco hospital. He was 84.

“Dr. Wimpee loved this University. There was never a more loyal supporter of Baylor through the administrations of Pat Neff, W.R. White, Judge McCall, Herbert Reynolds and Robert Sloan,” said Dr. Rufus Spain, director of Baylor's Retired Professors and Administrators program and professor emeritus of history.

A native of Kaufman, Dr. Wimpee served as a class officer all four years of his Baylor undergraduate career, played end on the football team and was Baylor Chamber of Commerce president his senior year. Graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1940, he went on

to earn master's and doctoral degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dr. Wimpee served as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dayton before coming to Baylor in 1945. Three years later, Baylor President White named him the University's first chaplain.

During his 44 years of Baylor service, Dr. Wimpee held positions including chaplain, executive assistant to President White, fundraiser, student counselor and professor of religion. Shortly after his retirement in 1989, he



Dr. WJ Wimpee

returned for a 10-year stint as director of the Baylor Retired Professors and Administrators Program.

Dr. Wimpee is survived by his wife, the former Lillian Wilkins, who he met while a student at Southwestern Seminary; daughter Gayle West and her husband, Judge David West, of Pasadena; daughter Deborah

Stinnett and her husband, Dr. Mitchell Stinnett, of Joplin, Mo.; daughter Dayna Schwartze and her husband, Dr. Mark Schwartze, of Waco; and 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

—Julie Carlson

Sing 2003

Show dates:

Feb. 20, 21, 22, 27, March 1

Ticket information:

Call ext. 3210

Video or book orders:

Call ext. 4186

As We Onward Go

January 2003

10	President's Community Prayer Breakfast
13	Spring Classes Begin
14	University Faculty Meeting
14	What's Bruin? Lecture <i>Dr. Scott Moore, Great Texts</i>
20	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
24-25	Winter Premiere
30	University Staff Forum
31	Distinguished Alumni Banquet

February 2003

1	Founders Day
3-5	Truett Preaching Conference
6-7	Truett Winter Preview
11	What's Bruin? Lecture <i>Dr. William Mitchell, International Education</i>
12	Scholars Day
19	Willson-Addis Lecture <i>Dr. Richard B. Hays</i>
20-22	All University Sing
27-28	Board of Regents Meeting
29-Mar. 1	All University Sing

March 2003

4	What's Bruin? Lecture <i>Dr. Doug Henry, Institute for Faith and Learning</i>
8-16	Spring Break
20-21	Truett Spring Preview
20-23	Art & Soul Festival
29	Steppin' Out

Baylor Mourns Former Law Professor

Erwin A. Elias, the George Gerard Kelly Professor Emeritus of Law at Baylor Law School, passed away Nov. 20, 2002, after a long battle with cancer. He was 69.



Erwin A. Elias

Elias was born in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1933, the son of German immigrants. He earned BS and JD degrees from Marquette University and an LLM degree from the University of Michigan School of Law.

Described by Law Dean J. Bradley Toben as a "wise, thoughtful and devoted teacher," Elias taught at Baylor Law School from 1957 until he retired in 1994.

"Erv was a role model for his students and taught with a wisdom that led his students to want to succeed because of the respect that they had for him and his own commitment to excellence and integrity," Toben said.

From 1968 to 1970 Elias was a professor at Texas Tech Law School, but returned to Baylor Law School and served as associate dean from 1970 to 1975. His colleagues and the Baylor Law Alumni Association honored him at the Sheila and Walter Umphrey Law Center by dedicating a display of United States and Texas flags in front of the facility in his honor.

Elias is survived by his wife of 46 years, Patricia; a daughter and son-in-law, Elizabeth and Tom Davis; three grandchildren; a brother and sister-in-law, Ernest and Violet Elias of Milwaukee, Wis.; and nieces and nephews. — Alan Hunt

Lights, Camera, Interns

Baylor program gives telecom students a foot in the studio door

A new Baylor internship program should increase the ability of telecommunication students to find employment in the nation's most competitive media markets.

Dr. Michael F. Korpi, chair and professor of communication studies, said the best way to gain access to job openings is by completing a successful internship. While internships in the major media markets of Los Angeles and New York are most prized, he said those opportunities have been out of reach for most Baylor students.

"If you go to take an internship, it's very difficult to take a full load of classes at Baylor," Dr. Korpi said.

To resolve the course load problem, Baylor will offer a communications internship program in New York beginning this year. Dr. Joseph G. Kickasola, assistant professor of communication studies, will move to New York to run the program and teach full time. Each semester, six credit hours of classes will be available to each student while another six credit hours will be given to each student for their internship to make a full class load of 12 hours. A preview program will take place in spring 2003, consisting of a spring break class taught in New York and follow-up classes at Baylor.

The program promises to offer valuable experience and contacts in film and television, public relations, journalism, new media and other communications-related fields. Dr. Kickasola said that by living, working and studying in New York, students will be immersed in the environment of what they are learning.

"There's a cultural richness to this area that's not available anywhere else," he said.

Dr. Kickasola was on sabbatical in New York in fall 2002 while making arrangements for the program, designing courses, lining up speakers and contacting distinguished Baylor alumni at places such as ESPN and the *New York Times*. Alumni are enthusiastic about the program and the value of Baylor's presence in New York, which Dr. Kickasola said will raise the University's profile among decision makers.

"We're getting into a network of cultural influence that is very important," he said.

Program organizers are confirming housing and meeting places for classes.

"We're starting up the application process for fall," Dr. Kickasola said.

J. Brian Elliot, senior lecturer in communication studies, is director of interns for the telecommunications department. He has built a network of

internship opportunities and is now focused on plugging students into the program in New York.

