Institutional Character, Entrepreneurship, and Sustainability

I was delighted to see so many of you participate in Lindenwood’s Homecoming celebration this fall. I always find it at once exhilarating and gratifying to spend a few minutes catching up with the news and views of so many of our graduates in the space of a couple of days. Your many successes truly are our raison d’être. I hope that your Lindenwood experience continues to nourish your life as much as you have validated the University’s Mission.

At various times, many of our alumni have mentioned that they chose, loyally attended, and graduated from Lindenwood because the school is unique in many ways. In the same spirit, I frequently characterize the University as “a higher education environment unlike any other.” Very recently, however, we administrators were called to task on this claim. An advertising and branding firm we had engaged held a “distilled thinking” session, in which about 20 of us were asked to identify those institutional traits and behaviors that genuinely distinguish Lindenwood from her peers. Three of several prominent answers were student-centeredness, a caring attitude, and responsiveness to our higher education market. Yes, the quality of our academics and other programs was cited often by several participants. However, many other colleges and universities can legitimately claim high quality as well. Excellence of programs and services is very important, but it usually is not what distinguishes one superb postsecondary institution from another.

Consider the previously mentioned key traits that do set us apart: Lindenwood has been student-centered since its founding, in that every decision we have made and everything we have done, daily and across eras, first addressed the question of how it would benefit the student. It’s all about the student . . . and our Mission.

That Lindenwood is a caring university is perhaps the most evident fact of all. Certainly, visitors and journalists who spend their initial day on one of our campuses almost always seem to mention the atmosphere of warm helpfulness first in summarizing their first impressions. Does that assessment match your memories?

The third readily identified institutional trait, responsiveness to our higher education market, has been controversial among a number of our professors and a few of our alumni. To some of the University’s stakeholders, that kind of attribute smack of a money-oriented philosophy that might diminish or detract from the commitment to intellectual and spiritual growth for which independent colleges and universities are so well known. My 45-plus years as a higher education professional have taught me this fundamental truth: In the foreseeable future of our ever more competitive global society, there will be only three major categories of private universities – a tiny percent that are funded principally by their exceptional endowments, those that are effectively entrepreneurial, and those that are dying or already defunct.

Entrepreneurship, of course, refers to the act of creating and launching new business ventures. The best way for a private university to be entrepreneurial is to serve its student markets through new programs that are both responsive and truly mission-driven. One of the first and most cogent examples of Lindenwood’s mission-based growth initiatives was our accelerated degree program – first called LC4 and then LCIE – which has helped strengthen our financial base since the 1970s while simultaneously evoking praise from our accreditors for being a model for adult higher education. A much more recent example is the day college at our Belleville, Ill., campus, which has grown from about 70 students to nearly 1,300 in the space of five years. At the same time, Lindenwood University-Belleville is already beginning to exhibit the sheen of excellence that distinguishes high-quality liberal arts colleges from the rest of the flock. The key is to do well by doing what is right for our students and our Mission. Along those lines, it will be interesting to watch the growth of our newly established School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences.

Lois and I wish you the happiest of winter holidays! Please stay in touch.

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Evans, PhD
President

LINDENWOOD
By JEANNIE MATTERN McDOWELL (‘64)

During my years at Lindenwood, the campus was like a big sorority comprised of smaller chapters, which were the dorms. Our daily lives revolved around class, meals, chapel, studying, and escaping to the Tea Hole or going “over the hill” to the bakery or bowling.

The dorms had daily newspapers, clanging radiators, where we dried wet socks, and towels under typewriters, so we wouldn’t disturb our roommates while we burned the midnight oil. We were allowed a popcorn popper in our rooms, which we used to cook soup, hot chocolate, oatmeal, etc.

Each dorm had one black and white TV, where we watched Cary Grant movies, and in our senior year, we watched news of the Kennedy assassination. We had to sign in and out each time we left campus. Our house mothers were only too happy to hand out demerits if we returned late (11 p.m. on weekdays and 1 a.m. on weekends).

We all remember Lula Clayton Beale and Miss Lichliter. My parents sent me $30 per month to buy books and to cover other expenses. Many times I ran short, so Miss L would give me a loan from the student bank, which I would repay when my next check arrived from home. This was an ongoing cycle.

Riding yellow school buses to Clayton for shopping or to Downtown St. Louis for dinner and the theatre were regular outings, thanks to Miss O’Dell and her social committee. She also organized regular mixers so we wouldn’t forget what boys looked like.

We had a strict dress code; no pants were allowed on campus, except from sundown Friday through Saturday evening. Pants were never allowed off campus.

The Lindenwood curriculum was both academic and spiritual. Religion classes were required, along with Wednesday chapel and Sunday vespers. Our faculty had outstanding credentials. They were graduates of Columbia, Yale, Stanford, Northwestern, Duke, Washington University, Middlebury, etc. Classes were challenging, but most were small in number, and there was great rapport between students and faculty. We often hung out at their homes or babysat their children.

When we came to Lindenwood in 1960, we were children of the ’50s who had lived relatively sheltered lives. During our four years here, we experienced the Cuban Missile Crisis and the assassination of President Kennedy. Our innocence had been shattered, and we were entering a new world.

We used to joke about being wheeled back to campus for our 50th reunion. Well, here we are, still standing and exhibiting Mrs. Sibley’s spirit and drive. I think she would be very proud of her “Lindenwood Ladies.”

Jeannie (Mattern) McDowell served as the class agent for the class of 1964. She was instrumental in contacting the 1964 alumnae and organizing a dinner at Miss Aimee B’s for the class. She shared her memories of Lindenwood College at the President’s Breakfast on Saturday, October 11, 2014, during Homecoming and Reunion.
What began for Marilyn Geery ('83) as a trip to visit family in 2010 has since evolved into a vision for a four-phase sculpture beautification initiative for Lindenwood University that would span more than a decade and inspire 10 pieces by various regional artists. The sculptures would represent significant historical figures in the University’s history and would be placed throughout the campus in St. Charles, Mo., in time for the school’s bi-centennial celebration in 2027.

Geery’s vision began when she traveled to Wichita, Kan., to visit her sister, an instructor at Wichita State University. Geery noticed that the Kansas campus featured an immense number of sculptures, and she was drawn to one piece in particular.

“The piece was of these three ladies represented at three different ages, and it just made me think how great it is that anyone can get a degree at any point in their lives if they want to pursue it,” she said. “It was really powerful, and I just thought that we needed some of that same visual inspiration here at Lindenwood.”

Geery recruited her friend, Chris Kuhlmann ('90), to help her move the project forward.

“I started out as an art major, and I have a deep appreciation for the beautiful architecture and park-like setting of Lindenwood,” Kuhlmann said. “My passion

Our Vision

To commemorate the founding of Lindenwood University and enhance it as a “College of Choice” in the state of Missouri by expanding the educational value and the beautification of the campus with art sculpture reflecting its history and culture.
for art, Marilyn’s love of history, and our shared fondness for the University helped us develop our proposal to President Evans, who was very supportive.”

The Lindenwood University Advisory Council on Campus and Statuary Monuments was formed in 2013. The 10-person committee is comprised of Geery, Kuhlmann, Heather Baechle, Rose Boundy, Anne Fuszner, Bobbie Garstang ('79), Grace Harmon, Carla Mueller ('12), Elizabeth Wikoff ('00, '01), and Vicki Winters-Reid ('95). The group developed the structure of the long-term project, which would be completed in four stages.

The first sculpture, known as “The Introduction,” will be a life-size bronze statue of Lindenwood founders George and Mary Sibley that will be created by Winters-Reid, an artist and former professor of sculpture at Lindenwood who introduced bronze casting to students through her curriculum. Her commissioned sculpture will feature Mary Sibley seated on a bench made from a Linden tree while George Sibley stands beside her with his hand resting lovingly on her shoulder.

