



# *Celebrate* SHORTER

Shorter College President's Report  
& Honor Roll of Donors  
2006-2007





Photo by Carol Bynum  
Cover photo by Paul O'Mara

There's always a reason to ...

# *Celebrate* SHORTER

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## From the President



Photo by Paul O'Mara

*Harold E. Newman*

This spring, the college launched a new tradition titled “Celebrate Shorter.” A day was set aside to salute the very heart of the Shorter College experience: the education of students. Symposia sessions highlighted undergraduate research and academic achievement through presentations and performances. Awards and accolades recognized significant accomplishments. It was a wonderful day that made me proud to be a part of this college community.

For this report, I have borrowed the title of that student achievement day and applied it to the 2006-2007 academic year as a whole. The highlights listed in these pages – and hundreds more too numerous to include – clearly illustrate that there is much to celebrate at Shorter College.

Among those reasons to celebrate is the dedication of the caring faculty members who provide individualized attention to students in our traditional programs on the Hill and in our Professional Studies programs in Rome and Metro Atlanta. That dedication captured national attention as Dr. Carmen Acevedo Butcher, a Shorter graduate and our scholar-in-residence, was honored as the 2006 Georgia Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

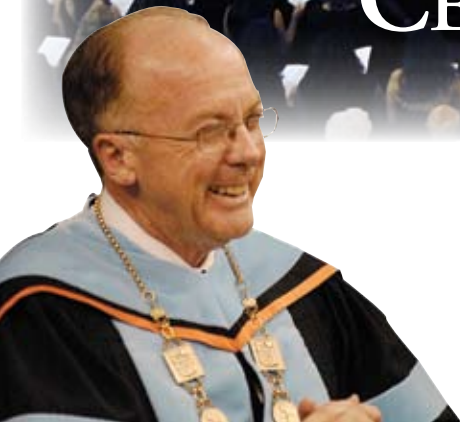
Our student athletes also gave us many reasons to celebrate during the year, including a conference championship in softball, a first-ever national ranking for football, and trips to national tournaments in track and field, women’s tennis, men’s golf and women’s softball.

Accompanying this report of highlights from 2006-2007 is a list of the individuals and organizations who helped make our recent accomplishments a reality. To our donors and friends, I offer my heartfelt thanks for your support of Shorter College and her mission.

Student achievement. Faculty accomplishment. Athletic success. The generosity of our donors. There’s always a reason to celebrate Shorter.



# CELEBRATE SHORTER



Photos by Paul O'Mara

## Presidential Inauguration.

On Aug. 29, 2006, Dr. Harold E. Newman was inaugurated as Shorter College's 18th president. The festivities were a celebration of Shorter's past, present and future, featuring students, alumni and friends of the institution. The day also celebrated Dr. Newman's strong ties to the campus garnered during his 20 years of service as provost and one year as interim president.

**"One of the South's Best."  
"A College of Distinction."  
"A Best Value."**

Those phrases represent the honors Shorter College received during the year. For the sixth consecutive year, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Shorter among the best comprehensive colleges in the South, a ranking that was repeated again in August 2007. In addition, the Princeton Review touted Shorter as a "Best Southeastern College" and "A Best Value College" in its annual rankings. Shorter was also included in the *2007 Colleges of Distinction* guidebook, a national publication of Student Horizons, Inc.



**AND I QUOTE...**

*Shorter was one of only eight Georgia institutions and 300 schools nationally to earn recognition based on "student engagement in the educational process, great teaching, vibrant learning communities and successful outcomes."*

*– Wes Creel, president, Student Horizons, Inc.  
on the 2007 Colleges of Distinction*



## Teaching the teachers.

The Professional Studies program began offering Associate of Science and Bachelor of Science degrees in early childhood education in 2006-2007, with a Master of Education degree following in the fall of 2007.



## Big business.

A 30 percent increase in business majors in the traditional programs led to the creation of the School of Business Administration with Dr. Robert "Dub" Darville as dean. The school is now separate from the School of Business Management, which is part of Shorter's Professional Studies programs and has Dr. George Dupuy as dean.

# CELEBRATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



Photo by Paul O'Mara

## In recognition of excellence.

On March 27, 2007, the college community enjoyed a day of academic presentations, award ceremonies, and artistic performances to highlight the level of academic excellence at Shorter. Senior Anna Czajkowska, shown above at commencement in May, led the planning for the Celebrate Shorter event. The festivities increased understanding of the depth of academic work happening across campus.

## AND I QUOTE...

*"Through Celebrate Shorter I discovered other passionate students similar to myself in different academic areas. ...That was a bonding day. We were students who shared in each other's lives through experiencing each other's work. It was pretty incredible."*

*– Nancy Mize Johnston, music major  
on the Celebrate Shorter event*

## Award-winning journalists.

The Periscope earned a First Place with Special Merit Award in the 2006 American Scholastic Press Association competition. Shorter's student newspaper earned 970 of 1,000 points with top scores in art, advertising, illustrations, editing and creativity. Special merit designation, a first for Shorter's publication, is based on outstanding format, content and presentation.



Photo by Chuck Teedler

## By the numbers.

Shorter saw a record enrollment for the academic year, as the traditional programs topped 1,000 in the fall of 2006 for the first time ever and the Professional Studies enrolled an additional 1,800 students by the year's end.

## Bravo for theatre.

For the fourth time in five years, Shorter's Theatre Department was invited to perform at the American College Theatre Festival for Region IV. The invitation-only competition featured six schools from a 14-state region. Also, at the Georgia Theatre Conference in October 2006, senior theatre major Justin McGough and freshman Jennifer Spradley received the highest scores among male and female competitors, respectively. Shorter students also accounted for one third of the audition qualifiers to advance to the Southeastern Theatre Conference.



# CELEBRATE FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENT

Photo by Paul O'Mara



## Taking the helm.

Shorter's academic program received new leadership in August 2006 when Dr. L. Craig Shull became provost. In the post, he is the college's chief academic officer and oversees Shorter's information technology division. A member of the college's faculty since 1997, he had served most recently as associate provost, managing operations for the college's Professional Studies program. In announcing the new appointment, President Harold E. Newman praised Dr. Shull for his significant contributions to the growth and success of the Professional Studies program and his strong leadership qualities.

## Setting the course.

Three years' worth of work culminated in the creation of Shorter's new strategic plan, *Integrating Learning, Community and Faith*. The plan links the college's tradition of excellence in education with its vision for the future. The plan centers on five major areas of concentration:

1. A Pre-eminent Teaching University (Becoming a Christian college committed to excellence in education);
2. A Christ-Centered Community (Integrating faith and learning in a Christian community);
3. A Community of Global Citizens;
4. A Technologically Innovative Campus with Improved Facilities;
- and 5. A Secure Financial Future.



## The Leader of the Band.

Five-time Fulbright scholar Tom Smith has been tapped to lead the Shorter College Band beginning in the fall of 2007. A talented trombonist and highly respected conductor and scholar,

Mr. Smith has extensive experience building ensembles both domestically and abroad.



Photo by Paul O'Mara

## Applauding academics.

Spring commencement exercises included the presentation of two teaching excellence awards. Jennifer Kellogg Sikes ('97), above, assistant professor of English, received the Vulcan Materials Company Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award. Dr. Carmen Acevedo Butcher ('82), associate professor of English, received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship.

### Professor of the Year.

Through the U.S. Professors of the Year competition, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education selected Dr. Carmen Acevedo Butcher ('82) as the 2006 Georgia Professor of the Year. The award recognizes individuals who excel as teachers and influence the lives and careers of their students. Dr. Butcher excels in all criteria for the award: the impact on and involvement with undergraduates; contributions to education in the institution, community and profession; a scholarly approach to teaching and learning; and support from her colleagues and students.