"My job is to facilitate what they're interested in," he said. Students in the program will be able to apply for internships at radio stations, record labels, television and cable networks, film and production companies and web-design and multimedia outlets, among others.

Baylor students in the past have completed internships for such organizations as CNBC, the Late Show with David Letterman, Good Morning America, American Movie Classics and FX cable stations.

Elliot said after the internship program is launched in New York, the next step will be to branch out to include other major cities.

"We're looking to replicate the program in Los Angeles," he said. "We're letting New York be the test for us."

Dr. Korpi believes the program will be a key contribution to Baylor's 10-year Vision, giving quality interns a chance to prove themselves in the marketplace against those from tier one and Ivy League schools.

"Ultimately, it will be the performance of our graduates that speaks for itself," he said.

— Brandon Kirk

Research Gazette

Grant Awards (October)

Cassie Findley, student life; \$31,908; Alternatives to Violence-02; State of Texas Criminal Justice Division

Dr. Richard Kreider, HHPR; \$373,510; Effects of the Curves for Women Fitness and Weight Loss Program on Body Composition, Metabolism, and Exercise Capacity in Sedentary Overweight Females; Curves International

Loretta Rudd and **Dr. Terrill Saxon**, educational psychology; \$30,000; Step Up to Learning with Focus-Follow-Talk: A Professional Development Training for Childcare Providers; DHHS' Administration for Children and Families

Dr. Richard Kreider, HHPR; \$55,625; Effects of a Non-Ephedra Thermogenic Supplement on Body Composition and Markers of Health; MuscleTech Research and Development Inc.

Dr. Richard Kreider, HHPR; \$53,555; Effects of Methoxyflavone, Ecdysterone, and Sulfo-Polysaccharide Supplementation on Training Adaptations; MuscleTech Research and Development Inc.

Dr. Eva Doyle, HHPR; \$10,000; Health and Safety Needs Assessment Among Medically Uninsured and Underinsured Farmworkers in East Texas; Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education, the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler

TOTAL AWARDS: \$554,598

Grant Proposals (October)

Dr. Mark Sepanski, mathematics; \$78,354; Global Symmetries of Differential Operators and Representation Theory; National Science Foundation

Dr. Mark Sepanski, mathematics; \$154,177; Virasoro Cohomology and Relative Extremal Projectors; National Science Foundation (Collaboration with University of North Texas)

Dr. Peter Maurer, computer science; \$179,588; Interfaces and Protocols for Component Level Programming; National Science Foundation

Dr. Ken Wilkins, biology; \$3,257; A Survey of Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians at Cobb Creek Preserve; Cobb Creek Preserve

Dr. Jeff Mitchell, mathematics; \$77,625; Heat Kernel Analysis on Lie Groups and Quantum Physics; National Science Foundation

Dr. Peter van Walsum, environmental studies; \$20,570; Gas Chromatograph for Application of the MixAlco Process to Digestion of Cattle Manure; U.S. Department of Agriculture

Dr. Peter van Walsum, environmental studies, and **Dr. Kevin Chambliss**, chemistry and biochemistry; \$313,623; Quantitative Assessment of Carbohydrate, Lignin and Extractive Degradation Products in Pretreated Lignocellulose; U.S. Department of Agriculture

Dr. Kevin Chambliss, chemistry and biochemistry; \$150,406; Redox-Recyclable, Reactive Ion Exchange Separation and Recovery of Fermentation Inhibitors from Biomass Hydrolysates; U.S. Department of Agriculture

Dr. Joseph White, biology, and **Dr. Peter Allen**, geology; \$240,646; Hydrologic Budgets of PL-566 Reservoir Riparian Forests Determined by Isotopic Analysis; U.S. Department of Agriculture

Dr. Peter Allen, geology, and **Dr. Joseph White**, biology; \$58,044; Stream-Aquifer Dynamics in Degrading Stream Channels in Texas; U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Texas A&M University

Dr. Gerald Cleaver, physics; \$392,014; Parameter Space Investigations of Heterotic Strings; U.S. Department of Energy

Dr. Jack Tubbs, Institute of Statistics; \$103,576; Voluntary Occupational Turnover Antecedents: Information Technology Employees in State Government; National Science Foundation through University of Arkansas

Dr. Joe Yelderman and **David Jumper**, environmental studies; \$49,363; BioDufusser and SB2; PSA Inc.

Dr. Bob Kruschwitz, Center for Christian Ethics; \$23,150; Christian Reflections: A Series in Faith and Ethics; Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Dr. Bob Kruschwitz, Center for Christian Ethics; \$6,000; Christian Reflections: Study Guides and Lesson Plans; Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Dr. Bob Kruschwitz, Center for Christian Ethics; \$1,450; Christian Reflections: Professional Articles; Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Dr. Bob Kruschwitz, Center for Christian Ethics; \$18,800; Christian Reflections: Distribution in CBF-affiliated Seminaries; Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

TOTAL REQUESTED: \$1,870,643

Write, Write, Write: Strengthening Undergraduate Education

Baylor committee studies the state of student writing and recommends changes

Frieda H. Blackwell
Associate Dean for
Humanities, College of Arts
and Sciences

Rena M. Bonem
Professor of Geology

Wallace L. Daniel Jr.
Dean of the College of Arts
and Sciences

A. Elizabeth Vardaman
Associate Dean for Special
Academic Projects, College
of Arts and Sciences

When Ernest Gaines delivered the inaugural Ferguson-Clark Author Lecture recently at Baylor, he encouraged aspiring writers to spend time with the great classic texts, particularly those by renowned authors such as Shakespeare, Chekhov, Turgenev and Faulkner.

Then he gave the audience his six tips for learning the craft: “Read, read, read. Write, write, write.” For his more expanded advice on writing, he offered eight suggestions: “Read, read, read, read. Write, write, write, write.”

