 CONNECTION
A PUBLICATION OF LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY FOR THE ALUMNI [Summer 2011]

Mark Your Calendar for Homecoming & Reunion
... Page 7

LU Commencement - Time to look ahead, time to remember.
-Michael V. Roberts, Class of 1971
... Pages 12 and 13
A College to Dream Of

Recently I was asked to address a group of about 300 high school juniors regarding what Lindenwood University has to offer that makes us stand out amidst a welter of competing higher education institutions. It was a tough audience because all of the students attend St. Charles Public Schools and so many of today’s students long to go to college somewhere distant from their familiar stomping grounds. Here is the gist of what I said to them (with complete honesty and pride):

What would you expect to find in an ideal university, far away from home? I imagine you would tell me that you would be looking for the following features:

- A large meandering campus with lots of trees, green expanses, and many streets
- Beautiful classic architecture coupled with exciting new construction, showing progress and financial health
- Students of all ages and stations in life – lots of them bustling about, representing great diversity and enthusiasm
- Opportunities to meet and know people from most US states and dozens of countries
- Professors who really have something interesting to profess, who are experts and scholars yet devoted to excellent teaching and effective learning
- Scores of majors from which to choose, as well as a personal academic advisor who really enjoys helping you plan your course schedules and your career
- Degree programs available at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels
- Some of finest learning, residential, and social facilities in higher education, including the latest technology and Internet access all over the campus
- A beautiful, classic university library with walls of books and periodicals, as well as a wealth of high tech resources, professional librarians, and a fully stocked coffee shop
- Numerous recreational spaces and activities and a Broadway-class theatre that offers both student productions and professional performances
- College varsity sports – lots of them, including several championship contenders
- A health clinic for those coughs and itches, as well as a counseling center to help you through a rough time
- Not one but two university dining halls with cuisine options that make other schools envious
- A happy, supportive college environment in which people respect each other and are treated well and where faith and values still matter
- A university that will always appreciate you for who you are, that will make a lifetime commitment to you, and that will want you to come back to visit often after you finish your degree
- In short, a comprehensive university at which you can have a complete, enriching college experience as a residential student and be well prepared for life when you graduate

Well, you have found that University. Welcome to Lindenwood!

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Evans, Ph.D.
President
Remembering Graduation at Lindenwood

Aristotle said, “The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.”

We are all familiar with graduation ceremonies – the pomp and circumstance, diplomas, the cap and gown, the hoods for master’s degrees and doctorates, and graduation speeches. This spring there is a good chance you graduated, attended a graduation, or know someone who is reaching this milestone in his or her life. Our educational rite of passage – graduation – is dignified, joyfully anticipated by students, their families and friends, and often a fondly remembered moment in an individual’s life.

Do you remember what it felt like when you walked across the stage to receive your diploma? How about the moment when you shook the President of the University’s hand and smiled for the camera? Do you recall standing in the rain at your commencement, listening to the vibrant sounds of the bagpipes or the fife and drum corps playing, or marching down the aisle alongside your fellow classmates?

Some of the alums who participated in our recent survey shared favorite memories of their commencement exercises at Lindenwood:

• “Before and after the graduation ceremony when the professors were applauding us...WAY COOL!”
• “Attending the outdoor graduations with the bagpipers parading in first, followed by the graduating students, faculty, and the president. It was usually rain-free, but we got totally drenched one year, and that ended the outside graduations. I’m grateful to have experienced many of those graduations as an undergraduate and graduate student. I liked seeing how each year the graduating numbers grew. Leslie Stall, who’s still in television, and Ozzie Smith, our back-flipping Cardinal shortstop, were two guest speakers I recall at the outdoor graduations. I asked Ozzie to stop and pose for me as he walked in procession. When I got home, I realized that there was no film in the camera. Nonetheless, I still have the great memory of him being cordial and posing with a big smile.”
• “Finally graduating after 20 years.”
• “Getting hooded on Friday night with my M.S.A. degree and my daughter walking the very next morning to receive her B.A.”
• “Graduation outside in the center of the campus.”
• “Graduation was very cool—walking outside as professors clapped.”
• “I really enjoyed the bagpipers at the graduation ceremony.”
• “Just simply feeling the accomplishment of obtaining my masters degree when I walked across the stage. That was a very proud moment for me”.
• “My favorite memory is graduating alongside my sister and my father with the same degree.”
• “The day I received my hood for my M.B.A. and seeing all the faculty there that helped make it happen. It rained that day, but it was awesome!”
• “Graduation 2003 was special to me. Being lead by the bagpipers past Butler Library and Roemer Hall and being cheered on by the faculty and staff as we made our way to our seats. The torrential downpour of rain that swamped the masses. President Spellmann, who was sick with the flu and had just been diagnosed with a terminal illness, sat through the entire ceremony, he shook my hand and said good luck, the same way he greeted me when I first stepped into his office in 1999.”
• “The graduate commencement ceremony was memorable. I thought the presence of the whole teaching faculty was a real honor. It seemed to me that faculty conduct during the walk was earnest and heartfelt, in addition to being a tradition.”
• “The overwhelming feeling of accomplishment I experienced while walking back to my car (in the rain) after picking up my master’s degree from the Business Office the first day it was available. I couldn’t stop smiling!”
• “There are so many, but the one memory that stands out is graduation 2003. It was outside and it started to rain very hard. We made the best of it. It was a unique experience.”
• “Just simply walking down the aisle at graduation!”

We are interested to know what your favorite Lindenwood memories are so that we can share them with our alumni readers. They may be about your graduation ceremony, a campus event or a favorite professor. Please send your thoughts to Alumni Director Whitney Fraier at alumni@lindenwood.edu.

Faculty members
Deb Nicolai (’92, ’99) and Darren Collier (’97, ’02, ’05) engage in the time-honored Lindenwood tradition of clapping for graduates as they exit the Family Arena after graduation.
When the Lindenwood Alumni Office, the student-led Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), and United Way groups gathered to plan the inaugural Spring into Service day, none of them imagined the impact.

At 8 a.m. on a cold and rainy April Saturday, over 83 alums, students, faculty, and staff joined forces and helped nine local nonprofit agencies with activities that included providing care for children with disabilities, helping homeless animals, stocking food pantry shelves, and building homes for poverty-stricken families.

In cold weather, things like digging trenches, planting flowers in the mud, building walls for a house, and taking dogs for long walks may seem like unenviable tasks, but nothing could hold back the dedicated volunteers. In fact, many of the Lindenwood students did not want to leave. Feedback from both students and alums has been amazing, and many students plan to revisit these agencies to volunteer in the future.

Not only did this service day provide a benefit to the community and show students the value of giving back, but the alumni volunteers also felt they benefited from the experience. Betty Roy—a Collinsville, Ill., resident; 2009, 2010, and 2011 LU graduate; and member of the Belleville Alumni Club—traveled to St. Charles to volunteer.

“I had never volunteered at an animal shelter and had many misconceptions about them,” Roy said. “After being assigned to volunteer at the St. Charles Humane Society, and working with many students and staff, I made one very special friend (seen in photo). After volunteering, I now truly understand the needs that animal shelters have, and I hope to be more of a voice for the homeless pets.”

Nancy “Betsy” LeDeux, a 1963 graduate and member of the Lindenwood Alumni Board, also volunteered at the St. Charles Humane Society and enjoyed working with the LU students, especially two international students from France.

“It was a joy to see the students sitting in a pen with a very large dog and enjoying the bond between the students and the dog,” LeDeux said. “It was a huge dog, but it loved sitting on the girls’ laps. That dog had to be the happiest animal there that day, and I think the girls were just as happy. They were a delight to be around. Although the event was created to help other organizations outside of Lindenwood, it was so nice to give something back to the community and to get an opportunity to work alongside our wonderful students and fellow alums. It was truly a great feeling.”

By the end of the day, the Lindenwood community had logged over 291 service hours, which equates to $6,205.08. If you would like to help make a difference in the Lindenwood community, mark your calendar for next year’s Spring into Service Day—Saturday, April 21, 2012.

Betty Roy made an unexpected friend at Spring into Service day.

Jacob Johnson, education major, working on a Habitat for Humanity project.

Help Us Go Green; Receive Connection Electronically

Did you know that Lindenwood was named by George and Mary Sibley after the beautiful Linden tree groves that filled the campus? You can help us save trees and money to help our future generation of alums.

Are you now going paper free? If so, help us to reduce our environmental footprint by receiving your copy of the Connection via email.

You’ll get all the same articles, just in a different format. If you would like to receive the magazine electronically, please send an email with your full name and mailing address in the body of the email to alumni@lindenwood.edu.

If you would like to continue to receive the magazine through the U.S. mail, no worries! We will continue to mail your edition of the Connection, unless you contact us and ask to receive it electronically.

