“Lewis has expanded dynamically through innovation, dedication to its Catholic and Lasallian Mission, constant quality enhancements, consistent program growth, and ongoing transformation.”

Br. James Gaffney, FSC, President
At the conclusion of the very affirming site visit for reaccreditation by the Higher Learning Commission last year, the two HLC representatives observed that the University is now “mission mature,” meaning that the Lewis Mission has been quite successfully integrated throughout our various academic offerings, programs and services. They might just as well have added that Lewis overall is an increasingly mature institution. That is, as we now celebrate our 80th anniversary, there is a broad realization that the University is not only quite stable and confident in its identity, but there is considerable enthusiasm regarding our future. No wonder our current reality seems so dynamic and our future so promising. Innovation abounds and quality enhancements are everywhere evident. At the same time, our Mission and Vision provide a firm foundation for our emerging Strategic Plan for the next five years.

The most dramatic example of our encouraging momentum is the remarkable new Science Center. It opened at the start of the current semester and was dedicated on March 23rd. Not only is the architecture and interior quite stunning, but the building provides teaching and learning space for our science faculty and staff that can only be called “a game-changer.” We are so blessed to have an extraordinary faculty teaching in those disciplines, as is characteristic throughout the University. The science students are bright, enthusiastic, inquisitive, capable in research, and manifest considerable promise as future scientists. And now we have a facility with laboratories, technology and equipment, and other learning areas of exceptional quality. No wonder our enrollment in the sciences and Mathematics/Computer Science keeps growing at a robust pace.

Another student population that depends highly on the excellence of our science curriculum, instructors and facilities, are the undergraduates in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Already enrolling the largest student population at that level in Illinois, the College continues to excel and to achieve remarkable outcomes. For instance, the last two classes of graduates, numbering 112 and 36 respectively, earned a perfect 100% score on the NCLEX national licensure examination. Nursing students help to keep the science labs busy at all times of the day as they work diligently to maintain the very high standards of their profession.

Soon we will be constructing a high-quality departmental area for the Computer Science and Mathematics faculty and students, in the former science academic building immediately adjacent to the new Science Center. It will be fully integrated into that Center and complementary in purpose. During the next year, we will convert the majority of that same science academic building into the Humanities Commons for certain College of Arts and Sciences departments, as well as for the Office of the Dean. The building itself will be significantly enhanced, with skylights, windows and other features to be added.

Meanwhile, we are presently constructing an elevator tower on the east end of Sheil Hall. At the conclusion of this semester, work will commence on the complete renovation of that historic building. We will have two crews working 16 or more hours daily for three months, so that it is ready by the fall. At the same time, work is underway for a major addition and upgrade for the Oremus Fine Arts Center. Both of those structures are vital parts of our history, so it is timely that these renewal projects have begun during our 80th anniversary year. There are many other projects about to occur that are part of the ongoing transformation of our beautiful campus, which has just recently been designated as a Tree Campus USA for the third year in succession. Furthermore, we are nearing completion of our Campus Master Plan, with a multitude of new and renewed building and other enhancements laid out incrementally for the next 5, 10, 15 and 20 years. Several of those buildings will be part of our upcoming Capital Campaign, which is expected to be kicked off sometime during the upcoming summer and extend for five or more years.

If you have not visited campus recently, please consider stopping by sometime during this spring or the coming summer. If nothing else, take a good look at us through the lens of our Website. You can continue to be very proud of Lewis and all the good happenings that occur here on a daily basis. This is a very hopeful era and there is every reason to be very proud of the University and of the highly meaningful outcomes that our current undergraduate and graduate students find to be so worthwhile and relevant in their lives and their present or future careers.

Sincerely,

Br. James Gaffney, FSC
President
The Magazine of Lewis University is published by the Office of Marketing and Communications three times per year.

Letters to the Editor and alumni news submissions are welcome. Send letters, news and address changes to: The Magazine of Lewis University • Unit 196 • One University Parkway • Romeoville, IL 60446-2200 or e-mail lamontra@lewisu.edu

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21st Century Architecture Brings Student Learning to a New Level in Science Center
In one 360-degree circle, visitors can see the past, present and future through the wall of glass windows in the new Science Center on the Lewis University main campus. The foundations of the University are toward the East and West. Turn to the South, and the future appears with a hallway inviting newcomers to see what’s around the bend. Visitors to the new Science Center are impressed and amazed with the high tech, modern Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified structure.

by Kathrynne Skonicki ’12

“It is very encouraging to know that this state-of-the-art Science Center already is providing an excellent setting for education in the sciences for our enthusiastic students,” commented Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University. He continued, “The Dedication and Open House took place on March 23 and 24, but classes and labs actually began in mid-January. It was a highly collaborative undertaking that included the fine cooperation from the professionals from Wight & Company and their sub-contractors who made that possible.”

The 52,000 square-foot addition to the Science Building features 12 labs, six prep labs, eight research facilities, three conference rooms, classrooms with Smart Boards, faculty/staff offices and gathering spaces with terrazzo floors. “It raises the standard by which we will base all future projects against. It is cutting edge and inviting,” commented Robert DeRose, Senior Vice President of Finance and Facilities. The top floor of the three-story structure features Biology, the second floor features Chemistry, and the lower level is focused on Physics.

“There have been countless studies, much research and significant collaboration that have gone into the planning of this magnificent building,” said Dr. Stephany Schlachter, Provost. For more than six years, faculty and administrators explored the best ways to teach science. They attended conferences focused on the latest trends in science building design. They projected student needs and future growth.

The increased enrollment at Lewis University, especially in the sciences and nursing, prompted the new structure. The center is expected to continue that increased interest for prospective students and superior faculty. “The building enhances our ability to hire and retain exceptional faculty as well as to attract and provide the highest quality education for our students,” commented Dr. Bonnie Bondavalli, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.
“Our new facility is an amazing place to study and do science. The new space and laboratories represent a ‘quantum jump’ in modernization. The building is a showplace that will attract students (not just science students) to Lewis,” commented Dr. Charles Crowder, Associate Professor of Physics. Dr. Crowder looks forward to collaborating with the other areas of science in the new building. Proposals for future projects include analyzing the effects of laser pens on cockpit windows and developing glass coatings to mitigate the distraction to pilots while flying. Another project proposal is to use an optical tweezer to capture bacteria before analyzing them.

“I have always loved my job teaching at Lewis and coordinating the Biology labs. But it is a pleasure to walk through the door every morning into our new space. I can look out the window and see the beautiful campus landscape. The new building is so open and light, and it feels like the outdoors is part of the interior space – a biologist’s dream,” commented Dr. Marne Bailey, Assistant Professor of Biology and Lab Coordinator.

The Lewis alumna, who is also the Scholars Academy Director, experienced the old facilities as a student and professor. Dr. Bailey earned her undergraduate degrees in Chemistry and Physics in 1997 with a minor in Biochemistry. She said, “The labs are set up to accommodate a variety of student tasks and students can work or listen comfortably to a lecture at the main lab tables or complete tasks at computer and work stations along the periphery of the room. As an instructor, the layout of the technology including the Smart Board and the white boards is ideal so I can easily use multiple visual and audio techniques to deliver content to my students.”

The new Science Center will be used extensively by science majors, but it serves all students at the University. Undoubtedly, every student will use the building whether the student is taking one or two science courses as part of the general education curriculum, or the student is in another major with science course requirements, such as nursing, science education and aviation students.

In addition to student learning, the new Science Center also serves as an epicenter of collaboration among faculty, students, staff and industry to make major advances in science research, especially in areas of nanotechnology, laser optics, computer and environmental science. The building is designed to foster relationships and partnerships with various organizations, corporations and agencies so that the University can continue to be a resource for the region.

“My favorite feature of the new Science Center is the fact that the research labs have been designed to improve the atmosphere of inquiry: enhanced instrument inventory as well as more individualized work stations, which allow the students to extend their experimental work over longer periods of time,” commented Brother Pierre St. Raymond, FSC, Chair of Chemistry. He pointed out that the needs of those working and studying in the Center, as well as the ecological impact of the building were taken into account when it was designed. Students and faculty have access to more equipment, such as a fluorescent microscope and a 96-well plate reader, and better storage areas for the equipment. Every research lab and
preparatory room has a refrigerator and fume hood.

The Center illustrates Lewis University's strong commitment to address the national need for progress in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). “Students are in awe of it. I bet their achievement will increase because they will feel connected to what they may now perceive as a 'big time' program. Our quality has always been 'big time.' Now we have the digs to back it up,” commented Dr. Raymond Klump, Chair of Mathematics and Computer Science.

Students truly agree. Erin Blazina, Biology major, commented, “The aesthetics add character and life to the new building. I love the modern look and how every time I walk into school I feel like I just entered the NASA’s Kennedy Space Center. The most amazing feature is that the entire building is LEED certified.”

More than 31 environmentally-friendly features of the project include its innovative design, indoor environmental quality, materials and resources, energy and atmosphere, water efficiency and sustainable site. The innovative design maximizes open space with 55.71 percent of green space on the site. Low-emitting materials are used throughout the building to reduce indoor contaminants. Regional materials were used throughout the structure to support the use of local resources and reduce environmental impacts resulting from transporting goods. Renewable energy is being used for at least 35 percent of the building’s energy usage. Water efficient landscaping ensures no potable water will be used for irrigation. The project protected and restored natural habitats and promoted biodiversity.

“Unity,” a unique and beautiful piece of art has been installed on the main floor of the new Lewis University Science Center. Created of wood from trees harvested from the construction site for the new Center, the artwork was created by Mark Swain and Paul Mitchell, faculty members in the Art Department. This 3' x 8’ work includes 386 blocks of wood, including sycamore, black walnut, pine, cherry, cottonwood and birch. Dwight DeVries and Mario Zamubio of the Facilities Department, crosscut the wood.