Leading thinkers and writers across disciplines may not always be this succinct, but they are often expounding upon the truth Ernest Gaines captured in a handful of words: students must devote themselves to reading and writing if they aspire to communicate effectively.

Imperative One of Baylor’s Vision 2012 places the establishment of an environment where learning can flourish

at the center of our academic mission and states that writing “with clarity, simplicity and grace” is one of the vital pathways to enhanced critical thinking. In concert with that aspiration, a faculty committee within the College of Arts and Sciences has completed an 18-month investigation of the state of writing both at the introductory level and within each department and surveyed best practices in Writing-across-the-Curriculum (WAC) programs at significant peer institutions.

Rena Bonem and Frieda Blackwell were co-chairs for the College study. Committee members were Tommye Lou Davis, Gordon Grant, Maurice Hunt, Viola Osborn, Kevin Pinney, Stuart Rosenbaum, Elizabeth

Vardaman and Wallace Daniel (ex officio). The Writing-across-the-Curriculum committee interviewed directors of writing programs and consultants on the planning and implementation of their programs. These consultants came from several of the leading writing programs in the country — Jonathan Monroe, director of the John Knight Writing Center at Cornell University; Marianne Auld, designer of the legal writing program at Baylor School of Law; Susan McLeod, director of the writing program at the University of California, Santa Barbara; and Nancy Summers, director of the expository writing program at Harvard University.

Fundamental skills

Based on the educational objectives, structure and content of writing programs with national reputations for excellence and upon the College’s desire to strengthen its undergraduate program, the committee determined that our graduates should be able to do the following:

- Write clear, concise, well-organized, grammatically correct prose.
- Apply the principles of clear writing effectively within the constraints of their own disciplines.
- Recognize the importance of rewriting and revising to obtain the highest quality possible.
- Locate, evaluate, integrate and cite the ideas and words of others appropriately.
- Create documents that reflect

scholarly analysis and critical thinking.

Such skills are worthy of any outstanding undergraduate program, and are particularly important to Baylor’s mission. To ensure that all students have a coherent program of writing instruction, the committee recommends that eventually students be required to take one writing-

intensive course each semester. In order to achieve these goals, the committee offers the following recommendations:

First-year curriculum

- Starting in fall 2003, the Freshman Seminars program would be expanded, moving from the Honors Program where it has flourished as a pilot program to the larger student body. Freshman seminars would be open to all College disciplines and would have the reading of primary texts, analysis and writing as key components within each course, no matter which departments offer the courses.
- One freshman-level English course would be required and would have to be taken at Baylor — “An Introduction to College Writing.” It would resemble somewhat our current English 1304 course and would focus on academic writing (argumentation and analysis) and research skills. Maurice Hunt, chair of the Department of English, endorses this recommendation.

Sophomore Great Texts

Members felt that the proposed two-semester Great Texts course sequence, which will include an extensive writing component, would meet the goal of our curricular design.

Junior and senior courses

- The Writing-across-the-Curriculum committee believes one writing course at the junior level should be required for all students. These courses could be offered in specific departments or could be more general, such as “Writing about the Humanities,” “Writing about the Sciences” and “Writing about the Social Sciences.”
- After establishing appropriate faculty-student ratios in upper-division classes throughout the College, a certain number of classes in each major would be designated as “W” (writing) courses. Students should be required to take a certain number of junior/senior level courses designed as “Writing-intensive” within their majors. The College would aim to have two such “W” classes in every major by 2004; by 2006, each department should have three to four writing-intensive classes.

Essential proposals

Proposals the committee felt essential to the success of the program are as follows:



Rena M. Bonem, Frieda H. Blackwell, A. Elizabeth Vardaman, Wallace L. Daniel Jr.

Hiring a director and establishing a faculty administrative structure to assist the director with implementation. Every consultant the committee engaged emphasized such a need. The committee recommends that a writing committee, composed of faculty members from across the College, be established even before the director is hired.

Providing adequate faculty development opportunities. Instead of the Summer Teaching Institute in 2004, we should consider holding a Summer Writing-across-the-Curriculum Institute. This institute could focus on equipping the faculty to integrate writing into their courses and to develop a model of writing in their disciplines. As the program develops, additional summer WAC institutes, along with periodic workshops, would be offered to support adequate faculty training.

Limiting class size. Research shared by all consultants affirms two essentials a program must provide in order for students to improve their writing skills: Students must receive appropriate feedback and must be given opportunities for rewriting. Such feedback can be given only if class sizes are small.

Offering sufficient student support through the creation of an expanded writing center. While the Writing Center in the basement of Carroll Science, administered by the English department, provides valuable assistance to many students, it could not support a campus-wide program with its current space and staffing. Several writing centers could be established across campus in addition to the current site in Carroll Science. A prime opportunity exists for integrating these centers into campus residence life.

Designing a reasonable implementation schedule. We should ensure that the faculty is well prepared and that course syllabi are appropriate

and are coordinated among courses before beginning to offer the WAC program. Implementing the program over time also will contribute to faculty support for the program and will allow the faculty to contribute to the program design through discussions and workshops.

Assessing the Writing-across-the-Curriculum Program frequently. Our consultants stressed the importance of creating a plan for continual assessment of the program. Such information will allow the director and the faculty committee to adjust program design and address problems before they become major difficulties.

Thinking and writing

In a recent book by Richard J. Light, *Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Minds*, Light reflects on the information gathered from over 1,600 interviews he and colleagues held with Harvard students over a 10-year period. In one series of interviews, 60 graduating seniors responded to questions asking them which courses had affected them most deeply in terms of the way they thought about learning, living and the world in which they lived. He also asked what techniques were most meaningful in the courses. Light then explains the central insight to be gained from these student respondents: “The major finding is not one I would have guessed. Students identify the courses that had the most profound impact on them as courses in which they were required to write papers, not just for the professor, as usual, but for their fellow students as well.”