Thank you for helping us save the environment!
Gatewood Painting the Song and Spirit of Life

As unique as his name, Lamerol Gatewood is a painter whose abstract expressionist style has come of age. He is part of a group of American artists who continue to explore the vitality of art forms. As a high school student, it wasn’t his life plan to become an artist, but after he took his first ceramics class at University City High School in Missouri, his love of art began to grow and he was hooked. Lamerol has been working as an artist ever since.

Graduating with a B.F.A. in art from Lindenwood in 1977, he had his first ceramics exhibition at the school during his senior year. After leaving Lindenwood, he attended Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, where he received his M.F.A. degree. He has since won numerous awards and has exhibited throughout the United States, Europe, and South America.

The road for Gatewood has included many ups and downs, but he says he has fond memories of his days at Lindenwood. “I felt very privileged to be a student at Lindenwood,” he said. “Thanks to 24-hour access to campus studios, I was given every opportunity to express myself visually. I had to work hard to prove myself, and I was motivated. Lindenwood gave me the foundation and confidence to go out in the world and accomplish my goals. I dreamed of being an artist in New York City and had the confidence to pursue my dreams. “I almost starved my first semester at Lindenwood because I took such a heavy course load that I had no time for a job. I ate one meal a day from a can, and I got caught eating in the cafeteria illegally. Dean Patrick Delaney, head of the Men’s College at the time, told me that if I didn’t have the money to pay for food, I could put my cafeteria meals on his tab. He was fantastic, and he allowed me to do odd jobs because I wanted to repay him for his kindness. Because the faculty and administration believed in me, I was allowed to explore my artistic talents and become a three-dimensional artist.”

Gatewood said he is proud to be appreciated as an artist in his own country and was honored to receive the prestigious Joan Mitchell Foundation award in New York City in 1995, which allowed him to set up his own website.

His art displays a world of shapes and dreams and takes life through unique layers of paint, glitter, incandescent pigment, and painted torn paper to create figures that seem to vibrate with an underlying African rhythm. His multi-colored images communicate universal expressions of love, hope, and a range of emotions on a very personal level to his viewers. His art creates beauty, excitement, and intrigue, and he has a deep respect for humanity in all of his paintings.

Gatewood says his art form is ever evolving. His advice to Lindenwood students and to alums is, “No matter what your background is, follow your dream. Never let anyone deter you or get in your way.”

Lamerol Gatewood paints the songs of life, and it all began at Lindenwood. To learn more about his art, visit www.inch.com/~gatewood.
Todd Mick, Lindenwood University-Belleville professor of business and entrepreneurship, thrives on change and undertaking new projects. His ability to adapt and implement successful programs translates well to his students, who seek to apply those same traits to their own enterprises.

Mick was born and raised in Iowa, and his father’s job required the family to move often. He became accustomed to changing course and creating new opportunities. “We moved six different times by the time I graduated from high school,” Mick said. “It was the norm for me, kind of like it is for a lot of military kids. It didn’t seem any better or worse, it was just what we did.”

After high school, he went on to earn a B.S. in political science and economics from the University of Iowa, where he also earned an M.A. in postsecondary student development and higher education administration. With a job waiting for him in California upon graduation, his plans unexpectedly changed again.

“My wife, Katherine, found out she was pregnant,” Mick said. “At the time, it was considered a pre-existing condition and so I couldn’t take the new job. So, we decided since California wasn’t going to happen that we would move to Kansas City so our child and future children would know their grandparents.”

That move in 1989 set in motion the rest of Mick’s career in Missouri. He earned a master’s of public administration and a Ph.D. in public affairs and administration, and political science, sociology, and economics from the University of Missouri while working as a faculty member at Missouri Western State University.

In 2007, he was asked by Metropolitan Community College to create an entrepreneurship program for the school, and he welcomed the challenge. He created the program and oversaw it until the grants that funded the initiative became unavailable in 2009.

Undeterred, he accepted a position as dean of academics at Missouri Valley College. He served in that role for a year before joining Lindenwood-Belleville as a professor in 2010.

“I was delighted to have the chance to be a part of a school that is building itself from the ground up,” said Mick. “Not many people get the opportunity to do that, and I’ve never been deterred from seizing an opportunity just because it means moving, geographically or professionally.”

In June 2011, Mick was named dean of academics at the Belleville campus. He is now responsible for all academic programs and support services, including the library, registrar, and financial aid.

“It’s kind of like the impressionist paintings by Georges Seurat,” Mick said. “Before, I could only see my small portion of the canvas. Now as a dean, I can see more. I can see the big picture.”

He plans to continue teaching courses as a way of keeping in touch with the creativity that he feels is the cornerstone of the entrepreneurial spirit.

“I still want to be in the classroom, because I’m really interested in what the students think,” Mick said. “I enjoy hearing them talk about their fears, joys, families, and anything else. It’s great to watch them discover, to see their love of life and learning. It’s never the same thing twice.”
Getting *London* to *London* is a Royal Affair

The eyes of the world were on London this April for the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton, now Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, Countess of Strathearn, and Baroness Carrickfergus (yes, Carrickfergus). The world is slightly less aware that 2009 Lindenwood alum J’rel London was in the middle of the action.

A 26-year-old Belleville campus graduate, J’rel always felt connected to London, and not just because of her last name. She graduated with a master’s degree in human resources, is the mother of a 3-year-old son, Jordan, currently works as a freelance feature reporter at Metromix.com., is a public relations specialist at Abesi PR and Marketing, and is a production assistant at KSDK-TV in St. Louis. J’rel is a busy woman but extremely driven and determined to follow her dreams.

Her dream was to be in London for the royal wedding, and she was determined to make it a reality. J’rel looked for contests to help realize her dream, calling her campaign, “Get London to London.” One of the contests she entered was sponsored by CNN, which was looking for a citizen reporter to cover the wedding. It seemed perfect, and she compiled a 90-second video explaining why she was the right person for the job. Although London did not win the CNN contest, her mother urged her to purchase a ticket to London and fulfill her dream anyway.

J’rel left for London on April 27, but not before she thought to create a Facebook page called “London in London” so that she could post photos and updates about her travels. To fully be immersed in the royal wedding experience, J’rel also bought a beautiful fascinator, a headpiece worn by many of the British wedding guests and spectators. She stayed at the historic Corus Hotel in Hyde Park, and J’rel and several thousand others spent the night before the wedding on the street in front of Westminster Abbey to be as close to the wedding ceremony events as possible.

London left London on May 1, and since then many wonderful things have transpired. She was recently interviewed about her trip by the television show *Inside Edition* and hopes that the televised segment will be shown in the near future. She was also one of the lucky guests in the audience of the final Oprah Winfrey show and met many of the celebrities who were there to pay their respects to the daytime diva.

Sometimes, taking a chance on a dream provides a path to opportunities that would not have been possible without a little determination and hard work. J’rel’s experiences and memories from her time in London will last a lifetime, as will her well wishes for the longevity of the marriage of William and Kate.

---

**2011 LINDENWOOD HOMECOMING & REUNION**

Mark your calendars for October 14 & 15, 2011

Tour our beautiful campus, participate in the weekend’s festivities, and relive your favorite campus memories.


Look for Reunion & Homecoming schedule of weekend’s events to be mailed to all alums this summer!

More details will also be available at www.lindenwood.edu/homecoming or by calling the LU Alumni Office at 636-949-4420.

*Blazing the trail westward since 1827*
The Lindenwood School of Communications hosted its annual Lindy Awards in March at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts. Produced entirely by students, the program honored former St. Charles Mayor Patti York with the Communications Alumna of the Year Award and recognized individuals for their achievements in video production, writing, and acting.

“The Lindys are akin to Lindenwood’s version of the Emmy Awards,” said Peter Carlos, LUTV Station Manager and Associate Professor of Communications. “Categories range from on-air talent to technical lighting and everything in between, and we give awards for a job well done in each of those areas.”

York was selected as this year’s recipient of the Communications Alumna of the Year Award for her impressive accomplishments in the community during her many years of public service. During her tenure as mayor of St. Charles from 1999 to 2011, she contributed to major developments such as the completion of the St. Charles Convention Center and Ameristar Casino. York has maintained strong ties with Lindenwood since earning a bachelor’s degree in mass communication from the school in 1995. She earned a graduate degree in corporate communication from the University in 1997, has served as an adjunct professor at the school, and also saw her children attend Lindenwood.

“Our Communications Department has some great graduates out there, so it can be tough sometimes to select an alum to receive our award,” Carlos said. “But with all that York has done in St. Charles and with our university, she was the obvious choice as this year’s honoree, and we are proud she accepted the honor.”

---

**Did You Know?**

- ID theft is the fastest growing crime in US - 6 years in a row.
- There have been over 100 million personal data files exposed in 2011 already.

**Protect yourself From Identity Theft ... Help protect our future.**

$2 a month goes to Lindenwood University for every adult membership.