Commissioned by Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President, the artwork was a collaborative piece, reflecting its name, “Unity.” The wood was dried, shaped, sanded, sealed with a penetrating clear stain and coated with three coats of polyurethane. Dr. Elizabeth Kozak, Biology Professor, provided an aluminum support for the artwork which was designed to be hung either vertically or horizontally. Working with wood was a new medium for Professors Mitchell and Swain who are noted for their paintings. Professor Swain said they “capitalized on the uniqueness” of the various types and shapes of wood.

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Iraqi Student Arrives with One Suitcase and Unpacks an Educational Opportunity of a Lifetime

Headlines of conflict, riots and deaths in Syria flood the international headlines. Every bit of news that comes out of the country is important to Lewis University freshman Anas. The Iraqi native fears for the safety of his family currently residing as refugees in Syria. Although his family is not involved with the political protests or activities, Anas knows too well how innocent bystanders can be swept up into dangerous situations in countries experiencing such unrest.

Anas’ father was kidnapped in 2007 in Iraq before the family fled to Syria. Luckily, his family was able to discover the kidnappers were relatives of a neighbor in Iraq and his father was released without having to pay the exorbitant ransom. As a result, his family was no longer safe in their Baghdad home and fled to Syria.

The teenager finished his high school education in Syria before being accepted into the Iraqi Student Project (ISP). The grass-roots organization helps Iraqi students obtain an undergraduate education in the United States. The program is selective with a few stipulations. The students must have had their education in Iraqi interrupted by violence or refugee status. The students must also intend to return to Iraq and be committed to rebuilding their home country.

ISP works with American colleges and universities to secure tuition waivers, full scholarships and other support for the students. It also works with the potential students to ease the transition into an American institution of higher education. For example, Anas worked with mentors of ISP for about 20 hours per week for 10 months before being accepted into Lewis University. They studied English, math and writing. He remembered the challenge of studying for the SAT for only one month before taking the exam.

Lewis University accepted its first Iraqi student through the ISP in 2009. The student currently is studying and working on campus in the Office of Instructional Technology Services. He plans to graduate in May 2013 and return to Iraq.

Both Iraqi students have expressed their gratitude to Lewis University, which has provided an educational scholarship as well as other support. In the case of Anas, he arrived in Romeoville with one suitcase, weighing about 20 kilos. Anas is studying Psychology, but said he might need to change because his homeland has pressing needs.

He said, “Lewis is going to help me change the world. I’m going to try my best to apply what I learned to make the world a more peaceful and better place.”

More information about how to support the Iraqi students at Lewis University is available by contacting Brother Leo Jones, FSC, at (815) 836-5677 or Michael Fekete at (815) 836-5549.

Nursing Exam Pass Rate of Lewis Students is 100%

The College of Nursing and Health Professions had its largest number of pre-licensure nursing graduates in the college’s history. There were 112 nursing students who passed the NCLEX exam in 2011 with a 100 percent pass rate. Thirty six additional students passed in December.

“We’re proud of our graduates who have a good foundation to changes lives of patients,” commented Dr. Peggy Rice, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. “Our graduates are set to continue their success as they become professionals in the healthcare industry.”

The NCLEX exam measures the student’s ability to perform safely and effectively as a newly licensed, entry-level nurse, and passing it demonstrates the student competence to begin his/her nursing career.
Romeoville Names Lewis 2011 Large Business of the Year

On January 10, Lewis University was named Village of Romeoville 2011 Large Business of the Year at the Annual State of the Village address. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Lewis University President, accepted the award from Mayor John Noak.

Mayor Noak cited many improvements of the University during the course of the year that signified a commitment to progress and to the community. Some of the accomplishments of the University which he mentioned included: construction of a multi-million dollar Science Center; successful conclusion of a major capital campaign; Lewis being named Tree Campus USA University by Arbor Day Foundation; opening a campus in Albuquerque, New Mexico; initiation of an aviation academy with the City Colleges of Chicago and the City of Chicago Department of Aviation for the Air Traffic Control Management and Aviation Administration programs; a major bond program with the Village of Romeoville.

"Partnership means a great deal to us," Brother James Gaffney, FSC, stated. "Community means a great deal to us. We are proud to be partners in building community and in improving the quality of life for the region."

Numerous dignitaries attended the sell-out event. Among those present were U.S. Representative Judy Biggert, State Senator A.J. Wilhelmi, State Representative Emily McAsey, and Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford.

Diversity Week Highlights Civil Rights Movement Education

Dr. Dennis Cremin, Associate Professor and Director of the Lewis University History Center, and Donna Sack, Executive Director of the Illinois Association of Museums, presented "Place-Based Learning: Teaching the Civil Rights Movement" on January 26 as part of Diversity Week.

A four-year $979,000 Teaching American History Grant from the U.S. Department of Education opened their eyes to a better understanding of place-based learning. For the last two years, the two historians were among 60 from the fields of history, museums and K-12 education from the suburban Chicago area who traveled to historic sites, such as Washington, D.C, Memphis, Tenn., Selma, Ala., Montgomery, Ala., and Birmingham, Ala.

The experience of being in the actual place where history occurred enhances the ability to understand the events that transpired, added Dr. Cremin. He said, "It was so powerful to visit the sites where major events happened. I'll never forget seeing the slave cabin on the Faunsdale Plantation in Alabama." He continued, "We had the ability to meet some of the people who marched to Montgomery and others who are carrying on the work of Civil Rights in the United States today."

The sites are being preserved and the stories are being shared through the work of many dedicated historians. Sack added, "I realized how important local historical societies and museums are in telling their part of the story that then connects to the national narrative."

Daybreak Shelter Receives Helping Hand

The lesson of giving was a top priority for Lewis University Adjunct Professor Diane Rzeszewski with her Applied Sociology and Political Science course in Fall 2011. The seven adult students enrolled in her course showed that her lesson didn’t fall on deaf ears when they presented $1,300 cash and $800 in new items to Daybreak Shelter in Joliet, Ill.

The Daybreak Shelter is operated by Catholic Charities and has various services for those in need in the community. The Daybreak Shelter offers temporary housing, counseling, senior programs, child services, and a variety of other services.

The class of students designed the project and collected funds and goods from businesses, family and friends throughout the community. The class exceeded its goal by 40 percent. "Our students benefited from this experiential learning project that required intensive, active learning, significant planning and implementation. However, they received their real reward when they toured the facility and witnessed the impact of their work on the clients of the shelter," commented Rzeszewski.

The Applied Sociology and Political Science program is an adult accelerated program for working adults. The students who participated in the project included: Renee Brzuskiewicz, Craig Foster, Debra Kopsky, Deborah Malone, Michell Nash, Jennifer Petric, and Tiffany Smith.
Performing Arts Series Brings Variety of Events to Romeoville Campus

The Antigua Baroque Consort performed on the Lewis main campus on February 13. Formed by Mark Ponzo, baroque trumpeter/cornettist in 2009, the mission of the consort is to present music of the era to a wide audience on instruments with an informative and entertaining slant. All four members hold collegiate teaching positions in addition to active performance careers. The consort is comprised of Zenia Lee (soprano), Casey McGrath (violin), Mark Ponzo (baroque trumpet/cornetto/sackbut) and Jane Morlan (harpischord).

On February 29, pianist Adam Marks performed in the Philip Lynch Theatre. Marks is best known for his innovative and impassioned performances of contemporary works. He has performed throughout the United States as well as in France and the Netherlands.

The MAVerick Ensemble provided an evening of new music featuring compositions from the legendary George Crumb and award-winning Chen Yi on March 12. Known for its bold programming and its exceptional performances, the ensemble presents concerts of experimental music designed to engage, entertain and inform the audience.

On March 20, an adaptation of John Steinbeck’s Of Mice and Men was presented by the National Players Touring Company. National Players make literature come alive for their audiences by engaging their minds and touching their hearts with fresh contemporary takes on classics.

The final performance in the series will be Jim Gallioreto’s Jazz-String Quintet on April 12. Under the direction of composer and saxophonist Jim Gallioreto, the Jazz-String Quintet is immersed in the traditions and performance practices of classical music while using the truest elements of jazz. Combining Gallioreto’s soprano saxophone with a string quartet, this Chicago-based group integrates jazz and classical music. It is inspired by diverse sources such as Miles Davis and Claude Debussy, John Coltrane and Maurice Ravel, and offers a perfect blend of the structure of classical music and the spontaneity of jazz.

Information about all events can be found at www.lewisu.edu/artsandideas.

Nurturing Life: Teaching and Learning “JustPeace” in the 21st Century

The fall 2011 Teach-In, an annual event organized by the Peace Education Committee at Lewis University, presented 12 sessions exploring various ways to teach and learn about peace building and educating students about the interdisciplinary academic field known as “peace studies.”

The thematic title was chosen to highlight Chicago social reformer Jane Addams’ observation that “Peace is not the absence of war but the nurture of life.” It also linked this year’s events with the knowledge gained by members of the Lewis University faculty, who did summer training at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame. In South Bend, they learned more about developing a peace studies presence on campus.

This year’s Teach-In featured faculty members from across all four colleges and the School for Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE). The Teach-In began with a keynote speech by Dr. Lisa Yun Lee, a Professor at University of Illinois at Chicago and Director of the Hull House Museum, the settlement house founded by Jane Addams. Events emphasized ways in which women have played active roles in peace building.

