Annual Report of Effectiveness
Academic Year 2002-2003
Academic Year 2003-2004

College of Arts and Sciences
Delta State University

August 6, 2004

Unit Title: Languages and Literature

Unit Administrator: Dorothy Shawhan

Unit Mission Statement:
The Division of Languages and Literature offers baccalaureate degrees in English with or without teacher certification and with options for concentrations in Creative Writing or Philosophy; Foreign Language (with concentrations in French, German, Spanish, or Philosophy); Journalism, and Speech Communication and Theatre Arts (with an emphasis in Speech or Theatre). Courses in the Division teach students the values and function of the written and spoken word. Freshman and sophomore English courses teach effective writing as well as critical appreciation of literature. Advanced English courses help students to understand and evaluate literature of particular ages and types. Foreign language courses teach students proficiency in reading and speaking French, German, or Spanish; at the same time students are learning to understand and appreciate the manners and aspirations conveyed through those languages. Philosophy courses offer students opportunities to pose and respond to fundamental questions about human existence and human values. In basic speech courses, students learn to express their ideas with clarity and confidence. In speaking courses they learn major modes of public address and discussion. In theatre courses, they learn to achieve vitality in performances as actors, directors, or technicians. (Aligns with the University statement in a number of ways including helping students to "respect and evaluate the thoughts of others; to develop, assess, and express their own thoughts effectively and to use the techniques of research and performance associated with their disciplines.")

I. Unit Data
- Credit-hour production (see p. 2)
- Enrollment by majors and gender and minority status (see p. 2)
- Grade distribution (see pp. 3-5)
- Number of graduates

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- Faculty advising load (10 students on average)
- Scores on standardized tests (see p. 6)
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II. Personnel

- Activities and accomplishments (see "Faculty Notes" section of Newsletters)
- Recommended changes of status: In Spring 2003, Marion Barnwell, Jody Correro, and Ted Solomon retired. Jody returned to service almost immediately on the resignation of Warren Byrd, Instructor in Journalism. Sally Paulson was hired in a tenure track position in Speech to fill Ted Solomon's position. Donna Spell taught in Marion Barnwell's position but resigned in Spring 2004 to marry. Renelda Owen has been hired on a one-year contract to fill this position. William Pennington, Philosophy, retired in Spring 2004. Anna Ingram will retire as Division secretary on September 1, 2004.

III. Unit Goals (correlated to University goals)

- Develop a B.A. in Speech and Theatre program. (Assessment and Outcome: A proposal was developed by Stephen King and Nancy Clark and presented to the Division Curriculum Committee, the Academic Council, and the IHL Board. Each assessed the plan and approved with minor revisions made along the way. The program was finally approved by the IHL Board in Spring 2004.) (University Goal 1. Review and update undergraduate and graduate programs, etc.)
- Improve the Division's use of technology. (Assessment and Outcome: Since the Foreign Language Laboratory was unequipped to use the latest instructional materials, a proposal was made to install computers to replace the existing technology. As a result, twenty new computers will be installed in the lab in Fall 2004. In addition, the Division acquired a "Smart Cart" and a training session in its use was held for faculty. Speech classes and English Education classes often meet in the Technology Learning Center to give students opportunity to make presentations using PowerPoint.) (University Goal 6. Optimize the effective use of technology in support of the education process.)
- Initiate more service-learning opportunities. (Assessment and Outcome: Three Division faculty members attended the Gulf South Summit on Service-Learning and Community Engagement in 2003 and 2004. Beverly Moon is campus liaison for service learning and each year more faculty members become familiar with the concepts and add service-learning to their syllabi. They work with community groups including Habitat for Humanity, Helping Hands, and Headstart. (University Goal 7. Strengthen the cooperative relationships with... community groups.)
- Improve the process for assessing the Division's effectiveness (Assessment and Outcome: To satisfy the SACS requirement that QEP in itiatives are being implemented, the Division assigned the function of reviewing the data concerning programs to the Curriculum Committee. The Division's "Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Model" is attached, as well as minutes from the
IV. Needs and Requests

- **Personnel.** We are relying increasingly on adjuncts, not a good trend. Terry Everett’s position has not been filled, and while he taught adjunct for several years, this fall his one course will be his last. Another factor in the trend is that Division faculty provide valuable service to the University in ways other than teaching. Bill Spencer now teaches one course and works one shift in the Writing Center with half-time devoted to administrative duties; Susan Allen Ford has two courses release time to coordinate the Writing Center; Carolyn Elkins has one course release time to work in the Writing Center and will teach one course at the Greenville Center; Beverly Moon has one course release time to serve as campus liaison for service learning; the Division chair teaches five courses per year. The Division needs at least one additional full-time faculty member for English. As the Journalism, Speech and Theatre, and Foreign Language programs grow, there will be needs there as well. An additional RSE position for the Writing Center would be extremely helpful.

- **Facilities.** The Division needs additional classrooms in Kethley; we have only five classrooms for scheduling some 122 classes. Our faculty are peripatetic to the extreme. Increasingly we need “smart classrooms” to meet our technology goal. Faculty offices are also a need, with many of our current ones no larger than a closet.

- **Equipment.** Climate control is the biggest problem in Kethley. Parts of the building are cold, others hot. Regulation seems impossible.
Appendix A

Newsletters, Division of Languages & Literature
Pulitzer Winner Richard Ford Reads at DSU

Longtime friend of Lang & Lit Richard Ford will return to the Delta for a talk and public reading on February 11 in the Delta Room, Ewing Hall, DSU campus.

Ford's novel *Independence Day* won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1996 as well as the PEN/Faulkner Award. That same year he was awarded by France with the Officier de L'ordre des Arts et Lettres medal.


Ford's visit is being coordinated by Susan Allen Ford, who describes Ford as "a writer whose work focuses on Mississippi as well as on other landscapes of the American experience." She said that "Richard Ford's presence on campus will be energizing for faculty and students who will have the opportunity to listen to and learn from a writer whose work is beautifully crafted and evocative of contemporary dislocations and attempts to live meaningful lives."

For more information, call 662-846-4060.

Whatever Happened to...

- Takeya Allen ('02) is a computer programmer for Hilton Corporation in Memphis.
- Ashley Combest ('02) received first place in the graduate level 2003 essay competition for the Jane Austen Society of North America. Her essay, "Definition and Redefinition: Finding a Home in Mansfield Park," is the second award she has received in this competition. In 2002, Ashley won second place for her undergraduate submission, "Mr. Knightley: Very Busy Over Parish Business."
- Kelly Cummins (M.Ed.'02) is teaching Freshman English at Stratford High School in Nashville, TN.
- Martha Cranford Davis ('00) is teaching Spanish I to students grades 9-12 at Cleveland High School. She is also the 2003-04 secretary for DSU's counseling honor society, Chi Sigma Iota, and counsels part-time through Community Counseling, a local United Way agency.
- Janet Rush Deal ('93) is living in Kirkland, WA, with her husband. They are looking forward to retiring within the next several years in "a remote...cabin in the woods kind of place."
- Patrick Ervin ('02) ran for Greenville's Ward 2 City Council seat as an Independent Party candidate. While he did not win in his first foray into politics, he's a man to watch in the future.
- Beverly Lepresto Fioranelli ('75) is the librarian at Pearman Elementary School. She is working towards her master's degree at USM in Hattiesburg.
- Kristi Lane Hager ('93) is an English instructor at Central Holmes Christian School in Lexington, MS. She was chosen as CHCS's Star Teacher for 2003.
- Courtney Holley ('02) reported for the Bolivar Commercial, writes a column from time to time, as well as feature articles, including one about former classmate Ashley Combest's winning in the Jane Austen international essay contest.

Editor's Easy Chair

The Division hosted a coffee in the Kethley Lounge for homing alumni during Delta State's Homecoming week-end in October. Inspired to hospitality by DSU Alumni President, honorary English major, and Chancery Clerk elect of Madison County Arthur Johnston, we hope the event becomes a tradition. We caught up and reminisced with several recent graduates as well as with one from the class of 1943, Susie Pepper Crews from Baton Rouge.

Homecoming 2004 has been set for October 16, so pencil it in now.

The newsletter has a new look thanks to designer Jaime Coon. Thanks also to Jill Morgan, Kitty Burgos, and Eric Dodd for help with this issue.

-Dorothy Shawhan
New Speech and Theatre Degree

Delta State undergraduates now may opt for the B.A. degree in Speech and Theatre beginning in the fall. Two tracks allow students to choose an emphasis in either speech communication or theatre.

Under the speech communication option, students will take coursework focusing on public speaking, small group communication, and interpersonal interaction with strong emphasis on listening and response skills. “This program teaches students communication skills which are critical for survival in the workplace,” said Stephen King, coordinator of the program. “In addition, a student’s personal and academic success is often predicated on displaying effective communication skills in a variety of situations.”