We have long understood that thinking and writing are connected. We will strengthen significantly our academic programs by emphasizing this relationship and by establishing it as a hallmark of a Baylor education.

“ We have long understood that thinking and writing are connected. We will strengthen significantly our academic programs by emphasizing this relationship and by establishing it as a hallmark of a Baylor education. ”

Family Circle

Congratulations to

Paul C. Mathews, former academic adviser, and wife, Dottie, on their 45th wedding anniversary.

Ken Smith, Mayborn Museum Complex, on the birth of his grandson, Evan Rayne Smith.

Best wishes to

Debi Campbell-Perry, public relations, on her recent surgery.

Penny Jacko, public relations, on her recent surgery.

Vernie M. Logan, former lecturer in visual arts, who is recovering from an automobile accident.

With sympathy to

The family of Phyllis Cutter, widow of **Dr. C. Richard Cutter**, professor emeritus of Greek classics, on her death.

Dr. Keith Sanford, psychology and neuroscience, on the death of his son, Cameron Sanford.

The family of Pat Wienandt, widow of **Elwyn Wienandt**, former administrator, on her death.

The family of **Dr. WJ Wimpee**, retired administrator and chaplain emeritus, on his death.



This Month in Baylor History

Jan. 4, 1923 — Sixteen-year-old Weta Timmons is elected Baylor’s first female yell leader. She later says she was chosen because of her enthusiastic cheering on the sidelines during football games. She adds that any controversy over her selection was due not to her gender but to her short “bob” hairstyle.

Jan. 6, 1905 — The Baylor Prohibition League is organized with J.W. Jent as president. The group, affiliated with the National Intercollegiate Prohibition Association, seeks to advance the principle of Prohibition and get students involved in reform.

Jan. 15, 1991 — The Baylor Golden Wave Marching Band leads the inauguration parade of Texas Gov. Ann Richards, a University alumna.

Jan. 28, 1964 — Baylor announces it has accepted five black students for enrollment, the first in University history. Four are Waco teachers and the fifth is a sergeant serving at Waco’s James Connally Air Force Base.

Jan. 31, 1997 — The Baylor Chamber of Commerce, the University’s oldest men’s organization, breaks a 78-year-old tradition by selecting freshman Roxanne Wilson as its first female member.

— Compiled by Randy Fiedler

Presentations & Participations

Dr. Wickramasinghe Ariyasinghe, assistant professor of physics, presented “Electron Scattering Cross Sections of Hydrocarbons and Fluorocarbons” Sept. 2-6 at the Elementary Process in Atomic Systems conference in Gdansk, Poland.

Dr. Michael D. Beaty, professor of philosophy and vice provost for faculty development, presented “Revitalizing Christian Higher Education: Faculty Hiring and Faculty Development” Sept. 28 at the From Death to Life: Agendas for Reform conference at the University of Notre Dame.

Dr. Richard C. Chewning, professor emeritus of management and The Hazel and Harry Chavanne Professor of Christian Ethics in Business, presented a keynote address titled “Integrity in Business” Oct. 23 at the Harry Atwood Lectures at Northwestern College in Saint Paul, Minn.

Dr. Gerald B. Cleaver, assistant professor of physics, presented “String Cosmology: A Review” Oct. 12 at a Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research world congress in Houston.

Dr. Richard B. Couey, professor of health, human performance and recreation, presented “Why Should Christians Eat Nutritionally” and “The Formula for Losing Weight” Sept. 20-21 at the First Place National Nutrition Conference in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Dr. William V. Davis, professor of English and Writer-in-Residence, presented “‘Good Luck in Cracked Italian’: Richard Hugo in Italy” Oct. 24-27 at In Transit: The Third Annual North American Conference on Travel Writing in Cleveland.

Dr. C. Stephen Evans, University Professor of Philosophy and Humanities, presented “Socrates and the Calling of the Christian Philosopher” Oct. 5 at the Stories of Vocation conference at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif.

Dr. Gregory T. Garrett, associate professor of English, discussed his book *Free Bird* Sept. 25 at a Watonga Book Club meeting in Watonga, Okla., and Sept 26 at a Barnes & Noble bookstore in Oklahoma City and gave readings Oct. 19 at a Barnes & Noble bookstore in Albuquerque, N.M., and Oct. 22 at a Barnes & Noble bookstore in Beaumont. He was a moderator for sessions on screenwriting, directing and the movie business Oct. 10-13 at the Austin Film Festival.

Dr. Donald E. Greco, assistant professor of political science and pre-law adviser, presented “Electoral Reform in the Aftermath of Election 2000: The Impact of Politics on the Electoral System” Aug. 31 at an American Political Science Association annual conference in Boston.

Dr. D. Thomas Hanks Jr., professor of English, presented a paper on editorial changes in the text of Sir Thomas Malory’s *Le Morte d’Arthur* Sept. 26-28 at a Southeastern Medieval Association conference in Tallahassee, Fla. He presented “Textual Misfeasance: Editorial Syntax and the Loss of Authorial Style in Middle English Texts” Oct. 17 at the University of Dallas.

Dr. Mary L. Klingman, senior lecturer in English, presented “Writing Excuses and Apologies: Rhetoric Meets Pragmatics” Oct. 19 at a Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages regional conference at Mountain View College in Dallas.