Second day events explored a number of approaches to peace building and began with a documentary on the history of conflict in Hispaniola, the first place in the Americas settled by Europeans (the island shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic), and a session sponsored by CLASE, a faculty committee promoting Latin American Studies on campus. Subsequent sessions explored the role of economic and political rights in guaranteeing the justice that true peace requires; and the kinds of projects that Lewis students committed to peace involve themselves (the Joliet Diocese mission trip to Bolivia, for example). A panel discussion was organized by the College of Nursing and Health Professions on the promise of social reconciliation offered by initiatives in "peace through health."

On the third day, Associate Professor Dr. Frank Rose reflected on his own experiences in the Peace Corps. It was followed by a joint presentation by Rose and Dr. Ian Gladding, Professor in the College of Business on the ways that ethical approaches to international business negotiations can build peace, an emerging discourse known as “peace through commerce.” Members of the College of Education built on this analysis to show how current efforts in critical pedagogy (teaching as a practice of freedom) empower people and communities.

The Teach-In concluded with two additional guest speakers, Father Ruffino Ezama and Father Robert Obol, who spoke movingly on community reconciliation efforts to heal the wounds of war in their native Uganda. The country was also the focus of a benefit concert on October 27. Professional musicians donated their time and talent to entertain the Lewis community, aided by the enthusiastic vocal support of “Harmonic Uprising,” an a cappella singing group of Lewis students, and raised more than $3,500 to help the non-profit group Noté Karacel, which builds wells for clean drinking water in Alenga, Uganda. Noté Karacel’s goal is to build 10 wells, at a cost of $10,000 each, and the money raised at the event will help to fund a fourth well out of 10.
The work of Lewis University researchers was recently published in *Forensic Science International*, an international journal dedicated to the applications of medicine and science in the administration of justice. Dr. Jason Keleher, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, served as the faculty advisor for undergraduate research students Thomas J. Soderquist (now a graduate student at University of Notre Dame), Olivia M. Chesniak, Matthew R. Witt, Alan Paramo and Victoria A. Keeling.

Their work was entitled, "Evaluation of the catalytic decomposition of $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ through use of organo-metallic complexes – A potential link to the luminol presumptive blood test."

"This is just one example of the excellent research our undergraduate students are doing every day at Lewis University," commented Keleher. He leads a research group of undergraduate students studying various aspects involving nanotechnology.

The research seeks to understand the luminol reaction on a mechanistic level and to determine if a synergy exists between the chemiluminescence observed in the reaction and the production of the hydroxyl radical via Fenton-like processes. Understanding these concepts can lead forensic scientists to better detection of latent blood stains at crime scenes.
Preckwinkle Speaks at “Fulfilling the Dream” Conference

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle spoke to a crowd of nearly 200 high school students at Lewis University’s annual “Fulfilling the Dream” Conference. Students from Curie Metro High School in Chicago, Kankakee High School, Thornridge High School in Dolton and Thornton Township High School in Dolton participated in the conference, which prepares students for college.

President Preckwinkle encouraged the students to be “engaged citizens and to get involved” because a strong democracy depends on it. She also offered this advice to students in college, “Go to class each day, ask questions, do the hard stuff and never give up.”

Conference workshops focused on selecting the right college, understanding the application process and applying for financial aid, among other topics. The “Fulfilling the Dream” Conference draws its name from the civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who spoke of his dream about equality for all people.

Si Se Puede Conference Inspires Latinos to Seek a College Education

Close to 300 students from across the Chicago area were inspired by Ernesto Mejia, the co-founder of CoolSpeak, at Lewis University’s seventh annual Si Se Puede Conference. He was the keynote speaker for the conference, which includes workshops on choosing a college, navigating the financial aid process and motivating students to reach their fullest potential.

Mejia shared how he is the proud son of Mexican immigrants and a true example of the American dream. As a Latino, Mejia learned to navigate two entirely different worlds and live in two completely different cultures. Although he faced many obstacles along the way, he never gave up and refused to become a part of another statistic. Hard work and never giving up led him to eventually go on to pursue his Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership.

The Si Se Puede Conference is in the spirit of Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, who believed strongly in community empowerment. The conference serves as a beacon of hope for many Latino high school students whom would otherwise feel a college degree is not attainable. Since its inception in 2001, more than 2,800 students have participated in the Si Se Puede Conference.

MTV Internship Gets Student Closer to Reaching Career Goals

Kylen Mills, a junior majoring in broadcast journalism, spent the fall semester in New York City at the MTV Television Studios. The Elmhurst resident helped to produce content and worked in production for the main MTV.com home page and MTV channel (interviews, after shows, concerts etc.).

“The best part about my internship was the freedom to work with the equipment there and be creative. The staff was constantly encouraging me and fellow interns to take out the cameras, use the editing software and studios to make videos,” said Mills. The internship at the largest and most comprehensive media network for college students provided hands-on experience of what it is like to work in a real life television production studio.

Mills said her courses and professors at Lewis prepared her well for the internship. “The staff at Lewis is so knowledgeable and accessible. They have all worked in the industry and know what it’s like,” she said.

Lewis University’s superior technology and equipment in the Communications Department also eased her transition into the internship. “When you’re using equipment that is the same as production equipment at TV or radio stations, it makes the transition into the working world much easier,” said Mills, who plans to graduate in December 2012.
Mediation Team Earns Fifth Place in Scotland Competition

Three members of the Lewis University Mediation team earned fifth place at the Fourth Annual United Kingdom Law School Mediation Competition held Nov. 25-26 at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland. Lewis University was the only American team invited to compete in the competition of 19 teams from 17 universities.

“The competition and quality of competitors for individual awards was equally intense and close,” commented Dr. James Houlihan, Professor and Director of the Pre-Law program. Lewis University had two members of the Top Ten mediators, from the 57 individuals competing. Jennifer Merzlock took sixth place and Cody Curin placed seventh, each missing trophies by a couple of points.

The Lewis University Mediation team members that earned fifth place were Cody Curin, Jennifer Merzlock, and Ryan McAuliffe. They were coached by Dr. James Houlihan and Angela Henderson of Henderson Law Center in Joliet.

The annual UK competition follows the format of entering with three students accompanied by their coach. Each student acts as mediator twice and a client twice. The students are judged on a range of core mediation skills and aptitudes, which then produces both individual and team awards.

Competitors included teams from Northern Ireland, Germany, England and Scotland. BPP-London teams won first place and second place. Lewis nearly captured fourth place, but the team from Liverpool John Moores University earned the honors. The fifth place finish at the international event follows a second place in Advocacy finish by Lewis team members at the Mediation National Championships. Five team members won All-American honors.

Top Ten Finish for Mock Trial Team in Opening Round of Nationals

The Lewis University Mock Trial B team finished in the Top Ten of the opening rounds of the American Mock Trial Association’s Opening Round Championship Series held March 9-11 at the Lake County Courthouse in Waukegan, Ill. The B team finished in ninth place and the A team finished in 17th place. “This has been our strongest team and individual season in many years,” commented Dr. Jim Houlihan, Head Coach, Professor and Director of the Pre-Law program at Lewis University.

Lewis University and Notre Dame University earned the most individual awards. Freshman David DeSchepper won Intercollegiate Outstanding Attorney award. Freshman Megan Arehart and senior Kevin Whelehan won Intercollegiate Outstanding Witness awards. Whelehan won five individual awards this season.

During the tournament, the Lewis B team defeated Notre Dame University A team, tied with University of Wisconsin A team, split with fourth place University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign A team, and lost to fifth place Northwood University B team. Those matches determined that University of Wisconsin and Notre Dame University would not proceed to the second round of nationals. Lewis B team members include: Megan Arehart, Natosha Burton, David DeSchepper, Lena Hallaj, Cary Hansing, Michael Noe, Ron Jovi Ramirez, Joshua Rehak and Danielle Volk.

Lewis A team defeated Elmhurst College, lost to third place Northwood A team, split with eighth place University of Minnesota A team, and lost to first place University of Illinois Chicago A team. “The A team had the highest ranked strength of opposition in the tournament,” added Houlihan. Lewis A team members include: John Catalano, Martell Khattab, Sean Lenckus, Sara Morgan, Cassandra Myers, Michael Park, Nicole Tucker, Tiffany Wasilewski and Kevin Whelehan.

Coaches for the Lewis Mock Trial Team include Dr. Houlihan, head coach; and Lewis alumni William Rock of Block Klukas & Manzella law firm in Joliet as attorney coach, John Senese of the Peter Francis Geraci Law Offices in Chicago as lead team coach; and graduate student Brandi Sanders as witness coach.
WLRA “To Kill a DJ” raises more than $6,100 for Family Assistance Fund

The Lewis University Family Assistance Fund at Advocate Hope Children’s Hospital in Oak Lawn continues to grow. WLRA Radio raised a record $6,100 for the fund this fall with “To Kill a DJ.” “WLRA’s – To Kill a DJ” is a Service Learning Project for Lewis University Communications Department students enrolled in courses that have WLRA Radio as a lab. WLRA raises the funds from continuous on-air marathons with pledged support.

The “To Kill a DJ” programming involved 10 days of 6-hour non-stop broadcasts, with select University students going even longer. Natalie Paul and T’rell Campbell broadcasted for 42 hours. Brittany Miller and Anthony Trotter broadcasted for 48 hours.

The Lewis University Family Assistance Fund is used to support families of hospitalized children in their greatest time of need. In the past, the funds have been used to pay for transportation to have chemotherapy or outpatient services, medicine, clothes when being discharged, bus passes and airline flights to the hospital. Advocate Hope Children’s Hospital is located on the campus of Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, Ill.

This spring, WLRA will present another marathon broadcast and the College of Nursing and Health Professions will participate in “Change for Children” – all in support of The Lewis University Family Assistance Fund at Hope Children’s Hospital.

