

GAIT Connection

Volume 10, Issue 2

FALL 2004

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Children's Book Week
Nov. 15-24
- New Officers Begin -
January 1, 2005
- ALA - Midwinter
Jan 14-19 Boston
- Georgia Library Day -
January 31, 2005
- School Library Media
Month, April 2005
- National Library Week
April 10-16, 05
- Georgia Student Media
Festival - State
Festival - Atlanta
April 22, 2005
- ALA Annual Meeting
June 23-29
Chicago

Dr. Jay Harriman Receives 2004 Juanita Skelton Award at COMO



Dr. Jay Harriman, GAIT Past President and current President of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) was presented the 2004 Juanita Skelton Award. GAIT's highest recognition of achievements in higher education at the state or national level in instructional technology honors the late Dr. Juanita Skelton, the first recipient of the award and former head of the Educational Media Department at the University of Georgia. Dr. Skelton's contributions to the field have been the basis for many ongoing developments, and her career serves as a model for service.

Jay Harriman is the Associate Director of the Office of Instructional Support and Development at UGA which provides programs and services to faculty campus wide to enhance their teaching. Jay has managed technology-related services and programs and taught education and communications in higher education and in a K-12 independent school. His research interests are in distance education and technology support for teaching and learning, and he holds an undergraduate degree in Journalism, Master's in Educational Media and Doctorate in Adult Education from the University of Georgia.

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President's Message

By Ginny Harrell



What a busy year I have had as president of GAIT! Now it is time to start planning for 2005. The slate of officers for 2005 will be posted soon and you will be receiving a ballot in the mail. Please take time to vote. This is also the time to think about your commitment to the organization and offer your services and expertise to the new board. They need and want your input. Let them know if you are willing to serve on a committee. The more people we have involved the stronger our organization will become.

Working on the COMO conference is another way you can become involved in our organization. COMO

is a large undertaking for the professional organizations in Georgia and the planning committee would welcome your involvement. This past COMO was quite an event! We had a good time, picked up new ideas, and visited with old friends. Things went well even though there were some unexpected glitches. The new online evaluation was a big success. When we compile the comments I will post them to the web. The many comments were positive as well as constructive. Having input from conference attendees will make the next COMO better.

Don't forget that Library Day is coming up. Information about Library Day will be posted to the listserv soon. I hope to see you there!

Take the challenge- get involved!

Ginny Harrell

Ginny Harrell
GAIT President 2004



Scenes from the GAIT Breakfast



TWO GOEN-SLOAN SCHOLARSHIPS Presented at COMO

For the first time in the history of the Goen-Sloan Scholarship, six applicants vied for the opportunity to be the Scholarship's recipient. In the end, the Leadership Development Committee decided to award two Scholarships. The Goen-Sloan Scholarship is named for two leaders of the Georgia Association for Instructional Technology. The late Marsha Goen was a media specialist in the Cobb County Schools for many years. She held many positions in GAIT including President. Mary Jean Sloan worked as a media specialist in Florida and Georgia, more specifically Cobb County, for more than 30 years. Mary Jean served as GAIT's Director of Membership for more than 15 years.

This year's Scholarship Committee was composed of GAIT past Presidents, Diann Harris and Bob Fox, and Scholarship honoree, Mary Jean Sloan.

Valerie V. Ayer has worked in the library/media field since. She began her career as a branch library manager with the DeKalb County Public Library System. For six years she worked as media specialist at Shadow Rock Elementary School in DeKalb County. Since 2000 she has worked as a library/media specialist at the DeKalb County Schools Professional Library.

Valerie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of South Florida in Tampa and a Master of Library and Information Studies from Clark Atlanta University. She is currently pursuing her Specialist in Library and Information Studies at Florida State University.



Professionally, she holds membership in GAIT, the Georgia Library Media Association, the American Library Association, the American Association of School Librarians and the Reference & Users Services Association.

Valerie states, "In today's society, we have all the tools applicable to enlighten our students or patrons in new ways of learning and retrieving information!"



Tom Lewis is a veteran educator of more than 22 years. His early years in the profession were as an English and drama teacher in the Savannah-Chatham County School System. He taught television production at Woodward Academy and served as Director of Television Production for 11 years. He has worked in the Fayette County School system for the past 6 years. Currently he is Chairman of the English Department at Whitewater High School.

Tom holds a Bachelor of Science in Education in Speech and Theatre Arts from the University of Central Arkansas and a Master of Arts in Speech and Theatre Arts from Wake Forest University. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Professionally he holds membership in GAIT, the National Council of Teachers of English, the Professional Association of Georgia Educators and the American Federation of Teachers. In addition, Tom is a National Board Certified Teacher.