Enroll Today at [lifelockm2.com/lualum](http://lifelockm2.com/lualum)
Endowed Scholarship Recipients Meet Donors

Lindenwood’s endowed scholarship program helps students with an estimated $370,000 in scholarship money each year. The University hosts an annual dinner to give both the donors and the recipients of their scholarships an opportunity to get to know one another and celebrate the student’s academic success. The donors express their pride in being able to assist the young scholars in their educational pursuits and enjoy hearing about their accomplishments.

On behalf of the scholarship recipients, Taylor Jewell, a freshman studying mathematics with a secondary education minor, addressed the crowd at this spring’s dinner at the Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room. She thanked donors for their continued financial support of their education.

Jewell received the Caroline Levy Gillette Memorial Endowed Scholarship, which was established in 2009 in memory of Gillette, a 1946 Lindenwood College graduate. Mrs. Gillette was a loyal and supportive alumna of Lindenwood, and her legacy lives on through the endowed scholarship. Jewell thanked the Gillette family members who were in attendance and said that, thanks to their generosity, she has been able to embrace her education and campus life for all it has to offer. She is now one of the star Lindenwood student ambassadors in the University’s Admissions Office.

Ruben Dario Montero Hogan, an international student from Panama, with Dr. Betty Tyree Osiek, ’62.

President James D. Evans provided a State of the University report and discussed the importance of scholarships to Lindenwood’s students. The University awards more than $27 million in institutional scholarships and grants on an annual basis.

To learn more about the Endowed Scholarship program, contact Whitney Fraier, Director of Alumni Relations, at 636-949-4420 or alumni@lindenwood.edu.

19th Annual Lou Brock Golf Classic

Lou and Jackie Brock invite you to join them for the 19th Annual Lou Brock Golf Classic at Bogey Hills Country Club, to benefit Lindenwood University athletics and the Lou Brock Scholarship Fund.

Dinner & Auction • Sunday, September 25, 2011
Golf Classic • Monday, September 26, 2011
Four-Player Scramble of 18 holes for $350 per player or $1,200 per team of four.

Registration includes: Lunch preceding the tournament, hole-in-one contest, closest-to-the-pin contest, “Chip off the Ol’ Brock” contest, amazing give-aways, and post-tournament dinner.
Your registration also includes admission to the Dinner Auction the night before the tournament.

With each registration, an additional ticket to the auction may be purchased for a guest for $50.
Sponsorships are still available.
Contact Jane Baum, Athletic Development Director, at (636) 949-4427 or jbaum@lindenwood.edu for more information.
For over 184 years, bright-eyed students, nostalgic alumni, and inspiring faculty and staff have walked the pathways and enjoyed the shade of the linden trees on the Lindenwood campus. We are now offering three ways for you to commemorate your school years or honor a special family member, classmate, or professor by becoming a Lindenwood Legend.

**Plant a Linden Tree**
Linden trees can live over 100 years and are a beautiful addition to the campus. New and existing trees are available for purchase. A special bronze plaque inscribed with a personal message is placed at your tree.

**Brick Pavers**
For decades to come, your personalized brick paver will remain a part of a campus walkway to celebrate your accomplishments as a graduate or serve as a tribute to someone special in your life.

**Young Hall Auditorium Seats**
The newly remodeled Young Hall Auditorium has seats to purchase. A plaque with your name or the name of a loved one will be placed on a seatback in the venue that is used by patrons attending the LU Film Series and students taking film courses.

Proceeds from the purchase of linden trees, brick pavers, and the Young Hall Auditorium seats are credited to the University’s Annual Fund, which supports all Lindenwood students. If you would like more information on how you can become a Lindenwood Legend, contact Heidi Fairbanks, Institutional Advancement Associate, at hfairbanks@lindenwood.edu or 636-949-4424.

---

**2011 Upcoming Lindenwood & Campus-Wide Events**

**St. Charles Alumni Club Meeting (Fashion Show Planning Meeting)**
Saturday, July 9, 2011
Time: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Location: Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room, Spellmann Center, St. Charles Campus

**Let’s Boogie-’70s Roller Skating Fundraiser, hosted by the Belleville Alumni Club Chapter**
Saturday, July 30, 2011
Time: 5 p.m.–7 p.m.
Location: Fun Spot Skating Center, located at 1400 West Blvd., Belleville, IL 62221
RSVP by July 22, 2011

**Belleville Alumni Club “Meet and Eat” Breakfast Meeting**
Saturday, August 6, 2011
Time: 9 a.m.–11 a.m.
Location: TBD, Please check website for more details.

**St. Charles Alumni Club Meeting**
Saturday, August 13, 2011
Time: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Location: Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room, Spellmann Center, St. Charles Campus

**Freshman Parents Coffee and Welcome-to-Campus Barbecue**
Wednesday, August 17, 2011
Time: Coffee from 2:30 p.m., Barbecue at 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Location: Hyland Performance Arena, St. Charles Campus
*Alumni volunteers are needed.*

**Lindenwood Day at St. Louis Cardinals Game**
Sunday, September 11, 2011
Game Time: 1:15 p.m.
Location: Busch Stadium, St. Louis
$17 ticket includes hotdog and soda, and part of the proceeds support LU scholarships and the USO of Missouri.
Ticket Info: Visit www.stlcardinals.com/lindenwood to purchase tickets

**St. Charles Alumni Club 17th Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser**
Saturday, September 24, 2011
Time: 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Location: Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room, Spellmann Center, St. Charles Campus
Ticket Info: For more information please call Lindenwood Alumni Office at 636-949-4420 or send email to alumni@lindenwood.edu.

**19th Annual Lou Brock Golf Classic**
Sunday, September 25, 2011–Dinner and Auction
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts, St. Charles campus

Monday, September 26, 2011–Golf Classic
Time: 11 a.m.
Location: Bogey Hills Country Club, 1120 Country Club Road, St. Charles

**Belleville Alumni Club Meeting**
Saturday, October 1, 2011
Time: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Location: Belleville Campus, Main Administration Building, Classroom 220

**Lindenwood Homecoming, Reunion & Parents Weekend**
Friday & Saturday, October 14-15, 2011
Location: St. Charles Campus
Times and Events: TBD (check website www.lindenwood.edu/homecoming for future details)

**Belleville Alumni Club Meeting**
Saturday, November 5, 2011
Time: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Location: Belleville Campus, Main Administration Building, Classroom 220

**St. Charles Alumni Club Meeting**
Saturday, November 12, 2011
Time: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Location: Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room, Spellmann Campus Center, St. Charles Campus

**Belleville Alumni Club Meeting**
Saturday, December 3, 2011
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Location: Belleville Campus, Main Administration Building, Classroom 220
A Lindenwood Entrepreneur Finds His Niche

Rick Duree (’05) sank casually into a comfortable leather sofa surrounded by shelves of textbooks in the Book-X-Change. His son Jaden, on spring break from pre-school, was alongside. Relaxed yet full of energetic potential (much like his young son), Rick launched into a rapid but highly informative dissertation describing the beginnings of his entrepreneurial business venture and how interwoven its success has been with Lindenwood.

**How did you come to choose Lindenwood for your education?**

I attribute my early success to strong family support and a Lindenwood education being the right fit for me and my wife at the right time in our lives. Other family members obtained their education at Lindenwood and found that it filled the need for a good education, was a good geographic and financial fit, and was run well from a business standpoint. I read the Lindenwood 2002 Annual Report and decided that getting a business degree from such a well run business school would be a good life decision for me, especially since I had entrepreneurial aspirations.

**Where did the idea for the Book-X-Change come from?**

In 2004 I tried to buy books and immediately saw the chance to make improvements. Often I see opportunities where others only see difficulty. The book store was run as if Lindenwood were a small school, but it was no longer a small school, so I guess you would say it had growing pains. Entrepreneurs know that not all of the good deals are taken. Anybody could be the person to take advantage of the next great idea or opportunity and fill a void in the market like I did with used textbooks. When customers’ needs change, opportunities come to light. I did a survey of my fellow students as a project in an honors course and found that the old idea of buying books and keeping them for life had changed. So I put together full business and marketing plans as projects in my other honors courses.

**Was it difficult getting your business started?**

Yes. It was extremely difficult, because besides juggling family, work, and school responsibilities, I was turned down twice for loans. I finally asked for help from the SCience Core of Retired Executives, a resource partner with the SBA – Small Business Administration. The mentors with this program not only gave great advice but helped my confidence enormously. One of my mentors told me I had a good plan and that meant a lot and gave me that extra boost to keep me going. I found that entrepreneurship does not come without sacrifice. For ten months, I only saw my wife for three hours a week due to juggling kids (no day care), school, and work.

Finally, with family help I was able to get a loan. With my brother working for free, cheap rent, and initially low expenses, we opened the business on April Fool’s Day 2005. We opened with 24 shelving units crammed with all of 12 books. Our ribbon cutting ceremony was kind of funny, because all of the guests would come in, look around and see only 12 books, shake their head and then go back to their own businesses thinking that we did not have a chance because we had no inventory.