The theatre track will be the only one of its kind offered in the Delta region. The curriculum will include acting classes, theatre production, and theatre history. Students will have access to the facilities of the state-of-the-art Bologna Performing Arts Center and the newly renovated Jobe Auditorium.

Whatever happened to . . .

Ashley Combest (’02) is working toward her Master’s degree in English at the University of Tennessee. She will be teaching two composition classes in the fall and will be an editorial assistant for the Journal of Second Language Writings. In July, she will be in England taking a class with John Zomchick.

Quentin Daniels (’86) now has his own law firm in Jackson, Daniels and Gentry, which specializes in asbestos litigation.

Sabrina Davidson (’99, M.Ed.’00) finished Law School at the University of Mississippi.

Billy Davis (’98) married Shannon Rocco on June 19. The couple . . .

Billy works for the Commercial Appeal.

Morgan Dean (’02) will be teaching senior and sophomore English at Greenville Westen High School in the fall.

Stephanie Eddleman (’02) will receive her Master’s degree in English on July 31st. She will be an Instructor in English at Harding University in the fall.

Sayward Ely (’04) married Jonathan Fortner in June and will enter the Law School at the University of Mississippi in the fall. At Honors Day she received the Anne Caulfield-Winston Scholarship annually awarded to the English major who demonstrates excellence in scholarship, citizenship, and character.

Patrick L. Ervin (’02) is currently employed as the public relations director of a federal program called Project CROSSROADS in the Greenville Public School District. He is also a part-time editor/reporter for the

Editor’s Easy Chair

April saw the inauguration of Delta State’s new president, Dr. John Hilpert. As part of the inaugural celebration, members of the Division participated in an interdisciplinary event entitled “Looking Forward Through the Arts.” On the second floor lounge of the Union that looks out on the green quadrangle, musicians played, writers read, and visual artists displayed their paintings and sculptures. The event was organized by Susan Allen Ford, Keith Pettway, and Duncan Baird with assistance from Beverly Moon. The program was a reminder of the value of the arts and how they center us and move us forward.

Individual moves forward included the retirement of Bill Pennington, the resignation of Donna Spell, who became engaged, graduation, and news from alums (ever on the move).

Thanks to Kitty Burgos, Eric Dodd, Nancy Howell, and Beverly Moon for help with this issue.

~Dorothy Shannon
Faculty Notes...

Karen Bell attended the Language and Culture for International Business Workshop at the University of Memphis in February. General sessions dealt with the role of language teaching in preparing students for the global marketplace. German specific sessions trained participants in the Goethe-Institut’s Prüfung Wirtschaftseutsch International, an internationally recognized test of German business language knowledge. In March she attended the Gulf South Summit on Service Learning in New Orleans. Both meetings were supported by the Kent and Janice Wyatt Faculty Development fund. Through the Faculty Enhancement Program, Karen was able to attend the annual SOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) convention in Long Beach, California. She stayed on the Queen Mary where The Aviator, Leonardo DiCaprio's latest, is being filmed. In between workshops, she tried Peruvian and Latin American food, visited the Museum of Modern Art, and dipped her toes in the Pacific.

Georgene Clark provided the "Reflections" from the faculty at the annual Retirement Reception and received a pin for twenty-five years of service to DSU.

Carolyn Elkins taught poetry to a seventh grade class at the Cleveland Achievement Center and taught poetry and book arts in the Summer Arts program through the Bologna Performing Arts Center. She had two poems published in the Summer 2004 issue of Chattahoochee Review and another poem published in the Spring 2004 issue of Gargoyle. She gave a poetry reading at the Southern Humanities Council conference in Chattanooga in February, gave two workshops for Itawamba Community College in March, and three workshops for the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association Conference in Meridian in April. She also judged the annual poetry competition for MCCCWA. In May and June Carolyn traveled in Uruguay and Argentina with her sister Marilyn and her son Farzad.

Terry Everett's poem cycle set to music by David Caudill and entitled "In This First Light" was performed in February in the Recital Hall. Terry has declared that he will teach the Native American Literature and Art course for the last time this fall. He also reports that the "ex-Division stevedore, designated driver, and escort, is moving out of his office in a very different manner than he has ever moved before—one box a day. He is set up to continue reading and writing and hosting at 349 Brooks Avenue, Boyle, MS 38730-9629," but that "regular visits to these halls are must-do parts of life."

Bill Pennington addressing his retirement gift as John Ford and Bonnie Horton look on at the end-of-semester party at Beverly and Rick Moon's. In the box were two cups reminiscent of his two vocations—a Delta State beer stein and a Gail Pittman "love feast" cup designed to celebrate the 30th birthday of John Wesley.

John Ford was Albert Hamilton Holt lecturer for the Clemson Shakespeare Festival XIII, 2004. This spring he was on sabbatical to work on his book project: Twelfth Night: a Guide to the Play. He and Susan are attending the Shakespeare Institute in England this summer.

Susan Allen Ford presented papers this spring at meetings of the Mississippi Philological Association, the Shakespeare Association of America, the Jane Austen Society of North America, and the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism. She received a pin for twenty years of service to Delta State. In addition she participated as a guest artist in an April recital—"Pianos in Concert." She provided two hands in the two-piano, eight-hand concert. Other hands were those of Music faculty members Donna Banks and Lois Hobbs and guest artist Brandi Ward.

Bonnie Horton was recognized at the Retirement Reception with a pin for twenty years of service to DSU. She and Georgene Clark represented the Division at a retreat in Tunica of the STEP program (Systemic Teacher Education Preparation). Stephen King presented "Talkin' Blues" as part of the Madison Center's brown bag series. During the presentation, he discussed his new book project on blues tourism in Mississippi. He will be on sabbatical in the fall.

Beverly Moon, as Faculty Senate chair, was the voice of the faculty at Dr. Hilpert's inauguration ceremony. She also attended the Gulf South Summit on Service Learning in New Orleans in March and the Southern Literary Festival in April.

Bill Pennington is the only Languages & Literature professor to officially retire this year; however, he will continue to wax philosophic at the Kethey Koffee Klatch and in the future will teach part-time.

Elizabeth Sarcone received Delta State's highest honor for teaching, the Kossman Teaching Award, at the May graduation ceremony.

Marilyn Schultz is a board member of the Mississippi Reading Association. She evaluated student papers for the National Council of Teachers of English writing contest and took her student teachers to be judges in a reading contest in the south Delta.

Dorothy Shawhan presented a brown bag lunch lecture in the Madison Center series on the new book Mississippi Women: Their Histories, Their Lives. She also discussed the book with the Delta Women's group at the Capps Center in Indianola. She taught fiction writing for a seventh grade class at the Cleveland Achievement Center and in the Summer Arts program through the Bologna Performing Arts Center. In June she participated in a book signing and moderated a panel of writers at the regional meeting of the American Association of University Women in Atlanta.

Bill Spencer, as DSU's SACS Liaison, coordinated the accrediting agency's visit this spring and led us to a positive outcome. He's looking forward to the 25th anniversary of Cormac McCarthy's Suttree in Knoxville in October.

Jim and Yvonne Tomek went to Paris this summer to immerse themselves in all things French.
1st Annual DSU Oratorical Contest

The 1st Annual Delta State University Oratorical Contest was held on March 10 in Ewing Hall. DSU students competed for first-place awards in two speech categories: informative and persuasive. Mallory Smith's speech, "The Demographics of Gambling Addiction," won first place in the informative speech categories. Nekeshia Fipps ("Dreams") and Rebecca Herbert ("Migraines") also competed in the informative category. Janney Fleming's speech, "Don't Smoke," won first place in the persuasive speech category. Ashley Dorsey ("A Fine Women") and Rebecca Herbert ("Underage Drinking") also competed in this category.

The contest was organized by Speech and Theatre faculty members Stephen King, Nancy Clark, and Sally Paulson. Judges were Summer Brewer, John Cox, Paul Kossman and Renelda Owen.

Participants in the Oratorical Contest (left to right) were Rebecca Herbert, Mallory Smith, Janney Fleming, Ashley Dorsey, and Nekeshia Fipps.

New Creative Writing Scholarship

Before his recent death, Dr. Charlie Coffman established a creative writing scholarship in memory of his wife, J'Nell Posey Coffman. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a DSU student enrolled in the creative writing program.

The Coffmans met at Delta State and were married for 56 years. While at Delta State, Mrs. Coffman was Homecoming Queen (1947-48) and a campus beauty. She later owned and operated the Sixth Avenue Kindergarten in Cleveland, and Dr. Coffman served as Assistant Superintendent and Principal of Cleveland High School. She was a published writer of poems and short stories.