“It’s very important that my pieces always have some interaction with the viewer,” said Winters-Reid. “In my mind, this is a scene that would have actually happened in George and Mary’s lives. She would be reading somewhere on campus and George would happen upon her. In the sculpture, she is looking up to greet you in that moment.”

Winters-Reid has already created a small-scale model of her design from clay. She will create a two-foot scale model before creating the larger, life-size sculpture into which all final, delicate details will be incorporated. Mold and wax patterns of the final clay sculpture will be made and sent to a castings foundry. The pieces will then be carefully welded together by Winters-Reid’s former student, Martin Linson ('99, '07), artist and adjunct professor of art and design at Lindenwood. Pending approval from the Board of Directors, the sculpture will be located at the corner of Sibley Hall near the main intersection of the historic campus.

The goal is to have the installation, lighting, and landscaping for “The Introduction” completed by the end of 2016. The next sculpture, proposed for phase two of the initiative, would represent key Lindenwood influencers James Butler and John Roemer. In phases three and four, additional campus sculptures are proposed for every 25-year time period spanning the decades from 1826 to 2026. Specific figures, artists, and locations have yet to be determined for those pieces.

“Our hope is that we can preserve and celebrate the University’s 200-year history by creating these educational landmarks,” said Geery. “We want the sculptures to further enhance the school’s setting, while also making it possible for students, staff, faculty, and alumni to share a sense of community by experiencing the culture and heritage of Lindenwood University through the arts.”

The Initiative

Mary Easton Sibley, founder and visionary, with her husband, George, built the first of Lindenwood’s many buildings. In 1827, in a lone log cabin with just a few girls, she set in motion what is now Lindenwood University.

A life-sized bronze sculpture of the Sibleys, titled “The Introduction,” will be featured on the historic St. Charles campus, for generations of students and visitors to enjoy.

The Sculptor

Vicki Winters-Reid is a nationally recognized sculptor who specializes in realistic, figurative bronze monuments. Her work adorns public spaces and university campuses such as Saint Louis University and Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She is an alumna of Lindenwood University.

To be a part of this historic project by making a donation, please visit lindenwood.edu/donateOnline or contact Elizabeth Wikoff, Lindenwood University Director of Alumni Relations, at (636) 949-4975 or ewikoff@lindenwood.edu.
The Connection, as its name implies, is designed to help keep Lindenwood’s alumni connected to their alma mater and to each other. There is perhaps not a better example of that than the story of Marlin Barklage ('56) and Martha Finck Rotramel ('49), who knew each other growing up in St. Charles, went their separate ways, and reconnected after more than 60 years, thanks to an article in the alumni magazine.

Barklage, 88, a native of St. Charles who now lives in Pittsburgh, was featured in a Connection article in the fall of 2012 after making a visit to campus. Rotramel, 87, who lived in Branson at the time, saw the article, which included a picture of Barklage, and contacted him.

“‘Min’ was my secret love in high school,” Martha said, “but we didn’t date until after high school.”

That was in the summer of 1946. Marlin and Martha also attended elementary school together and were friends throughout. Martha attended Lindenwood before transferring to the University of Missouri in Columbia.

“The following year, I got married and I forgot about the whole thing,” Martha said.

Marlin also got married, in 1953, to Jean Knox ('53), who had graduated Lindenwood and worked as the college’s social director and secretary to the registrar. She made an appeal to the school’s administration to allow Marlin to attend on an experimental basis, which he did in 1955-56, long before the college became fully co-ed in 1969.

He later attended the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago and embarked in a career in human resources at Chicago Wesley Memorial Hospital, Ohio University, and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Marlin’s status as the first male student at Lindenwood in the modern era was the impetus for the Connection article about him in 2012. Marlin’s wife, Jean, had passed away in 2009.

Martha said she saw his picture in the magazine and decided to “drop him a note.”

“It really surprised me,” Marlin said. “I’d lost track of her for 66 years.”

Before long, they were talking on the phone, catching up and reminiscing on old times.

“In two weeks’ time, he said, ‘I want to come see you,’” Martha said. “The following Sunday, I picked him up at the airport. All my old memories came flooding back—for him, too.”

After that first visit, Marlin traveled to Branson at least once a month for almost two years, but he doesn’t anymore. The couple got married in Forsythe, Mo., on July 23 of this year; they now live in Pittsburgh.

They both still seem a little incredulous when talking about it—drifting apart and reconnecting because of an article in the Connection.

“Our friends tell us that our story should be made into a movie,” she said. “I think they might be right.”
Lindenwood University’s St. Charles campus can look forward to a new library building that, as Dean of Library Services Elizabeth McDonald puts it, will move the university’s library into the 21st century.

In May, the Board of Directors approved a plan for a new 100,000-square-foot library building to be constructed in the grassy space adjacent to First Capitol Drive and the Welcome Center parking area. McDonald said the building will have more space for all the current library functions, including archives, better access to technology, and more collaborative spaces and group study areas. No decisions have been made yet about what Butler Library, which is 36,000 square feet, will be used for after the library moves out of it, McDonald said.

The building will also bring together a variety of student services under one roof, including the Writing Center, Student and Academic Support Services (SASS), Career Services, English as a Second Language, International Students and Scholars, and Lindenwood Online, all of which were involved in putting together the proposal for the new structure. The building will also include classroom space and an expanded coffee shop.

“We’re very excited,” McDonald said. “More than anything, this is the opportunity to move the library into the 21st century, to meet the students where they live. Today’s library supports collaboration. The intent is for the space to be conducive toward students needing assistance and students involved in serious scholarship. It goes along with our mission to serve the whole student.”

The initial proposal was made in May 2013. Completion is expected in the latter part of 2016. Julie Mueller, Vice President for Operations and Finance, said the three-story structure is projected to cost $21 million, including architects fees.

“This building will surely rank at the top of our list of spectacular buildings,” Mueller said. “The three-story glass feature designed with linden trees is very unique. There is no doubt that people will know they have arrived at Lindenwood when they see the building.”

New Alumni Referral Program Offering Rewards

Lindenwood University has launched a new Alumni Referral Campaign designed to reward those who spread the good news about their alma mater.

The campaign opened on Homecoming Weekend and was presented to alumni and other guests at the President’s Breakfast by Dr. Joe Parisi (’96, ’11), Vice President for Enrollment Management. Parisi told those at the breakfast that referrals from alumni had always been a strength at the institution, and his office wanted to both show appreciation for those referrals and provide an incentive to grow the program. He said Lindenwood will offer branded grill covers and other Lindenwood items for referrals.

“We depend on referrals from our alums, and we value their recommendations and feedback,” said Parisi. “We are excited to be able to reward our alums. They’re always so good at expressing to others their pride in Lindenwood, so we’re expressing our appreciation for a job well done.”

Parisi, who pitched the program to Alumni Board leaders in late summer, said all an alum has to do to recommend is click on the “Refer Now” button on the lower right hand corner of the Lindenwood University web page. He said the admissions office will handle the referrals quickly and will be quick to send out the rewards.

Referrals aren’t limited to just traditional 18-22-year-old students, Parisi said.

“This program includes our accelerated program and online as well,” he said.

Parisi said he had referrals coming in right after the breakfast.

“I think the alums generally like the program,” he said. “We all like feeling appreciated.”
Members of Lindenwood’s Butler Society and Sibley Heritage Society gathered November 7 at the St. Charles Convention Center to celebrate donor generosity that will pave the way for Lindenwood’s successful future. The academic school showcased was Lindenwood’s recently established School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. Dean Peggy Ellis served as the evening’s master of ceremonies.

Members of the Sibley Heritage Society are Lindenwood’s alumni and friends who have chosen to provide a bequest in their estate plans, or who have otherwise established a planned gift that benefits Lindenwood. The Sibley Heritage Society is named for Lindenwood foundress Mary Easton Sibley. This year, three of the new members were present to be inducted into the Society.

