



ROUNDTABLE

EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY™

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ESU's Schwenn to become president of Dalton State College

Dr. John O. Schwenn will be trading Emporia State University's black and gold colors for the silver and blue of a Georgia institution of higher education. Schwenn, vice president for academic affairs at ESU since 1997, will become the president of Dalton State College, Dalton, Ga.

Schwenn's appointment was announced Friday, November 30 by Georgia's Board of Regents. He is expected to assume his new post March 1, 2008.

"Dr. Schwenn strongly believes in collaboration and the power of partnerships," said James R. Jolly, who served as chair of a special Regents' committee in Georgia charged with interviewing the three presidential finalists submitted by DSC's presidential search and advisory committee. "He has the ability to move Dalton State forward and is sure to be an asset to the University System of Georgia."

Dalton State College is an institution of approximately 4,400 students in northwest Georgia, about 90 minutes from Atlanta. The college was founded in 1963, and employs 128 fulltime faculty members, according to 2006 figures from DSC's Office of Instructional Research and Planning. Schwenn will be DSC's fourth president.

In 2006, Schwenn was tapped to serve as Emporia State's interim president for five months, during which time he advocated for repair and rehabilitation of academic buildings across the system and was actively involved in fund raising. Dr. Michael R. Lane succeeded Schwenn as ESU's president in November 2006.

"I have had outstanding professional opportunities at ESU," said Schwenn. "Our faculty, staff, and students have special relationships and I will miss that. Along with the wonderful colleagues, peers and friends from whom I have learned much, I am grateful to former president Dr. Kay Schallenkamp, who gave me the opportunity to advance my career, and to Dr. Michael Lane, whose global perspective on higher education has been instrumental in my decision to lead an institution of higher education."

"The ESU community applauds Dr. Schwenn's long and dedicated service in working with faculty and staff to provide quality programs and insure educational excellence for our students," said Lane. "I personally appreciate his exceptional leadership as interim president and thank him for his continued guidance and support through the transition period. We are all very pleased for Dr. Schwenn and his family."

Lane will initiate a national search for Schwenn's replacement. "Emporia State offers potential candidates a unique, collegial environment and opportunity to be a part of a progressive, student-centered university," said Lane.

Schwenn has been associated with ESU since 1989, when he was hired as an associate professor and associate chair of the Division of Psychology and Special Education in The Teachers College. Within three years, he was appointed department chair, then in 1994 became associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of graduate studies and research. Three years later, Schwenn was appointed to his current position, in which he has provided leadership to ESU's faculty in all disciplines.

Prior to his arrival at Emporia State, Schwenn taught at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss., from 1976 to 1989.

Since 2003, Schwenn has been a member of the Board of Trustees for Flint Hills Technical College in Emporia. He holds Ph.D. and Master of Science degrees, both in rehabilitation and special education, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His Bachelor of Science degree in psychology came from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. In 2005, that institution presented him with the Maurice O. Graff Distinguished Alumni Award. Schwenn and his wife, Judy, have three grown children, one granddaughter, and one grandson due in mid-December. Judy Schwenn teaches ninth and tenth grade English at Emporia High School.

"Judy and I have enjoyed our 18 years in Emporia and will leave with mixed feelings," said Schwenn. "We are excited about the future and the potential for what we can accomplish but our children were raised here. They attended our Emporia Public Schools and Emporia State University."

WHO, WHAT, WHEN AND WHERE

APPOINTMENTS

Connie Corcoran, Associate Director, Department of Financial Aid, was appointed vice president for KASF AA for the 2007-08 year and she was elected to the position of President Elect for the 2008-09 year.

Libby Schmanke, Lecturer, Department of Psychology and Special Education, has been appointed Chair of the Certification Examination Committee of the national Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB).

Dr. Connie Schrock, Professor of Mathematics, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Economics, was elected Central 2 Regional Director for the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics.

CONFERENCE

Connie Corcoran, Associate Director, Department of Financial Aid, attended the Federal Student Aid Conference for the Department of Education on November 26-29.

Thad Davidson, Assistant Director, Department of Financial Aid and **Jamie Harper**, Coordinator, Department of Financial Aid, attended the Rocky Mountain Association of Financial Aid Administrators (RMASFAA) conference on October 21-24.

