

## Campus in Action

**Dr. Brian Jay Corrigan**, language and literature, showcased his upcoming novel, "The Poet of Loch Ness," at the Book Expo America that was held in New York in May. The book will be released June 15.

**Dr. Harrison Davis**, psychology and sociology, received the "Outstanding Contribution to Professional Knowledge" award for his workshop and journal article, "Healing the campus: A suicide survivor helping model," at the American College Counseling Association's national conference held in Atlanta on April 9. Davis also earned the "Meritorious Service Award" for his three years of service on the ACCA executive board and the editorial board of the *Journal of College Counseling*.

**Dr. Kristi Hislope and Mariana Stone**, language and literature, coauthored a paper, "Perception and Production of the Spanish Voiced and Voiceless Dental Stops [d] and [t] by Beginning Spanish Learners," which was read at the 58th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, K.Y., April 21-23.

**Dr. Grace Newsome** was named the new program coordinator for North Georgia's Masters of Science - Family Nurse Practitioner Program. Newsome has taught in the MS/FNP Program since it began at NGCSU in 1998.

# Quality Enhancement Plan focuses on student learning

*Contributed by Drs. Kathy Sisk, Kim Melton and Michelle Byrne*

The Quality Enhancement Plan is an integral new component of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmation process that reflects and affirms the commitment that student learning is at the heart of NGCSU's mission and values.

Members of the North Georgia QEP team meet on a regular basis to review literature related to enhancing student learning, to examine NGCSU institutional research data, to determine what is done well and what can be improved upon and to examine QEP plans from other institutions. The team is conducting group sessions to ask "stakeholders" to provide input about the learning process at NGCSU and possible directions for the university's Quality Enhancement Plan.

Based upon the information gathered from ongoing group sessions and from a survey questionnaire that will be mailed during the fall 2005 semester, the team will develop two or three possible QEP plans that will be reviewed by stakeholders and then submitted to NGCSU's SACS Leadership Team for approval and final selection.

The QEP provides an opportunity to enhance overall institutional quality and effectiveness by focusing on issues that will foster student learning.

The QEP must be: Focused on student learning; tied to the mission of the university; supported by sufficient resources to implement and sustain; assessable; and developed through input from all aspects of the institution's community.

The QEP is the creative, forward-looking, component of the SACS accreditation process.

For more information about the group meetings and to provide feedback, contact QEP team leader Dr. Kathy Sisk at ext. 1604.

*Full story at [www.ngcsu.edu/digest](http://www.ngcsu.edu/digest)*

## *Public Safety is saving lives, one beat at a time*

NGCSU recently purchased two Automated External Defibrillators to serve as a mobile-unit "lifesaving bridge," should a sudden cardiac arrest event occur anywhere on campus.

According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 13 percent of work-place fatalities, more than 400 per year, are caused by sudden cardiac arrest, and of these, OSHA estimates that 40 percent, 160 lives, could be saved by defibrillation within five minutes. Although not everyone can be saved from sudden cardiac arrest, studies show that early defibrillation can dramatically improve survival rates.

AEDs are devices about the size of a lunch box and have adhesive electrode pads that deliver brief, but powerful, electrical stimulation to the chest, interrupting the abnormal rhythm and helping to restore the heart's natural rhythm.

North Georgia's two "mobile" AEDs are available 24 hours per day, seven days a week, one at the Welcome Center at the entrance to campus and the other in the university's police shift supervisor's vehicle during each work shift. Campus police officers have been trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and AED use. 