Lindenwood’s Butler Society recognizes major donors for their donor loyalty and generosity. This year, the University established new Butler Society levels to acknowledge higher levels of giving. Special diamond-adorned pins were given to the newly established Sustaining Butler members at Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels of membership.

“The fact that we are able to create new levels for donor giving shows how our friends have increasingly stepped up to support the endeavors of Lindenwood and the opportunities for our nearly 16,000 students,” said President James D. Evans, PhD.

The 2014 Sibley Medallion of Honor was awarded to Fred and Barbara Kern for their magnanimous and consistent support of the University and, in particular, Lindenwood’s Belleville Campus. In Belleville, the Kerns have named a new residence hall and other capital structures. The couple was also among the first to become Sustaining Butler members at the Gold level. The Kerns’ son, Mark, was present to accept the Sibley Medallion of honor on his parents’ behalf. “Fred and Barbara have been true pillars of support for our Belleville campus from the very start,” said Belleville Campus President Jerry Bladdick. “Their generosity shows their care for our students and their educational experience both in and outside of the classroom.”

Lindenwood’s premier vocal group Voices Only, directed by Pam Grooms, entertains the crowd at the 2014 Butler Society Dinner.
Nurse, Author Recalls Early Lindenwood Days

By RUSSELL KORANDO

Ruth Beckmann Murray (‘59) has had a long and distinguished career as an RN, professor, author, and advocate for the homeless and mentally ill. Although it was just an increment in that time, Murray fondly remembers the two years she attended Lindenwood College, cared for its students, and received her Bachelor of Science degree.

In 1957, Lindenwood wanted to enhance its health care services. At the time, the college had a nurse on campus Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Three nursing students from Deaconess Hospital were chosen by Sister Olivia Drusch, director of the Deaconess School of Nursing, to provide medical services at Lindenwood during the off-hours.

“We were privileged to be chosen. Our tuition, books, fees, and room-and-board were all paid for. For that, we gladly gave whatever nursing service we could.”

In 1959, Murray married and moved to Weirton, W.V., where she lived with her husband for the next two years. She said he wanted to go into social work and found a job there at a Baptist center. While living in West Virginia, Murray worked as a supervisor at a hospital there in the obstetrics unit. The newlyweds didn’t own a car, so when they traveled to Pittsburgh, they took a bus.

“That was a big occasion for us,” Murray said chuckling.

Murray said working at the hospital in Weirton was a wonderful experience. Like many towns in the area, the residents’ cultural backgrounds widely varied and they mostly depended on the steel industry for employment. Murray said she treated patients from at least 40 different ethnic groups. Many she treated for industry-related illnesses.

“The steel mills went day and night belching flame and fire and smoke,” she said. “We lived in an apartment very close to the mill. That was an interesting experience being a farm girl.”

When Murray and her husband moved back, Ruth Murray resumed her career as a nurse at Deaconess. She continued her education and in 1967 received a master’s degree from Washington University. She went to work as a professor in 1968 for Saint Louis University, where she worked until 2005. She received an EdD from SIU-Edwardsville in 1983.

In the early 1970s, Murray was asked to gather information on health promotion and to publish her findings. She said the focus of her earliest writings was about preventative medicine. That led to Murray coordinating a teaching team to teach basic nursing concepts and health promotion.

That also spawned her first book, Health Promotion Strategies through the Lifespan, which is on its ninth edition.

“It included family and spiritual dimensions,” Murray said. “Nothing had been written on young adult or middle-age health strategies, and that helped the book sell. They asked me to do a ninth edition, and I said, ‘I can’t stand the thought of it.’”

After practicing nursing for more than 50 years, Murray still works as a crisis counselor and professional consultant. She is a member of the Missouri Nurses and American Nurses Associations, Sigma Theta Tau, the North American Nursing Diagnosis Association (a founding member), International Society of Psychiatric Nurses, and American Psychiatric Nurses Association. She is a board member for St. Patrick Center.

This summer, Murray had the opportunity to tour Lindenwood’s new School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences in Dardenne Prairie, Mo. Following her visit, she remarked, “Today’s students will continue to be as blessed as I was by the School of Nursing.”

“It’s still a beautiful campus,” she said. “Lindenwood was considered a solid girls’ school, and it was progressive in becoming coed. Way back then, they thought of the future, and it appears that’s what Lindenwood is still doing now.”

Ruth Beckmann Murray (’59) in front of Sibley Hall on a recent campus visit.
Students’ Volunteer Spirit Pays Off with Special Transcript Designation

It is no secret that Lindenwood University’s students devote a considerable number of hours to community service, but the sheer number of them—30,000 in the 2013-14 academic year—is still staggering. The beneficiaries are area charities, nonprofit agencies, various other good causes, and the students themselves.

Students who acquire 500 hours of qualified community service over the course of their academic careers at LU receive a special designation on their permanent academic transcripts and are acknowledged at Commencement.

“LU students are deeply devoted to community service in a multitude of ways, and we are also fortunate to have the leadership at LU that continually fosters a culture of service, campus-wide,” said Dr. Carla Mueller, Dean of the School of Human Services. “The community service transcript designation program is just one way of many to not only recognize, but also to inculcate an ongoing spirit of giving back and reaching out.”

Students in the Social Work, Criminal Justice, Fire and Paramedic Sciences, and Nonprofit Administration departments in the School of Human Services completed 19,660 community service hours last year. With new programs available this year, including an accelerated BA-to-MA degree option for nonprofit administration majors, volunteerism hours will likely increase.

In addition, the Campus YMCA contributed more than 3,000 hours last year, including hours donated during Spring into Service day in April, in which they were joined by Lindenwood alumni as well. Nearly 8,000 hours of service were donated during the 2013-2014 school year to area agencies and schools through Lindenwood’s Work and Learn program. The Community Work Service option pays work study students to volunteer in the community and gain experience in the process.

“The Community Work Service program provides an opportunity for students to volunteer and receive hands-on experience with volunteer agencies within the community,” said Assistant Director of Work and Learn Eric Mircsov. “This experience is available to students at the junior and senior level.”

Finally, NCAA student-athletes logged 2,715 community service hours at agencies such as the St. Charles Crisis Center, Read Across America, the Special Olympics, and the Crisis Nursery.

“I learned long ago that there was more to life than working and having a career,” said women’s lacrosse team member Caitlin Ward. “One of the things that attracted me to Lindenwood was the school’s dedication to community service. Lindenwood supports me to pursue my passions in the community while achieving my academic and athletic-related goals.”

NCAA and Student Life Sports teams organize group community service events, and Lindenwood provides volunteer opportunities to all students through an online database. Area nonprofit agencies interested in posting volunteer opportunities online should contact Dr. Julie Turner at (636) 949-4652.

Spring into Service day is one of many opportunities that students have to volunteer in the community.
L. Rao Ayyagari, PhD, is a longtime Lindenwood University professor with an intense desire to share his passion for scientific research with students. It’s for that reason that he and his wife, Subhadra, recently created the Dr. Rao Ayyagari Research Scholarship in Cell Biology and Genetics.

The endowed scholarship, dedicated specifically to scientific research, is the first of its kind at the University, making it an important part of Ayyagari’s legacy as he prepares to retire at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year. “In many academic fields, but in science in particular, you cannot have only teaching without practical research,” said Ayyagari. “I felt there was a need to create this funding so research can progress the way it should. I want to help inspire our students and give them the opportunities they need to succeed.”

Ayyagari certainly knows about success in the field. He’s enjoyed a 42-year career that began in earnest after his completion of a doctoral degree in 1972 from Loyola University Chicago. He conducted postdoctoral breast cancer and mitochondrial DNA research at the University of California, Davis, until 1977, when he began work as a research scientist at the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

His next move was to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he taught for more than three years before relocating with his wife to St. Louis, Mo. He was an adjunct instructor of chemistry at several local colleges for just under two years before being hired as an assistant professor at Lindenwood in 1983.