Tom states, "Technology plays such an important role in our students' lives today. I am excited to be involved in the implementation of new technologies into classroom instruction. "



NBPTS a.k.a. What I did on my summer vacation...

By Maria Savoldi



Unless you're a teacher from a galaxy far, far away and have just landed in Georgia, you've been hearing a lot about the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards® (NBPTS). [National Board Certification®](#) is a standards based assessment that measures a teacher's practice against a set of high and rigorous standards. The process includes a series of performance-based assessments including teaching portfolios, student work samples, videotapes and analyses of classroom teaching and student learning. Candidates also complete a series of written exercises that assess the depth of their subject-matter knowledge, as well as their understanding of how to teach those subjects to their students. Does all this sound a little overwhelming? Well, it can be but not to worry! There is a way to learn more about the whole process before taking the plunge as a full fledged candidate. Just go to: <http://www.nbpts.org/standards/assessors.cfm#1> and apply to be an assessor as your next summer job!

The National Board Certification scoring session lasts anywhere from two to three weeks and includes training and actual scoring of candidate responses. Prior to scoring taking place assessors are required to complete an intensive training session where they are trained to evaluate an entry "through the lens of the NBPTS standards". The training session includes an introduction to the National Board Certification process and NBPTS Standards as well as an explanation of the scoring system, the score scale, rubrics, benchmarks and other scoring tools. Assessors participate in activities involving personal biases and preferences, analyze sample performances of candidates and practice internalizing the score scale. (Please keep in mind that assessors score only a small portion of a candidate's response. This keeps the process as fair as possible!)

Over the past few years as a trainer for the National Board I have worked with dozens of assessors who have found this to be a highly valuable professional learning opportunity. In addition to receiving an honorarium of \$125 per day, assessors gain exposure to dozens of examples of teaching and the opportunity to interact with colleagues over the course of several days. Along the way (especially during lunch breaks) assessors exchange teaching ideas and practices as they gain a better understanding of what is considered to be accomplished teaching.

While most assessors are assigned to scoring sites within a 50-mile radius of their home, some choose to travel farther to participate. (Please bear in mind that no travel costs are reimbursed by NBPTS.) This year the certificate area of Library/Media had scoring sites in Atlanta, GA, Daytona Beach, FL, Tulsa, OK and Oklahoma City, OK. The scoring sites and schedules for 2005 will be released in December. In the mean time, if you are interested in participating in the 2005 scoring session, please go to: <https://nbpts3.ets.org/staff/>. If you would like to ask me any questions about the summer scoring experience, please email me at: maria@glynn.k12.ga.us.

CANDIDATES for 2005 GAIT LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

The following individuals have agreed to be candidates for the upcoming GAIT elections. A biographical sketch on each candidate will be enclosed with each ballot. Ballots should be mailed prior to November 24, 2004. Thanks to each of these leaders for volunteering their time!



Tom Beggs, candidate for GAIT President-Elect is the Coordinator of Classroom Support in the Office of Instructional Support and Development at the University of Georgia. Tom holds an education specialist's degree from West Georgia.



Leslie Wantland, candidate for GAIT Board of Directors, K-12 Representative is a media specialist at Stockbridge High School in Henry County. She earned a B.S. Ed. in English education from the University of Georgia and a MLM in education from Georgia State University. She is also GAMA State Co-Adviser.



Rhonda Boozer, candidate for GAIT Secretary is the Interlibrary Loan Coordinator / Reference Assistant at Clayton College & State University Library. Rhonda has been a member of GAIT for 7 years. She is a graduate of Clayton State.



Judy Serritella is a candidate for GAIT Board of Directors, Business, Industry, and Government. Judy is the Coordinator of Library/Media Services at the Georgia Department of Education. She was the 2002 National Media Specialist of the Year.



Dr. Gordon Baker, candidate for GAIT Board of Directors, Higher Education. Gordon currently is Head of Public Services at Clayton College & State University. He is retired from the Georgia Public School System. He is a GAIT Past President.

Virginia Harrell, President
gharrell@clayton.k12.ga.us

Dr. Gordon Baker, Editor, *GAIT Connection*
gordonbaker@mail.clayton.edu

Membership Information
Dr. Juanita Buddy, Director of Membership
3222 Wyndham Park Court
Decatur, GA 30034



GaCOMO XVII

October 12-14, 2005
The Ironworks
Columbus, GA

We're on the web!
<http://www.gait-inc.org>

Join GAIT TODAY!



**COMO
XVI
Scenes**