



# Student Life Newsletter

The mission of the Division of Student Life is to enrich the Baylor experience through life changing programs and services resulting in an integrated education known for leadership, service, Christian faith, and the total development of students.

Volume 3, Number 10, March 19, 2008

## A NOTE FROM DUB

Many of us were at the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Conference in Boston last week. It is exciting and humbling to be a part of this professional development experience.

It's great to watch our second year graduate students navigate The Placement Exchange. Our colleagues across the country were impressed by the depth and strength of these young professionals, and soon you'll hear them talking about their campus visits and job offers. We are blessed to be able to send these graduates out to serve all over the country, "flinging the green and gold afar."

It's encouraging to see our staff members present program sessions about what we are pursuing and accomplishing at Baylor. There were four program sessions led by Baylor folks. Especially gratifying was the fact that two of our faculty colleagues (Doug Henry and Scott Moore) joined us for one of the sessions to share our experience in design and implementation of Brooks Residential College. I am hopeful that we will have even more faculty colleagues join with us next year.

It's impressive to hear the buzz about Baylor from people from across the country who know our people or who are familiar with our excellent and ever developing programs. Our reception at the conference was packed with old and new friends.

It's awesome to spend time with Baylor folks away from campus. Being at a conference gives us opportunities to deepen our relationships through time spent together. There are many ways that happens (sitting at interviewing tables together, attending sessions together, airplane flights and travel together). However, my favorite times are sharing meals and deep conversations with friends. There is a good deal of laughter during these moments, and also a deeper appreciation and understanding.

I am so proud to serve with you every day, but it's just a bit clearer how much so when we are in an unusual context. But we don't invest in professional development for a good feeling or to make good memories. We do it to fulfill our mission and vision. And ultimately, we are called to be salt and light in

the world. At NASPA, just like in the larger world, Baylor is a city on a hill. May it always be so.

Thankful for all the ways you help us to be that city on a hill.

Dub

## DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**March 25, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.**

***March Staff Development Luncheon***

Barfield Drawing Room, BDSC

Topic: *Effective Communication in Times of Crisis*

Contact: [Martha Lou Scott@baylor.edu](mailto:Martha.Lou.Scott@baylor.edu)

**March 21-24**

***Easter Holidays***

## STAFF TRANSITIONS



Shannon Brewer  
Highland Insurance Clerk  
Health Services



Dawn Chumak  
Registered Nurse  
Health Services



Katherine Johnson  
Sports Chaplain  
Spiritual Life

### VIRTUAL CASE STUDY COMPETITION

- First place** Baylor University  
**Second place** Oklahoma State University  
**Third place** University of St. Thomas  
(Hall team leader)  
**Fourth place** University of Central Arkansas  
(Davis team leader)  
**Fifth place** Indiana University  
(Featherstone team leader)

The Virtual Case Study competition is held each year and is open to graduate students matriculating in a masters level program in student personnel administration, higher education, or counseling. Congratulations to all winning teams. Each school that participated in the Case Study competition will have their presentation published in the April 2008 edition of our ejournal, *Student Affairs Online*.

### ROCK COMPETITIONS

Baylor is one of five schools participating in the Southwest Collegiate Climbing Series (rock competitions). The five schools participating in our region are Baylor, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, SMU, and University of North Texas. Baylor has had multiple students attending the competitions, with the following students competing in the Southwest Collegiate Climbing Series.

In the men's division, *Eric Reeves* placed first in two competitions at SMU and Texas Tech. He is a junior international studies major from Fort Worth and is currently ranked number one in the Collegiate Climbing Circuit. *Landon McNeeley*, a freshman from Amarillo, won first place in the beginner division in Lubbock. Other students participating were, *Greg Stephanos*, *Taylor McKorkle* (placed first in the speed climb at Texas Tech), *Adam Smith* (placed third in men's Adv and second in speed climb at Texas Tech), *Jordan Ryan* (placed fourth in men's Adv at Texas Tech and placed first overall in speed climbing at SMU).

In the women's division, the Baylor team was equally successful. In the collegiate climbing series, *Andrea Bruder*, a doctoral student from Germany, tied the highest point total in the women's division and won in a hang off with the other participant. Other participants included *Brandi Amor*, *Kayla Ritter*, *Kelly Morrow* (placed third in women's intermediate at SMU), and *Amy Jones* (placed third in women's beginner at SMU).

Thanks to *Drew White* who planned campus recreation sponsored trips for many of these competitions and to *Matt Bates*, our Outdoor Adventure Living Learning Center graduate student, for accompanying Drew and the students on the Texas Tech trip.

Upcoming rock climbing competitions are scheduled to be held at Texas A&M University, North Texas University, and Baylor University.

### ACADEMY FOR LEADER DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

The Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement would like to congratulate Fellow Candidate Nekpen Osuan on receiving the Mickey Leland Award for Commitment to Service. Nekpen received the award at the 31st Annual Big 12 Conference on Black Student Government.