Lasallian Scholar Addresses Lasallian Education—Past, Present, and Future

Brother Gerard Rummery, FSC, one of the world’s foremost Lasallian scholars and historians, shared his insights on some of the key topics and themes related to the future of Lasallian education at Lewis University.

During the evening event, Kurt Schackmuth, Associate Vice President for Mission, asked five questions of the Lasallian scholar, educator, theologian and researcher. Brother Gerard discussed how Lasallian educators follow Saint John Baptist de La Salle’s legacy through addressing the educational needs of the population. What began as an effort to educate the poor in the 17th century with practical skills that would help them to earn a living, has evolved into a worldwide effort for grade school students through higher education.

Brother Gerard expressed his concern over society’s emphasis on the materialistic value of a degree versus the spiritual enrichment, cultural understanding and holistic perspective that students experience while earning their degree. Brother Gerard also discussed the Lasallian lay formation efforts underway and predicted that the laity would be the ones to carry on the legacy of Saint de La Salle as the Christian Brother numbers are not sufficient to meet the worldwide demand. Lastly, he discussed the riches of modern Lasallian history, and encouraged others to discover the Lasallians making a difference and addressing various needs around the globe.

The native of Australia has spent many decades in service to the international Lasallian community. Brother Gerard has served as a college professor, director of the Lasallian International Center in Rome, was twice elected to the General Council in Rome, and was a founding teacher of the Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies and the Lasallian Leadership Institute. He has also served on dozens of international committees and commissions for Lasallian projects around the world. He currently serves as adjunct professor at Australian Catholic University, and as a researcher with Lasallian Education Services in Australia.

Monseñor Film Premier Showing at Lewis

Lewis served as the site for the Chicago area premiere of the film “Monseñor” on November 30. “Monseñor” is the first film about Archbishop Oscar Romero that goes beyond the classic genre of a filmed biography, to explore and probe the contemporary significance and legacy of his life and tragic death. The film on Romero placed the Latin American campesinos, farm workers, at the center of the story.
Dr. Atra Publishes Paper on Dollar Cost Averaging

Robert Atra, Ph.D., CFA (Finance) published a research paper in the June 2011 issue of the Journal for Financial Planning (co-authored with Thomas Mann, CFP). The article, entitled “Can Taxes Save Dollar Cost Averaging?” investigated the tax benefit investors receive by implementing a dollar cost averaging investment strategy—a strategy whereby investors make a fixed periodic investment. Contrary to what is reported in the popular press, the authors found the dollar cost averaging strategy to be no more effective than a lump sum strategy even when taxes were taken into account.

Marketing Professor Gives Training Presentation

This past January, Robert Bergman (Marketing) gave a training presentation on “Branding and how it can be used by entrepreneurs” to a consortium of Joliet middle school teachers as part of their training for the creation of “The Young Business Entrepreneur” Clubs in their schools. The event was hosted and sponsored by the Joliet Chamber of Commerce.

Professor’s Writing Published in Online Journal

Therese Jones, (English) had her short fiction story published in Lewis University’s Jet Fuel Review, this past fall. The title of the story was “Strange and Subtle” and was selected from more than 500 entries, including works from renowned international authors.

Dr. Lynn Tovar Co-Authors Article for Social Justice Series

Dr. Lynn Tovar (Justice, Law, and Public Safety Studies) and Tracey Nicholas presented on the topic “Portrait of Relationship Dysfunction: The Impact of Technology on Domestic Abuse” in February 2012 at the Concordia University Global Justice Series, an interdisciplinary forum on issues of social justice around the world held at Concordia University in River Forest.

Nursing Professor’s Study on Overweight Adolescents Published

A study conducted by Dr. Pamela Martyn-Nemeth (Nursing) and a colleague (S. Penckofer), “Psychological Vulnerability Among Overweight/Obese Minority Adolescents,” was published in a recent issue of the Journal of School Nursing.

Foreign Language Faculty Present at ACTFL Convention

Dr. Serafima Gettys and Iwona Lech (both of the Foreign Language Program) conducted a 60 minute presentation at the 2011 annual American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Convention titled “Language in the Mind: Pedagogical Implications for Enhancing Oral Proficiency.” The presentation reviewed an innovative approach to teach speaking in a foreign language that was informed by Cognitive Perspective in SLA.

Nursing Professor Receives Postdoctoral Fellowship

Dr. Daisy Sherry (Nursing) has been awarded a Postdoctoral Fellowship with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs’ Health Services and Research Development Service with funding from 2011 to 2013.

Dr. White Presents Work at Molly Malone’s in Forest Park

Dr. Jackie White (English) was the featured reader at Molly Malone’s “Second Monday Poetry Night” this past February. Dr. White read from her chapbook, Come, Clearing which was published in February by Dancing Girl Press.

Education Professor Co-Edits Textbook

Dr. Bradley Porfilio (Education) recently co-edited Using Standards and High-Stakes Testing for Students: Exploiting Power with Critical Pedagogy with Peter Lang Publishers. Through empirical work in K-16 classrooms, the contributors provide a deepened awareness of how educators can alleviate the negative effects of standardization, especially for students who populate poor and working-class communities. The contributors also provide pedagogical guidepost to highlight how it is possible to implement curricula and instructional activities that exploit the possibilities of standards (and their corollary assessments) while simultaneously fostering critical thinking and student efficacy.
Lewis Celebrates its 80th Anniversary
Lewis University is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. Commemorative activities are included in ongoing University events, that began with the Signum Fidei Celebration in the fall and will conclude with Mass and a Dedication Day Picnic on May 30, 2012.

by Michelle Fregoso ’11

According to Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President, “Lewis continues its remarkable evolution from a small technical school with an aeronautical emphasis to a comprehensive and highly regarded regional university with nearly 6,500 students today. From its early days of focusing on technical skills to assist students to find jobs during the Depression, Lewis has expanded dynamically through innovation, dedication to its Catholic and Lasallian Mission, constant quality enhancements, consistent program growth, and ongoing transformation.”

Events that highlighted the anniversary included the Signum Fidei Celebration to raise scholarships funds; Homecoming and Family Day, and the re-dedication of the Fitzpatrick House to honor the founders of Lewis.

The University’s Arts & Ideas Series, which features lectures, music, theatre, film and other performances for students and the community, featured historical lectures among its offerings for fall 2011 and will do so again for spring 2012 as part of the anniversary celebration. More events have been planned for the remainder of the school year.

Upcoming events include the annual “This I Believe” essay project, which will focus on what the Lewis community believes about the University. Founders Week in April will be expanded to include a “Celebration of Scholarship,” with a keynote speaker, undergraduate and graduate poster presentations and concurrent sessions, and artistic presentations.

The annual Birthday Bash for students this year will include a giant cake with 80 candles. On May 30, the 80th anniversary of the dedication of the school, will begin with an Anniversary Mass, followed by a University Picnic to conclude the year’s celebration.
As part of the anniversary observance, the University’s Board of Trustees officially recognized the late Frances Fitzpatrick as a “Founder” of Lewis University since she and her brother, Michael Fitzpatrick, donated the land that was used to build the first buildings on campus. Frances, who died in 1950, lived to see Lewis grow into a college. Read more about their legacy in the following article.

Kurt Schackmuth, ’98 ’02, Associate Vice President for Mission

In celebration of Lewis University’s 80th Anniversary we remember Michael and Frances Fitzpatrick and the contributions they made to the founding of this institution.

Patrick Fitzpatrick, a 31-year old Irish immigrant, settled in Lockport in the 1830s in search of work. He quickly put his knowledge of land surveying to good use and, according to some accounts, was hired as a supervisor of a stretch of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, which was under construction at the time. Patrick also established himself as a successful farmer and in addition to crops, raised sheep and dairy cattle. Within the span of 35 years, he acquired almost 1,200 acres of land, becoming one of the wealthiest landowners in Will County and one of Lockport’s most well known residents.

Patrick and his wife Mary raised four children together in the two-story dolomite limestone farmhouse they built on their property in late 1840s. During the1850s, Patrick sent his son Michael to the University of Notre Dame in nearby Indiana. Michael was recognized for his proficiency in algebra, arithmetic, bookkeeping and English grammar. He graduated with a diploma from the Commercial Department. Several years later, the Fitzpatrick’s three daughters, Mary, Kate, and Frances, attended Saint Mary’s Academy in Notre Dame, Indiana, directly across the street from Notre Dame.

Patrick Fitzpatrick died on March 21, 1887 at the age of 85, leaving several hundred acres of land, the limestone farmhouse, various outbuildings, and a horse barn – also built of limestone – to his wife, Mary, and the children. The task fell to Michael, Frances and Kate to run the farm and care for their 70-year-old mother. Michael, who had served as Lockport Township Supervisor for five years, resigned the position so that he could focus his attention on the operation of the farm. The Fitzpatrick’s oldest child, Mary, had been married since 1868 to Thomas J. Kelly, an Irish immigrant, dry-goods merchant, and Mayor of Joliet from 1883 to 1889.

On March 13, 1895, Mary, the matriarch of the family died, leaving the farm to her children. By this time, Michael was 51 years old. We know the most about Michael’s personality and deportment from his second cousin’s memoir. Dr. William Fitzpatrick described Michael as six feet, four inches tall. He almost always wore a black ten-gallon Stetson hat. Although he moved a little slower in his later years, he still continued to play a vital role in the operation of the farm and management of his personal and business affairs. He worked less, contributed to worthy causes, and stayed active in his church, St. Dennis Parish in Lockport. He spent more time on the farm doing the things he enjoyed, like sitting on the front porch in the summer smoking cigars.