Dr. Richard B. Kreider, chair and professor of health, human performance and recreation, presented “Performance Enhancement Nutrition,” “Effective and Ineffective Nutritional Strategies to Promote Weight Gain and Weight Loss” and “Recent Developments in Creatine Research” Sept. 12-13 at a Polish Society of Sport Medicine international congress in Warsaw,

Poland. He presented “Performance Enhancement Nutrition” Sept. 16 at the Kotowice Academy of Physical Education in Kotowice, Poland.

Dr. Ute S. Lahaie, assistant professor of German and director of the Language Acquisition Center, was a panelist for a teleconference titled “Teaching Culture in the Digital Millennium” Oct. 23 sponsored by McGraw-Hill.

Dr. Owen T. Lind, professor of biology, presented “Algal Growth Potential and Limiting Nutrient Linkages with River Discharge and Land Use” in June at an American Society of Limnology Oceanography meeting in Victoria, Canada. He presented “Riverine and Transition Zone Bacterioplankton Community Dynamics in Response to Pulsed River Inflow” in August an International Conference of Reservoir Limnology and Water Quality meeting in Ceské Budejovice, Czech Republic.

Dr. Rafer S. Lutz, assistant professor of health, human performance and recreation, and Lynda Ransdell, University of Utah, presented a co-authored paper titled “Preparing Future Faculty: Contributions to the Job Search Process and Life as a Junior Faculty Member” Sept 26-28 at an American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education meeting in Tuscon, Ariz..

Dr. John D. Martin, professor of finance and The Carr P. Collins Chair of Finance, presented “Financial Engineering, Corporate Governance and the Collapse of Enron” Sept. 27-28 at the Corporate Control, Corporate Disclosure conference at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Dr. Richard J. Martinez, assistant professor of management, and **Dr. Kendall W. Artz**, chair and associate professor of management and entrepreneurship, presented a co-authored paper titled “Crumbling Barriers to Risky Behavior: A Longitudinal Examination of Slack, Risk-taking and Firm Performance in Different Regulatory Environments” in September at a Strategic Management Society annual meeting in Paris. Dr. Martinez chaired and moderated a session on integrating business and the Christian faith in the classroom at the Sharing Stories of Vocation conference Oct. 3-5 at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. He presented “Defining and Developing a Space for Business Scholarship in the Christian Academy” and a co-authored paper titled “Teaching Strategic Management from a Christian Perspective” Oct. 17-20 at a Christian Business Faculty Association annual meeting in Boise, Idaho. Co-author is Loren Gustafson, Seattle Pacific University.

Dr. Rene D. Massengale, assistant professor of biology, presented “A Systematic Analysis of Potential Inflammatory Mediators in Poultry, Wheat, Hay and Corn Dusts in Central Texas” Sept. 19 at a Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health research symposium in Houston.

Dr. Timothy R. McKinney, associate professor of music theory, presented “Musique Larmioable: Text and Tone in Josquin’s *Planxii Autem David*” Oct. 26 at the Music and Melancholy symposium at Princeton University.

Joyce Miller, director of academic advisement, presented “You Ought to be in Pictures: How to Produce an Academic Video” Oct. 1 at a National Academic Advising Association annual conference in Salt Lake City.

Dr. J. Wesley Null, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, presented “The Destruction of Knowledge by Accountability: Would a Re-emphasis on Aristotle’s Intellectual Virtues be Useful?” Sept. 20 at a Society of Philosophy and History of Education annual meeting at the University of Oklahoma. He presented “How Prestige Trumped Education: The Transformation of Normal Schools into Regional State Universities” Oct. 11 at an American Association for Teaching and Curriculum annual meeting in Tulsa, Okla. He presented “Teaching Social Foundations of Education in an Undergraduate Teacher Preparation

Program” Nov. 1 at a History of Education Society annual meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dr. Richard R. Russell, assistant professor of English, presented “Poems without Frontiers: Crediting the Imaginative Power of Heaney’s Poetry” in November at a Modern Language Association South Atlantic meeting in Baltimore.

Dr. Nancy B. Upton, professor of management and The Ben H. Williams Professor of Entrepreneurship, presented “Family Business Clients: Ethical Dilemmas” Oct. 9 at a North Texas Women in Law meeting in Irving.

Dr. Joseph D. White, assistant professor of biology, and **Dr. Kevin J. Gutzwiller**, professor of biology, had a co-authored paper titled “Species Richness of Medium- and Large-sized Mammals in Relation to Landscape Features in Big Bend National Park” June 15-19 at an American Society of Mammalogists annual meeting at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La. Presenter and co-author was **Tracy Carter**, Baylor graduate student, and additional co-authors are **Lisa M. Zygo**, research associate, Center for Applied Geographic and Spatial Analysis, Dr. Wylie C. Barrow Jr., National Wetlands Research Center, and Dr. Wendy E. Sera, former Baylor assistant professor of biology. Dr. White and **Dr. Peter M. Allen**, professor of geology, had a co-authored paper titled “Impacts of Flood Impoundments of Water Balances of Downstream Riparian Corridors” presented July 1-2 at an American Water Resources Association conference in Keystone, Colo. Presenter and co-author was **Jacquelyn R. Duke**, Baylor graduate student, and Dr. Ranjan S. Muttiah, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, was an additional co-author.

Dr. Kenneth T. Wilkins, professor of biology and associate dean for graduate studies and research, had co-authored posters titled “Use of DeltaGard, a Pyrethroid Insecticide, to Repel Fire Ants During Small-mammal Trapping” and “Roost Use and Fidelity of *Tadarida brasiliensis mexicana* in an Urban Setting” presented June 15-19 at an American Society of Mammalogists annual meeting at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La. First presenter and co-author was **Cathy Early**, Baylor graduate student. Second presenter and co-author was **Jeff Scales**, Baylor graduate student.