And what about...

Delta Democrat Times in Greenville. He is enrolled in the University of Memphis’ Journalism Online Masters program and is set to graduate in Dec'05. This summer he hopes to finish writing a book called Frank and Dishonest about the tall tales his grandfather used to tell him when he was growing up.

Shane Gong (97) was recently elected to the Board of Governors of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters. She is a Production Co-Ordinator for University Press of Mississippi.

Candace (Candi) Hunt Harkins (94) will be teaching ninth and tenth grade English at Pelahatchie High School in the fall.

Jeffery Hastings a.k.a Johnson (99) married in 2000 and changed his name. "Hastings is also a family surname," he writes, "and there are just too many Jeff Johnson's in the world... I was sick of having all my bills/mail/etc. messed up!" He is planning to attend graduate school and get a M.A. in Political Science. Since July 2003 he has worked for the state of Nebraska as a 'federal coordinator.' His English background comes in handy because of the technical writing.

Zane Hodge (91) has taken a position in the academic support center at Mississippi Delta Community College.

Courtney Holley (02) has been accepted into an M.F.A. program in creative writing at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

Rick Hynum (89) is VP of communications for a technology firm, HomeSafe Inspection, Inc., Oxford, Mississippi. "Not as sexy as the nightclub and bar business, I'm afraid, but it's still kinda cool. Very high tech stuff."

JT Lack (91) and his wife are moving into a new cabin in north Panola County, and he has been admitted to Law School at the University of Mississippi.

Gretchen Gardner McCalop (97) is working toward her Master's degree in English at Mississippi College.

Anne Nelson & The Guys on Campus

The Actor's Gang production of Anne Nelson's play, The Guys, was staged in April at the Bologna Performing Arts Center. Anne Nelson was there and fielded questions from the audience after the play.

Nelson is a professor, reporter, and former combat journalist who came to the role of playwright through a series of interviews with a New York City fire chief shortly after the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The play revolves around the fire chief's request that the reporter help him write eulogies for the many dead members of his company.

Nelson also visited Division classes and shared with students her experiences as a war correspondent in El Salvador in the early 1980's and her more recent work as teacher and playwright.

Continues on page 5
A Letter from England

May 6, 2004

Hello Delta State!!!! It feels like ages since I've contacted Okra Land. I hope all is well with all of you. I'm settled in England and loving every minute of it. It took a long time to get to this point though... everything that could go wrong at the beginning did and I didn't think I'd get to England after all for awhile, but I wasn't about to give up, and now I'm living in a suburb of London called Bricket Wood, close to the town of St. Albans, and teaching at a wonderful middle school for 9-13 year olds. I teach English and drama to all the ages, and it's been so much fun! Such a contrast from an inner city Chicago school with metal detectors and bullet proof glass windows!

I have fallen in love with this entire country! I'm really active in the church here and have become good friends with the church vicar and his wife. Last weekend his wife and I went to London to the Globe Theater (oops, Theatre even), and had a wonderful time looking at the Shakespeare exhibit there. We're going to see Much Ado about Nothing when it's there this summer and will be buying Groundling tickets! I can't wait to be an official English groundling!

I've also joined the Bricket Wood Poetry Club which meets once every six weeks and has a different poetic theme each time. Tomorrow night's topic is America, and I somehow got nominated to lead it, being the only American in this village of 4,000 people. They asked me to talk about when I started writing and about "poetry life" in America, so I've prepared the speech that includes much about Poetry Night and Delta State influences. I'm also doing a British/American English poetry game with real live Hershey Bars for prizes! I have a picture of the entire Delta State English department that I'm taking with me for moral support, so imagine yourselves in England tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m. your time!

Teaching here is wonderful and I hope to stay for about two more years. The kids are fascinated by my accent and every day they bombard me with American questions, some of which are hilarious. On Saturday a friend and I are going to St. Albans to walk around through the Roman ruins and then will eat lunch at the St. Albans Abbey, which was built nearly 1,000 years ago, and next week I'm going along as a chaperone to Osmington Bay on the south coast with the 9- and 10-year-old students to a recreational area they have just for school groups. We'll be staying in chalets that overlook the ocean which sounds heavenly.

Take care and I hope to get to Delta State the next time I'm in the USA!

Cheerio mates,
Dana (Patton)

Bill Spencer suffering from post-SACS syndrome. The pain was worth it since Delta State received a good report from the accrediting agency under his guidance.

Beverly Moon in fierce competition at the Southern Literary Festival.

DSU representatives to the Southern Literary Festival pose on the steps of the Honor College at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. Participants (front to back) were Dorothy Shawham, Rebecca Seawright and her daughter Rebecca Durden Seawright (who won first place in the formal essay category), Olivia Bradley, Carolyn Elkins, Iya Bakare, Kristian Dambrino, Marilyn Schultz, Eric Dodd, Bill Spencer, and Beverly Moon.
Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

Delta Players' spring musical was the humorous, sometimes poignant I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change.

Directed by Nancy Clark and performed in the Bologna Performing Arts Center, the production consisted of a number of mini-skits on the subject of relationships between men and women. From the young person's first date to the older man who goes to funerals to meet women his age, the play explores a variety of situations, conflicts, and emotions involved in mating.

Student cast members were Kristian Dambrino, Courtney Findley, Matt Grant, Chris Hartfield, Blake Moon, and Ashley Neal. Community actors were Beth Jacks and Kristian's father, Robin Dambrino, who stepped in with a heroic performance when another actor had to drop out four days before curtain time.

Matt Weeks, reviewer in The Delta Statement, wrote that "the cast did an excellent job and put on a wonderful performance showing us the talent that is here at Delta State University."

And Finally...

...expects to graduate in December. This summer she taught composition and American literature at Mississippi Delta Community College.

Ann Marie Mayers ('04) will enter the University of Mississippi Law School in the fall.

Dana Patton ('95) now lives in Brickett Wood, England, and is teaching at a middle school for 9-13 year olds. See her letter inside.

Peter Pinnow ('95) received a grant to attend the Exeter Humanities Institute at Phillips Exeter Academy in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in late June and July. He plans to do some sight seeing around Boston while he's in New England.

Lauren Doty Scott ('95) is a reporter for The Bolivar Commercial, Cleveland's local newspaper. She is expecting her first child August 13th.

Missy Jo Suttle ('04) will be teaching at St. Martin High School in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, in the fall.

Nathalie Drake Tramel (M.Ed.'92) teaches 7th grade English in Grenada and has two children, Kathy and Boe, ages two and three. She and colleague Donna Gordon ('95) are collaborating on a writing book.

Ginger Wilder ('96) teaches English at Wooddale High School in Memphis, but spent June in Paris keeping her French current.

Fane Youag ('97) teaches Spanish at Southwest Missouri State University in West Plains, Missouri.

Poet-Musician Dick Lourie Performs

Dick Lourie, saxophonist and author of Ghost Radio, gave a poetry reading and a poetry/music workshop on campus in March. Lourie is an accomplished saxophonist and founding editor of Hanging Loose Press, Boston, Massachusetts.

His most recent project is the CD Ghost Radio Blues, a poetry/music collaboration with guest blues performers such as Big Jack Johnson. Lourie recites the poems and performs tenor sax solos. The CD was recorded in Boston and at the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale.

Jim Tomek and Jack Phillips coordinated Lourie's performances on campus. Support came from the Division and from Faculty Development.

Saumaa Awarded Scholarship

A P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship has been awarded to Hiiie Saumaa, a graduate student in English. Hiiie is a native of Estonia.

This scholarship fund was established in 1949 to promote graduate education in the United States and Canada for women from other countries.

Michael Smith and Hiiie Saumaa talk to archeologist John Sullivan on a field trip with the Literature and Geography of the River course to the Winterville Mounds near Greenville.

Recent initiates into Lambda Iota Tau, the literary honorary society, were (front, from left) Erik Brewer, Kari Girdley, Drew Harris, (back) Jamie Kemp, Bonnie Rook, and Emily Trapolino. Not pictured are Jessica Morris and Vanessa Pounders.
English-graphic design double major Kristian Dambrino sang for the local Habitat for Humanity chapter at the Bean Counter and raised some $300. Seven of the musical selections were Carolyn Elkins' poems set to Kristian's original music. Kristian was first alternate in the Miss Mississippi pageant in June and is leaving Delta State to pursue a singing career.

Kristian and Eric Dodd were designers of Confidante 2004.

Communicate!
Update us on your news by filling in the form and returning it to us at the address above or by calling (662) 846-4060, or by e-mailing: dshawhan@dellastate.edu

Phone:
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Martha Cranford Davis (‘00) and husband Rex had their first child, Rex Collins Davis Jr., on September 28, 2002. Martha also graduated with an M.Ed. in Community Counseling.