Dr. Fitzpatrick writes, “In the summer he would spend his time either sitting on the porch or in his special chair in the kitchen. He made his transfer several times a day with a slow pace, kind of like the changing of the guard. His voice was low and strong and had a country quality. With his pure white hair and handsome appearance, I allow as how he was a real man.” Frances, Michael’s sister (known as Fannie) was described by William as “short, thin and austere.”

During the early 1900s, as the siblings aged and the neighboring community began to expand, Michael and Frances saw that their land could benefit others. They donated 170 acres of land to the Archdiocese of Chicago, officially signing the paperwork on June 1, 1920. According to these documents, the Fitzpatrick heirs deeded this land for a $5 donation to the “Catholic Bishop of Chicago” indicating that “said premises hereby conveyed shall be perpetually used and occupied for the purposes of an orphanage and shall not be sold or mortgaged at any time.” The documents also noted “grantors reserve possession of said land until crops of the season of 1920 are removed.” Michael, like his father, demonstrated his business acumen.

Ten years later, the economic hardships
associated with the Great Depression served as the context for the planning and development of the land. With the encouragement and support of Michael and Frances, construction began on a school in early 1931. Holy Name Technical School was formally dedicated several months later in May of 1932 thanks to leadership of Auxiliary Bishop Bernard J. Sheil and in association with Frank J. Lewis, a Chicago businessman and entrepreneur. This high school for boys served those who couldn’t afford to matriculate elsewhere during this period of economic distress. The German Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross and lay faculty taught the students skills such as engineering, writing and mathematics. They also introduced students to a whole new field of study – aviation, which eventually became a primary focus of the institution.

Michael Fitzpatrick died in February of 1933, living long enough to see the opening of the new school. Frances continued to live on the family farm across the street from the school and was known for distributing cookies and buttermilk to the young students who often paid her visits on sunny afternoons. Frances lived to see the evolution of the institution from a high school to a college. She died on November 27, 1950.

Today, the historic Fitzpatrick House is owned by Lewis University and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is home to the Lewis University History Center and the Illinois and Michigan Canal Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau. Michael and Frances Fitzpatrick are both recognized as Founders of Lewis University.

Kathrynn Skonicki ’12

The 1840s carriage mounting stone has returned to its original placement, in front of the Fitzpatrick House, with the help of 10 people. The planning and moving process took 18 months.

The carriage stone was originally used to assist people arriving in carriages. It was utilized as a step stool for carriage passengers exiting the horse carriages high above the ground, explained Dr. Dennis Cremin, Director of the Lewis University History Center and Associate Professor of History. “Now, a century later, the carriage stone greets visitors to the Fitzpatrick House. Only this time, they are welcomed to explore the past preserved at the Lewis University History Center inside the former home of the Fitzpatrick family.”

The 18-month process started when grandchildren of the Fitzpatrick family visited the Fitzpatrick House in June 2010. The visit prompted Kathleen Fitzpatrick, a granddaughter of the Michael Fitzpatrick’s cousin William J. Fitzpatrick, Sr., to contact Lewis University. She explained that many years ago, the carriage stone was moved to a family member’s home in Evanston, 45 miles away. The current owner of the home, Mary Ellen Stanfield, discussed with Jonathan Yardy, Executive Director for Major Gifts, a plan for its removal.

On November 30, Kurt Schackmuth, Associate Vice President for Mission, documented the removal process. Dwight DeVries, Superintendent of Grounds, organized the crew of Efrain Zavala (Grounds Foreman) and Grounds Crewmen Randy Bruemmer, Luke Baskerville and Javier Sanchez. Schackmuth explained that the carriage stone with “Fitzpatrick” engraved on it was being used in the suburban yard as a retaining wall that was significantly buried underneath dirt. Only one hitching post was recovered from the site. The Lewis crew placed the stone closer to the Fitzpatrick House to protect it from traffic.

More information about the Fitzpatrick House, carriage stone and history of Lewis University is available at www.lewisu.edu/historycenter.
Lewis University awarded three honorary degrees at the December Commencement Ceremonies December 17-18, recognizing the achievements of Brother Michael Quirk, FSC, President and CEO of Christian Brothers Services and President Emeritus of De La Salle Institute; Honorable Ray H. LaHood, United States Secretary of Transportation and a former Illinois Congressman and Sister Mary Paul McCaughey, O.P., Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

These three doctoral degree recipients were honored along with 735 graduates who were awarded degrees throughout the weekend’s ceremonies. A double alumnus of Lewis University, Brother Michael was honored at the Commencement Ceremony for Graduate Students.

President and Chief Executive Officer of Christian Brothers Services Inc. (CBS), Brother Michael Quirk, FSC, is the dynamic leader for this non-profit organization, which includes more than 2,000 Catholic congregations, schools, universities and dioceses. After 25 years in high school ministry, Brother Michael returned to CBS in 2008 where he had begun his professional career nearly 30 years ago.

Brother Michael served 24 years at De La Salle Institute of Chicago, beginning as a business education teacher and concluding as President. During his presidency, he invited the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis to collaborate in the creation of the Lourdes Hall Campus of De La Salle Institute for girls in Chicago’s Bridgeport neighborhood. This inspired initiative transformed a traditionally “all boys” high school into a highly respected coeducational college-preparatory institution in 2002, the only high school in the nation to offer a high-quality education to both young men and young women in separate single-gender environments.

With Brother Michael’s strong encouragement, Lewis University established a site at De La Salle Institute in 2007, providing Lasallian higher education opportunities for students who work and/or reside in the city. In recognition of his visionary leadership, in 2008 Brother Michael was named President Emeritus at De La Salle. Also, in 1991 Brother Michael established the Tolton Education Center, a free program serving nearly 700 people annually, that provides education in family literacy, employability skills, as well as child services in low-income communities in the Chicagoland area.

A respected Lewis Trustee from 1997 through 2009, Brother Michael currently serves as a Director on the Board for Montini Catholic High School, and as a member of both the National Advisory Council for the Saint John Vianney Center and the Council of Regents for St. Mary’s University in Minneapolis. He is a Director for San Miguel Schools in Chicago, where he serves as Vice Chair on that Board. He also served as a member of the Chicago Board of Ethics.

The Sunday Ceremony for Undergraduates began with the Baccalaureate Mass celebrated by Most Rev. Francis J. Kane, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. At the Undergraduate Degree Ceremony, honorary degrees were awarded to Sister Mary Paul and Secretary LaHood.

A lifelong resident of Illinois, United States Secretary of Transportation Ray H. LaHood was born and raised in Peoria, appointed to his cabinet position in 2009 by President Barack Obama. Secretary LaHood leads an agency with more than 55,000 employees and a $70 billion budget. His priorities for the Department of Transportation, which oversees air, maritime and surface transportation missions, include “safety across all modes of transportation, restoring economic health, and creating jobs and sustainability...with a strong focus on people and communities where they live and work.”

Secretary LaHood has launched several major initiatives reflecting these priorities including efforts to build a national
high-speed passenger rail network; to strengthen commercial bus and driver safety; to protect airline consumers; and to upgrade America's oil and pipeline network. Prior to serving as a member of the President's Cabinet, Secretary LaHood served for seven terms (1995-2009) as a Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives from the 18th District of Illinois, comprised of 20 counties, 11 of which Abraham Lincoln represented as a Congressman.

Inspired to seek public office by his experience as a junior high school social studies teacher, Secretary LaHood became known in Congress for his extensive parliamentary knowledge, his collaborative bipartisan spirit, and his ability to bring varied groups of people together with “uncommon openness and civility.” As a member of Congress, Secretary LaHood co-founded the Bipartisan Congressional Retreat and became the leading member of the Illinois Congressional Delegation, serving on several significant committees, including the House Appropriations Committee; the Intelligence Oversight Panel; the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee; the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the Subcommittee on Agricultural, Rural Development.

Secretary LaHood has said: “We need to leave something of value to those who come after us.” His exceptional public service on behalf of communities in Illinois and throughout the United States is indeed “something of value” for subsequent generations, and reflects well the Mission of Lewis University, particularly in his support of the development of the complete person through education, promoting social responsibility, and developing community in teaching. He and his wife, Kathy, have raised four children and have nine grandchildren.

Noted for her visionary and highly effective leadership in promoting excellence in Catholic education, Sister Mary Paul McCaughey, O.P., a member of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield, is the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Sister Mary Paul oversees the largest Catholic school system in the United States, comprised of 256 elementary and high schools, more than 7,000 educators and 90,000 students in Cook and Lake Counties.

In less than four years, she has stabilized enrollment for the first time in many years in the Archdiocesan schools. Sister Mary Paul also has launched the development of new curricular standards and goals for the Catholic elementary schools, and is currently establishing similar standards for all Archdiocesan high schools. In addition, she established an Archdiocesan School Board and actively reached out to others by facilitating collaborative relationships among clergy, teachers, students, parents and community members.

Prior to accepting the position as Superintendent, Sister Mary Paul had served as a dedicated Catholic educator and administrator for nearly 40 years, including 10 years as President of Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights, and six years as Principal at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School in Springfield, Ill. Under her respected leadership at Marian Catholic, the school earned a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon and twice was named to the National Catholic High School Honor Roll, which recognizes the top 50 Catholic secondary schools in America.

Raised in Park Ridge and later in Olympia Fields, Ill., Sister Mary Paul cites as formative influences her family’s vital connection to their neighborhoods’ churches and Catholic schools, their strong work ethic, sense of faith, humor, and integrity. She found these same qualities reflected in the Springfield Dominican Sisters, who lead through serving. As a teacher, she considered “young people as reverenced individuals drawn into a sacred classroom space,” and as a school President, she experienced “what a gift it is to shape a vision and have it validated in buildings, programs, [and] endowments for the future.” According to Sister Mary Paul, “All is grace. It is grace that remains what truly animates the best of what I do.”