He was hired to teach cell biology, genetics, and biochemistry courses. In the past 32 years at Lindenwood, he has taught these and other courses like biophysics, microbiology, nutrition, concepts in biology, principles of biology, and general biology. He estimates that more than 2,000 students have gone through his classes over the years.

He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1987 and to Professor of Biology in 1990. While teaching at Lindenwood, he also collaborated for more than a decade on DNA replication studies with colleagues from the Washington University School of Medicine Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics.

Ayyagari’s current research interests at Lindenwood involve spider biochemistry and arthropod skin secretory protein studies, as well as nutraceuticals (foods and nutrients that possess certain natural antifungal or antibiotic properties). He has produced more than two dozen abstracts in coordination with more than 30 undergraduate researchers over the years, annually presenting findings at conferences hosted by the Missouri Academy of Science and the Midwest branch of the American Society for Microbiology.

As a champion for student-led research, it is Ayyagari’s fervent desire that the scholarship he created will have a positive effect on students and faculty alike. “It will help students gain practical experience, instead of simply studying theory, and provide them with independent research opportunities in cell biology and genetics while exposing them to independent thinking and the corporate integration processes,” he said. “I’m hoping, too, that other faculty members will be inspired to create similar scholarships to aid students in their academic endeavors.”

The Dr. Rao Ayyagari Research Scholarship is open to juniors conducting independent research in the areas of cellular biology and genetics, who are enrolled in an independent research course within the School of Sciences at Lindenwood’s St. Charles, Mo., campus. A three-person faculty member selection committee will determine the awardees annually. The first recipient of the scholarship will be personally awarded a $1,000 stipend by Ayyagari during the University’s Honors Convocation ceremony in the spring of 2015.

For more information on how to apply for the Dr. Rao Ayyagari Research Scholarship in Cell Biology and Genetics, contact Ayyagari (636) 949-4714 at rayyagari@lindenwood.edu.

By RACHEL JOHNSON

L. Rao Ayyagari, PhD, is a longtime Lindenwood University professor with an intense desire to share his passion for scientific research with students. It’s for that reason that he and his wife, Subhadra, recently created the Dr. Rao Ayyagari Research Scholarship in Cell Biology and Genetics.

The endowed scholarship, dedicated specifically to scientific research, is the first of its kind at the University, making it an important part of Ayyagari’s legacy as he prepares to retire at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year.
On Oct. 10-12, the Lindenwood campus was abuzz with Homecoming activities, including the annual parade, numerous athletic contests, and hundreds of visiting alumni.

The Lindenwood University Marching Band is one of the perennial favorites at the annual Homecoming Parade.

Members of the class of 1964 pose on the staircase during a tour of the Lindenwood House.

The Lindenwood University Marching Band is one of the perennial favorites at the annual Homecoming Parade.
Members of the class of 1964 met for dinner at Miss Aimee B’s in St. Charles.

Students and alumni alike gathered for lunch on the Spellmann Center parking lot.

The parade affords various student groups the opportunity to express their creativity. This year’s theme was “Homecoming through the Decades.”

Alumni Association President Judy Forstmann Brown ('63) speaks at President’s Breakfast.
When Abby Wilhelm graduated from Lindenwood University last December with a bachelor’s degree in mass communications, she had the chance to continue competing with her teammates on the shotgun team as a graduate student. But Wilhelm “put down the gun” and chose to aggressively pursue an MBA at Lindenwood. She will receive her MBA in human resources management this month.

“Because it’s such a rigorous course load, it was one of the main reasons I decided not to continue shooting as a graduate student,” Wilhelm said. “It was such a painful decision for me. This year has flown by because of the amount of extra homework that I have. I’m taking three courses per term. Most students take two and stretch it out a little more.”

As an undergraduate student, Wilhelm changed majors twice before settling on mass communications, and finished with a 3.75 grade point average. She made the Dean’s List twice. Her experience as spokesperson for the university’s shotgun team inspired her. She doesn’t feel she would have received the opportunities Lindenwood provided anywhere else.

Wilhelm is a member of SHRM (Society of Human Resource Management) and the local Lewis & Clark chapter. She gives credit for her success at Lindenwood to Drs. Ed Morris, Roger Ellis, and Evelyn Hendrix in the School of Business and Entrepreneurship and Tom Pettit and Mike Wall in the School of Communications.

“The professors and the classes have been welcoming and helpful,” Wilhelm said. “I’ve used this knowledge in a positive way, and I feel like I’m a sponge, soaking everything in.”

Wilhelm chose to attend Lindenwood because of its renowned shooting team. The Lions have won 11 consecutive national intercollegiate clay target shooting titles, and Wilhelm was a part of the 2013 national championship team. She said 22 inches of snow covered the ground in her hometown of Irving, Ill., when her parents and brother dug out of the snow and traveled to San Antonio to watch her compete. At the championships, she hit 95 out of 100 targets and finished in the top 100.

Before shooting competitively, Wilhelm said she deer hunted with her father, Mark Wilhelm, as a way of bonding and spending time together. During her first hunt at the age of 13, Wilhelm was taking a nap on a hillside in Illinois when she awoke to a deer running through a huge patch of trees. Her dad told her to take the shot, because she saw the deer first. She leveled her shotgun and fired, killing the eight-point buck.

“Too many people think hunting is a man’s sport, but so many women have gotten involved and been successful,” she said. “It empowers me and motivates me to introduce other women to the sport.”

Some hunters go years without bagging a buck. Wilhelm did on her first try. Her zeal for shooting led to her being recognized by the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) as the first ever high school individual female trap shooter while a student at Hillsboro (IL) High School.

“My parents raised me to never forget where I came from no matter how far away I went to shoot or how far I went in college,” Wilhelm said. “I’ve carried that with me since I was 16.”
The Main Stage Season at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts has garnered a lot of attention this year with a slate of high-profile acts, including Jay Leno and Dick Fox's Golden Boys. A performance by the National Acrobats of China and Christmas concerts featuring Amy Grant and St. Louis' Erin Bode Group rounded out the fall season, while the center gears up for more big names and big excitement for the remainder of the season, including a rescheduled performance by Willie Nelson and Family.

“Our best-ever professional arts and entertainment series is underway, but it’s far from over,” said Joe Alsobrook, Dean of Fine and Performing Arts. “You can still take your valentine to the beach (on Valentine’s Day), be amazed by the breathtaking National Acrobats of China, enjoy the impeccable artistry of Broadway superstar Bernadette Peters, and so much more. Tickets are going fast, so please contact the LU Box Office or visit www.luboxoffice.com soon!”

The Russian National Ballet will return to the Lindenwood Theater stage at 8 p.m. on Jan. 24 with a performance of Cinderella. The renowned company has thrilled audiences at LU in the past with performances of Don Quixote and Romeo and Juliet, among others.

As part of the center’s Broadway Series, Bernadette Peters will perform an evening of favorites from the musical theatre at 8 p.m. on Feb. 7. Most recently, Peters has starred on Broadway in critically acclaimed productions of Follies and A Little Night Music, the latter of which earned her a third Tony Award.

The Beach Boys, featuring Mike Love and Bruce Johnston, will perform a Valentine’s Day show at 8 p.m. on Feb. 14. A household name since the 1960s, the Beach Boys are bound to thrill the audience with favorites like “Barbara Ann,” “Good Vibrations,” and “God Only Knows,” as well as new songs recorded for their recent record, That’s Why God Made the Radio.

The legendary Willie Nelson will return at 8 p.m. on April 2 for a rescheduled date from his cancelled Oct. 10 concert. Ticket holders from the original sold-out show will have the option of using their tickets for this performance, and any tickets returned for refund will be available for purchase from the Lindenwood Box Office (luboxoffice.com or (636) 949-4433).