Jim Garrett (‘96) has been accepted into the creative writing program at the University of New Orleans and will begin his work there in the fall.

Courtney L. Holley (‘03) has been welcomed to The Bolivar Commercial as a new staff writer. Her future plans include a master's degree in creative writing.

John Arthur House (‘72) is assistant professor of speech & theatre at Rust College in Holly Springs and is director of the Rust College Theatre Guild. He was voted the 2002-2003 William Winter Scholar by the Division of Humanities. When he was a DSU student, he appeared in several productions including Macbeth, Cactus Flower, and Death of a Salesman.

Denise Jones (‘00) married Louis Robert Grones, Jr., at North Greenwood Baptist Church on March 15.

Preamiller McKinney (M.Ed.’03) will be teaching 9th grade English at South Side High School in Memphis in the fall.

David Mann (‘02) has rejoined The Bolivar Commercial as staff reporter.

Kristi Mitchell (‘97) and family have moved to Wills Point, Texas. Kristi will be teaching sophomore and junior English at Edgewood High School.

Tracey Odom (‘02) received a senior scholarship from the American Association of University Women, Cleveland Branch. She will work toward a master's in English at the University of Southern Mississippi in the fall.

Brad Oxnam (‘03) begins work on a master's degree in Theatre at the University of Southern Mississippi in the fall.

Dana Patton (‘95) and Ginger Wilder (‘96) dropped by the Division for a visit in July. Dana is leaving Chicago and is headed for the southeast of England where she will teach English in a secondary school in the coming year. Ginger teaches at Kingsbury High School in the Memphis public school system. This summer she's taking an art course, working on her house, reading, and doing lots of yoga.

Trudy Payne (M.Ed.’02) writes that the decision to teach in China was the best she ever made. "The experiences I've had and the things I've learned about the world and how I fit into it are beyond priceless," she said.

Emily Hutton Porter (‘98), husband Ryan, and daughter Maggie are expecting "Baby Porter #2." The family lives in Memphis. Emily writes that she is a "Scrabble widow" because Ryan has started a Scrabble Club at school for his 8th graders and has become "quite fanatical about the game." Ryan, Emily, and students were to travel to Boston in April for the first annual National Scrabble Tournament.
ory Smith ('03) received a scholarship to the University of New Orleans, where he will start graduate school in the fall.

Lacey Veazey ('02) received a senior scholarship from the American Association of University Women, Cleveland Branch, and her essay on Eveline was accepted by the Oswald Review. She will be teaching high school English in the fall.

Nicole Williams ('96) is working toward a graduate degree at the University of Houston. She made a power point presentation at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in New York City. Her topic was "Access Equals Power: Inventing the University_Online_.”

Faculty Notes

Karen Bell received a DSU Faculty Enhancement grant in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL). She finished her term as chair of Faculty Senate and served on the faculty advisory committee in the search for a new DSU president.

Georgene Clark received a pin for 20 years of service to DSU. This spring she served on the search committees for Athletic Director and for Director of the Bologna Performing Arts Center. She is on the Crosstie Arts Council board and the boards of the Bolivar Medical Center and the BPAC.

Carolyn Elkins' book Daedalus Rising was reviewed in the fall/winter issue (No. 26) of Birmingham Poetry Review, and it was also nominated this year for a Mississippi Institute of Arts & Letters Award. This spring she conducted poetry workshops for the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association and served as judge to select the best book of poetry by a North Carolinian in a contest sponsored by the Poetry Council of North Carolina. This summer, after spending three weeks in Montevideo, Uruguay, she has been teaching poetry writing and book arts in the Summer Arts Institute. In October she'll be reading at the Eudora Welty Symposium hosted by Mississippi University for Women.

John Ford presented papers at the South Central Renaissance Conference in New Orleans and at the Shakespeare Association of America meeting in British Columbia. He received a pin for 20 years of service to DSU.

Susan Allen Ford chaired the SACS committee on Educational Programs, chaired a session on Women in the Renaissance at the South-Central Renaissance Conference, read a paper on the detective fiction of Robert Barnard at the Popular Culture Association, presented a talk (with slides) to the Jane Austen Society of Louisiana, graded the essay portion of the SAT-II, and this summer will travel to Sydney to address the Jane Austen Society of Australia.

Stephen King served as the Chair of the Paper Distribution/Tech Center at the National Communication Association convention in New Orleans. He also served as a reviewer for Dan Rothwell's textbook, In the Company of Others, and for the National Communication Association's Public Address Division. In addition, he attended the 4th Annual Statewide Folk and Traditional Arts conference (Clarksdale) and the 1st Annual Living Blues Symposium conference (Oxford). Finally, his essay on blues festivals was recently accepted for publication by Popular Culture and Society.

Beverly Moon was elected chair of the Faculty Senate for the coming year. She was on a panel at the Gulf South Summit for Service Learning on the coast and will serve another year as DSU Faculty Liaison for Service Learning. Following the meeting on the coast, she and Dorothy Shawhan went over to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration and then to New Orleans for the Mystic Krewe of Barkus parade through the French Quarter—1500 dogs marching to the theme of "Tailhouse Rock."

Dorothy Shawhan gave readings at the Clinton, MS, public library, at the DSU library as part of National Library Week, and for the Cleveland Woman's Club. She judged a regional student oratorical contest for the Optimist Club. She gave a paper at the interdisciplinary Women and Power Conference at Middle Tennessee State University. This year's theme was "Reclaiming Faith—Socially, Spiritually, Artistically."

Bill Spencer has been appointed Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at DSU, which is a half-time position, so he'll still be teaching half-time. In the spring he was elected to a third term as chair of the Board of Directors of the University Press of Mississippi.

Yvonne Tomek represented the Cleveland Branch of the American Association of University Women at the state meeting in June. She will attend a poetry workshop at the University of Iowa in July.

Honorees at the Retirement Dinner at Bellazar's

Marion Barnwell retired after 25 years of teaching English at DSU. She's pictured here with her husband, Claiborne.
In Memoriam
Sullivan

Former chair of Languages & Literature, Bill Sullivan, died on April 11, 2003, at Carolinas Medical Center—Pineville in Pineville, North Carolina.

Bill left Delta State in 1988 and served as chair of the Winthrop University English Department until 1999. He continued to teach at Winthrop until 2001, when Parkinson’s disease took its toll, and he retired.

His profile written by Andrew Dys and published in *The Herald* called “William Amett Sullivan a true Renaissance Man who loved both the crack of a baseball bat and well-turned phrase.” Debra Boyd, who served as chair at Winthrop after Bill stepped down, said that his biography and Milton courses at Winthrop were student favorites. During his retirement Bill was working on a book about Walker Percy.

Bill leaves his mother, Ruby; his wife, Peggy; five daughters, Shelley, Anne, and Claire, all of Portland, Oregon, Amy Rusko of Seattle; and Jennie Mosley of Columbia, South Carolina; two brothers, John of Charlotte and James of Mobile; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the English Department Foundation Account, Winthrop University, Sullivan Scholarship Fund, Rock Hill, SC 29733.

The following poem was published in the first edition of *Tapestry*, 1988.

Rehearsal

With no question about his departure not even as to the exact time of day, he's still moving periwinkles and moss roses from last year's seed beds to summer frames. Though he won't be here for the bloom The bloom was not the real point any way. It was the ritual of activity in hope of a bloom that nurtured his very survival if not his flowering. So he spades and selects and plans and plants today, rehearsing a half litany, one without congregational responses about a sowing without a reaping season.

-William A. Sullivan

Click.

Finally, after winning four straight prizes in an alleged “drawing,” it dawns on Bill Spencer that this Poetry Night is dedicated to him. Poets honored him with special readings and gifts in thanks for his support of Poetry Night since its beginning eight years ago. Bill read his best poem “Click,” based on Tennessee Williams’ Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.
Southern Literary Festival

Two student winners in the Confidante writing contest, Lacey Veazey and Joshua Walker, traveled to the Southern Literary Festival in Gainesville, Georgia, along with faculty members Susan Allen Ford, Marion Barnwell, Beverly Moon, and Dorothy Shawhan.

The group attended readings and workshops arranged by the host, Gainesville College. The Formal Essay Workshop featured the prize-winning essay by Joshua Walker, "The Illusion of Foreign Wealth: Joyce's Method in 'After the Race.'" That workshop was led by Glenda McLeod of Gainesville College.

The Poetry Workshop was conducted by T.R. Hummer, Editor-in-Chief of The Georgia Review. Judith Ortiz Cofer from the University of Georgia led the Informal Essay Workshop. The Fiction Workshop was led by Scott Ely from Winthrop University in South Carolina.

Writer Anthony Grooms read from his recent novel Bombingham, based on the civil rights struggle in Birmingham in the 1960s.