LEFT PHOTO: (Left to right) Dr. Bonnie Bondavalli, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Delia Goldnick, Father Aquinas Award recipient, and Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University. RIGHT PHOTO: Karen Joy Dizon presented the student Lasallian address.
President’s Circle Dinner Honors Stavas, Wight & Company

Lewis University presented the Frank J. Lewis Philanthropists of the Year Awards at the 16th annual President’s Circle Dinner to Philanthropist of the Year honorees Joel and Debra Stava of Naperville, and Corporate Philanthropist of the Year Wight & Company, with offices in Chicago and Darien, Ill.

The President’s Circle Dinner annually honors the University’s top donors for their commitment to higher education and their dedication to Lewis University through financial support. Both Joel and Debra Stava earned degrees from Lewis, where they met as undergraduates and were married shortly after graduation in 1978. Joel Stava began his career while still in college, working for Midwest Tungsten Service, Inc. (MTS). After earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration, he worked in sales and marketing before returning to MTS in an executive role. Three years later, he partnered with a fellow employee to buy MTS, and since that time, Midwest Tungsten Service, Inc. has continued to thrive as a manufacturer of special devices made with refractory metals. President of the company, Stava has led MTS through many years of exceptional innovation and success. He has also served as a member of the Lewis University Board of Trustees since 2005, providing leadership as Vice Chair of the Development Committee and Chair of the Property, Plant and Equipment Committee. Stava was the recipient of an Alumni Achievement Award from Lewis in 2004 and received the Adam Smith Honored Alumnus of the Year Award from the Lewis University College of Business in 2011.

Debra Stava has served the community both as a teacher and a volunteer, as well as caring for their three children, now grown. Active in her parish community, she has taught religious education classes at St. Rose School and St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. Stava has also served as a member and officer of the Lewis University National Alumni Board.

Together, Joel and Debra Stava have made a lasting impact on their community and have contributed their time, guidance, and financial support to numerous fundraising events at Lewis, including the Signum Fidei Celebration, Arts Gala, scholarship support, athletics, and of major campus facility initiatives, including the construction of the new Science Center.

Wight & Company has made a positive impact on the Chicagoland region through the economic and employment growth the corporation has created, and also through their leadership in green initiatives, dedication to creating an exemplary workplace, and philanthropy in support of education. Since beginning as a surveying firm in 1939, Wight & Company has developed into one of the top-ranked design firms in the nation and has attracted national attention as...
Salvatore Ursino, along with his parents Elizabeth and Salvatore Ursino, traveled to the state capitol in Springfield, Ill. where he received the Lincoln Academy’s Student Laureate Award.

Ursino Honored as Student Laureate by The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Salvatore Ursino of Park Ridge was recently honored by The Lincoln Academy of Illinois. The Academy honored him along with approximately 50 graduating seniors from Illinois’ higher education institutions during a November ceremony in Springfield, Ill.

“This achievement is important to me because I realized that my hard work and dedication at Lewis University has paid off,” commented Ursino.

The Lincoln Academy’s Student Laureate Awards are presented for excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities to seniors from each four-year, degree granting colleges and universities in Illinois. Each student received a Student Laureate Medallion, as well as an honorarium check and certificate of achievement.

“These students have exhibited a personal commitment to excel as seen by their remarkable academic accomplishments,” said Thomas S. Johnson, Chancellor of the Lincoln Academy.

Ursino earned a bachelor’s degree in Computer Graphic Design in December and took a full-time position at the University as a multimedia graphic designer in the Office of Marketing and Communications. As a student, he was layout editor for The Flyer newspaper. During his term, the newspaper earned honors from the Illinois Press Association, American Scholastic Press Association and American Collegiate Press Association. He was also involved with several other activities at Lewis including, serving as the president of the men’s volleyball club, which he started in 2009. The team quickly found success, such as winning the Division II Michigan State Hardwood Classic in 2010. In the 2010-2011 season, the team was ranked 12th in the Division II category by the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation. He also was voted the 2011 Homecoming King.
Baseball’s Mike Bolling Earns Multiple Preseason Honors

Lewis senior centerfielder Mike Bolling earned several preseason accolades leading up to the start of the 2012 Lewis baseball season in March.

Bolling was named to the 2012 Tino Martinez Award Watch List in late February. The award is given annually to the most outstanding Division II baseball player in the nation. The honor is named after the former University of Tampa Spartan, Olympian and MLB All-Star, Tino Martinez. The watch list recognizes those players who may be favorites to win the award.

Bolling’s honor came on the heels of taking home American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) and National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Preseason (NCBWA) All-Region accolades earlier in the preseason.

“Mike had an outstanding junior year and made an immediate impact on our team,” Lewis head coach Tim McDonough said.

“He creates problems for opponents with the bat, with the glove and on the bases due to his speed and ability track balls in the outfield.”

Bolling earned the trio of preseason honors thanks to a stellar junior season in 2011. The Chicago native stole a Great Lakes Valley Conference-best 31 bases last season. His .427 on-base percentage and 37 runs scored led the team. He put together a team-best, 24-game on base streak.

Lewis Men’s And Women’s Tennis Both Ranked In ITA Top 50 Teams

When Lewis University head tennis coach Brett Bridel was hired in 2007, he was charged with the duty of turning both the men’s and women’s squads into not only contenders for the Great Lakes Valley Conference title, but to be competitive on the national scene as well.

Check and check.

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) released the Division II National Rankings on Wednesday (March 28), and both teams find themselves ranked in the Top 50. Following a pair of victories over nationally ranked opponents in No. 26 Northwest Missouri State (5-4) and No. 35 Nebraska-Kearney (7-2), the Flyer men’s squad enter the national rankings for the first time in school-history at No. 37 with a record of 10-2.

“It is a great feeling to finally get the men’s team in the national rankings,” Bridel said. “The men’s tennis program has come a long way and I am so proud of the guys that have been so dedicated, so driven, and so persistent in working hard.”

Lewis senior Uno Lapimaa (Tallinn, Estonia/Audentese) who has won his last 12 singles matches is ranked 22nd in the country with a record of 27-3.

The women, led by sophomores Zsofia Lanstiak (Budapest, Hungary/Karinty Frigyes Gimnaziyum) and Zsofia Kranczicki (Eger, Hungary/Szilagyi Erzsebet Gimnaziyum es Kollegium), are ranked 47th in the country with a record of 11-2.

Lanstiak, who owns a singles record of 23-2, moved up to 26th in the country in singles play. Kranczicki is ranked 31st overall with a record of 22-5. As a tandem, Lanstiak and Kranczicki - who placed third overall at the USTA/ITA Small College Championships - are fourth in the country in doubles play with a record of 14-2.

“The Zsot’s have been everything you could ask for in a tennis player,” Bridel said. “They compete extremely hard in every match and their rankings are a reflection of that.”

Both teams will be back in action on Friday (March 31), as the Flyers open up Great Lakes Valley Conference divisional play against Saint Joseph’s. First serve is set for 2 p.m. at the Jack Oremus Tennis Complex.
Lewis University men's volleyball team used the first half of the season to let the volleyball world know they were for real in 2012. They opened the season with a win at No. 9 Pepperdine. They followed it with a victory at Hawaii. A week later, Lewis welcomed No. 6 Penn State to Neil Carey Arena and handed the Nittany Lions a 3-1 defeat.

By the time defending national champion Ohio State rolled into Romeoville on Feb. 23 the Flyers were ranked seventh in the nation, one spot ahead of the eighth-ranked Buckeyes. Lewis played like the favorite and defeated Ohio State in four sets. Junior Jay Petty hit .425 in the match with a contest-best 23 kills.

Lewis' wins resulted in several individual honors as six Flyers earned a MIVA Offensive or Defensive Player of the Week Award. Freshman Greg Petty picked up an American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) National Player of the Week accolade on Jan. 24 following Lewis’ win over Penn State.

The challenge for the Flyers is to stay hot heading into the MIVA Tournament in late April. The winner of the MIVA Tournament earns the automatic berth to the NCAA Men’s Volleyball Championship. This year’s tournament is hosted by USC in Los Angeles, Calif. on May 3 and 5.
Lewis Men’s Hoops Advances To NCAA Tournament For First Time Since ’08

The Great Lakes Valley Conference is widely known as the toughest basketball conference in America, as the GLVC East had as many as five teams ranked in the top-25 in the nation.

The Lewis University men’s basketball team acquitted itself quite nicely, as the Flyers (17-12) defeated two of those ranked squads and advanced to the NCAA Midwest Regional Basketball Tournament for the first time since 2008.

Four of those losses came at the hands of defending National Champion, Bellarmine, including back-to-back defeats in the GLVC and NCAA Tournaments.

The Flyers were led offensively by the backcourt of senior Chris McClellan and freshman Ryan Jackson. McClellan earned All-GLVC Second Team accolades as he led the Flyers with 15.7 points-per-game. He also topped the Flyers with three-pointers (71), three-point field goal percentage (44.4%), free throw percentage (87.5%) and assists (2.8 apg).

Jackson was the first Flyer in school history to be named the GLVC Freshman of the Year, as he averaged 13.0 points-per-game. That is the highest scoring average by a Lewis freshman since Flyer Hall of Famer Larry Tucker averaged 14.9 in 1979-80.

Both McClellan and Jackson played a key role in Lewis’ 82-74 upset victory over Kentucky Wesleyan on February 9th, as they combined for 48 of the Flyers’ 82 points. Jackson scored a game-high 26 points, while McClellan chipped in 22 points and four three-pointers.

Two weeks earlier, McClellan posted a game-high 25 points to help the Flyers rally from an 11-point, second-half deficit on their way to the 78-66 win over No. 21 Indianapolis on January 26th.