Elaine Henrie, Director, Department of Financial Aid, and **Connie Corcoran**, Associate Director, Department of Financial Aid, attended the annual fall conference of the Kansas Association of Financial Aid Administrators (KASFAA) October 10-12. Henrie was a panel member for ACG and SMART Grants - Where Are We Now?

Marion Jones, Administrator, Department of Financial Aid, attended the USA Funds fall workshop on Federal Updates and Financial Aid and Loan Issues.

Jule Kirk, Administrator, Department of Financial Aid, and **Marion Jones**, Administrator, Department of Financial Aid, attended the Banner User Group meeting in Warrensburg, Missouri.

Dr. Connie Schrock, Professor of Mathematics, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Economics, was the keynote speaker at South Central Kansas Association of Teachers of Mathematics (SCKATM) Fall Conference on September 29, 2007 in Wichita Kansas. The title of the talk was "How do we get there from here?"

EVENTS

Elaine Henrie, Director, Department of Financial Aid, participated in "Ask the Expert" at the Shawnee Mission Northwest High School Financial Aid and Scholarship Night, November 14.

HONORS

Thad Davidson, Assistant Director, Department of Financial Aid, received the Oscar R "Jack" Hendrix Award for Rookie of the Year at the Rocky Mountain Association of Financial Aid Administrators (RMASFAA) conference on October 21-24.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, was an invited lecturer at the University Humanities Lecture, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, in November, 2007. His lecture was entitled: "Queer Black Marxism: A New Critical Chronotope for Harlem Renaissance Studies."

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Connie Schrock, Professor of Mathematics, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Economics, presented a paper: "Fifty Ways to Leave LCM and GCF out of Next Years Plan" at the NCTM Western Regional in Kansas City, Mo. on October 25, 2007.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, presented: "Queering Transnationalist Studies: Some Preliminary Remarks" to the Modern Studies Association Conference 9 in Long Beach, CA, in November, 2007.

Dan Roland, PhD candidate, School of Library & Information Management, presented his dissertation "Interpreting Scripture in contemporary times: A study of a clergy member's Sense-Making behavior in preparing the Sunday sermon" on November 16, in William Allen White Library.

Dr. William L. Smith, Professor/Chair, Department of Business Administration and Education, presented: "Entrepreneurial Networking: How does it rank?" at the annual meeting of the Association for Small Business & Entrepreneurship in Austin, Texas, on October 11, 2007.

PUBLICATION

Robert Grover, Professor, School of Library Information & Management, co-authored a textbook with Roger Greer and Susan Fowler entitled, "Introduction to the Library and Information Professions," published by Libraries Unlimited/Greenwood.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, signed a book contract as coeditor with William J. Maxwell for the book "The Claude McKay Reader" in the Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the Americas Series by Rutgers University Press.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, signed a book contract as coeditor with Charles W. Scruggs for the book "Hemingway and the Black Renaissance" by Kent State University Press.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, published: "The Sun Also Rises in Queer Black Harlem: Hemingway and McKay's Modernist Intertext." *Journal of Modern Literature*, 30.4 (Sept. 2007): 61-81.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, published: "Claude McKay's 'The Biter Bit': 'Calalu' and Caribbean Colonialism." *Callaloo*, 30.1 (Winter 2007): 311-14.

Dr. Gary Holcomb, Associate Professor, Department of English, published: "New Negro, New American Studies in Becoming-EU Europe." *REAL Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature*. 23 (2007): 259-73. Transnational American Studies Special Issue, publication of John F. Kennedy Institute, Free University, Berlin.

William L. Smith and Ken Schallenkamp, "Entrepreneurial skills assessment: the perspective of SBCS directors," *International Journal of Management and Enterprise Development*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (2008), pp. 18 - 29.

EMPLOYMENT SEARCH

For current job listings, please visit: <http://www.emporia.edu/esu/searches.htm>

Roundtable is a bi-semester publication of the Public Affairs and Marketing Department at Emporia State University. If there are any errors, omissions, or questions, please contact us at 341-5454 or pubaff@emporia.edu