**What does it take to start a business?**

I would say that a strong business plan and patience are the two keys to getting started. If you do not have a strong business plan, even if it is a little abnormal like ours was with no inventory, then you will not be successful. You also need patience to stay true to the plan. I could have buckled and ordered tons of books right off the bat, but that was not true to my business plan and the entrepreneurial principles that I had learned at Lindenwood.

**So did it work?**

Yes! The market was great, and the teachers and students were good about getting the word out. We made money every month our first year in business, and that was impressive because it hurt to turn away $150,000 in sales due to a lack in inventory as the books changed editions. At that point, we decided to increase our inventory by 25 percent with new books to supplement the used book sales customers were demanding.

**How did the success of the Book-X-Change translate into Lindenwood’s Duree Center for Entrepreneurship?**

I funded the Duree Center because I want to give students what they can use in the real world—hands-on experience. I got my master’s degree at Washington University, but I fall back on what I learned at Lindenwood—that entrepreneurship means getting your hands dirty. Actually doing makes you remember.

**And what is next for the Book-X-Change?**

I just signed a new contract with Lindenwood to officially do all their textbooks—not just the used ones, which involves much more volume and a strong web presence. With the new contract we expect to break even for the first couple of years but will gain by growing the value of our asset (our business) because we have a contract with an institution.

**What attracted you and others to becoming a Lindenwood entrepreneur?**

Lindenwood offers a great Entrepreneurial Studies program which allows students to work with a long leash. It makes students want to be part of the program. The SB&E Entrepreneurial Studies faculty is very enthusiastic and keeps the students excited and motivated. Entrepreneurship builds bridges and forms support systems through networking and relationships—relationships that last a lifetime, which is the type of relationship that I have with Lindenwood.
Lindenwood University broke another record in 2011, adding nearly 3,700 graduates to its list of alumni. Lindenwood alumnus Bob Ramsey (top row, center), ’78, a hall of fame sportscaster from St. Louis, was the speaker Friday night for Graduate Commencement and Baccalaureate at the St. Charles Family Arena. Saturday’s Undergraduate Commencement ceremony featured Lindenwood alumnus Mike Roberts (top row, left), ’71, who is recognized as one of America’s premier minority business entrepreneurs. Pictured in the right side of the top row is Board of Directors Chairman Jim J. Shoemake.
The Lindenwood University M.F.A. in Writing program is unveiling the debut issue of its new literary journal, *The Lindenwood Review*. Beth Mead, Chair of the M.F.A. program and editor of the journal, positively beams when talking about the new journal, which she calls a labor of love.

She speaks with gratitude of every person who was involved in its production, like editors Charlene Engleking and Terry St. Clair, and especially the students in her literary journal class, who read through more than 1,000 submissions and selected three short stories, 14 poems, and three essays to fill its pages. Mead says that M.F.A. programs in writing often produce literary journals, and she thought it was time for the Lindenwood program to take that step. After getting approval to produce the journal from the administration last year, she put out the call for submissions, which were open to anyone outside the ranks of current Lindenwood students and faculty. This, she said, is a common practice among journals published by writing programs.

Ten minutes into the first meeting of the journal class, the lights in the windowless classroom went out. Mead and her students gathered up their books in search of light, which she said became something of a metaphor for the process the class went through over the course of the quarter.

“As the weeks went by and the snow piled up outside, we found ourselves still searching for that light, that flash of beauty or clarity or inventive language that caused a submitted piece to stand out from the rest,” Mead said. “Together, we created a book that we love.”

The finished product, which was designed by Mead’s husband Chris, contains photos of Lindenwood campus winter scenes on the cover and section fronts, depicting the time period during which the book came together.

The *Lindenwood Review* is slated for publication annually and is available for the cover price of $7 from the Lindenwood Spirit & Supplies Shoppe and online at www.lindenwood.edu/lindenwoodReview/.

Lindenwood Launches First Online Degree Programs

Lindenwood University has launched the first completely online degree programs in school history. The programs include online graduate degrees in business administration, nonprofit administration, and writing.

The online business and nonprofit programs are offered through the traditional day college, while the online master of fine arts degree in writing is offered through Lindenwood’s evening program for adults. All of the new online programs are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

“Lindenwood boasts the second largest master of business administration program in the St. Louis area, so we knew we wanted the M.B.A. to be among the first online degree programs we offered,” said Ed Perantoni, Ed.D, Director of Online Programs for the University. “We are proud to make it possible for students anywhere in the country to obtain an advanced degree through our top-quality programs.”

Lindenwood’s online offerings are geared toward adult learners who seek to balance the pursuit of higher education with other personal and professional responsibilities. The programs are designed to make it easier for students to achieve their academic goals at their own pace.

“Earning a degree through Lindenwood’s online programs is the ultimate in convenience,” said Perantoni. “Students can continue to manage their work and family life and, depending on their circumstances, also reduce or eliminate childcare and transportation expenses.”

The move into online degree programs has been a natural progression for Lindenwood, which offered its first online class in 2002. More than 100 individual courses are now offered each semester, and hopes are high that the University’s online degree programs will experience the same growth.

For more information or to complete an online application, visit www.lindenwood.edu and select the “Online Programs” link.
Students and staff at Lindenwood University joined forces this spring to assist victims of the tragic earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The University raised more than $9,000 in relief funds through bake sales and a Japanese festival at the Spellmann Center—more than 500 supporters attended.

“The main objectives were to draw attention to the beauty and richness of Japanese culture, generate positivity and hope, and inspire people to help,” said Michiko Nohara-LeClair, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and festival organizer. “We more than succeeded and I can hardly express how pleased I am with our Japanese student body, which conceptualized great ideas and implemented them so well.”

Nearly $2,300 of the total amount raised came from a two-day bake sale in March that was led entirely by students, who also collected messages of hope, which were later combined with those collected from other area universities, digitized, and sent to Japan.

The largest affair in the benefit lineup was the Japanese Festival that took place nearly a month after the bake sale. The April event featured the sale of “Pray for Japan” t-shirts and an impressive set of free activities and demonstrations of Japanese cultural traditions.

A daytime concert in the St. Charles campus quad by the Gaku and Niji Japanese Choral Group set the tone for the day, but the main events took place throughout the evening. The Anheuser-Busch Leadership room was filled with people who enjoyed Japanese folk dance, karate, kendo, and taiko (drumming) demonstrations.

Other activities included balloon artistry, top spinning, a children’s playroom, origami and calligraphy stations, a tea ceremony, flower arranging, traditional toys and games, a corner store, a paper crane station, and anime shows. Traditional Japanese food and a variety of merchandise were sold.

“There are so many community members who helped, including Noriko McLeer, principal of the St. Louis Japanese Language School; Yoshiaki Shibusawa, president of the St. Louis Japan Society; Teiji Takenaka and his family; Vincent and Anna Shiao, of Vince’s Asian Bistro; and Lindenwood’s own Ava Schaeffer, Ryan Guffey and Jann Weitzel,” said Nohara-LeClair. “It was truly touching to have such wonderful partners who were supportive of our students and their passion for a great cause.”

All of the proceeds from the bake sale, shirt sales, and festival were donated to the American Red Cross disaster relief fund. The money will directly benefit Japanese victims of recent catastrophic events. “As a group, we succeeded in providing people with the opportunity to join forces to do good,” Nohara-LeClair said. “I’m incredibly proud of everyone’s contributions, and I am very honored to have been a part of these events.”
Since the mid-1970s, the Lindenwood College for Individualized Education has provided an opportunity for non-traditional students to attend college. Many students who go through the program recommend it to their friends and family members. In fact, surveys conducted by the administration in LCIE have determined that the single greatest driver of enrollment in LCIE programs is word of mouth from current or former LCIE students.

Some take advantage of the multiple St. Louis-area campuses Lindenwood offers, like the new site in south O’Fallon. While others are attracted to the large selection of degree options. Mary Troupin returned to Lindenwood for a third degree. Troupin was laid off in 2006 following the closure of the Ford plant where she worked and decided to return to school to get her bachelor’s degree in business administration, which she completed in 2008. She returned to LCIE, enrolling in the MBA program, finishing it in 2010, and is currently pursuing a master’s in communications. She is on course to complete that this winter.

“No one can be too prepared for re-entry into the job market,” she said.

She said she chose the program for its convenience and has attended classes at multiple locations, including the Lindenwood University Cultural Center in St. Charles and the O’Fallon North campus. She said the benefits of the program are numerous.

“All of the instructors have real world experience and know the material they are teaching,” Troupin said. “The textbooks are current editions, and every student has to do several research papers and presentations in each cluster. After just a few clusters, LCIE students become very proficient writers and presenters.”

Heather Kemper-Hussey, the director of communications for Morning Star Church in Dardenne Prairie, Mo., is in her second cluster of classes in the Master of Fine Arts in Writing program.