Lewis senior center Marty Strus was a selection to the inaugural GLVC All-Defensive Team, as he led the Flyers in both rebounding (6.1 rpg) and blocked shots (1.0 bpg).

Keeping It Almost All In The Family

The Niego boys, four of them, start for the Lewis University team

Originally written by Hank Hersch

The Marx Brothers fit nicely four to a screen, the Mills Brothers four to a song. But to find brothers four on the floor in basketball, you have to head to Romeoville, Ill., where love has conquered history. Please meet, with echoing intros, the foursquare Niego brothers of Lewis University, the only quartet of siblings in NCAA annals who have had the fortune—not to mention the talent and selflessness—to share the bouncing ball with one another as starters on the same team.

The co-captains are seniors and identical twins Charles Thomas and Thomas Charles Niego (pronounced KNEE-go). Charlie, the older by two minutes, is the 6’6” playmaker and spokesman. He’s chiseled in his old man’s image: tough-minded and short-tempered. Tom Niego, a 6’6” forward who leads the Big Red in scoring (18.5), is a bit more sensitive—though not to pain. He once played with a broken thumb. Joe Niego, a 6’5” junior, is the wise guy and strongest rebounder. At the other guard is freshman Mark Niego, 6’4”, so lean and green he sticks to the perimeter on and off the court. He has the nicest shooting touch. “One of the things we have over other teams,” says center Brad Peterson, the fifth starter, “is that we’re such a family.”

Lewis—a school of 2,900 a half hour south of Chicago—has certainly benefited from the abundance of Niegos. After splitting two games last week, the Big Red was 13-1 and ranked ninth in Division II. The school also was No. 1 in defense, giving up only 51.5 points a game. “The thing that saves us is that they work so hard,” says coach Chuck Schwarz, whose disciplined style has led Lewis to four straight 20-win seasons. “The other players respect the Niegos because they know how badly they want to win.”

Off the court, the brothers Niego take many of the same classes (the three upperclassmen are marketing majors with B averages), live together (Charlie and Tom in one dorm room, Joe and Mark next door in another) and kick around the idea...
of going into the construction business together. On the court they’re all business, jaws jutted and elbows out. For all their aggressiveness, they say they never fought one another growing up. “We never drew blood,” Joe says. But for a battle with outsiders, each is equipped. Says Jerry Tokars, their high school coach at De La Salle Institute in the take-no-prisoners Chicago Catholic League: “Just before tipoff, when they put in those mouthpieces, you’d better be ready. It’s going to be a 10-rounder.”

Take last Thursday’s KO of Ashland (Ohio) College. Thanks to Tom’s 14 first-half points, Lewis pulled to 35-35 at intermission. To start the second half Mark nailed a jumper, and Joe hit two free throws. Charlie ran the show, driving, shooting, controlling the tempo. Lewis won 70-56. The four had 51 points, 20 rebounds and 16 assists. “I’ll tell you what,” says Ashland coach Gerry Sears. “You’ve got brothers, I’ve got brothers. The thing is, these brothers can play.”

The Niegos are knit so tightly because basketball is the fabric of the family’s life. Seven of the eight Niego children have earned headlines—and six college scholarships—through basketball. Their father, Ron, a boiler and building maintenance man for the board of education, had played basketball his senior year at De La Salle. Thus his philosophy is “Play, so when you look back on it you have no regrets.” He urged his children to work on all aspects of the game: dribbling, shooting, rebounding and defending. Now Ron says, “Where everyone is slam and jam, we’re fundamentally sound.”

The Niegos’ house on Chicago’s South Side is small and full of life. The lack of space didn’t slow the Niego brothers, who were as inventive as the Wrights. At one time or another, balled-up socks were dunked through bent coat hangers dangling from every door (except the one to the parents’ bedroom). In a stretch of basement the size of half a court, the boys wore out tiles in a game of two-on-two in front of the family. But the sisters were fine players too. Mary, the No. 2 women’s scorer in Lewis history, is in law school, while Terry, No. 3, is getting her MBA. Both ref high school and park league games.

The folks—Ron and Patricia—are fixtures at Lewis home games, often with various offspring in tow. Until recently, mom videotaped the action, adding the voice-over. “Shot up and in by Charlie. Lewis leads 4-2.” But now Patricia, an elementary school teacher, gets game tapes from Lewis’s athletic department. After the game the clan swaps kisses in the stands, then the brothers replay the tape in their dorm or at home. A typical Saturday night might be 10 Niegos around the tube, popping popcorn and nitpicking DePaul’s play on TV.

Once the twins chose Lewis, Joe was sure to follow. Mark, on the other hand, had reaped the benefits of being younger and apart from the pack. He had played with the twins informally on The Franchise, the family’s team in a summer park league, but was thinking about attending another school. “In high school, I went through a phase when being compared to my brothers got to me and I thought about making a reputation on my own,” says Mark. “When they talked about the Niego brothers, I pictured those three. But I love the brothers, and I’ve always looked up to them because they lead a good life. They’re how people want to be. I realized the family is where it should be, so why leave it?”

The Niegos will be hooping it up for a while. Nancy, a senior forward at Maria High School, is a top player in the city. But Quinn, 13, is a third-stringer on his eighth-grade team and isn’t all that interested in the game. “I eat popcorn,” he says. Indeed, that’s probably how the other Niego brothers will be spending a lot of time years from now. Eating popcorn—and watching tapes of the games they played together.
Gifts & Grants

Schmitt Foundation Funds Scholar Program

The Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation has again generously funded the Schmitt Scholar program at Lewis with a $50,000 gift to provide scholarship funding for (ten) five thousand dollar scholarships to be awarded to deserving students this spring. Five of the selected students will be doctoral students in education and five will be undergraduate students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to service and the values of the Schmitt Foundation and the Mission of Lewis University. One of the University’s most faithful donors, the Schmitt Foundation provides philanthropic support, principally in the Chicago area, to universities and organizations that sponsor and mentor underprivileged students attending Catholic schools and develops learning and leadership in students of various learning levels.

Female Flyer Scholarship Challenge Exceeded

Last fall, Lewis announced that friend and benefactor Diane Ballweg, had proposed a challenge gift of $25,000 to permanently endow a scholarship to recruit talented young women to pursue Aviation and Transportation Studies at Lewis University. Alumni, parents and friends responded with gifts of $33,095 to help Lewis exceed the challenge!

The Female Flyers Scholarship will provide women students with opportunities in aviation. Women currently hold only six percent of the active pilot positions and less than four percent of the more than 500,000 non-pilot aviation jobs in the United States. Mrs. Ballweg is a generous supporter of women in aviation and recognizes the vital need to address this challenge and hopes to inspire others to join in this important cause.

To find out how you can support the Female Flyers Scholarship, please contact Kathryn Risor-Heise, Director of Annual Giving, via e-mail risorkha@lewisu.edu, or by phone at (815) 836-5471.

Illinois State Board of Education Renews Grant Supporting STEM Workshops for Teachers

Lewis University is proud to announce that the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) renewed a grant supporting workshops for teachers for the summer of 2012. The grant will provide $183,464 to the innovative new program, begun last year as a part of the Illinois Math and Science Partnership Summer Institute Program, a national initiative to provide increased education in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) areas. Workshops last year focused on “Green and Renewable Energy” and taught the mathematics and science of renewable energy to teachers.
Scholarship Luncheon Connects Students with Donors

More than 160 students, families and donors gathered on November 13 for a scholarship luncheon celebrating the opportunities made possible to so many Lewis students thanks to their generous benefactors. Scholarship students had the chance to meet and have lunch with a contributor to their scholarship, thank them for their support and discuss their education and plans for the future. In turn, scholarship donors enjoyed the opportunity to become acquainted with recipients and see first-hand the difference their gifts have made in the lives of Lewis students. Attendees heard remarks from University President Brother James Gaffney, FSC, and students Ramica Ford, recipient of The Sarode Foundation Annual Scholarship and Kristin Johnson, recipient of the Dennis J. Murphy Endowed Memorial Scholarship and the William B. Orenic Endowed Scholarship. Benefactor Michael Parker ’77, a member of the Lewis University Board of Trustees, also spoke about the rewards of giving to support scholarship students.

Univision/Chicago Donates Television Broadcast Equipment

The University recently received a significant donation of television broadcast equipment from Univision/Chicago, including an entire digital control room, news set, robotic television cameras and a live news truck, among other items. “The technology will allow our students to have major television market technology experience that will enhance our facility, and continue to give our current and future students a competitive edge in major market broadcasting and television production,” stated John Carey ’85 ’06, Director of the Andrew Center of Electronic Media at Lewis University.

Univision is in the process of a multi-million dollar HDTV upgrade to their facilities in Chicago. As part of the transition, they are donating surplus equipment to Lewis University.

Univision/Chicago’s connection with Lewis University has been ongoing for numerous years. Lewis alumni P. Douglas Becker ’92 and Eugene Garcia ’99 are managers in the traffic department. Univision/Chicago Director of Engineering John Freberg is a 35-year adjunct professor at Lewis University, who teaches 3D Video Production and broadcast engineering courses. Student Maribel Barrera of Romeoville is the latest student to intern at Univision/Chicago, in engineering and operation management. The newly-updated Mass Communication major at Lewis is designed to help students develop a broad mastery of skills and engage audiences in an ever-changing media landscape. New concentrations in the department include Convergence Journalism; Corporate Communication; Public Relations/Advertising; and Radio, Television and New Media.
Len Bertolini Appointed Vice President for University Advancement

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University, has announced the appointment of Len Bertolini to the position of Vice President for University Advancement, effective immediately. Bertolini joined the Lewis staff in 2008 as Senior Development Officer in charge of Major and Planned Gifts. He is a graduate of Bradley University who holds a master’s degree from Lewis. Bertolini had served as Interim Vice President of University Advancement since August of 2011. During that time, he has directed development of plans for a new capital campaign, launched “We Believe” - a newly-revitalized faculty and staff campaign - expanded alumni events, and managed other University Advancement initiatives. Congratulations, Len!