Several faculty made presentations March 20-22 at an American Society for Engineering Education Gulf Southwest annual conference in Lafayette, La. **Dr. Robert T. Doty**, professor of engineering, presented “A First Course in the Design of Data Acquisition Systems;” **Dr. Kenneth W. Van Treuren**, associate professor of engineering, and **Dr. Steven R. Eisenbarth**, professor of engineering and associate dean, presented a co-authored paper titled “Developing Engineering Student Success: A Retention Study at Baylor University.” Additional co-author is **Cynthia C. Fry**, lecturer in computer science and engineering. **Dr. James B. Farison**, chair and professor of engineering, presented “Experiences of an ABET Accreditation Evaluator.” Dr. Farison and **Dr. Byron P. Newberry**, associate professor of engineering, presented a co-authored paper titled “Current Status and Uses of the (Undesignated) Engineering Program.”



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Publications

Dr. Rodney G. Bowden, assistant professor of health, human performance and recreation, **Dr. Frank B. Wyatt**, assistant professor of health, human performance and recreation, and Ronald Wilson, Central Texas Nephrology Associates, had a co-authored article titled “Homocysteine and Vascular Access Thrombosis in End-stage Renal Disease Patients: A Retrospective Study” published in the *Journal of Nephrology* (Vol. 15, No. 6, pp. 1-5, 2002).

Dr. Dawn S. Carlson, assistant professor of management, had a co-authored article titled “The Impact of Moral Intensity Dimensions on Ethical Decision Making: Assessing the Relevance of Orientation” published in *Journal of Management Inquiry* (Vol. 14, No. 1, pp. 15-30, 2002). Co-authors are K.M. Kacmar, Florida State University, and Lori L. Wadsworth, Brigham Young University. She had a co-authored chapter titled “Do Men and Women Benefit from Social Support Equally? A Field Examination in the Work and Family Context” published in *Gender, Workstress and Health* by the American Psychological Association, edited by Debra Nelson and Ronald Burke. Co-author is P.L. Perrew, Florida State University. She had a co-authored article titled “The Effect of Career Dynamics on Multiple Forms of Work-Family Conflict” accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*. Co-authors are Wadsworth and Brooke Derr, Brigham Young University.

Dr. Nancy L. Chinn, associate professor of English and director of undergraduate studies, had an article titled “Slavery as Illness: Medicine in Willa Cather’s *Sapphira and the Slave Girl*” published in *The Southern Quarterly* (Vol. 40, pp. 68-82, 2002).

Dr. Gerald B. Cleaver, assistant professor of physics, had an article titled “String Cosmology: A Review” accepted for publication in an upcoming book titled *Advances in Space Research*.

Dr. William V. Davis, professor of English and Writer-in-Residence, had a poem titled “Black Ice” published in *Denver Quarterly* (Vol. 36, No. 1/2, pg. 45, 2002). He had essays titled “Robert Bly,” “Robert Bly’s ‘Counting Small-boned Bodies,’” “Robert Bly’s ‘The Teeth Mother Naked at Last,’” and “Robert Bly’s ‘Driving Toward the LacQue Parle River,’” published in *Encyclopedia of American Poetry: The Twentieth Century*, edited by Eric L. Haralson and John Hollander, Fitzroy Dearborn (2001).

Dr. Guillermo García-Corales, associate professor of Spanish, had an article titled “Postmodern Gestures in the Chilean Detective Novel” published in *Monographic Review: Beyond Postmodernism in the Hispanic Novel* (Vol. 17, pp. 223-236, 2001-2002).

Honors & Appointments

Dr. Michael D. Beaty, professor of philosophy and vice provost for faculty development, was appointed to the executive committee of the Society of Christian Philosophers.

Robert F. Darden III, assistant professor of English, had books titled *Corporate Giants* and *Secret Recipe* featured in November at the Texas Book Festival in Austin. He had an interview with Enron CEO Ken Lay chosen by the Dallas Press Club as a finalist in its annual Katie Awards.

Dr. Fredrick R. Gehlbach, professor emeritus of biology, had a book titled *Messages From the Wild: An Almanac of Suburban Natural and Unnatural History* nominated to receive the John Burroughs Award for the top natural history book of 2002.

Joyce Miller, director of academic advisement, received an outstanding publications award from the National Academic Advising Association for “Welcome to Baylor,” a University orientation video.

Dr. Baudelio Garza, associate professor of Spanish, had a review of *Identidad, Nación y Gesto Autobiográfico* by Magdalena Maiz published in *Chasqui* (Vol. 31, No. 1, pp. 127-129, May 2002).

Dr. Kevin J. Gutzwiller, professor of biology, had a co-authored article titled “Does Bird Community Structure Vary with Landscape Patchiness?: A Chihuahuan Desert Perspective” published in *Oikos* (Vol. 98, pp. 284-298, 2002). Co-author is Dr. Wylie C. Barrow, Jr, National Wetlands Research Center.

Kathy R. Hillman, associate professor and acquisitions librarian, had an article titled “Catching Up With Kathy” published in the resource publication of Woman’s Missionary Union of Texas (September 2002).

Dr. Richard B. Kreider, chair and professor of health, human performance and recreation, had the following articles published in *Muscular Development* (Vol. 39, No. 11, 2002): “Big Fat Lies: The Supplement Scare” (pp. 282-290); and “Sports Nutrition for the New Millennium: NSCA Pre-conference Symposia Update” (pp. 270-280). He had the following articles published in *Medycyna Sportowa* (Vol. 18, No. 7, 2002): “Effective and Ineffective Nutritional Strategies to Promote Weight Gain and Weight Loss (p. 244); “Recent Developments in Creatine Research” (p. 255); and “Some Strategies in Nutrition and Supplementation in Different Sport Disciplines Including Creatine” (p. 336).

