

RECOGNITION:

- **Ken Grugel**, director of financial aid at Clarion University and chair of National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators' (NASFAA) Research Committee for the past two years, was awarded NASFAA's Committee of the Year citation at the annual conference held in Orlando, Fla. Grugel's committee produced a monograph in the NASFAA series of publications, which dealt with salary trends of practicing aid officers and staff in the United States.
- **Rich Herman**, Clarion University Sports Information Director, received a 25-Year Award from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), recognizing his over quarter century of service to the sports information profession. The award was given on July 2, during the organization's annual convention in Tampa, Fla. Herman began his 29th year as Clarion University's Sports Information Director on August 23.
- **Jim Thornton**, head athletic trainer at Clarion University, received the prestigious College/University Athletic Trainers' Committee's Division II Head Athletic Trainer of the year Award during the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) convention in St. Louis, Mo., June 17-21. NATA annually presents a number of awards each year, including Head Athletic Trainer of the Year in all three NCAA divisions. Thornton is beginning his 19th year as head trainer at Clarion University. He is certified by the NATA and is active in national and state athletic training organizations. He is director for NATA District 2 and serves on the NATA Board of Directors.
- **Dr. Lisa Turner**, assistant professor of special education and rehabilitative sciences at Clarion University, was acknowledged in two textbooks. In the text, "Students with Learning Disabilities" seventh edition, by Cecil Mercer, and also "An Introduction to Human Services" sixth edition by Woodside and McClam, she was acknowledged and listed with reviewers.
- Four Clarion University publications recently won national recognition in APEX 2008, the twentieth annual awards program recognizing excellence in publications work by professional communicators. Staff members from University Relations and its PAGES (Printing and Graphic Express Services) Department collected one Grand Award and three Awards of Excellence.

APEX Awards are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content and the ability to achieve overall communications excellence. APEX Grand Awards honor the outstanding works in each main category, while APEX Awards of Excellence recognize exceptional entries in each of the sub-categories.

Debbie Henry a graphic artist and designer in PAGES won the Apex Grand Award for her work on a Student Teacher Resources CD. The CD is a collection of resources for student teachers: their manual, necessary forms, lesson plans, and contact information. Also working on the project was **Dr. Donna Patterson**, associate dean and director of field services.

With close to 4,500 entries, competition was exceptionally intense. 120 Grand Awards were presented to honor outstanding work in all of 11 major categories, with 1,393 Awards of Excellence recognizing exceptional entries in 110 subcategories.

Brenda Stahlman, a graphic artist and designer in PAGES, won two Awards of Excellence for Annual Report Design and Layout for the 2005-06 President's Report and development of meeting and event materials for the 2007 Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education.

Scott Kane ('04), a graphic artist and designer in PAGES, and **Ron Wilshire ('72, '77)**, assistant vice president for university relations, won an Award of Excellence for Mega paper and Newspaper Design and Layout for their work on Clarion and Beyond, a publication for friends and alumni of Clarion University.

JOINING CLARION:

- **Kelly Ryan** has joined the Clarion University Office of Campus Life in the position of Coordinator of Leadership Development, Recognized Student Organizations, and Parent and Family Services. Originally from Fredonia, Pa., Ryan earned her bachelor's degree in art with a minor in leadership from Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, and master's degree in student affairs from Slippery Rock University. She previously worked as a graphic designer, in restaurant and retail, and at a community center; and during graduate school at Westminster College, New Wilmington, in residence life; the Thiel Leadership Development Institute, Thiel College, Greenville; and in academic advising and first year programming at Slippery Rock.
- **Matt Shaffer** is the new coordinator of Judicial Residential Education. He is replacing Scott Horch in the position. Shaffer is responsible for the adjudication of cases involving students who are charged with violations of the university code of conduct. He will also be involved in training residence life staff and in residence hall programming.

Shaffer received a bachelor's degree in elementary education/writing in 2000 from Juniata College. He previously worked for Juniata College, Penn College of Technology, and Westminster College.