Jody Correro and wife, Gmanda. Jody smiles happily at the thought of taking retirement after 28 years at DSU, not knowing that by August he would be returning to the trenches as journalism professor.

Ted Solomon and wife, Portia. Ted put in 35 years teaching speech and directing plays. While he’s leaving Lang. & Lit. he will keep his job as box office manager at the Bologna Performing Arts Center.

Beverly Moon entertains the retirement dinner with a sleight-of-hand trick that falls on John Ford's head. An amused Carolyn Elkins looks on.

Joshua Walker accepts the first prize in formal essay from Professor Rusty Russon at the Southern Literary Festival, Gainesville College, Georgia.
The Foreigner—Delta Players Spring Production

Comedy was the ticket for Delta Players in this year’s spring production. Set in the hills of Georgia at a lodge, The Foreigner features an Englishman who lands there and decides for a number of reasons to pretend that he speaks no English. A military man, a scoundrel, a preacher, a pretty woman, her brother who’s a little slow, the lodge owner, a redneck with an affection for dynamite, and the Klan all get into the script before it’s over.

Directed by Nancy Clark, the play was performed three nights to appreciative audiences at Cleveland’s Whistlestop Theatre. Cleveland Community Theatre generously shared their Whistlestop stage because DSU’s Jobe Auditorium is being renovated.

Players in The Foreigner were Andy Edwards, Brad Oxnarn, Jessica Morris, Blake Moon, Owen Dicks, and Trent Spencer.
Graduates Lacey Veazey, Brad Oxnam, and Elena Bivol Brewer at the party honoring seniors at Rick and Beverly Moon's.

Following a tug boat trip on the Mississippi River courtesy of Joe Janoush, members of the Literature and Geography of the Riter class enjoyed hot chocolate at the Rosedale home of Frankie Laster (right) who is greeting Maureen Brooks.

Bobbie Jo Haynes and Rob Pool were also members of the class.

Who are these men? Identify them and get a free Confidante and Tapestry.

Communicate!
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To order literary journals, send a check or money order for $3 each:
Send me ______ copies of Tapestry (faculty journal).
Send me ______ copies of Confidante (student journal).
Some back issues of these are available.
Editor's Easy Chair

Change, that old inevitability, is much with us lately. Marion Barnwell will retire at the end of the spring semester after 24 fruitful years in the Division. Ted Solomon retires from teaching. Our president, Dr. David Potter, will leave DSU to become Mississippi's Commissioner of Higher Education, and Dr. Richard Myers, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, is retiring. We will miss them.

Meanwhile, another inevitability, the self-study for SACs, our accrediting agency, is proceeding apace. Languages & Literature's usual creative energy is also prodding through its students, faculty, and alumni.

Dorothy Shawhan

Whatever Happened to...

Amanda Burcham Garvin ('97) and Derek are the proud parents of a new baby boy named Aidan Michael, and Audrianna is thrilled to be a big sister.

Ashley Combest ('02) won second place in the undergraduate division of the Jane Austen Society of North America's international essay contest with her essay "Mr. Knightley: Very Busy Over Parish Business." Currently, she is working at Stoneville and writing newsletters for Habitat for Humanity. She plans to begin graduate school in English in the fall.

John Cox ('96) has been elected president of the Bolivar County Bar Association.

Stephanie Eddleman ('02) traveled to Toronto with Susan Allen Ford to the Jane Austen Society of North America conference where she was a winner in the essay contest for the second year in a row. This time she won first place in the graduate division with "The Family of Dashwood: The Effect of Wills and Entailments on Family Connections in Sense and Sensibility."

because of her contributions to the DSU LIT chapter, Courtney submitted a sample of her writing and a 1,000-word essay on her career goals and objectives. She plans to pursue a master of fine arts degree in creative writing.

Michelle McMillan ('01) was awarded a $100 prize for her poem "Vera Jewel" published in the national LIT Journal.

ShaReda Nance ('96) was married in November to Edward Earl Coleman. Their wedding was held at Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Indianola. ShaReda is a language arts teacher at J.T. Montgomery Elementary School. She is also an after-school tutor and a Girl Scout Troop leader.

Jason Patterson was named sports editor of The Bolivar Commercial this fall. A former reporter for The Delta Statement, Jason has been a staff writer for The Bolivar Commercial since May 2001.

Trudy Payne (M.Ed. '02) is spending this year in Wuhan, China, teaching conversational English at the Wuhan University of Technology.

Lena Shanblin ('88) Bolivar County Literacy Council Coordinator, is creator and instructor of a novel course for inmates at the Bolivar County Regional Correctional Facility. She is assisted by Nick Dybek, an AmeriCorps Vista volunteer. The first novel for discussion was William Golding's Lord of the Flies. The course is the only one of its kind in Mississippi prisons.

Christopher Reese ('98) is a graduate assistant at the University of Kentucky at Lexington. He teaches undergraduate English courses and is working towards his Ph.D. in English.

Georgia Rushing ('00) won a $100 prize for best short story in the last national LIT Journal.
FACTOR NOTES

Arion Barnwell and Patti Carr Black's "Touring Literary Mississippi" was published this fall by the University Press of Mississippi. The Mississippi History Newsletter described the new publication as "more than guidebook. [It] provides not only maps and precise directions to literary sites, it also contains capsule biographies of writers and over a hundred photographs of writers, residences, and other associated sites." The co-authors held a book signing in DSU’s Capps Archives on November 5.

Karen Bell gave a paper entitled "Unlikely Alliances: Friendship in Doris Doerr's Keiner liebt mich" at the South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) meeting in Austin and has been asked to be a member of the SCMLA Nominating Committee. She participated in a workshop on "Building and Managing Webpages" at DSU. In December she attended the MLA in New York City to attend papers on German and on service learning and to "soak up the energy and multiculturalism of NY." She is currently serving as chair of the Faculty Senate and as chair of the Mission, Governance and Effectiveness SACS committee.

Warren Byrd is teaching a new special topics journalism course on Covering the War on Terrorism during the spring semester. The course focuses on the constant struggle between the military and the media. He is in the process of becoming a certified instructor at the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, MD., and will teach there this summer.

Georgene Clark is serving on the University committees searching for a Director of the Bologna Performing Arts Center and for a new Athletic Director following the resignation of Jim Jordan.

Carolyn Elkins gave a reading from her new book of poetry, Daedalus Rising, at Catawba College in North Carolina. She has poetry in a new online poetry journal, Gulfstreaming.

John Ford's "Sportful Malice?: Shakespeare's and Trevor Nunn's Mixing of Genres in Othello and Twelfth Night" was published this fall in the Shakespeare Bulletin. He also had a review on performances at the Clemson Shakespeare Festival in The Upstart Crow and a review in the Spring/Summer 2002 edition of Comparative Drama. John shepherded a group of students and others to Memphis in September to see an outdoor performance of The Taming of the Shrew performed by the Shenandoah Shakespeare Express in the Dixon Gallery Gardens. He has been accepted to a weekend seminar in February on "Shakespeare and Performance" at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

Susan Allen Ford designed an online course on Jane Austen's Emma for Barnes & Noble University. Further information and the opportunity to sign up are at the Barnes & Noble website. She presented a paper with slides on the relationship between Mansfield Park and King Lear at the Jane Austen Society meeting in Toronto. In a session at the SCMLA meeting in Austin, she gave a paper on two novels of the 1790's.

Bill Hays presented an academic orientation session for incoming athletes at the DSU fieldhouse.

Stephen King's Reggae, Rastafari, and the Rhetoric of Social Control was published by the University Press of Mississippi in November. Stephen's book signing with co-contributors Barry Bays and Renée Foster was at the Bean Counter on December 4. Spring semester Stephen is teaching a new course that examines the relationship between terrorist groups and social movements—SPE 400, Rhetoric of Social Move-
ents. At the National Communication Association meeting in New Orleans, he presented a paper entitled "Blues Tourism in the Mississippi Delta: The Rhetorical Function of Blues Festivals."

Beverly Moon and Stephen King attended the Second International Conference on Service Learning and Research in Nashville in October, where Beverly served on a panel. In Austin at the SCMLA meeting, Beverly chaired a session and also gave a paper on service learning in the composition class.

Jack Phillips' essay on Cold Mountain is published in the January edition of The Delta Scholar from the University of Arkansas. Jack is also a guitarist in The Strict Middling Band, which was featured at the Ruleville Harvest Festival.

Elizabeth Sarcone presented a talk on "How to Succeed in College" for sixty students in the Academic Support Lab.

Donna Spell and student teachers in English Education traveled to Linwood School in Yazoo County to be judges in a Reading Fair.