“I’m a mother of a blended family with three children and a full-time career,” Kemper-Hussey said. “The LCIE program at Lindenwood not only fit my budget but fit into my chaotic schedule of soccer games, baseball, and basketball practices.

The program is also conveniently close to home for me.”

She came into the program with a BA in communications from the University of Missouri with an emphasis in public relations.

“When I found LCIE… I found the encouragement and push I needed to pursue, or pick up, that skill again,” she said. “Through the workshops, the overwhelming support and coaching, today I feel more confident, with even reading the pieces out loud. My hopes for my MFA are to give me the tools, the knowledge, and the confidence, not only to tell the stories of Morning Star Church, but to one day have a bound book out there with my name on it.”

Ron Tierney, lead instructor at the Carpenters Training Center in Affton, selected LCIE on the recommendation of the director of training and workforce development at his job, as well as that of a co-worker who was currently in the LCIE graduate program in human resources management.

“I was seeking a program which placed an emphasis on domestic management practices, current labor relations, organizational theory/design, and most important, employment law for human resource practice and labor employment law,” Tierney said. “The LCIE accelerated quarter evening format was a large factor as well.”

Tierney appreciated the accelerated format, allowing him to earn nine credit hours from a cluster of three classes in a single quarter, all while attending class one night a week.

“Each of the three courses in a cluster was extremely relevant to the degree title,” Tierney said. “Lindenwood University provided instruction from professionals actively working in the field of study covered in the cluster. I was provided current real world experience from subject matter experts.”

Tierney was the first person in the history of his family to attend college, much less at the graduate level. He received his degree in the Graduate Commencement Ceremony on May 13. He said he appreciated the student advisory/support system, as well as the connections he made with his professors and his classmates. Tierney wrote an e-mail to faculty members and administrators on the date of commencement.

“Each of you had a very significant part in this achievement through your guidance and encouragement, and I would be remiss without acknowledging all of your help,” he wrote. “Thank you all.”
Volunteer Ushers Provide Top-Notch Service at LU

Ushers are an important part of the Lindenwood theatre experience, and the University recently took time to thank the dedicated individuals who volunteered their services during the 2010-2011 theatre season. Pat Poindexter, a Lindenwood community friend, was honored with the 2011 J. Scheidegger Center Usher of the Year Award.

“We could not do what we do without our volunteers, and we sincerely thank each of our ushers for their commitment and service to Lindenwood and to the performing arts,” said Chad Snider, Scheidegger Center Director of Marketing and Box Office Manager.

The 2011-2012 season at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts is fast approaching, and a pool of Lindenwood alumni and University friends is needed for the volunteer usher effort. If you love the theatre and are interested in becoming more involved with the Center, email Alumni Board Secretary Mary Ellen Kantz (’77 & ’91) at mkantz@aol.com. Please include the word “Usher” in the subject line. An orientation program will be held in August or early September.

Thanks to this season’s volunteer ushers: Anna Jackson, Barbara Landreth (’72), Bud Schuler, Carol Schierding, Cheryl Primm (’94), Connie Walker, Dr. Dorothy Ricketts (’72), Gail Costigan, Giang Tran (’09 & ’10), Greg Jones, Jane Thompson (’88 & ’90), Janette Bizzel (’86 & ’90), Jenell Brucker, Joanna Epps, Karen Vitale, Kathleen Kaiser (’92 & ’97), Kathy Classen, Kathy Schuler, Kaye Murphy, Larry Costigan, Loretta Wishne (’89), Lori Schmoll, Margie Burns, Marsha Candrl, Mary Ellen Kantz (’77 & ’91), Mary Gismegian (’81), Nick McMillon, Pat Poindexter, Rita Surgeon (’94), Ron Candrl (’78), Sandy Boschert, Sharon Bacon, Shelia Davis, Sid Wishne, Steve Vitale, Sue McMillon, Susan Lee, Tom Classen, Wendy Birmingham (’98 & ’05), Yumei Epps, and Yvonne Gibbs (’99).
Bridging Past to Present: A Tour of Roemer’s Attic

By Eric O. Stuhler
Director of Planned Giving and In-House Legal Counsel

When I was studying business administration here at Lindenwood in the ’70s, I traversed every nook and cranny of Roemer Hall. Classrooms took up the second and third floors. The administrative and business offices were located on the main floor. (Remember Dean Delaney?) The building also housed Jelkyl Theatre, a relatively new addition at that time; the bookstore; phone booths (for private phone calls that didn’t disturb anyone else); and mailboxes in the basement. And, of course, the infamous Day Student Lounge was also located in Roemer.

Upon my re-arrival at Lindenwood as In-House Legal Counsel in 2006, the quantity of legal files generated by the University soon exceeded the storage space available in my office. The solution: the Roemer Hall attic. I had never been in the attic. The maintenance staff dutifully erected a chicken wire cage for my files, so now I had a reason to go up there.

I had gotten close to the attic as a student when I set up a used bookstore as part of the Business Club’s fundraising efforts. I may be the last living person who actually rode on the elevator in Roemer Hall. We had a 1920s vintage elevator that was behind an unassuming wooden door that you had to operate by turning a key and holding it over (similar to an ignition switch on a car). I remember taking stacks of used books to the third floor, wondering if my body could withstand a three-story drop in a rickety elevator full of books. Thank goodness I didn’t have to find out. The elevator is long gone, and the shaft behind the doors has received new flooring at the first and second floor level and is used as storage closets. Yet, the elevator shaft still goes up to the attic.

It’s time to start your tour. Up to the attic we go. Another unassuming door on the third floor of the building takes us to a set of narrow concrete steps, which take a sharp turn midway, protected by a hand railing made of iron pipe.

As you enter the attic, you are immediately enveloped in the darkness and spookiness of this vast area. Illumination comes from a few old fluorescent lights and the small ornamental windows. Scrawled on the large metal door is, “PAY NO ATTENTION TO THE DEAD BODIES.” The insulation is discolored, and the wiring and long abandoned fuse boxes are very old. The concrete floor is rippled by a concrete mason’s proclivity that an attic floor doesn’t have to be smooth. It takes a minute or two to take it all in and transition to the dusty environment.

Now comes the fun part. Look at all this stuff: rows upon rows of expanded banker boxes containing the records of over a century (your transcript is up here somewhere), huge old exhaust fans lining the floor that at one time were installed somewhere, aging books, ledgers of business transactions of bygone eras and big old cash registers and accounting machines that were once state-of-the-art but were too expensive to just throw away after they were replaced.

A section of the attic houses props once used for the many theater performances: old chairs, paintings, musical instruments, lanterns, and even an old vacuum cleaner and an antique sewing machine. There are many old desks and chairs, including some original seating from Sibley Chapel. I used to sit in those chairs; maybe you did too.

A ladder made of lumber is located in the middle of the attic. It has been patched and repatched and goes to the roof via a padlocked door. I have never ventured that far. A lone chair stands under one of the decorative windows, serving as a boost to a spectacular view of the campus (the highlight of any tour).

The old door to the long-gone elevator can still be opened. There are pulleys, cables, and counterweights bolted to the walls and ceiling. You can look down the shaft and see storage down below.

Lindenwood’s official history is preserved in our archives in the library next door to Roemer Hall. I like thinking that this attic preserves some of our practical history. Blow off some dust, and you are handling artifacts that were, at one time, important to someone at Lindenwood.

Bridging the past to the present is made possible by the decisions we make every day. The generosity of our predecessors to assure that Lindenwood was there then and is here to stay presents us with a unique duty and charitable challenges. We must assure that when the next generation combs the attic in Roemer, they can marvel at our very special “junk.”

Please give generously in your annual and planned giving to Lindenwood. If you send in a gift or arrange a planned gift after reading this article, I will take you on a personal and guided tour of Roemer’s attic.

DISCLAIMER:
Lindenwood University and the author believe this information to be accurate. Neither is engaged in giving legal or tax advice. Please consult your own legal advisor if assistance is needed.

Are You Connected? LU is now available wherever you go!

In the age of smart phones and iPads, the Lindenwood Alumni Association is pleased to announce its recent launch of a new mobile application that keeps you up-to-date on all things LU. With real-world tips on everything from engagement rings to retirement, keep Lindenwood in your pocket. Simply search an app store on your smart phone for the Lindenwood Alumni Crib Sheet.

You can also connect with Lindenwood on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and the LU YouTube channel. Check out current news and student projects by visiting the new Lindenwood School of Communications student-run website, the LindenLink. From feature stories to creative student documentaries and cartoon strips, find everything you need to stay updated on recent campus news.

Alums can also find the newest edition or archived copies of the Connection on the alumni website. Did you miss an article that a friend told you about? Do you enjoy reading the latest class notes? Then check out the new Connection archives, where you can find editions dating from 1989 to the present.