At 2 p.m. on May 10, Mother’s Day, the award-winning Beatles tribute Rain will take the stage with spot-on performances of the Beatles’ hits, from their American debut on the Ed Sullivan Show to Let it Be. Rounding out the season will be the World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra, which will perform at 7:30 p.m. on May 23 and 3 p.m. on May 24. The most sought-after big band in the world, the Glenn Miller Orchestra still produces the swinging sound popularized by its namesake in the 1930s and ‘40s.

For more information about any of the performances at the Scheidegger Center or to buy tickets, visit luboxoffice.com or call (636) 949-4433.

The Russian National Ballet

Performances at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts

**Student Theatre**

* A New Brain
  - Feb. 27-28; 7:30 p.m.
  - March 5-7; 7:30 p.m.
* Pericles, Prince of Tyre
  - By William Shakespeare
  - April 17-18; 7:30 p.m.
  - April 23-25; 7:30 p.m.

**Student Music**

* Choir Concert
  - March 9; 7:30 p.m.
* Band Concert
  - March 11; 7:30 p.m.
* Orchestra Concert
  - March 12; 7:30 p.m.
* Jazz Band Concert
  - March 14; 7:30 p.m.
* Jazz Festival Concert
  - April 11; 7:30 p.m.
* Student Conductors’ Concert
  - April 28; 7:30 p.m.
* Chamber and Voices Only Concerts
  - April 29-30; 7:30 p.m.
  - May 1-3; 7:30 p.m.

**Student Dance**

* Winter Dance Concert
  - Feb. 5-7; 7:30 p.m.
* Spring Dance Concert
  - April 23-25; 7:30 p.m.

**Student Fashion**

* Spring Fashion Show
  - May 8; 7 p.m. (general admission)
  - May 9; 7 p.m. (general admissions and VIP show)
By DONNA BABER

On Saturday, October 11, 2014, during Homecoming, alumni and faculty—past and present—gathered to remember Professor Harry Hendren and to dedicate a new scholarship that is being established in his memory.

Professor Hendren was an enormously popular professor of art history on the Lindenwood campus from 1950 until his death in 1975, at which time he served as the Chair of the Art Department. Speakers included Lindenwood President James D. Evans, who shared personal memories of Professor Hendren, and Dr. Joseph Alsobrook, Dean of the School of Fine and Performing Arts. Professor Emeritus John Wehmer spoke of his experiences as a faculty member during Hendren’s tenure, and several of Hendren’s former students also shared their memories.

Special tributes were delivered by a number of alumni, including Dr. Carlyn Romeyn (‘64) and Dr. Patricia Penkoske (‘69), who is also on the Board of Directors. In addition, Judith Brougham (‘60), who was unable to attend, sent a personal message that was read to the audience.

The scholarship is off to a great start. Almost 70 donors have contributed to this endeavor, which will grow over the next few years through outright gifts, bequests, and other planned gifts. This scholarship will benefit deserving students in Lindenwood’s School of Fine and Performing Arts for years to come, and those who knew Hendren think he would be pleased!

Each attendee received a CD containing tributes and anecdotes collected over the past few months as part of this initiative. If you would like to receive a copy of this CD, or for information on contributing to this scholarship, please contact Donna Baber at (636) 949-4532 or dbaber@lindenwood.edu.

Harry Hendren Remembered at Scholarship Dedication

Family Weekend

Quite a crowd gathered in September on Family Weekend during a martial arts demonstration on the lawn of the Evans Commons. Several hundred family members attended a variety of events on campus during Family Weekend September 25-27.
Joyce Waters ('43) recently moved after 40-plus years, to Claremont, Calif., to a cottage in a local residential retirement home. She enjoys spending time with her family and hearing the news of growth in Lindwood University and its graduates. Barbara Waxler Levy ('47) currently resides in Miami Shores, Fla. She spent her life in the fashion industry and was a stringer for the Boot and Shoe Recorder, the Shoe and Leather Journal, Shoe News and Envoy, Shoes and Views, and Modern Retailer. She was the fashion editor for Window Shopping the World from 1967-68 and was the Women’s Fashion Editor for Boot and Shoe Recorder, from 1968-74. She is the mother of the Landmark Shoe Collection at the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. She hopes to donate her extensive shoe collection to this museum. Waxler Levy loved her time at Lindwood and remembers it fondly. She lived in Irwin Hall.

Margaret Arnhart ('64) works at Margaret Scott Design as an interior designer. She resides in Ketchum, Idaho.

Constance Zimmer ('72) works as a home health nurse for First Care Home Health in Lincoln, Neb. Jan Rogers Kniffen ('78) formed J Rogers Kniffen WWE, LLC after a 20-year career as senior vice president for finance and treasurer at the May Department Stores Company. His new venture is a consulting firm advising institutional investors and private equity firms on their investments in retail companies. Kniffen lives in Greenwich, Conn.

Christine Gibson ('82) works at Wesley College as the vice president for finance. She lives in Dover, Del. Donald Strauss ('84) is retired from McDonnell Douglas and is now involved with the Lions Club in Ferguson, Mo. Louis Launer's ('86) second novel will be released in the summer of 2015. It is the sequel to Rurals and Townies, which was published in the spring of 2014.

Paul Lampe ('91) has been promoted to director of advising and counseling at East Central College. Lampe has been a counselor at ECC for the past seven years with an emphasis on working with students who are disabled or have documented conditions that qualify them for special services within the classroom. Prior to joining the college, Lampe worked at the Missouri Department of Mental Health and MERS/Missouri Goodwill Industries. In his new position with the college, Lampe will be responsible for overall management of advisement services, career services, and access services and will represent the college in the social services and educational communities.

Jackie Vick ('92) and Maurice Vick ('96, '06) have been married since 2001 and have 8- and 11-year-old daughters. Maurice teaches at Fort Zumwalt West High School. Jackie is an account manager for Streetscape magazine.

Wesley J.C. Bell ('98) was one of the eight recipients of the Excellence in Education award by the Foundation at its 27th annual Salute to Excellence in Education Gala this year. Chris X. Moloney, MBA ('98), senior vice president and chief marketing officer at Wells Fargo Advisors, recalls that earning his MBA at Lindwood meant much to his professional development and career. He says he also greatly enjoyed his time teaching at LU as an adjunct business professor.

Max Mitts II ('00) joined St. Johns Bank as senior vice president and chief lending officer. Mitts has over 19 years of experience in the field. He and his wife, Michelle, reside in St. Peters, Mo., with their children.

Byron Veach ('00) was promoted to managing director of the Hennepin Power Plant last December. He lives in Spring Valley, Ill.

Jake Bleyenberg ('01) works as a financial advisor for West Community Investment Services. He resides in St. Peters, Mo.

Heather Duckworth ('01) was promoted to marketing officer at Enterprise Bank and Trust this March.

Heather Hoeting ('01) works as a collection manager for American Water.

Bradley Miller ('01) was married on December 28, 2013, to Amber Nicole Christ. They live in St. Peters, Mo.

Brian Moran ('01) is the president at EU & NATO at Boeing. He and his wife are expecting their first child.

Melissa Rebmann ('02) is the eighth grade academy principal at Cahokia School District 187.

Emily Ironside ('03) works as a development officer for Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Ark.

Darnell Spencer ('04) is the Mason Clark Middle School principal in East St. Louis District 189.

Barbi Ventura ('04) works as a client coordinator/assistant case manager for Williamson County Family Crisis Center in Herrin, Ill.

Casandra Davis ('05) works as an assistant warden for the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Bradley Nordquist ('05) was married to Colleen Maxwell on October 11, 2014.

Robert Carroll ('06) was married to Andrea Berra on October 18, 2014.