Bill Spencer and his Southern Literature class traveled to Oxford where they met with Judge Mike Mills' Literature and Law class at the University of Mississippi. Bill conducted the class on Cormac McCarthy's Child of God for the first hour; Judge Mills, the second hour. "Suttree, the Linguistic Chameleon" is the title of the paper Bill presented at the fall meeting of the Cormac McCarthy Society in Tucson.

Jim Toney travels to Jackson regularly for Springhill College interdisciplinary courses focusing on philosophy, theology, and literature.

International Film Series
Karen Bell, Assistant Professor of German, Miriam Davis, Associate Professor of History, and Jeff Slagell, Assistant Director of Library Services, received a Kent and Janice Wyatt Faculty Development grant for an international film series on campus. This fall the series featured Amélie, a French film; The Princess and the Warrior, a German film; and Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown, a Spanish film. Films from Eastern Europe, Asia, and the Middle East will be shown this spring.

Third Annual Tree Lighting
The Delta Statement and the journalism program sponsored their third annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Tracey Odom, Delta Statement editor, Dr. Wayne Blansett, Vice-President for Student Affairs, and Stephen Taylor, SGA President, were guest speakers. Music and hot chocolate were a part of the activities.

New Delta Statement Staff
The new editor of The Delta Statement is Carmen Lindsey, who assumed the post after the graduation of former editor Tracey Odom in December. John Weaver is the new sports editor, taking over from the graduating Patrick Ervin.

Other new staff members are Landry Barbieri, Chris Davis, Andrea Tatum, David Vowell, and Joey Weaver.

Military, Media & Terrorism
An outstanding cast of nationally known journalists assembled in October for three days of panels and workshops on the subject of "Military, Media & Terrorism." The program was orchestrated by Journalism's Warren Byrd in cooperation with the Madison Center's Project on Media and Politics.

Speakers included Lt. Cmdr. Barbara Burfeind, Press Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense; Bob Frankena, National Correspondent for CNN; Roy Gutman, Newsweek; Andrei Sitov, Washington, D.C. Bureau Chief for the Russian News Agency ITAR TASS; and Ron Martz, Military Affairs writer for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

How can a balance be reached between the public's right to know and national defense? The event offered unprecedented opportunity to students, faculty, the state's journalists, and the general public to hear and question some of the country's leading journalists along with military spokespersons.

MPA Meets at DSU
The annual meeting of the Mississippi Philological Association was held January 31-February 1 at Delta State. Some fifty writers and scholars from around the state and beyond gathered to give papers and readings.

Poet Shara McCallum delivered the keynote on Friday evening and signed books afterward. A party followed at the Warehouse, Cleveland's new antique shop, art gallery, and restaurant.

Publications of the Mississippi Philological Association (POMPA), consisting of selected papers delivered at the 2002 conference at Gulf Park, was available.

Susan Allen Ford served as President of MPA and was assisted by Carolyn Elkins and Bill Spencer. The three serve as editors for POMPA.
Two Majors Marry

Congratulations to English majors Erik Brewer and Elena Bivol, who were married December 28, 2002, at the First Baptist Church in Water Valley, Mississippi. Both students work in the Diane Stewart Foreign Language Laboratory in addition to their studies in English.

Elena is from Chisinau, Moldova; Erik, from Water Valley.

Ellen Douglas Scholarship

Freshman English major Adam Herbison is this year’s Ellen Douglas scholar. The scholarship honors the Mississippi novelist and is awarded each year by the Division to an entering freshman major.

To be eligible for this award, each applicant must graduate from an accredited high school in the top 20% of his or her class, earn at least a 3.0 GPA in all English classes taken in high school, and score at least 22 on the English section of the ACT exam. Each applicant must also submit a letter of recommendation from her or his high school English teacher and an analytical essay which the applicant believes best demonstrates his or her ability.

Adam is a 2002 graduate of Cleveland High School and was salutatorian of his class. He was nominated by his honors English teacher, Brenda McCool. He is the son of Joey and Bert Herbison of Cleveland.

Confidante Contest Winners Announced

Judges’ decisions are in for the 2003 Confidante writing contest. Lacey Veazey and Bree Smith were first and second place winners in poetry respectively. Lacey also received an honorable mention in poetry along with Sayward Ely.

Marshall Drew took first place in informal essay with Missy Suttle placing second. Joshua Walker swept both places in formal essay, and Brad Oxnam took both in drama.

First and second place winning manuscripts will be submitted to the Southern Literary Festival competition.

Delta Players Present Brecht

Delta Players’ fall production was Bertolt Brecht’s The Good Person of Setzuan. Nancy Clark directed the play, which was staged on November 5 and 6 in the Bologna Performing Arts Center.

The challenging allegorical drama about the gods’ search for one good person involved a cast of twenty-two students with almost as many support crew members.

From the campus, Nancy took the play to the first round of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, held this year at Mississippi State University. Two actors received special recognition and an invitation to attend the next round in Savannah, Georgia, in February: Blake Moon, who played Yang Sun and Rebecca Seawright, who played Shen Te/Shui Ta.

Art major Ken Ashley received an overall award for his costume design and will compete in Savannah as well.

New York director and Brecht expert David Kaplan, in town for his production of June Recital, stayed around an extra three days as consultant for the cast during rehearsals.

Poet George Drew Comes Home

Poet George Drew of Troy, New York, returned to his home turf to visit in September and gave a reading in the Howorth Room of the Capps Archives. Drew was born in Clarksdale and spent many of his growing-up years there. A number of family members accompanied him to the reading and were the subjects of some of the poems.

Drew has spent the last 30 years writing poetry and teaching at Hudson Community College. He has been widely published in magazines and literary journals and has two books of poetry, So Many Bones and Toads in a Poisoned Tank. Following the reading, Drew signed books for members of the audience.

Before the reading, Drew met with Carolyn Elkins’ poetry writing workshop and shared pizza as well as insights about poetry.

June Recital on Stage

The Eudora Welty inspired play June Recital was performed on the Bologna Performing Arts Center big stage with the audience on stage too. Director David Kaplan, to enhance the intimacy of the theater experience, had the audience seated on the stage in close proximity to the actors.
Poetry celebrates 15 years. Faculty members of Delta State University's Division of Languages & Literature celebrated the latest edition of Tapestry, the faculty literary magazine, at the Dockery home of Keith McLean in November. Edited by Marion Barnwell and Dorothy Shawhan, the journal's design is by Pat Brown of the DSU Art Department. This is the 15th year of Tapestry publication. Faculty who contributed to Tapestry 2002 are: (first row, from left) Carolyn Elkins, Dorothy Shawhan, Susan Allen Ford, Marion Barnwell, Bonnie Horton, Elizabeth Sarcone, and Yvonne Tornberg; (second row) Ben Burgo, Bill Spencer, Beverly Moon, Karen Bell, Warren Byrd, and Stephen King; (back) Jack Phillips, Bill Hays, John Ford, and Jim Tornberg. Terry Everett is not pictured.

The play is based on a medley of Welty's works and performed by actress Brenda Currin and pianist Philip Fortenberry. It is meant to evoke the world that Welty created in her fiction.

The performance was supported by Languages & Literature and by the Kent and Janice Wyatt Faculty Development Fund.

New Creative Writing Emphasis
The B.A. degree in English with an emphasis in creative writing is being offered for the first time this spring. Students who choose this track will take at least nine credit hours of creative writing courses and will prepare a senior portfolio.

In addition to ENG 302 (Creative Writing) and ENG 402 (Poetry Writing Workshop), courses taught for years by Bill Hays and Carolyn Elkins respectively, three new courses have been added: ENG 404 (Creative Nonfiction), ENG 413 (Fiction Writing), and ENG 414 (Senior Writing Workshop), and ENG 490 (Senior Portfolio in Creative Writing). Dorothy Shawhan is teaching Creative Nonfiction in the spring semester.
Communicate!
Update us on your news by filling in the form below and returning it to us or by calling (662)846-4060 or by e-mailing: dshawhan@deltastate.edu.
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To order literary journals, send a check or money order for $3 each:
Send me __________ copies of Tapestry (faculty journal).
Send me __________ copies of Confidante (student journal).
Some back issues of these are available.
Appendix B

Division Effectiveness
Division of Languages & Literature
Minutes of Curriculum Committee
January 21, 2004, 2:15, Kethley Lounge

Present: Jim Tomek, Jody Correro, Karen Bell, Georganne Clark, John Ford, Dorothy Shawhan

The Curriculum Committee met to review the Division assessment plan for which it is responsible. They discussed the instruments that are in place – Division surveys of seniors regarding outcomes, Institutional Research surveys of seniors, alumni surveys via the newsletter, Writing Proficiency Examination scores, Praxis scores, portfolio forms. Portfolio forms (checklists) are included in the portfolios of each major in the division. The committee agreed that the portfolio form is in need of revision to reflect more clearly the planning and institutional effectiveness model.