The conference, hosted this year by Oklahoma State University, included guest speakers Patrice Graines of the Washington Post, Judge Vicki Miles-LaGrange, and businessman Stedman Graham. Nekpen's winning essay shared details of her most challenging service effort. The essay centered on Nekpen's Spring Break trip to New Orleans to assist communities affected by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina. In it she described a great sense of compassion for those she served and a new sense of appreciation for "the important things in life." Nekpen is a senior University Scholar and represents Baylor as a delegate to the Big 12 Council. Learn more about Nekpen's involvement with the Fellow Program by visiting the following link: <http://www.baylor.edu/leadership/index.php?id=50319>

### FUND RAISER FOR THE ZIMBABWE MISSION TRIP

If you wish to have photographs taken for any reason – engagement, children, seniors, etc., then you are in luck. Katie McCall, Baylor Fine Art Photography major is taking photographs as a part of the fund raiser for the Zimbabwe mission trip. The sitting fee will be waived for a tax deductible donation (\$100 is recommended) to Baylor's Youth Sports Team's mission trip. You may choose from the following locations: Waco Suspension Bridge, Carleen Bright Arboretum, or Baylor campus. The available dates are March 28-April 28. Your donation will include a one hour photo shoot and a CD with all proofs. Contact Katie McCall at [Katie\\_McCall@baylor.edu](mailto:Katie_McCall@baylor.edu).

### **MARCH STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Put this date and time on your calendar: Tuesday, March 25, in the Barfield Drawing Room, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn more about *Effective Communication in Times of Crisis* with Teresa Valerio Parrot, Senior Project Director with SimpsonScarborough. Mrs. Valerio Parrot is a recognized expert in higher education administration, media/PR, marketing and branding. Mrs. Valerio Parrot spearheads media outreach and placement and marketing/branding for SimpsonScarborough and its clients. She draws on extensive experience designing and implementing strategic media and marketing efforts aimed at enhancing institutions' image, reputation and brand. She has conducted numerous communications analyses for colleges and universities and is adept in communicating the tactics and techniques that drive effective media and marketing outreach efforts to university staff.

Mrs. Valerio Parrot counts almost ten years of experience with the University of Colorado System. She served first as special assistant to the president, before being promoted to chief of staff to the vice president for academic affairs and research. In the latter position, she led the design, implementation and evaluation of major research and academic endeavors, from the creation of the Colorado Tobacco Research Program to the revitalization of the university's technology transfer operation.

She served as director of donor relations at the flagship Boulder campus for the University of Colorado Foundation during the university's successful \$1 billion fundraising campaign. Mrs. Valerio Parrot instituted the institution's first donor relations manual, which included strategies for deepening relationships with high affinity donors in order to increase the probability of repeat gifts.

In January 2004, the CU Board of Regents appointed her assistant secretary of the university, in which capacity she assisted the board on policy and media/PR issues over two years filled with athletic and academic controversy that drew national and international headlines. In this highly sensitive officer-level role, she coordinated policy support, media/PR assistance, project management and internal and external communications with constituents statewide.

Harnessing her strong project management experience, Mrs. Valerio Parrot works closely with SimpsonScarborough clients to help them develop the media, marketing and key messaging components of their integrated marketing plans. Her unique experience working for a higher education governing board furnishes clients with indispensable insights

into best practice in senior administration and board communications. She draws upon her experiences to assist key communicators in conveying their institution's messages during successes and adversity.

Known as the firm's taskmaster, she has worked with the partners to complete a number of research projects, most recently at Western Michigan University, the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Emporia State University. Her strategic counsel informed the crafting of a new business plan for Carnegie Mellon's CyLab, image and reputation research for the University of Missouri - Rolla and the Duquesne University School of Business, and media outreach efforts at Augustana College.

Mrs. Valerio Parrot has a BA in communications with a minor in environmental biology and a master's degree in public administration with emphasis in state and local government and nonprofit management, both from the University of Colorado. (taken from SimpsonScarborough Web site at <http://www.simpsonscarborough.com/about.html>.)

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/PRESENTATIONS**

**Melissa and Michael Shehane** served as opening keynote speakers for the annual Pennsylvania State 4-H Leadership Conference recently in State College, Pennsylvania. The 2008 conference theme was entitled *Groovin' into Leadership*. Approximately 250 youth from across the state came together to learn more about leadership, develop skills, and build relationships. The Shehanes' energizing kick-off shared leadership lessons from music and taught participants a conference dance. Along with the opening talk, Melissa and Michael presented a teambuilding workshop entitled *Shake It Up* that taught participants activities that they can use in their local 4-H club.

### **FAMILY CORNER**

**Larry and Christy Correll-Hughes** announce the birth of their son, *Brooks Bradley*, born last week. Brooks Bradley weighed 8 pounds 12 ounces and was 21 inches long. Congratulations to Larry and Christy on their special blessing from God.



**STUDENT LIFE WEB SITE**

Remember that all Student Life Newsletters may be viewed on our Student Life Web site. The address is [http://www.baylor.edu/student\\_life/index.php?id=34407](http://www.baylor.edu/student_life/index.php?id=34407).