Laura Helling ('06) serves as the director of development for Wings of Hope, headquartered in Chesterfield, Mo., a not-for-profit that implements humanitarian programs in the U.S. and around the world.

Rick Duree ('05) was a recipient of the 2014 Small Business Award from Small Business Monthly (SBM) presented in August. Duree was one of 20 recipients of this award; SBM received over 400 applications for the 20 awards. Duree founded BOOK-X-CHANGE, a college textbook provider, in 2005. BOOK-X-CHANGE supports not only its student customers but also its student employees.

In addition, Duree came up with a pilot program, In-Tuition. “All books, codes, e-books, etc. are built into the student tuition,” he says. “It’s all bagged and ready at the beginning of the semester and returned by the student at the end. Students get into line, show us their ID, and then walk out with their bag of books.”

BOOK-X-CHANGE is opening its fifth location in its fourth state.

“We have $5 million in revenue now,” says Duree. “With In-Tuition, we will drop our prices but increase our market penetration. We hope to grow from $5 to $10 million in a few years. If we live the principles, putting the customer first and making profits last, we can do it.”

Additionally, Duree has named the Duree Center for Entrepreneurship in the Lindwood School of Business and Entrepreneurship.
Todd Link ('06), former assistant police chief in Collinsville, Ill., replaced Police Chief John Lakin this October. Link, his wife, and four children reside in Glen Carbon, Ill.

John Campbell ('07) and Annie Spiller ('09) were married on August 30 at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in St. Charles, Mo. Campbell received his master’s degree in business from Lindenwood and is employed as a commercial lender with Enterprise Bank. Spiller graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Lindenwood and is employed as the director of education and outreach for Chesterfield Arts.

Chris Chionuma ('07) was named interim head wrestling coach at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark. Chionuma wrestled three seasons at Lindenwood, where he was an NAIA national champion and three-time All-American, before transferring to Oklahoma State for his senior year.

Christopher Gass ('08) was named Murphysboro Middle School’s new band director. Gass is married with three young children.

Tracy Gray ('08) is the assistant superintendent for Belleville School District 118. Gray was the assistant regional superintendent of schools in St. Clair County for two years and previously worked for Smithton School District 130 and O’Fallon School District 90.

Aaron Robinson ('08) was named vice president of outpatient and wellness services at Health First.

LaWayna Allen ('09) won an award from St. Louis Job Corps for his work at the Missouri Career Center, which was recognized as an “outstanding work-based learning site in the business sector.”

Jeff Brackman ('09) was named assistant superintendent for curriculum and human resources for the Boonville School District. Brackman resides in Boonville, Mo., with his wife, Tara, and two children, Jordan and Ross.

Lori Chalmers ('09) is the Annette Officer elementary principal for East St. Louis School District 189.

LaSandra Chism ('09) is the Lalumier elementary principal for Cahokia School District 187.

Eric Harris ('09) is the Lincoln Middle School principal in the East St. Louis District 189. He lives in Florissant, Mo.

Nicholas W. Roscetti ('09) was named principal and superintendent of Routt Catholic High School in Jacksonville, Ill.

Shanika Silinzy ('09) was named transportation supervisor at SSM St. Mary’s Health Center in St. Louis.

Germaine Stewart ('09) was named principal at Twillman Elementary School in the Hazelwood School District. She says she has spent her professional career changing the lives of her students and, more recently, coaching her teaching colleagues to implement more creative instructional strategies.

‘10s

Whitney Anne ('10) married Kevin Thomas in November 2014 at Sacred Heart Church in Florissant. They live in Florissant, Mo.

Jennifer Bergman ('10) is the director of child care services for the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Family YMCA.

Greg Townsend ('10) is married and works as a clinical research coordinator for Millennium Psychiatric Associates.

Tiffany Hilke ('11, '13) works as a child, youth, and family therapist at Youth in Need in St. Louis, Mo., with her husband.

Derek Thomas ('11) works at Bit Brokers International, Ltd. as an in-house counsel and in sales. He graduated law school from Southern Illinois University School of Law in May 2014. He passed the Illinois bar in July and is now a licensed attorney.

Gary Britton ('12) married Taylor Lawson on October 4, 2014. Jose Francisco Larrea Pereira ('12) is slated for a promotion next year to sales director for Nichiryro America. He lives in St. Charles and was a tutor for LU freshmen until the fall of 2013.

Tiffany (Carter) McKay ('12) was married to Scott McKay in November in Destin, Fla. The couple resides in St. Charles, Mo., with their two children.

Lisa Wiese ('12) has accepted a talent development/research and recruitment internship at Fleishman Hillard. She has been working on her MA in human resources management at Washington University in St. Louis.

Blake Fahmie ('13) used an Italian-made Axis RS 12 trap shotgun to get through college, where he earned an MBA from Lindenwood, and is now aiming for the 2020 Olympics. Fahmie was a member of three National Collegiate Championship teams and served at the team’s assistant coach while completing his graduate degree.

Constance Gully ('13) has joined Parents National Center (PATNC) as its vice president/chief financial officer. PATNC is an international nonprofit based in St. Louis, Mo., that focuses on high-quality home visiting services for families with young children. Gully is responsible for ensuring the fiscal stability and accountability of the organization’s $12 million budget and oversees the nonprofit’s finance, information technology, and human resources functions. She also serves as vice chair on the Bi-State Development Agency (Metro) Board of Commissioners and as chair of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. State Celebration Commission. Gully earned her MBA from Lindenwood.

Jerry Hall ('13) works as an operations assistant for Keefe Commissary.

Jessica Hartman ('13) was crowned Miss Missouri in June at the Miss Missouri Pageant at Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, Mo.

Raechal Martin ('13) is an athletic trainer at Garden City Community College. In addition, she teaches a college success class along with an anatomy and physiology class. Martin plans to pursue a PhD.

Dan Bedell ('12) was accepted into the Peace Corps and departed for Armenia in August to begin training as a community economic development volunteer. Bedell will conduct community outreach and needs assessments and will develop projects that focus on education, youth development, health, the environment, and business. Bedell earned a bachelor’s degree in nonprofit administration from Lindenwood.

“Lindenwood introduced me to a diverse culture and offered me the opportunity to practice leadership in a service-oriented environment,” Bedell said.
Michael Peeples (’13) works as a technical architect for AT&T.
David Amelotti (’14) joined KHQA-TV in Quincy, Ill., as a weekend anchor and producer this September. While at Lindenwood, Amelotti reported and anchored for LUTV.
Dennis Lancaster (’14) has been named the permanent dean of academic affairs at Missouri State University-West Plains.
David McKelly (’14) has accepted a position teaching physical education part-time at Discovery Ridge Elementary School in the Wentzville School District.

 Faculty/Staff
Mandy Chun will begin fielding men’s and women’s hockey teams at Lindenwood Belleville, beginning next season.

Associate Professor of Business
Howard Wall’s new study on earnings taxes was published by the Show-Me Institute, a free-market think tank that has long been critical of the earnings tax.

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

Sara Lecky-Cooper (’38)
Katy, Texas
Leonore (Auer) Gill (’39)
Chicago, Ill.
Helen Bartlett (’45)
Wheaton, Ill.
Eloise (Baim) Sherman (’46)
Morriston, Ark.
Joy (Salomon) Silver (’46)
Scarborough, N.Y.
Carolyn Brake-Radtke (’48)
Fremont, Neb.
Mary (Holcomb) Ward (’48)
 Dallas, Texas
Lois Schatzmann (’48)
 Sarasota, Fla.
Marilyn (Fawley) Inglett (’50)
Oak Park, Ill.
JoAnne Winn Wilson (’50)
Overland Park, Kan.
Estelle Swanson Hetzler (’53)
Missoula, Mont.
Jane Ferris Crandall (’56)
St. Louis, Mo.
Mary Elizabeth Taylor (’59)
Brownwood, Texas
Barbara (Brockgreitens) Clark (’63)
St. Charles, Mo.
Carolyn (Viner) O’Brien (’64)
Maryland Heights, Mo.
Barbara Ens Crump (’65)
Elburn, Ill.
Linda Hale (’65)
West Burlington, Iowa
Anita (Scheneman) Wicht (’67)
Lexington, Ky.
Virginia Shelburne-Leverinton Howe (’78)
Ozark, Mo.
Mary Evelyn (Martin) O’Neil (’80)
Anchorage, Ky.
Lucia (Wickham) Mueller (’86)
Jefferson City, Mo.
Alvena (Grube) Revell (’86)
Centralia, Mo.
Jack Bornmann (’90)
St. Charles, Mo.