Get connected today. To learn more about social media at Lindenwood, visit us at www.lindenwood.edu/social. To view the archived editions of the Connection, visit www.lindenwood.edu/alumni, and to visit the student-run LindenLink website, visit www.lindenlink.com.
Class Notes

‘40s

Martha Ann England Boyer (*’44) received her B.S. degree in education from Lindenwood. She has a wonderful family with three children and seven grandsons. She currently resides in Crystal City, Mo., and would love to hear from other members of the class of 1944.

‘50s

Drucilla Pemberton Madamba (*’56-’59) is the business manager for Tulsa Dental Implant Center. She attended Lindenwood from 1956-1959 and graduated from Oklahoma State University. She currently resides in Tulsa, Okla.

‘60s

Carol Mullins Harmon (*’60) is a docent at two museums and constructs costumes for the museums. She is also an entertainer at group functions and performs three interesting programs: a fashion show, a hat show, and a living history performance as Dolly Madison. She received her B.A. degree in art and education at Lindenwood. She currently resides in Edwardsville, Ill.

Margarita Tsinanopoulou-Michalas (*’61) received her B.A. degree in history from Lindenwood and went on to obtain her M.A. degree from George Washington University. As a Lindenwood student she as very active in KCLC and the International Club and received the PEO International Scholarship. She currently resides in New Smyrna, Athens, Greece.

Marilyn Lewis Donnelly (*’64) received her B.A. degree in Christian education from Lindenwood and is now retired. She currently resides in Cordova, Tenn., with her husband John.

Martha McDonald (*’64) is the director of Christian education at the Irvington Presbyterian Church. She received her B.A. degree in English and speech from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Indianapolis, Ind.

Emily Brock (*’67) is an accomplished technical illustrator and writer. She received her B.A. degree in fine art from Lindenwood. She is a very active volunteer at the Central Institute for the Deaf and recently traveled to Texas with the organization. She resides in New Melle, Mo.

‘70s

Sylvia Lorenz Hunt (*’79 & ‘82) is self-employed and resides in Nashville, Tenn., with her husband Stephen. She received her B.S. degree in business administration and her M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood.

‘80s

Nancy Kenkel-Knutson (*’83) is the general manager of her family business, an Imo’s Pizza franchise in Springfield, Mo., where she currently resides. She received her B.A. degree in fashion marketing and business from Lindenwood.

Ashley Myers Norman (*’87) is self-employed as a realtor. She received her B.A. degree in mass communications from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Wellington, Fla.

Timothy McCreery (*’89) is the vice president of sales and marketing at Precision Foods Company in St. Louis. He received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Northern Colorado and his M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. He currently resides in Huntleigh, Mo., with his wife Paula.

‘90s

Vito Sansone (*’94) is the director of pharmacy for SSM Health Care in Wentzville, Mo. He received his B.S. degree in pharmacy from St. Louis College of Pharmacy and his M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. He currently resides in Wright City, Mo.

Jill Derrieux (*’97) has joined the team of Guild Mortgage as a loan officer with more than 18 years of experience in the banking industry. She received her B.A. degree in business administration from Mesa State and her M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Grand Junction, Colo.

Brett Westerfield (*’97) is employed as a labor relations manager for General Motors in Spring Hill, Tenn. He received his B.A. degree in human resource management from Lindenwood and an M.B.A. from Oklahoma City University. He resides in Thompson’s Station, Tenn., with his wife, Madelyn, and two children.

Dana Hardaway Bakari (*’98 & ’04) is employed as a consultant with Accenture. She received her B.A. degree in business administration and her M.S. degree in human resource management from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Dallas, Texas.

Joe Dobrinic (*’98 & ’08) has been appointed principal at Pattonville High School and will begin his new position on July 1. He was most recently principal at Hazelwood West High School and has been teaching for many years. He received his M.A. degree in educational administration and his Ed.S. degree in administration from Lindenwood. He currently resides in St. Charles, Mo.

Tabitha White (*’98) was recently awarded the Instructor of the Year award by the Missouri Association of Private Career Colleges and Schools for her efforts in teaching criminal justice at Anthem College in Maryland Heights, Mo. She received her M.S. degree in human resource management from Lindenwood and has spent over 20 years working in corrections, law enforcement, and mental health. She has been teaching at Anthem College for four years and currently resides in O’Fallon, Mo.

Lorri Eberhardt Conkin (*’99) has been employed for nine years as a senior technical communicator with MasterCard Worldwide. She received a B.A. degree in corporate communications from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Winfield, Mo.

Jaime Hoffman-Salas (*’99) is employed as the operations manager for Vetta Sports and manages the locations in the St. Louis region. She received her B.S. degree in psychology from Lindenwood and has been employed with Vetta for over 10 years. She is the proud mother of two adoptive daughters from Guatemala and currently resides in St. Peters, Mo.

Tim Shannon (*’99 & ’03) is employed with TerraLex as the marketing and communications manager. He has a B.A. degree in English and an M.S.A. degree in administration from Lindenwood. He resides in Miami, Fla., with his wife Anamary.

‘00s

Karen Clark Vehlewald (*’00) is the president and owner of Stepping Stones Preschool in O’Fallon, Mo. She received her B.A. degree in corporate communications from Lindenwood. She is active in the community and currently serves on the Fort Zumwalt School District Early Childhood Education Advisory Board, the St. Charles County Association of Realtors, and
Frieda "Fritz" Eilers Hesskamp ('01) is employed with Plant Essentials as a field coordinator. She is currently in charge of merchandising and displays for six Lowe’s stores throughout the St. Louis region and enjoys training new employees. She received her B.F.A. degree in studio art from Lindenwood and resides in St. Charles, Mo.

Melissa Hughes ('01 & '11) has been recently appointed as vice president of talent management at Clayco Inc. She has worked over 20 years in human resources and most recently held the position of vice president of human resources for KV Pharmaceutical. She has a B.A. degree in human resource management and an M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. She currently resides in O’Fallon, Mo.

Sharon Dunn Stott ('01 & '06) is a senior coordinator in communications, marketing, and development for Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital in St. Peters where she has worked since 2007. She has a B.A. degree in corporate communications and an M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. She recently won a 2010 Beyond the Best Top 50 Business Award from Streetscape magazine. She is very active in the community and serves on the board of the University of Missouri Extension Council and the Board of Directors of the Lake Saint Louis-Dardenne Prairie Chamber of Commerce and is past president of the O’Fallon Rotary Club. She resides in O’Fallon, Mo., with her husband, Conan, and their daughter Michelle.

Susan Thiemann Salaria ('02 & '08) is employed as the supervisor of patient accounts with GroupOne Healthsource in Ballwin, Mo. She received her B.A. degree in healthcare administration and her M.A. degree in human resource management from Lindenwood. In her free time, she volunteers to help in writing resumes for immigrants who are settling in the St. Louis and St. Charles regions. She currently resides in St. Peters, Mo.

Teri Covey Harding ('03, '05 & '07) was recently appointed principal at Harris Elementary School in St. Charles. She received her B.A. degree in early childhood education, her M.A. degree in education, and an M.A. degree in educational administration and is currently pursuing a doctorate in instructional leadership at Lindenwood. She currently resides in St. Peters, Mo.

Sarah Platt ('03) and her husband Zachary welcomed a son, David Hayden, on January 7, 2011. Sarah is currently a stay-at-home mother and received her B.A. degree in human service agency management. She resides with her family in St. Charles, Mo.

Darren Facen ('04) has joined Boys & Girls Town of Missouri as the St. James campus director. He earned his M.A. degree in human service agency management from Lindenwood and is currently pursuing his doctorate in psychology at Capella University in Minneapolis. He is also an adjunct professor in social sciences at Missouri Valley College, where he teaches psychology courses. He resides in Marshall, Mo.

Jennifer VanHouten Jackson ('04) is employed as a registrar for the St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame Museum. She received her M.A. degree in American studies from Lindenwood. She is a member of the Frenchtown Heritage Museum and is a board member for St. Louis Area Registrars (STAR). She currently resides in St. Charles, Mo., with her husband, Justin, and her daughter Hayley.

Michael Kaiser ('04) is employed with St. John’s Mercy Hospital in St. Louis as an applications coordinator. He received his B.A. in sports management and an M.S. degree in health management from Lindenwood. He currently resides in St. Peters, Mo.

Fabrizio Pugliese ('04) is employed in financial control with Kommunal Banken Norway in Oslo, Norway, where he currently resides. He received his B.A. degree in business administration from Lindenwood.

Sayre ('05) and Justina Benoit Auck ('05) are proud to announce the birth of their son, Robert, who was born in September. Sayre received his B.S. degree in biology and is an assistant scientist at ABC Labs in Columbia, Mo., and Justina received her B.A. degree in general studies. The couple resides in Centralia, Mo.

Tammi De Los Santos ('05) was recently honored by the Missouri Jaycees as an Outstanding Young Missourian for 2011. She was nominated by the St. Charles Jaycees and currently works as manager of workforce development initiatives at St. Charles Community College and is a member of the adjunct faculty. She received her M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood and is currently working toward a master’s degree in education. She resides in St. Charles, Mo.