L. Scot Lahaie, lecturer in theater arts, had a stage play titled *The Cattleman’s Suite: A Comedy in Two Acts* published by Writers Club Press (2002).

Dr. Ute S. Lahaie, assistant professor of German and director of the Language Acquisition Center, had a review of *Writing Across Languages*, edited by Gerd Bräuer, published in *Unterrichtspraxis* (Vol. 35, No. 1, spring 2002).

Dr. Owen T. Lind, professor of biology, had an article titled “Microbial Production and Reservoir Zone Trophic States” published in *Lake and Reservoir Management* (Vol. 18, pp. 129-137, 2002).

Dr. J. Wesley Null, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, had an article titled “The Narrowing of Knowledge by Accountability: Toward a Deeper Understanding of Knowledge in Schools” published in *Curriculum and Teaching Dialogue* (fall 2002). He had an article titled “Who Meant What with Social Efficiency: Several Different Conceptions of a Narrowly Understood Term” in the *American Educational History Journal* (fall 2002). He had an article titled “Questioning Social Efficiency: The Term within its Historical Context” in the *Journal of Philosophy and History of Education* (2002). He had a chapter titled “Helen Merrell Lynd (1896-1982)” published in *Building a Legacy: Women in Social Education*, edited by Margaret Smith Crocco and O.L. Davis Jr., National Council for the Social Studies (2002).

Dr. J. Wesley Null, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, received the 2002 Distinguished Dissertation Award from the Kappa Delta Pi international honor society in education.

Sue Powers, Baylor Libraries, was selected the libraries’ “Staff Member of the Month” for October.

Dr. Charles M. Tolbert II, chair and professor of sociology and anthropology, was selected as a review panel member for the rural development section of the U.S. Department of Agriculture national research initiative cooperative grants program.

Dr. Richard E. Watts, associate professor of educational psychology, was appointed to a second term as a member of the board of directors of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs.

Dr. Daniel E. Wivagg, professor of biology and director of undergraduate studies, has been chosen president-elect of the Texas Association of Biology Teachers.

He had an article on G. Stanley Hall published in *The Family in America: An Encyclopedia*, edited by Joseph M. Hawes and Elizabeth F. Shores, ABC-CLIO (2002).

Thomas E. Turner, former assistant to the president and chancellor, had the second edition of a book titled *Instruments of Providence* published by Eakin Press (2002).

Dr. Nancy B. Upton, professor of management and The Ben H. Williams Professor of Entrepreneurship, had an article titled “Best Practices of Fast Growth Family Businesses” published in *The Family Business Growth Handbook*, edited by H. Munson (pp. 28-32, 2002).

Dr. Robin L. Wakefield, assistant professor of information systems, had an article titled “Using the Internet to Enhance CPA Service Quality” published in *Ohio CPA Journal* (July-September 2002). She had an article titled “IT Security Issues” published in *CPA Journal* (Nov. 1, 2002).

Profile

Clowning Around

Baylor nursing professor uses laughter as a healing tool

Dr. Merry McBryde-Foster is a nurse with an attitude.

The assistant professor at Baylor’s Louise Herrington School of Nursing uses an unorthodox approach to meet some needs of her patients: she is a professional clown, which she sees as an enhancement to medicine.

“Humor affects the body’s chemistry,” she said. “It aids in healing.”

Nursing and clowning are natural choices for Dr.

McBryde-Foster. A health career is part of her family heritage — her father was a physician and her mother and grandmother were nurses. Although fun and happiness have always been a part of her persona, she believes her given name of Merry probably influenced her to find joy in life.

“My mother said she named me Merry because I was so happy,” she said. “When I realized humor had applications for health, it was really a plus.”

Dr. McBryde-Foster first considered professional clown college the day she graduated from her doctoral program in nursing at Texas Woman’s University. She had earned a reputation for loving school, so after graduation a colleague asked her, “What school are you going to go to next?”

Without hesitation, Dr. McBryde-Foster answered, “Clown college,” perhaps because she passed a professional clown school on her daily drive to work.

To her surprise, the colleague replied, “All right, a class starts next month.” A month later, she began learning the tricks of the clowning profession.

Clowning has been a useful tool for Dr. McBryde-Foster as a nurse and as a teacher of nurses. She has volunteered many clowning hours at nursing homes and children’s hospitals, but she also “clowns up” for new student orientation each year at the Herrington School of Nursing to give the students a humorous glimpse of what they’ll be learning over the coming semesters. She also performs shows for an annual workshop that the Children’s Medical Center of Dallas gives for



Dr. Merry McBryde-Foster as “Patty Ann,” one of five clown personalities she has created.

graduates of the six nursing schools in the region.

Dr. McBryde-Foster has five different clown personalities and corresponding costumes — Patty Ann, a 5-year-old girl who relates to children; Merry, a juggler clown; Sunbow, a nurse who wears scrubs and a rainbow wig and takes blood pressure with a bicycle pump; Shroum, a jester and mime who “wuggles” (juggles and walks at the same time); and Tommy Funflower, a character Merry created with a breast cancer patient named Tommy, who also helped design and make the clown’s costume.