Madeleine Pennock (’14) was accepted into the Peace Corps and is currently serving in Fiji as a health extension volunteer.

Pennock will live and work at the community level to raise awareness about the need for health education. In 2014, Pennock received her master’s in counseling psychology. Prior to the Peace Corps, she was a forensic counseling intern for the Missouri Department of Mental Health and a volunteer for an AIDS non-profit organization in St. Louis.

“My studies have prepared me for the Peace Corps by teaching me how to adapt to different situations and people,” said Pennock. “I have learned many valuable tools that will help me handle situations that may arise during my service.”

After a three-month acclimation to Fiji, Pennock will be sworn into service and will serve for two years.

Lindenwood University has a rich tradition of excellence in education. Look closely! You’ll find innovative academic programs, new educational technologies, and a growing student population. Today, Lindenwood is one of the Midwest’s larger independent universities and has been recognized by the St. Louis Business Journal as having the largest MBA program in the St. Louis region. Also, our online bachelor’s programs were recently listed among the nation’s best by U.S. News and World Report.

Your support for our students through the Annual Fund Appeal is appreciated! If you have already made a gift — Thank You! For more information on how to make a gift, please go to www.lindenwood.edu/giving or contact Kate O’Neal at (636) 949-4903.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK
Lindenwood University
The 22nd Annual Lou Brock Golf Classic raised $186,000 to benefit the Lou Brock Scholarship Fund and Lindenwood Athletics. The event was held September 29 at Whitmoor Country Club in St. Charles, Mo.

Besides getting to visit with Hall of Famer Lou Brock, this year’s event offered a chance to join former Cardinals players Andy Benes, Kerry Robinson, and Al Hrabosky. There were many NFL alumni supporting the event as well.

Top sponsors include Ameren, Rex and Jeanne Sinquefield, World Wide Technology, and the Steward Family Foundation. Tom Ackerman, Sports Director from KMOX radio, was emcee, and several Lindenwood coaches, staff, and student-athletes volunteered.

To kick off the tournament, the coveted “Chip off the ‘ol Brock” contest again was fun for all! Lou himself initiated this chipping contest to start the day, and it never fails to be an exciting start to the tournament.

The awards dinner includes an exciting auction, which was highlighted this year by the donation of a “green” autographed Brock jersey and hat. The item was hot, and a bidding war ensued. When the price hit $2,000, Lou donated a second set so both bidders went home ecstatic!

Save the date for next year; the 23rd Annual Lou Brock Golf Classic is August 31, 2015.
Dan Kratzer was a fixture in the Lindenwood Athletics Department from 1995 to 2000, serving as head football coach and athletics director for five years. This fall, he took center stage once again when he was one of six inductees into the Lindenwood Sports Hall of Fame.

During his induction speech, Kratzer entertained the crowd with tales of the challenges that Lindenwood athletics faced in those days. Kratzer was able to overcome those challenges and earn the second most wins in Lindenwood football’s history, and led the Lions to the playoffs for the first time. As Athletics Director, he helped Lindenwood win 39 conference titles, as well as the first NAIA National Championship in school history.

Another highlight during the ceremony was the induction of Olympian Sean McLelland, who went straight from the Lindenwood shotgun shooting team to earning a spot on the United States shooting team at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. McLelland finished 11th at the Olympics and missed advancing to the final by just one target. He helped Lindenwood shooting win national championships in 2005, 2006, and 2007, and had top-five individual finishes all three of those years.

The other individual inductees were baseball star Ryan Shockley, now an assistant baseball coach at Lindenwood, and track and field standouts Illiyan Chamov and Fabian Florant. Shockley finished his career with 257 hits and 80 stolen bases, and he helped Lindenwood advance to its only NAIA World Series appearance. Chamov and Florant combined to win seven individual national championships while competing for Lindenwood.

Two national championship teams were also inducted: the 2008-09 men’s ice hockey team and the 2009 men’s volleyball squad. Both teams won the first national championships for their program.

Other honors given out during the Sports Hall of Fame Banquet, which was held the Friday of Homecoming Weekend, were the Shining Light and Student Achievement awards. The Shining Light Awards, which are given to student-athletes for their character off the playing fields, went to Lindsey Palmer (women’s lacrosse), Ignacio Pizarro (men’s soccer), Hannah Sphatt (synchronized swimming), and Myles Walker (shotgun sports). The Student Achievement Awards went to Nicole Hensley (hockey), Lauren Mueller (shotgun sports), Josh Pauls (sled hockey), and Melissa Menchella (women’s lacrosse).

Cheer Alumni Recognition

Saturday, January 24, 2014
Lindenwood Ladies / Men vs University of Central Missouri
1 p.m and 3 p.m. game times

The recognition will be between the two contests.
All alumni cheerleaders are welcome to join us in the VIP room overlooking the arena to mingle and enjoy the game.

For more information, contact alumni @lindenwood.edu or Carrie Nichols at CNichols@lindenwood.edu.

Men’s and Women’s Alumni Basketball Recognition

Saturday, January 31, 2014
Lindenwood Ladies / Men vs Missouri Western State University
1 p.m and 3 p.m. game times

The recognition will be between the two contests.
All alumni basketball players are welcome to join us in the VIP room overlooking the arena to mingle and enjoy the game.

For more information contact alumni @lindenwood.edu or Jane Baum at Jbaum@lindenwood.edu.
Lindenwood sports in 2014-15 could have their hottest moments during the cold winter months, with many of the sports during this time expected to have big results.

The men’s basketball team will be looking for a bounce back season after finishing 11-19 last season. Head Coach Brad Soderberg revamped his roster with four NCAA Division I transfers. The Lions also return three of the team’s top five scorers from last year. Seniors Darris Smith, Garrett Reeg, and Michael Boos will lead the way for the Lions in their last season in a Lindenwood uniform.

A season ago, the Lindenwood women’s basketball team had one of the top turnarounds in the country, going from four wins to 14. This season, the Lady Lions will once again try to improve their win total. Head Coach Tony Francis welcomes back three of his top four scorers from 2013-14. Leading the way is the MIAA Freshman of the Year, Kassidy Gengenbacher, who averaged 16.1 points last season. Junior point guard Jenny Rocha is back to run the point for the Lady Lions and will be joined by senior Morgan Johnson.

The wrestling team is coming off a seventh-place finish in last season’s NCAA Division II National Championships and will start this season ranked No. 10 in the nation. Head Coach Chad Smith will welcome back four All-Americans and two national qualifiers from last year’s team.

The women’s ice hockey program has started a new era this season under first-year Head Coach Scott Spencer. The Lady Lions experienced history in just the second weekend under Spencer when they defeated a member of the WCHA, NCAA Division I’s toughest conference, for the first time. Lindenwood’s league, College Hockey America, will now receive a bid to the national tournament, meaning the Lady Lions need just four wins in March to make an NCAA Division I National Championship field.