RYAN



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NEW AND NOTABLE:

- Clarion University's enrollment now tops 7,000 for the first time in its history. A record enrollment of 7,111 students was reported after the close of the drop/add period. The figure represents an increase of more than 300 students over last year's then-record enrollment for a 4.4 percent increase. Full-time equivalent enrollment also increased two percent for a total of 5,923.1, up 118.6 from last year.

Contributing to the record figures, Clarion saw a dramatic increase in the number of part-time students, including 31.5 percent growth in graduate students. Most of the growth was attributed to Clarion's distance education, off campus, and web-based programs.

- Clarion University Council of Trustees approved a 2008-09 fiscal year budget of \$68.2 million for submission to the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. The budget includes a surplus this year. A projected 2009-10 fiscal year Education and General budget, the general operating budget of the university which includes funds from unrestricted sources such as tuition, fees, and state appropriations, is estimated at \$72.4 million, with an overall university budget over \$100,000 million.

Private support for Clarion University continues its dramatic growth, with the Clarion University Foundation, Inc. reporting a grand total of private support in the 2007-08 fiscal year of an unaudited \$5.5 million. Alumni are the largest giving constituency, with 4,199 donors giving \$2,995,588.29 in 2007-08.

CLARION UNIVERSITY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH CHINESE UNIVERSITY

Cooperation between Shanghai and Clarion grew a little closer when Clarion University and Sanda University, Shanghai, China, signed a partnership agreement, Clarion's first with a Chinese university. Clarion University President Joseph Grunenwald and Professor Lianqing Qiang, chairman of the visiting delegation from Sanda University, signed the agreement during a ceremony in Carlson Library.

The affiliation agreement, which becomes effective with the Fall 2009 semester, focuses on five main points of cooperation: Sanda undergraduate and graduate students will matriculate at Clarion, Sanda students with an associate degree can complete a bachelor's degree at Clarion, Sanda exchange students will receive four weeks or one semester of intensive English instruction at Clarion, Clarion University faculty and graduate students may participate in an exchange program where they would teach English at Sanda; and Sanda faculty and graduate students participating in exchange programs to teach Chinese at Clarion, and reciprocal visits will be held in the future.

STUDENTS:

- **Kyle McMunn**, a junior chemistry/pre-pharmacy major from Knox, Pa., has been appointed the new Clarion University student trustee by Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell. McMunn was selected to replace **Aimee Zellers**, who graduated in May. The governor of Pennsylvania, following a review process, appoints all trustees, including the student trustee. Trustee duties include making recommendations, evaluating, reviewing, approving, and participating in planning efforts for personnel, fiscal affairs, academic policy, strategic planning, student affairs, and facilities management.
- Six Clarion University students and a recent graduate had the experience of a lifetime when they completed academic seminars and fieldwork at the National Political Conventions of the Democratic and Republican Parties.

Current students **Chelsea Kaufman** of Strattanville, Pa., **Mary Loveless** of Shiloh, Ohio, **Julie Nene** of Erie, Pa., **Cybil Swab** of Brookville, Pa., and **Roger Yetzer** of St. Marys, Pa., along with recent Clarion University graduate **Zachary Hause** ('07) of Emporium, Pa., attended the Democratic National Convention seminar in Denver, Colo. **Joseph Ferguson** of Conneaut Lake, Pa., attended the Republican National Convention seminar in St. Paul, Minn. All of the participants arrived a week early for a series of lectures, seminars, and site visits before completing fieldwork with media, political, and advocacy groups during the week of the convention.

All earned college credit by completing the course Political Science 350: The National Political Convention Experience, created by **Dr. Kevan Yenerall**, professor of political science at Clarion University. Their attendance at the conventions is sponsored by the independent, non-profit Washington Center for Internship and Academic Seminars, which conducts the seminar.

- Fourteen Clarion University students gained valuable work experience during the summer by participating in the university's High Priority Occupations Internships Program. The program, a Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASHEE) Economic Development initiative, was established through a line item in this year's Pennsylvania state budget. Clarion University received \$30,000 to fund the High Priority Occupations Internships.