Photo by Paul O'Mara

### AND I QUOTE...

*"In the world of academia, smart and competent professors abound. But few and far between are those, like Dr. Butcher, whose intelligence makes others feel smart, whose teaching incites such a willingness to learn, and whose dedication to scholarship never overshadows her kindness and love towards others."*

*— Danielle Buckley, 2005 summa cum laude graduate on Dr. Carmen Acevedo Butcher*

### Melodious merit.

Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Matthew Hoch received two national honors during the spring semester. He was one of two recipients of the 2007 Vocal Pedagogy Award from the National Association of Teachers of Singing. The award afforded him the opportunity to continue his study in vocal pedagogy and voice science. In addition, he was one of seven recipients of the Melodious Accord Fellowship to study with famed choral music expert Dr. Alice Parker.



Photo by Tracy Batchelor

### Going global.

Dr. Robert Wallace, assistant professor of religion, was named director of international programs, succeeding Shorter alumna and founding director Betty Zane Morris. Dr. Wallace will coordinate study abroad opportunities for students and assist faculty members with the organization of study abroad trips. Shorter currently has exchange agreements with more than 50 university partners on six continents.

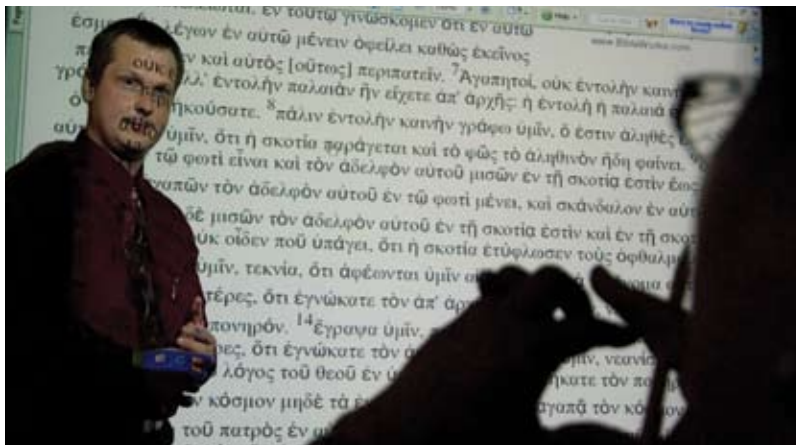


Photo ©2007 Ken Hawkins

# CELEBRATE FAITH IN ACTION

## Glorifying God in Ghana.

A group of Shorter students and Campus Minister David Roland took part in a mission trip to Ghana in late June. The group had large crowds of children and adults attend worship services they led in area villages. At one village, known to locals as “the witches village,” they ministered to the women who had been shunned because of superstitions. The students demonstrated servant evangelism through such tasks as painting the fingernails of the



Photo courtesy of David Roland

women who are considered outcasts by their own people. In Nalerigu, the Shorter team helped two churches by working with their youth groups and leading services. While there, they also visited patients and families at the Baptist Medical Center; the

students spent time painting fingernails, making balloon animals, singing songs and sharing God’s love. They also led devotions for hospital staff members. In addition, in the city of Tamale, they worked with the Baptist Collegiate Ministries group of a local university, taking part in worship services and joining them for an outreach project in a nearby village. The students shared testimonies and saw some Ghanaian people make decisions for Christ.

## Fun and games... and caring, too.

Shorter hosted 85 children from the Georgia Baptist Children’s Home on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2006. The day-long excursion offered excitement for the children as they visited with Hawks Football Coach Phil Jones and two players, played games led by Baptist Collegiate Ministries members, enjoyed a barbecue luncheon provided by Trustee Chairman Dr. Nelson Price, and watched the Hawks battle UVA-Wise in football.



Photo by Paul O'Mara



Photo courtesy of Bonnie McNulty

## Being the hands of Christ.

Five Shorter College students spent part of their summer doing short-term missions through the Georgia Baptist Convention. Bonnie McNulty (above center) traveled to Prague, the Czech Republic, while Erin Miller was in India, Cassie Murdock was in Spain, Elisabeth Watts was in Nicaragua, and Lauren Harper was at Camp Pinnacle in Clayton, Ga. Additional Shorter students spent the summer serving as counselors at Centrifuge, Centrikid and other camps. During the 2006-2007 year, Shorter’s Baptist Collegiate Ministries group raised a record \$9,300 to support summer missions. In addition, Shorter students took part in mission trips to Covington, Ky., and New Orleans, La., over Christmas and Spring Breaks, respectively. Other service efforts during the year included volunteering at the Youth Detention Center; working with Youth for Christ, Habitat for Humanity and the soup kitchen; and visiting residents at area nursing homes.