Track Complex Gets Facelift

The newest gem among the Lindenwood Athletics facilities is the renovated Lindenwood track and field complex at the north end of the St. Charles campus. The renovations include the resurfacing of the track with a very fast surface, and also an improved jumps area. The complex also received new bleachers and a press box, which will benefit not only track, but other outdoor programs that train and compete on the turf surface inside the track.

“The new track will be a big draw for recruits when they come to campus, especially since, aesthetically, it is very beautiful,” said Track and Field Head Coach Scott Roberts. “It will also allow us to improve our training. Even when the weather turns cold, the new track will allow us to continue practicing outdoors more than before.”

One of the biggest events in the history of Lindenwood athletics will take place this spring at the Lindenwood track when it plays host to the 2014 MIAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Over a thousand athletes and coaches will be on campus from May 1-3 as some of the best track and field athletes in NCAA Division II compete for the men’s and women’s conference titles.

Lindenwood’s track has been resurfaced, and bleachers and a press box are well under way. The work will be finished in time for the MIAA Track and Field Championships in early May.
Belleville Basketball Opening Season Ranked No. 18

Coming off a record breaking season in 2013-14, the Lindenwood Belleville men’s basketball team has set a new mark, beginning the season ranked No. 18 in the NAIA Coaches’ Preseason Top 25 Poll. This is the highest any team at Lindenwood-Belleville has ever been ranked, and follows a season in which the men’s basketball team was ranked as high as No. 21 in the country.

The Lynx return NAIA third-team all-American Craig Anderson, who led the team with 21.5 points per game last season. Anderson was a staple for the Lynx offense, leading the team in points, assists, and total rebounds.

With these key returners, coupled with multiple recruits in the off season, the Lynx are poised for a big season. Chris Deanes, Andrew Maxie, and Noel Allen are all junior transfers that Coach Scott Spinner expects to make a big impact on the team this year. Seth Kisler is a senior from Fort Wayne, Ind., who transferred in from Division I Arkansas State, and Jovan Leamy is a freshman from Ontario; both expect to be key contributors as well.

Last season, the Lynx made their first appearance in the NAIA National Tournament, and with the mix of new players and key returners, the Lynx are geared up to make another run in the NAIA, as well as compete for a conference championship. This will be the first season in which the Lynx will compete in the American Midwest Conference. The team will have to face No. 7-ranked Columbia College and Park University.

Lynx Team up with Memorial Hospital for Breast Cancer Awareness

During October, the Lindenwood-Belleville athletic programs teamed up with Memorial Hospital to raise awareness for Breast Cancer. Memorial Hospital provided all the Lynx athletics teams with pink shoe laces to wear during their respective sporting events.

Megan Moulton, community relations coordinator for Memorial Hospital, coordinated with area high schools and colleges assisting in the effort. “The Breast Health Center at Memorial Hospital, as part of its “Paint the Town Pink” activities for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, partnered with sports teams at area high schools and universities to heighten awareness of breast cancer by providing hot pink shoe laces,” stated Moulton.

The women’s volleyball team also held a “Dig Pink” night in which all their players not only wore the provided pink shoelaces, but also sported pink headbands, tape, and “Think Lynx” shirts with the breast cancer emblem on the front. The players also held their own two-day bake sale, gathering funds to assist in research. Along with these events, the night of the Dig Pink game, each player dedicated the game to somebody she knew that had either lost the battle to breast cancer, is currently fighting it, or overcame the disease.

The women’s soccer team and the men’s and women’s bowling teams also wore pink shoelaces. The women’s hockey team re-taped their sticks, pads, and socks to help raise awareness during their weekend series with Midland University.

During each game the Lynx played at home, the following statement was announced, “1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in their life. The pink shoelaces our players are wearing tonight are in honor of Memorial Hospital’s “paint the town pink” campaign for breast cancer awareness month. For more information about Memorial Hospital’s Breast Health Center of Excellence, please visit www.memhosp.com.

Lindenwood-Belleville is pleased to assist in all efforts for raising awareness for this great cause. Athletic Director Scott Spinner had this to say about the support Lindenwood-Belleville athletics had in raising awareness: “We are very appreciative to Memorial Hospital for providing an opportunity for each student-athlete to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness. Our teams wore the pink shoelaces very proudly.”
Homecoming Stirs Memories for 50-Year Class

October 10-12 brought nearly 400 alums and family members to campus for Homecoming and Reunion. The 50-year honored class had 18 of its classmates return to their alma mater. Jeannie Mattern McDowell from the class of 1964 delighted those attending the Saturday morning breakfast with memories of classes, professors, activities, and adventures from the days of the early ‘60s (story, page 6). Student life was much different then but holds treasured memories for the alums.

At the annual Alumni Association Meeting, the following individuals were elected officers of the Association: Cortney Hupper Lenk (’99), First Vice President; Patti York (’92 & ’97), Second Vice President; and Mary Ann Messer Oelklaus (’65), Secretary. Elected as a new member of the Alumni Board was Elizabeth “Libby” Ray (’10). The two new officers and our new member bring enthusiasm and an appreciation of our heritage and Mission to the Board.

One of the highlights of Reunion Weekend was the dedication of the Harry Hendren Endowed Scholarship (story on page 16). Initiated by a group of alums, the award honors Professor Hendren who was a beloved figure on the St. Charles campus. He inspired appreciation of art in both his art majors and in those who came to his courses from other disciplines. This scholarship joins others that have been established by alums for legendary professors throughout the years.

We want to thank all of you who responded to our Alumni Survey, which was conducted with the generous support of Jane Calvert Rogers (’67) and a member of the University Board of Directors. Utilizing the data generated by this survey we will continue to implement aspects of our strategic plan. We are focusing on two overall goals: first, strengthening communications between the Alumni Board and our alums, along with expanding opportunities for alums to interact with each other, and second, developing opportunities on campus for interaction among faculty, administration, and students in an effort to position the Alumni Association as an integral component of the Lindenwood experience.

In conjunction with these goals, our Alumni Board members worked with Dr. Joe Parisi, Vice President for Enrollment Management, and Scott Queen, Director of Marketing and Communications, in launching an Alumni Referral Program. Essentially, the program requests that our good people (LU alums) refer good students to the Admissions Office. The program is now active on the front page of the Lindenwood website. We encourage our alums to seek out potential students – undergraduate, graduate, or evening school – and offer to introduce them to the Lindenwood experience. It is quick and easy to enter the information, and the Admissions office does the work! Should the alum be successful in referring a student, the alum is awarded a Lindenwood grill cover–A WIN-WIN!!!

Members of the Alumni Board Executive Committee and the Alumni Board’s strategic planning group were invited to meet with the representatives of the University’s presidential search firm, Witt/Kiefer, to discuss the selection of a new President. The members presented their thoughts about the desired attributes of a new Lindenwood leader from the perspective of alumni relations and leadership in the community.

The Alumni Board is investigating strengthening the alumni social media presence and researching other areas for further Alumni Board involvement. Your Board also will welcome new graduates to the alumni ranks at our December Graduation Ceremony on Sunday, December 7.

Please consider nominating a deserving classmate for the Alumni Merit Award. Nomination procedures and protocol may be found on the alumni website under the “Connect with Lindenwood” heading. Courtney Hupper Lenk (’99) chairs the Award Committee that will select the recipient for this honor, which will be presented during undergraduate graduation ceremonies in May.

Please continue to share your ideas, opinions, and happenings. We love hearing from you. Our Alumni Director, Elizabeth Wikoff, may be reached at (636) 949-4975 or at EWikoff@lindenwood.edu.

Remember that you are always welcome to visit the campus and renew your connection with your alma mater!

Judy Forstmann Brown (’63)
President, Alumni Association

Get Connected
Follow the thousands of Lindenwood alumni on these social media channels!

On Facebook:
Lindenwood University-Belleville Alumni
Lindenwood University Alumni Association

On LinkedIn:
Official Lindenwood University Alumni Association

On Twitter:
@LindenwoodAlum