Katie Demski ('05 & '10) is a physical education teacher at Hazelwood West High School in the Hazelwood School District. She received her B.A. degree in physical education and her M.A. degree in educational administration from Lindenwood. She currently resides in St. Peters, Mo.

John Fogarty ('05 & '09) was recently promoted to campus president of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in St. Peters, Mo. He received his B.A. and M.B.A. degrees in accounting from Lindenwood. He currently resides in St. Peters, Mo.

Sagarath Folkes ('05) is employed as a teaching assistant at Giant Steps of St. Louis. He received his B.A. in educational studies from Lindenwood and was a member of the Men’s Soccer and Track and Field teams. He currently resides in Saint Louis, Mo.

Bryon Haverstick ('05) was recently promoted to district director of the Ozark Trails Council of the Boys Scouts of America in Springfield, Mo. He has been employed with the Boy Scouts of America since 2005 and has served in a variety of capacities, such as district executive in Southern Illinois and his most recent position as senior district executive in north St. Louis County. He received a B.A. degree in human service agency management from Lindenwood. He and his wife, Liz Espinosa ('06), and their son, Jayson, recently relocated to Joplin, Mo.

Laura Montgomery ('05) has been selected by the Van Lunen Center for Executive Management in Christian Schools at Calvin College for a 2011-2012 fellowship. The fellows program is designed for school leaders of faith-based schools seeking professional development and executive management growth to provide the best leadership possible in their schools. She currently serves as the principal of Abiding Savior Lutheran School in Oakville, Mo., and received her M.A. degree in educational administration from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Imperial, Mo.

Ashley Paule Baker ('06) is employed as a second grade teacher in Yukon, Okla. She received her B.A. in elementary education from
Lindenwood. She currently resides in El Reno, Okla., with her husband, David, and her sons, Sawyer and Diesel. 

Robert Carroll ('06) is employed as a union electrician with Paynecrest Electric. He received his B.A. degree in human service agency management from Lindenwood and currently resides in Arnold, Mo. 

Charles Ewing ('06) recently relocated to the Dallas area after graduating from Lindenwood with an M.S. degree in criminal justice administration. He is currently employed as a supervisor with Dallas County Juvenile Department and resides in Hutchins, Texas. 

Lindsey Garner Hoffman ('06) is employed with Le Cordon Bleu as the business office manager. She received her B.A. degree in business from Lindenwood and currently resides in St. Peters, Mo. 

Matthew Lindsey ('06 & '08) is a proud member of the United States Army and is currently stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas. He received his B.A. degree in criminal justice and his M.S. degree in human resource management from Lindenwood. 

Chris Elkenberg ('07) is a golf professional with the PGA WEST private club in La Quinta, Calif. He was a member of the golf team at Lindenwood and received his B.A. degree in business administration. He currently resides in Bermuda Dunes, Calif., with his wife Alice. 

David Fields ('07) is employed with the Army Contracting Command Rock Island Contracting Center as a contract specialist. He received his B.A. degree in business administration from Lindenwood and currently resides in Galesburg, Ill. 

Katie Orlando ('07) was recently named Teacher of the Year at Discovery Ridge Elementary School in the Wentzville School District, where she is a first grade teacher. She received her bachelor’s degree from Missouri State University and her M.A. degree in teaching from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Lake Saint Louis, Mo. 

Sean Penermon ('07) was recently promoted to manager of the Minneapolis Core Service Center with Amerisure Mutual Insurance. He received his business degree from the University of Missouri and his M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. He currently resides in Plano, Texas. 

Emil Williams Jr. ('07 & '09) is employed as a media relations assistant to the United States Bowling Congress. He received his B.A. degree in mass communications and his M.A. in communications from Lindenwood. As a Lindenwood student he was a member of the men’s bowling team, including the 2005 National Championship team. He currently resides in Chicago, Ill. 

Cindy Dubois ('08) is the manager of the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre in St. Peters, Mo. She received her B.A. degree in mass communications from Lindenwood and is currently pursuing her M.F.A. degree in writing at Lindenwood. She was also the journalistic editor for the recently released Lindenwood literary magazine, The Lindenwood Review. She resides in Cottleville, Mo. 

Stephen Curd ('08) was recently featured on the first Facebook reality fashion show, So you Wanna Be a Designer, hosted by Kenmore Live Studios in Chicago. The reality show is streamed live on Kenmore’s Facebook page to show budding designers at work, making their dreams a reality. He is a designer of men’s clothing and is known for his excellent tailoring work. He has also recently created his own fashion production company. He received his B.A. degree in fashion design from Lindenwood and currently resides in Chicago, Ill. 

Neal Degner ('08) was recently named Teacher of the Year at Wentzville Middle School. He has been teaching for 17 years and also served for 23 years in the Navy. He received his B.A. degree from Maryville University and his M.A. degree in education from Lindenwood. He resides in Wentzville, Mo., with his wife. 

Munkhsukh Dorjpurev ('08 & '09) recently opened the Altai Mongolian Grill in Rock Hill, Mo. This Altai restaurant is the first of its type outside of Asia. Her restaurant specializes in traditional Mongolian dishes and serves real Mongolian sauces. Munkhsukh has M.B.A. degrees in international business and finance and currently resides in Creve Couer, Mo. 

James Hall III ('08) recently received the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award from the St. Charles Community College Foundation. After attending SCC, he transferred to Lindenwood, where he received a B.A. degree in middle school education. He is employed as a sixth-grade science teacher at Orchard Farm Middle School in St. Charles, where he currently resides. 

Vera Jackson ('08 & '10) is employed with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services as a FAN II. She received her M.S. degree in health management and her M.A. degree in gerontology from Lindenwood. She currently resides in St. Louis, Mo. 

Kristin Bornemann Konopa ('08) was married to Dan Konopa, an officer in the United States Army, in February 2010. She recently moved to Clarksville, Tenn., where her husband is stationed at Ft. Campbell. She is a substitute teacher in the Clarksdale/Montgomery School District; she received her B.A. degree in English literature and secondary education. 

Christopher Palombo ('08) was recently appointed the new CEO of the Dispensary of Hope for Saint Thomas Health Services in Nashville, Tenn. He has extensive experience in the improvement of the healthcare industry, having worked with over 75 healthcare organizations and community health coalitions in the United States, and is an established leader in his profession. He received his M.S. degree in health management from Lindenwood. 

Christopher Ricketts ('08) recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J. After enduring a rigorous eight-week training program, he will be joining 36,000 other men and women who comprise the Coast Guard’s workforce. He received his B.A. degree in criminal justice from Lindenwood. 

Megan Shipley ('08) is employed as a senior consultant with IBM in Herndon, Va. She received her B.A. in business administration from Lindenwood. She is currently serving as president of the Arlington Jaycees and resides in Alexandria, Va. 

Jen Spellaza ('08) is the camp coordinator for Community Living, Inc., located in O’Fallon, Mo. She received her B.A. degree in English from Lindenwood and currently resides in St. Peters, Mo. 

Treasa Turnbaugh ('08) is employed as the director of certification and program development at the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. She is also the president and owner of Wellness Solutions Inc. She received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in safety engineering and health from...
Murray State University, a master’s degree in public health and a Ph.D. in health services research from Saint Louis University, and an M.B.A. degree from Lindenwood. She currently resides in St. Charles, Mo.

Juan Borrero (’09) is employed as an adjunct faculty member of Harris Stowe State University. He received his M.B.A. degree in general business from Lindenwood. He currently resides in St. Louis, Mo.

Scott Elliott (’09 & ’10) has joined Pitt-Bradford University as sports information director. He received his B.A. degree in communications and his M.A. degree in mass communications and sports management. He served as the sports director for KCLC while attending Lindenwood. He currently resides in Bradford, Pa.

Vanita Joiner (’09 & ’10) is employed as a business consultant with Cerner Corporation in Kansas City. She received her B.S. degree in accounting and an M.B.A. degree in accounting and human resource management. She currently resides in Kansas City, Mo., with her daughter Isabella.

LaTasha Lawrie-St.Arnault (’09) has recently accepted the position as development manager for Ronald McDonald House Charities in Wichita, Kan., where she resides with her husband Henri (’09). She received her B.A. degree in nonprofit administration.

William Lindman (’09) joined the Peace Corps in 2009 and is currently serving in Uganda. He received a B.A. degree in criminal justice from Lindenwood.

Christina Jaycox Peterson (’09) is employed with the Children’s Division as an investigation supervisor. She received her M.S. degree in criminal justice administration from Lindenwood. She currently resides in Florissant, Mo., and has three children.

Ken Susman (’09) announces his engagement to Melissa Price from St. Louis County. The couple plans to wed in fall 2011. Ken is employed as an eighth grade communication arts teacher at Parkway Northeast Middle School. He received his M.A. degree in teaching from Lindenwood and currently resides in St. Louis, Mo.