## Up late for a good cause.

Shorter College students stayed up late on Feb. 22 to raise money for the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. They raised \$14,430 through a letter-writing campaign in which 100 students sent out letters seeking support for St. Jude’s.

# CELEBRATE ATHLETIC SUCCESS



Photo by Grant Kersey

## Best in the nation.

Shorter's Robert H. Ledbetter Baseball Complex was honored as the best-maintained field in the nation in 2006 by the American Baseball Coaches Association. Shorter claimed the ABCA/Turfcare Outstanding Field Maintenance Award, given annually to a college in the United States that has shown outstanding maintenance in both infield and turf care.

## Coaching honors.

Three Shorter College coaches claimed Coach of the Year honors during 2006-2007. In softball, Melanie Carter was named Coach of the Year for both the region and the conference, and the SSAC awarded the entire Lady Hawks coaching staff with the All-East Region Coaching Staff of the Year title. Jon Moseley was named SSAC Volleyball Coach of the Year. Jay Stephenson claimed the SSAC Head Men's Coach of the Year title in cross country.

## Home field advantage.

Shorter's football program is hoping to bring the NAIA Championship Game to Rome in 2008 and 2009, having put in a bid to serve as host site for the games. An NAIA representative toured Barron Stadium and other sites in Rome in July 2007, and a decision is expected by year's end.

## SSAC champs.

For the Lady Hawks softball team, 2007 was amazing. After a regular season record of 50-12 and a 23-game win streak, they were region runner-ups, received an at-large bid to the national tournament, and worked their way up to No. 6. Finishing 25-3 in the conference, they claimed the SSAC championship. They led the SSAC in 11 categories, had seven All-Conference players, three All-Region, and one All-American.



Photo © 2006 Ken Hawkins



Contributed photo

## Track & Field competitors.

Eight athletes from the men's track and field team qualified for the NAIA national competition. Nate Scott emerged as an All-American, having placed sixth overall in the 110 Meter Hurdles; he is the first All-American in track from Shorter.

## National level play.



The men's golf team gained an at-large bid to the NAIA nationals in Indiana through their play at the SSAC regional golf tournament. There, Shorter golfer Joe Butler emerged as low medalist and was named the SSAC

Player of the Year. Two players were named second team and honorable mention All-Americans. The Hawks finished the season ranked 20th.

Also receiving an at-large bid to their national tournament was the women's tennis team. With one of the toughest schedules in the NAIA, the Lady Hawks finished the season ranked 13th.

In only their second year of play, the football team ended the season with a winning record. During the season, the Hawks captured their first victory on the road, won their first conference game, and broke into the NAIA top 25 for the first time.



Photo © 2007 Ken Hawkins

# CELEBRATE CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

## Community spaces.

Renovation projects completed for the 2006-2007 academic year included the refurbishment of the Fitton Student Union (above), the relocation of the campus post office to the student center and the renovation of the former post office area into a large-group meeting room.

## Aiding health and fitness.

An \$83,534 grant from the Georgia Baptist Health Care Ministry Foundation provided an exercise room for Shorter faculty and staff and increased the level of diagnostic and educational services offered through the college's health clinic. The grant included funds to purchase diagnostic equipment to monitor blood pressure, weight, oxygen levels, glucose, cholesterol and more.



Photos by Tracy Batchelor



Photo by Paul O'Mara

## Home sweet home.

In March, the college broke ground on a three-story student apartment building that was to provide living space for 46 students. Pinson's Inc. of Rome served as general contractor, completing the project before students returned for the fall; a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Aug. 20. Approximately \$1.4 million of the \$2.644 required for the 12,500-square-foot project was provided by the Georgia Baptist Convention.