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Pennsylvania's high priority occupations are found in the fields of agriculture and food production, building and construction, business and financial services, education, information and communication services, life sciences, and in other industries. High priority occupations must meet three criteria—require higher level skills; provide a family sustained wage, defined as \$26,922 or higher; and are in demand by employers, who anticipate 35-50 job openings over five years. Students qualifying for the internships must be juniors or seniors, have a minimum 2.5 quality point average, and have an academic major appropriate to the work assignment. The 14 participating students were: **Kelly Gribshaw** of Glassport, Pa.; **Lynne Griffith** of St. Clairsville, Ohio; **Nicholas Leonhard** of Mars, Pa.; **Elizabeth Presutti** of Beaver, Pa.; **Chrystal Thompson** of Parker, Pa.; **Danielle Dudzenski** of Latrobe, Pa.; **Brianna Kline** of Lickingville, Pa.; **Brian Perkins** of Irwin, Pa.; **Nicholas Sheets** of Lower Burrell, Pa.; **Kylie Zamperini** of Seminole, Pa.; **Kassie Leuschel** of St. Marys, Pa.; **Wendy Hollendonner** of Carbondale, Pa.; **Brian Rosano** of Aliquippa, Pa.; and **Katherine Gilboy** of Pittsburgh, Pa.

- Clarion University's women's basketball program was honored as a Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) NCAA Division II Academic Top 25 program. Clarion's team grade point average (GPA) during the 2007-08 season was 3.420, the best among Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) schools and the 16th best in the nation in Division II. The Golden Eagles also had the third-best mark among Pennsylvania's NCAA Division I and Division II schools and the seventh-best mark among all Pennsylvania colleges and universities.

Clarion's academic accomplishments during the season included winning the Bob Carlson Academic Team Award for having the top team

GPA at Clarion, having seven team members honored as Clarion "Scholar-Athletes" and seven honored as PSAC "Scholar-Athletes." Also, senior point guard **Ashley Grimm** of Hazelton, Pa., who carried a 3.948 GPA in biology/pre-medicine, was named a first-team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District winner and a PSAC Winter Top 10 Award winner. Grimm's academic accomplishments helped her earn an NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship, which she will put to use as the graduate assistant coach at Clarion.

- Clarion University's women's volleyball team was honored as an American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award winner for the 2007-08 school year. The team's grade point average was just over a 3.6, and was one of 39 NCAA Division II schools to earn the award, one of three PSAC schools and one of 171 NCAA Division I, II and III women's teams.

In the classroom, Clarion had 14 Clarion and PSAC "Scholar-Athletes" led by senior **Kristi Fiorillo**, who was a PSAC Winter Top Ten Award winner and a Third Team ESPN The Magazine College Division Academic All-America.

- **Sean Gilfillan**, a senior with a double major in business/economics and mathematics from Rimersburg, Pa., is working for the Center for Rural Pennsylvania as part of a 15-week internship sponsored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. He is one of 12 students participating in The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS) program, which provides students the opportunity to work in all areas of state government while earning a full semester's worth of credits. The semester-long program invites students from each of the 14 PASSHE universities to participate.
- **Ashley Connor** of Pittsburgh, Pa., a senior mass media arts, journalism, and communication studies major, was named Miss CU during a recent competition on campus. She was selected from among five other contestants for the honor. The contest, sponsored by the University Activities Board, includes an interview with three judges, who ask each contestant questions; a demonstration of talent; eveningwear competition; and an on the spot question. In the talent portion of the competition, Connor sang the song "He's Concerned," by Cece Winans. Her on the spot question concerned what global problem she would solve if she had an unlimited amount of money.



Signing of the agreement front from left: President Joseph P. Grunenwald, Clarion University, and Professor Lianqing Qiang, chairman, Sanda University. Standing from left: Dr. Valentine James, provost, Clarion University; Mingdong Zhong, director, Office of International Exchange and Cooperation; Dr. Jocelind Gant, associate vice president for social equity and director of international programs, Clarion University; and Xianhong Jin, vice president Sanda University.