These elements will be reflected in the revised portfolio form:

1. pre-program assessment (student performance measures)
2. post-program assessment (student performance measures)
3. annual student satisfaction surveys

In its planning and assessment role, the committee will meet at least twice a semester to analyze the measures, surveys, standardized tests, and any accreditation studies and make recommendations for improvements. Such recommendations will be noted in the minutes. Division annual reports will summarize and describe changes resulting from assessment.
January 27, 2004

Division of Languages & Literature
Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Model

The Curriculum Committee has served and will serve as the planning arm of the Division. This is a large committee with subcommittees in English, Foreign Languages, Journalism, Philosophy, and Speech & Theater. The committee will formally meet at least twice per semester to analyze data and make recommendations. The meetings will be open to any Division faculty member who wishes to attend, and minutes of committee proceedings will be taken.

A key instrument for planning and assessment is the student portfolio kept by advisers for each of the majors in the Division. The portfolio checklist was recently fine-tuned by the Chair of Advisement with recommendations from the Curriculum Committee. The list will reflect these elements:

1. pre-program assessment (student performance measures)
2. post-program assessment (student performance measures)
3. annual student satisfaction surveys

Copies of the Portfolio form are attached.

Data analyzed by the Curriculum Committee during its meetings include student performance measures, surveys, standardized tests, and any accreditation studies. On the basis of their analyses, the committee will make recommendations for improvements. Division annual reports will summarize and describe changes resulting from assessment.
MINUTES

English Curriculum Subcommittee
June 10, 2004
1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Spencer (Committee Chair), Beverly Moon, Marilyn Schultz, Dorothy Shawhan (Division Chair)

The English Curriculum Subcommittee met to fulfill its function as the planning and institutional effectiveness committee for English and carefully reviewed the following data concerning English programs at Delta State:

- External indicators of programmatic success, including law school acceptance rates, graduate school acceptance rates, job placement, regional and national awards won by students
- Writing Proficiency Exam Results for the past 3 years
- The number of graduates (both undergraduate and graduate students) for the past 4 years
- PRAXIS scores for 2003-2004
- A sampling of responses to departmental exit surveys
- Graduation Questionnaire Summary 2001-2003, indicating 3-year trends
- Fall 2003 Graduation Questionnaire Summary, indicating comparisons between responses from departmental majors and responses in the College of Arts and Sciences and in the university as a whole.
- Spring 2003 Graduation Questionnaire Summary
- Divisional credit hour production for 2003 and 2001

Based on analysis of these data and on informal interviews of students and faculty, the Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. It is recommended that the Composition Committee examine the issue of the high withdrawal rate associated with ENG 102. (Committee members have observed this high rate while teaching this course.)

2. It is recommended that faculty offer information sessions each semester to assist seniors with the job application process and the graduate school application process. (This recommendation is based on follow-up conducted by committee chair Spencer after a DSU English major was not accepted into the graduate English program at Ole Miss. Spencer talked with University of Mississippi English Department Chair Joseph Urgo and the Director of Graduate Admissions in English, Jay Watson. Watson advised that students applying to an English program would most wisely submit recommendation letters from only English teachers.)

3. It is suggested that the Advising Committee consider the possibility of orientation sessions for all majors.
Student Portfolio: Division of Languages and Literature
For students earning teacher licensure: BSE or BA

I. Pre-program Assessment

English ACT score _____

Reading ACT score _____

II. General Education: Writing skills, computer skills and critical thinking skills

Grade reports or transcripts from course work in all General Education classes _____

Praxis I scores  
Reading ______ Writing _______ Math ________

A grade report or a transcript showing credit in at least one computer class _____

Other ( ) _____

Other ( ) _____

III. The Major: Students should demonstrate their ability to compete in licensure requirements, the work force, or professional and graduate school.

Grade reports or transcripts from all classes in the major _____

Praxis Specialty Area Scores _____

Praxis Principles of Teaching Learning Scores _____

Evidence of evaluation of student teaching _____ (if available)

Evidence or admission to graduate school _____ (if available)

Evidence of procurement of professional employment _____ (if available)

Other ( ) _____

Other ( ) _____
Student Portfolio: Division of Languages and Literature
For students earning the BA without teacher licensure

I. Pre-program Assessment

English ACT score _____

Reading ACT score _____

II. General Education: Writing skills, computer skills and critical thinking skills

Grade reports or transcripts from course work in all General Education classes _____

A grade report or transcript with a CR in Eng. 300 or a passing grade in Eng. 301 _____

A grade report or a transcript showing credit in at least one computer class or a graded paper written by the student which demonstrates basic computer competency _____

Other ( ) _____

Other ( ) _____

III. The Major: Students should demonstrate their ability to compete in licensure requirements, the workforce, or professional and graduate school.

Grade reports or transcripts from all classes in the major _____

Writing sample with a C or better from an upper-level class in the major or Praxis Specialty Area Scores or GRE Subject Area scores _____

Evidence or admission to graduate school _____ (if available)

Evidence of procurement of professional employment _____ (if available)

Other ( ) _____

Other ( ) _____
4. It is recommended that the Advising Committee consider possible additions to student portfolio contents in order to allow more effective assessment of student writing:
   - We may wish to require that an essay containing some research be included in the portfolio.
   - We may wish to require essay samples from all students in the major, even those with PRAXIS writing scores.
   - We may wish to require at least 2 essay samples, one from a lower-level class and one from an upper-level class.
5. The Committee decided to review annually a sampling of senior portfolios (approximately 5). The selection process will be determined later.
6. It is recommended that the British and American survey courses require at least one essay with some research component. (Jay Watson at Ole Miss explained that preference was given to writing samples that demonstrated advanced skills with research.)
7. It is recommended that English majors that take but do not receive credit for the Writing Proficiency Exam be identified to the division chair and to the chair of the effectiveness committee for follow-up analysis. (It was noted that although the pass rate was 100% last year, some English majors in the past have failed to receive credit for the exam. Since the circumstances associated with these “No credits” are unknown, further analysis is not possible at this time.)
8. It is recommended that a master list be prepared that keeps track of all PRAXIS scores as they come in to facilitate future analysis.
9. The Committee decided to consider adding a grammar/teaching-of-grammar course to the curriculum when it next meets as the English curriculum subcommittee. (A student called for such a course in a departmental exit survey, and graduates who are teaching have verbally expressed the need for such a course.)
10. It is recommended that a jobs bulletin board and/or jobs file be maintained to help students locate appropriate jobs.
11. Based on responses in the spring 2003 Graduation Questionnaire Summary, it is recommended that more opportunities be offered for students to join departmental clubs.
Faculty Notes

Karen Bell attended the South Central Modern Language Association conference in Hot Springs, AR, this fall and chaired a mock interview for a graduate student in German Language and Literature.

She and Jeff Slagell are continuing the foreign film series this year with foreign film classics and complied with a student request for Nosferatu for Halloween. Next year's theme will be food and film.


Carolyn Elkins gave readings at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and at the Eudora Welty Festival in Columbus, MS. Her poetry has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

Susan Allen Ford chaired the "At the Spa!" panel at the South Central Modern Language Association in Hot Springs, AR, this fall and presented a paper at the International Conference on Romance in Milwaukee. Her article "Teaching Contemporary Female Gothic: Murdoch, Carter, Atwood" was published in Approaches to Teaching Gothic Fiction: the British and American Tradition (The Modern Language Association of America, New York 2003). The journal Persuasions published her "'Intimate by Instinct': Mansfield Park and the Comedy of King Lear."

John Ford presented "Ironic Wonders, Wondrous Ironies: Staging the Recognition scene in Twelfth Night" at the Blackfriars Theater in Virginia. He is book review editor for the Shakespeare Yearbook, and he recently had an article entitled "Estimable Wonders and Hard Constructions: Recognizing Twelfth Night at the Globe" published in Shakespeare Bulletin. His review of the performances at the Clemson Shakespeare Festival XI was published in The Upstart Crow. He and his Shakespeare class took a field trip to Memphis to see a performance of Twelfth Night by the Department of Theatre & Dance at the University of Memphis.

Stephen King presented a paper entitled "The Search for Authenticity and the Struggle for Power and Representation: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Delta Blues Museum," at the National Communication Association convention in Miami Beach, Florida. He has been invited to submit an article to be published in the forthcoming The Resisting Muse: Popular Music and Social Protest. In April, King is scheduled to present a paper at the Southern Speech Communication Association convention in Tampa, Florida. The paper, "Race and Blues Tourism: A Comparison of Two

Elvis and Priscilla stopped by the American Lit Class on Halloween

Lodging Alternatives," won the Top Paper Award in the Intercultural Communication Division.