Colbi Wilkerson (’09) was awarded the 2010 Teacher of the Year award by the St. Charles School District for her excellence in teaching at Lincoln Elementary. She is employed at Lincoln Elementary and teaches third grade. She received her B.A. degree in elementary education from Lindenwood and currently resides in St. Charles, Mo.

‘10s

Tara Brandley (’10) recently accepted the position of director of student housing at the Lindenwood-Belleville campus. She had previously served for many years as the graduate assistant in student services at the Belleville campus. She received her B.A. degree in criminal justice from Lindenwood and is currently pursuing a master’s degree. She resides in Belleville, Ill.

Jason Dieckhaus (’10) is employed with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a regional emergency management specialist in Boston. He received his B.A. degree in business administration from Lindenwood and currently resides in Weymouth, Mass.

Lauren Grotegeers (’10) recently accepted the position of resource development coordinator for Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County. She has a B.A. degree in nonprofit administration and currently resides in St. Charles, Mo.

Louchiana Wilson (’10) is employed as an accounts payable manager for Collins and Hermann, Inc. She received her B.S. degree in business administration from Lindenwood and resides in Hazelwood, Mo., with her husband, Phillip, and daughter Ariah.

In Memoriam Alumni

Please be aware that the names listed in the In Memoriam section are of alums who may have passed within recent months or within the past couple of years.

Peggy Jo Tittle Broday (’36)
Wichita Falls, Texas

Helen Rose Bruns Jolly (’40)
St. Charles, Mo.

Susan Blue Taylor (’42-’43)
Flora, Ill.

Mabel Gernold Wyssmann (’44)
Fort Myers, Fla.

Anne Duff Blackman (’54-’55)
Bonita Springs, Fla.

Sara Ann Smith Grant (’59-’60)
Guntersville, Ala.

Joan ‘Joy’ Prost Coerver (’78)
St. Charles, Mo.

Dr. Anastacia Samson (’81)
Chicopee, Mass.

Victor Canter (’93)
St. Peters, Mo.

Gene R. Hammond (’98)
Leslie, Mo.

Membership has its privileges, so... Join Today!

The alumni clubs of the Lindenwood Alumni Association need your help!

Help us plan more fun events and be a part of these great groups, which provide opportunities to make new friends, network for business, serve the local community, and support LU students by raising scholarship funds!

Visit www.lindenwood.edu/alumni to find out more information regarding our Belleville and St. Charles Chapter Alumni Clubs.
Football Schedule Tough for 2011

Although Lindenwood will not enter the powerful MIAA Division II conference until 2012, the football Lions have a few MIAA foes in 2011—along with a couple of big Division I games.

Coach Patrick Ross and his team, coming off a 9-2 season and another appearance in the NAIA playoffs, open the season Sept. 3 on the road at Division I Northern Colorado, then return home September 10 against NAIA and former Heart of America Conference foe Graceland. The following week brings NCAA Division II St. Joseph’s (Ind.) to town. The Lions then hit the road for a grueling three weeks, taking on D-II Missouri S&T, D-I South Dakota, and D-II Texas A&M-Kingsville.

The Lions are home after that for four straight weeks, hosting Kansas Wesleyan (NAIA) Oct. 15, Azusa Pacific of the NAIA on Oct. 22, Culver Stockton (NAIA) on Oct. 29, and MIAA powerhouse Central Missouri on November 5. That game could be Hunter Stadium’s first sellout.

Campaign Raising Money for Student-Athlete Center

Lindenwood University’s LU to DII fundraising campaign is kicking into high gear! Campaign co-chairmen Ben Blanton and Duane Flowers, along with President Jim Evans and the LU to DII committee, have to raise $1.2 million by December 31.

The fundraising campaign will help the University pay for the construction of a 44,000-square-foot Student Athlete Center behind Hunter Stadium. If the LU to DII committee raises the money by December 31, Lindenwood will receive a grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation.

Construction already is underway on the $8 million Student Athlete Center, which will open in the fall of 2012. The facility will feature an Academic Success Center, new locker rooms for football, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s lacrosse, and field hockey, along with offices and athletic training facilities.

The University is conducting a locker campaign as part of LU to DII, offering alums and others the chance to contribute $500 and have a locker inscribed permanently with their name or the name of a loved one or friend. For information on naming opportunities or the locker campaign, please call Athletics Development Director Jane Baum at (636) 949-4427.

Gymnastics, Rugby Coming to Campus

Lindenwood University announced the addition of three sports programs this past season. Gymnastics will be the 27th NCAA sports program, and men’s and women’s rugby are the 21st and 22nd Student Life Sports programs.

Gymnastics will begin competition in 2012-13 and will join the NCAA a year later. Lindenwood will be the third NCAA school in the state of Missouri that sponsors gymnastics, joining Missouri-Columbia and Southeast Missouri.

Lions Say Goodbye to HAAC

Lindenwood ended its time in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC) in dominating fashion with seven of the eight teams finishing first or second during the spring season.

On the diamonds, the baseball and softball squads both placed second during the regular season.

The baseball squad finished the season with a 33-23 overall record and a 20-8 mark in conference play. The highlight of the season was winning a series over Oklahoma City, the No. 1 team in the NAIA at that time. Shelby Anderson was named the HAAC Player of the Year after he batted.387 with 53 runs, 53 RBIs, 23 doubles, and 13 home runs.

The Lady Lions softball team concluded the year with a 30-23 overall mark. Lindenwood had a strong end to its regular season as it won eight of nine games down the stretch and finished with a 15-5 conference mark. Seniors Sophia Galati, Aubrey Moss, and Chelsea Landeck were among seven players named to one of the all-conference teams.

Both golf programs continued long streaks of winning conference championships. The women’s team won its 12th straight, led by medalist Marcella Ax. The men’s team won its 13th crown in 15 years behind medalist Greg MacAulay.

The women’s outdoor track and field team won its 11th all-time conference title, and the men’s team was runner-up at the conference meet. Head coach Ed Harris was named the women’s HAAC Coach of the Year. The final second-place finish was earned by the women’s tennis team, which advanced to the HAAC Tournament finals.

Lindenwood ends its association with the HAAC with 128 all-time championships in 15 years.
Be a Strong Voice for Lindenwood

It was an honor to be a part of the May Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies. On behalf of the Lindenwood Alumni Association Board, I congratulate the nearly 3,700 Lindenwood University graduates in the class of 2011.

We hope you will take advantage of your free membership in the Alumni Association and continue your relationship with the University. We want our alumni to be a strong voice for Lindenwood in the communities in which they live and at activities and events on all of our campuses.

Last year, we instituted the LU for Life program for our freshman students, and our first year was an overwhelming success. Throughout the year, our Alumni Office hosted several LU for Life-sponsored events and provided opportunities for our alumni to interact and meet with our current students. This coming school year, we hope to expand this initiative by continuing to work with our incoming freshman at our St. Charles and Belleville campuses and to reach out to our LCIE students and students at our extension campuses.

Our Alumni Office and its director, Whitney Fraier, are hard at work preparing for the next school year. We look forward to welcoming our incoming freshman to campus in August and hosting our alums for Homecoming, Reunion, and Parents Weekend, to be held on October 14-15.

I extend my personal thanks to the many of you who have responded to our requests to sustain and increase the level of alumni financial giving. Your support is crucial for the University as it seeks corporate and foundation support. We appreciate the generosity of all our alumni, as these dollars form the foundation for Lindenwood’s future endeavors.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events, and please stay in touch with the Alumni Office. Make sure that you notify the office when you change addresses or email accounts. Again, congratulations to our new alums and welcome to the LU family.

Sincerely,

Janet Lewien (’84, ’04, ’07)
President, Lindenwood Alumni Association

Guess What This Is?

Can you tell us where this structure is located on campus? If so, please email your answer to alumni@lindenwood.edu. Only Lindenwood alumni are eligible to participate. Five winners will receive a prize from the Lindenwood University Alumni Association.

In last issue’s “Guess Who This Is,” the picture was of the former Lindenwood administrator Dean Mary Lichliter “Miss L,” who was at Lindenwood from 1948-1976. The winners from the spring 2010 Connection are Cathleen Callahan (’64), JoAnn O’Flynn Gipe (’49), Irene Gunther (’68), Patricia Schilb Hurster (’50), Betty Littleton (’51), and Ann Hanna Tolly (’62).

Team up with Lindenwood and support our troops
for Lindenwood Day at the STL Cardinals

Join us for our fall Lindenwood Alumni Day at Busch Stadium on Sunday, September 11, as the Cardinals take on the Braves at 1:15 p.m.

Tickets are $17 and include admission, and a free hot dog and soda voucher.

Game day perks include: North Star Ice Cream Sunday. Limited tickets are available for purchase. Tickets may only be purchased by visiting www.stlcardinals.com/lindenwood or for more event details, please call the Alumni Office at (636) 949-4420.