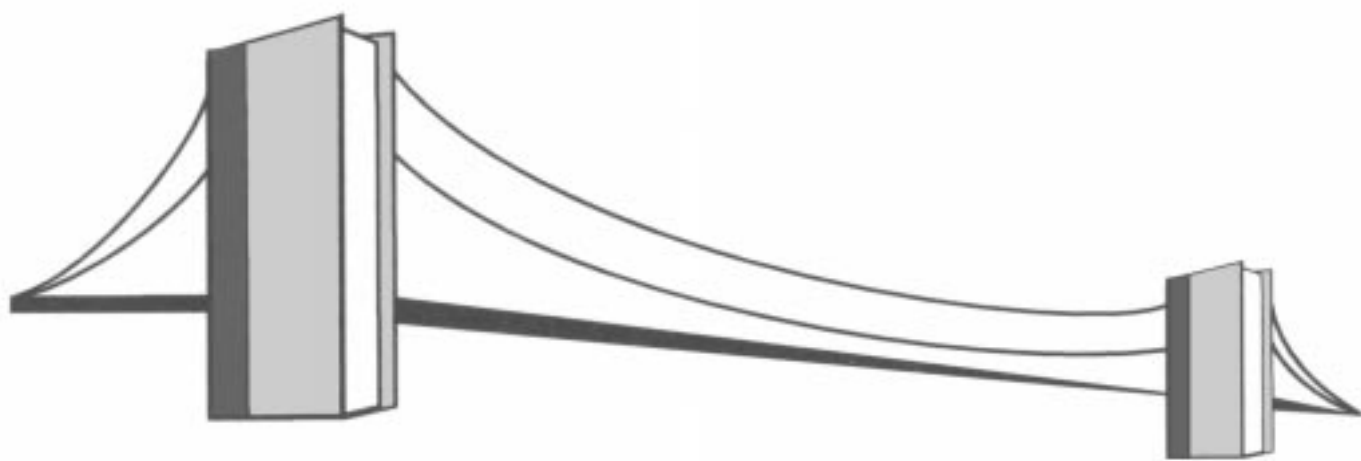
Dr. McBryde-Foster said medical science knows that emotions are an important part of the whole person, and positive feelings, such as joy and laughter, help the body to heal. This understanding fits with her personal philosophy that physical and mental well-being are entwined.

“Most physical diseases have such a mental aspect, that when you change your frame of mind, you’re doing some self-healing,” she said.

Dr. McBryde-Foster believes healing is more than physiological change. Humor, she said, helps bring about the emotional part of healing.

“When you are sick, you can see better what is really important,” she said. “How important is the perfect home and a nice car? The little things make life special. Having a cup of coffee in the morning — that’s special. And being able to laugh — that’s a good quality of life.”

— Judy Long



ONE BOOK, ONE WACO

Baylor joins in city-wide program to promote reading

Baylor students and City of Waco officials have announced that *A Lesson Before Dying* by acclaimed author Ernest Gaines will be featured in April 2003 as the inaugural book in “One Book, One Waco,” a reading program to promote unity and literacy in Waco.

“One Book, One Waco” is a city-wide program that developers hope “promotes reading and thoughtful discussion, with activities and events focused on encouraging community participation,” according to the group’s mission statement.

The actual events surrounding “One Book, One Waco” will take place throughout April, the founders said. Possible events include essay and art contests, discussion groups, movie presentations and guest lectures. The program’s web site — www.waco-texas.com/onebook.htm — will list scheduled events.

“One Book, One Waco” is modeled after a program started in Seattle. The idea has been duplicated in cities throughout the nation, including Chicago, Phoenix and Houston. Dr. Eileen Hulme, Baylor’s vice president for student life, believed this type program also would succeed in Waco. The program now is being developed and directed by a committee of eight Baylor students.

Gaines’ *A Lesson Before Dying* was announced as the inaugural book for the program through a joint unveiling by Waco City Manager Kathy Rice, Baylor Director of Human Relations Ramona Curtis and

Baylor Student Body External Vice President John Hill.

A nine-member book selection committee including Mayor Linda Ethridge, Rice, and representatives of Waco ISD, the business community, parents and local libraries chose the book over the summer.

“*A Lesson Before Dying* was chosen because of its literary merit, themes relevant to the Waco community, and the potential for developing community programs centered around the book,” Hill said.

Gaines won the 1993 National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction for *A Lesson Before*

Dying, which tells the wrenching story of an unjustly condemned man’s attempt to define himself during his last day and the teacher who befriends and helps him in the struggle.

Gaines is writer-in-residence at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. His previous books include *A Gathering of Old Men*, *In My Father’s House* and *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*.

Waco visit

A diverse and appreciative crowd heard Gaines read passages from *A Lesson Before Dying* and reflect on his contributions to American literature

as he delivered the inaugural Ferguson-Clark Author Lecture Oct. 17, 2002, at Baylor.

Earlier that day at Waco High School, the author led a lively discussion of *A Lesson Before Dying* and *A Gathering of Old Men* with more than 100 advanced placement English students and members of the National Honor and Edwards Literary Societies, who had all read at least one of the books.

In an answer he repeated at the evening lecture at Baylor, Gaines told aspiring young writers that the best way to learn about the craft is to “read, read, read, write, write, write” and then “read, read, read, read, write, write, write, write.” He also advised both audiences to read the classics as he did, such as Shakespeare, Chekhov and Faulkner, among others.

During his Baylor lecture, Gaines used a commanding yet unassuming stage presence to rivet his audience at a sold-out Jones Theater by reading from his copy of *A Lesson Before Dying*.

Gaines was asked if he knows the end of a novel as he begins writing, such as in *A Lesson Before Dying* if Jefferson, who is sentenced to death for a crime he didn’t commit, will be executed. The author described that novel and others like a train trip from San Francisco to New York. He knows the facts — which states he will travel through, the meals he will eat in the dining car and the relaxation he will find in the club car — but there is much to be learned along the way.

“When I started the novel *A Lesson Before Dying*, I knew that Jefferson would be sentenced to die. Would he be executed? I did not know for certain.” — Lori Scott Fogleman



Baylor students who are helping facilitate the “One Book, One Waco” reading program met Oct. 17 with author Ernest Gaines, whose novel *A Lesson Before Dying* is the inaugural book in the program.

Jason Reddin

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