Beverly Moon, 03-04 Faculty Senate Chair, serves on the Academic Council, and by the grace of DSU President, John Hilpert, has been appointed to the Administrative Cabinet. As DSU Faculty Liaison for Service-Learning, Beverly invites us to develop Service-Learning curricula; she is also helping to organize DSU faculty participation in the Gulf South Summit on Service-Learning in New Orleans, March 2004.

Dorothy Shawhan judged the high school drama competition at the Tennessee Williams Festival in Clarksdale (the Stella-calling contest was an audience pleaser). She led a discussion on Faulkner’s "Old Man," with a Jackson book club (the Book Babes) who traveled to the Delta to get closer to "Old Man," Faulkner's piece on the 27 Mississippi River flood.

Bill Spencer participated in a panel following his performance of 27 Wagons Full of Cotton at the Tennessee Williams Festival in Clarksdale. He is Delta State’s SACS Liaison and is preparing for the accreditation agency's site visit in the spring.

Jim Tomek took a course on World Religions at the Springhill College extension site in Jackson. Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam were major topics. He wrote papers on Hinduism, re-interpreting films of Renoir and Duras. He and Yvonne Tomek have edited and written the text Fast French from an outline that Yvonne’s mother, Anne-Marie Bryan, wrote when she was a French professor at Duke University. They made an audio component to accompany the text, and Jim has been using the material in his French courses this fall.
Homecoming: Coffee in Kethley Lounge

Susie Pepper Crews, class of '43, with her daughter Jane LeBlanc and her son, Kethley Allen Crews

Arthur Johnston, Coffee Instigator, with John Cox

Elizabeth Sarcone chats with Angus, friend of Nita Thornell

JASNA Essay Contest

Shown on stage in Winchester, England, are Ashley Combest (second from right) and her professor Susan Allen Ford (right). They attended the Jane Austen Society of North America Conference where Ashley was awarded first place in the graduate level of the 2003 essay competition. Also pictured (left) are Jean T. Long, JASNA Essay Contest chair, and Sarah K. Green, undergraduate winner.

DSU Alumna and former English major Courtney Holley wrote a story in the Bolivar Commercial entitled “DSU Continues Its Winning Streak in Prestigious Writing Contest” in which she chronicles the success of Susan’s students in the JASNA contest. In 2001 Stephanie Eddleman won first place in the undergraduate division and in 2002 won first place in the graduate division. Ashley Combest won second place in the undergraduate division in 2002.

Susan wrote her dissertation on the novels of Jane Austen and teaches a Jane Austen class during the spring semester. She is quoted in the Bolivar Commercial article as saying, “We have really remarkable students here. Look at the other winners; one’s from Brown University. We’re talking about writing coming out of DSU that’s as good or better than at prestigious schools. DSU can offer people a really excellent education.”

Students initiated into Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish honorary, this fall are (l-r first row) Sean McCarrens, Kendra Williams, Olivia Bradley, Amanda Crocker, Amy Crocker, Amy Solomon, Kristin Dunaway, Stephanie South. (l-r second row) Mindy Salas, Alejandro Alvez, Tracy Selby, Marquita Jones, Kimberly Walker, Dr. David Craig and Erik Brewer.

The initiation was held in the campus chapel with a dinner following in the home of Ben and Kitty Burgos.
Proof

Proof, winner of the 2001 Pulitzer Prize and the Tony Award, was Delta Players’ fall production. The action is set in Chicago and involves a brilliant but unstable mathematician (played by Paul Kossman), his troubled but also brilliant daughter and caretaker (Duana Meseyton, pictured), his other daughter (Janie Ashcraft), and his student (Blake Moon, pictured).

Players took the production to the American College Theater Festival competition at Millsaps, and the three student actors (Meseyton, Ashcraft, and Moon) were awarded The Irene Ryan acting award.

DSU Native American Class Hosts Exhibit

The Native American Literature and Art class of Delta State University hosted a public exhibition, ceremony, and reception featuring their art projects and scholarly papers along with the opportunity for guests to taste foods prepared by authentic Choctaw recipes.

The exhibition was held December 4, in the Simmons Room of the Alumni House on the DSU Campus.

Art projects were exhibited by Lisa Ales (pictured, weaving a rug), Sarah Deason, Sidney Hayes, and Nicholas Howard.

Also exhibiting art projects were Corey Johnson, Jessica Mitchell, Emily Sandidge, Ashley Snider, and Elizabeth Warriner.

Exhibiting original art-for-children with lesson plans was Alethia Williams.

Scholarly papers were exhibited by Aura Brickler, Hiie Saumaa, Romeka Thomas, and Shirley Williams.

The class has been offered regularly since it was invented in 1995 by Assistant Professor of English Emeritus Terry Everett and Associate Professor of Art Emeritus Mary Anne Ross. “The students [were] eager to share their own knowledge with and learn from anyone who [came] to the exhibit,” Everett said. “This [was] the smallest class yet.” Everett continued, “but it [was] also one of the all-time best.”

L&L Division Donates Books

Books with essays and articles by DSU faculty members in the Division of Languages and Literature are presented each year to the Roberts-LaForge Library as a gift from the Division. Presenting this year’s books to Jeff Slagell, Assistant Director of Services, are (left) Susan Allen Ford, author of “Teaching Contemporary Female Gothic: Murdoch, Carter, Atwood,” in Approaches to Teaching Gothic Fiction (Modern Language Association, 2003), and Dorothy Shawhan whose biographical essay on Clarksdale’s Minnie Brewer was published in Mississippi Women: Their Histories, Their Lives (University of Georgia Press, 2003) and whose “Mosquito Blues” appeared in Stories from Where We Live (Milkweed Press, 2003).
In Memorium

Deborah Powell, of Sunflower, died August 6, 2003, in an automobile accident on Highway 49 just south of Doddsville. She had recently moved back to the Delta and had just started work as a part-time freelance feature writer for The Enterprise-Tocsin in Indianola. The same issue that carried the story of her death also carried her first feature, "J.T.'s Treatmobile," about how John Thompson uses his sno-cone route to help kids.

Deborah was an English major who graduated in 1994 and was the author of two mystery novels.

Gene White, a long-time English teacher at Marietta High School in Georgia, died of a heart attack on August 22, 2003, at Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta. Dr. White was a 1969 DSU graduate in English Education.

Dr. White developed the International Baccalaureate program at Marietta High, a program that offers a strenuous curriculum designed for students bound for college. In 1991 he was named Marietta City Schools’ Teacher of the Year. An article in the Marietta Daily Journal by David Burch quotes one of Dr. White’s colleagues, Dr. Margaret Church Sims, another Delta State graduate in English, as saying, "He’d always go to bat for us and challenge us. He was an incredible man."

Congratulations

To English majors Sayward Ely of Memphis and Ann Marie Mayers of Cleveland, who scored well enough on the LSAT to qualify for early admission to law school. Sayward, who serves as president of the Student Government Association, was chosen as DSU's Homecoming Queen 2003 and as Miss DSU.

Candi Hunt of Ethel, MS, wed Brian Michael Harkins in July 2003.

And Finally...

- Brad Oxnard ('03) is in the MFA-Theatre Performance program at the University of Southern Mississippi. He has just finished a successful run of Cabaret and was selected as an audition finalist for the Southeastern Theatre Conference in Chattanooga in March.
- Emily Hutton Porter ('98) and her husband Ryan have a new baby boy, William Hutton Porter, who was born July 21, 2003.
- Jody Ray ('92) is teaching English I & II as well as Accelerated I in Crystal Springs, MS.
- Nicholas Thompson ('01) recently was hired as Research Analyst at The Tarrance Group in Washington, D.C. He says he will be "designing surveys for political polling, then analyzing the numbers to provide a written analysis for strategic advice for campaigns."
- Lacey Veazey's ('02) "Drowning in Evicline" was featured in the Fall 2003 Oswald Review: an International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Criticism in the Discipline of English. Lacey is currently a graduate student in DSU’s M.Ed. in English.
- Angie Yawn ('02) is a graduate assistant writing consultant in her second year of graduate school at the University of South Alabama. She is pursuing a master's degree in literature.
- Kricket Wilbanks York (B.A.'97, M.A.'99) has been teaching Honors English for both the 9th and 10th grades at Hernando High School for the past two years. She is now teaching three 9th grade classes of honors English as well as three 12th grade English classes that cover British literature.

Lambda Iota Tau, DSU’s literature honor society, recently donated several new books to the Robert-LaForge Library after raising money with a Used Book Sale, many of which were donated by retiring professor Marion Barnwell. Pictured (l-r) are Chris Davis, Rebecca Seawright, Drew Harris, LIT president Candice Harkins, Library Director Terry Latour, and Joshua Walker.
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