Have You Included Lewis University in Your Will?

If so, we invite you to join the Harold E. White Legacy Society, a special group of donors who have made planned gifts to Lewis University. Society members enjoy a number of benefits at Lewis, while knowing they are endowing the University’s future.

If not, please consider making a bequest to Lewis at this time in your will, trust, life insurance, IRA or estate plan. You will not only be leaving your own legacy, but also helping Lewis provide a high-quality education rooted in our Catholic and Lasallian tradition to future generations of students.

For information about planned giving and joining the Harold E. White Legacy Society, please contact Bob Kanonik, Director of Gift Planning at (815) 836-5813 or kanoniro@lewisu.edu
Alumnus Tim McCarthy Presents Historical Perspective on Protecting the Presidency

Tim McCarthy, a Lewis University alumnus and current Chief of Police of Orland Park, presented a program "An Eyewitness to a Presidency" on November 2 on the main campus to a standing room only audience. McCarthy served as a United States Secret Service agent beginning in 1972 during Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and George H. Bush terms of office. During the Reagan presidency he was shot, along with the president, during the assassination attempt. After John Hinckley began to fire, McCarthy deliberately put himself in the line of fire to shield the President. McCarthy received the NCAA Award of Valor in 1982 in recognition of his bravery.

McCarthy spoke eloquently on the Office of the Presidency and of the training and education for Secret Service agents that goes into protecting the president. He said, "The Secret Service is charged with protecting the Office of the Presidency (not the person), so that in a moment of madness the course of history will not be changed." Extensive scenario training on possible assassination attempts is the key to knowing how to react in an emergency.

Having had the opportunity to work with multiple administrations, McCarthy said that from his perspective the more successful presidents surrounded themselves with good staffs. He cited accomplishments of each of the presidents, focusing specifically on some of the Reagan accomplishments in honor of the centennial. Reagan was able to turn the economy around with unemployment down to 5.5 percent, worked to begin the reduction of nuclear arms worldwide, was instrumental in Russia’s tearing down the Berlin wall, and directed Health and Human Services to begin research on a vaccine for AIDS.

McCarthy’s career included eight years assigned to the Presidential Protective Division in Washington D.C. and 14 years as a criminal investigator in Chicago. McCarthy was the Special Agent in Charge of the Secret Service Chicago Division from 1989 until his retirement in October 1993. McCarthy has served as Chief of the Orland Park Police Department since May 1994. He earned his Master of Science in Criminal/Social Justice from Lewis in 1999.

The event was part of the Reagan Centennial Series, marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ronald Wilson Reagan (1911-2004). The Lewis University History Center hosted three events that examined the life and legacy of the 40th President of the United States, entitled, "Reagan’s Public Image: A Panel Discussion." These events were also presented as part of Lewis University’s Arts & Ideas Program.
Class Notes

1960s

Vernon Gaugush ’61 (Liberal Arts) was honored at the 20th anniversary of the annual Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament in Wausau, Wisconsin in June, 2011. Vernon is responsible for bringing the tournament to its location in Wisconsin, and his determination and enthusiasm have fueled its progress over the past 20 years. Currently, Vernon is the Clubhouse Manager at Pine Valley Golf Course in Marathon, Wis.

Joseph Prendergast ’66 (English) is currently teaching English and studying the Chinese language at Guangxi University, Nanning, China. Joe tells his story on “Joe’s Blog,” where he has posted 180 articles and more than 2000 pictures. Interested readers can visit the site at www.josephprendergast.com.

Patrick Daley ’78 (Speech) traveled to Rwanda, Africa on a mission trip in support of the orphanage/school that was founded by his church in response to the 1994 Genocide. This particular trip celebrated the school’s first ever graduating class of high school students.

1970s

Robert (Chumley) Chesney ’76 (Criminal/Social Justice) has retired from Homeland Security. Bob has been in law enforcement since he graduated from Lewis 34 years ago and resides in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

1980s

1990s

Milan Bojovic ’96 (Criminal/Social Justice) recently retired from his position as a Police Commander from the Bellwood Police Department. He served in Law Enforcement for 30 years.

Kathy (Holland) Martini ’92 (Radio & TV Broadcasting) has started a new business venture to support food allergy research. KatieCare Productions LLC produced three videos designed to teach kids about food allergy safety. Through song and dance, the Safe Food Friends teach kids about food allergies, safe and unsafe snacks and the importance of reading labels. Kathy would like to thank John Carey and John Kilpatrick of the Lewis Department of Communications for their help in getting the project completed.

Sharon Goreham Reiss ’96 (Management Information Systems) spent last summer working in India.

2000s

Sabrina Dubik ’07 (Secondary Education and English) will have her essay “Do Talk to Strangers” which she wrote during her senior year, published in an anthology produced by National Public Radio, This I Believe: Life Lessons.

Steve Elliott ’05 (Aviation) has started a new career with Expressjet as a maintenance supervisor and is enjoying both sides of the aviation spectrum, fixing aircraft and managing the people that work on them.

Brian LaPorte ’06 (Management Information Systems) has accepted a new position as a High School Counselor at Naperville North High School.

Kyrsta Miner ’05 (Aviation Maintenance Management) has been appointed Industrial Engineer-Methods Process Analyst for Boeing and is currently working on the 747 Systems Installation in Seattle, Wash.

Ross Miner ’06 (Aviation Maintenance Management) is the Chief Inspector for Charter Maintenance at Galvin Flying in Seattle, Wash.

Jeff Sargis ’08 (Aviation Flight Management) finished primary flight school in the United States Navy and was accepted to train to fly strike jets at the Naval Air Station in Meridian, Miss. He graduated in the top 3% in his primary class.
Elaina Schnoebelen ’07 (Nursing) has been recently named Director of the Critical Care and Cardiology Service at Our Lady of the Resurrection. She stated, “This could not have happened without all the education and support I received from Lewis University. I was a part of a Cohort with Resurrection Healthcare.”

Robert Tutko ’07 (Public Safety Administration) was sworn in as the new Homer Township Fire Chief on January 23 at Marian Village in Homer Glen. This is the first time the village has hired a full-time chief.

2010s

Delia Goldrick ’11 (English and Secondary Education) was selected as the recipient of the December 2011 Father Aquinas Colgan Award. The Father Aquinas Award has been presented to an outstanding student at each of the University’s Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies since 1955.

Chris Hueg ’11 (Mathematics) serves as a Lasallian Volunteer at Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School (BLMHS) in Brooklyn, N.Y. He is a member of the Campus Ministry team, moderates service projects for Lasallian Youth, works to raise social justice awareness on campus, and mentors the students of BLMHS.

Engagements

Lyndsey Keating ’10 (Elementary Education) and Matt Clark ’08 (Economics) were engaged July 2011, and are expecting to be married at Lewis in fall 2012.

Daniel Miller ’04 (Aviation Administration) and Heather Placek were engaged at Spring Training 2011 with the assistance of the Milwaukee Brewers. A May 5, 2012 wedding day is planned.

Nicole Shiperek ’01 (Business Administration) and Mark Masen will marry in April 2012. Nicole is a Program Administrator for the NUCATS Institute at Northwestern University.

Weddings

Brian Forst ’00 (Business Administration) and Renata Feylo were married on November 26, 2011.

Melissa Infusino ’10 (Nursing) and Christopher Burgermeister ’09 (Aviation) were married October 22, 2011.

Daniel Miller ’04 (Aviation Administration) and Heather Placek were engaged at Spring Training 2011 with the assistance of the Milwaukee Brewers. A May 5, 2012 wedding day is planned.

Nicole Shiperek ’01 (Business Administration) and Mark Masen will marry in April 2012. Nicole is a Program Administrator for the NUCATS Institute at Northwestern University.

Sarah (DeMarco) Dowling ’03 (Psychology) and Dan Dowling celebrated their wedding on July 30, 2011 with Brother Philip Johnson, FSC, Dave Landgraf ’03,05, Todd Kleine ’04, Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Brother Tom Dupre, FSC, Tim Tierney (’03), Steve Landgraf (’05), and Brother Armand Alcazar, FSC.

Jamie (Boswell) ’09 & John Partyka were married on October 1, 2010 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Orland Park, Ill. Jamie is a Registered Nurse at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, Ill. and John is a Logistics Analyst at Med Speed in Elmhurst, Ill.

Krystal (Zarate) Sullivan ’08 (Psychology and History) married Tim Sullivan on September 30, 2011.
Future Flyers

Brittany Brandt ’08 (Business Administration) had a baby girl, Presley, on September 1, 2011.

Trisha (Meyerchick) Cahill, ’07 (Combined Elementary and Special Education) and Kyle Cahill ’07 (Aviation Maintenance Management) welcomed a baby girl, Arwen Sky Cahill, on June 17, 2011.

Rosemarie (Adamaitis) Janousek ’03 (Psychology) and Charles Janousek, Jr. welcomed their first child, son Halas Thomas Janousek on October 5, 2011.

Amanda (George) Reyelts ’07 ’08 (Accountancy and Graduate Business Administration) welcomed her second son, Zachary, on August 9, 2011. Older brother Matthew (born August 4, 2009) was excited to meet his younger brother.

Maggie (Renehan) Senese ’07 (Political Science and Criminal/Social Justice) and her husband, Victor Senese ’09 (Elected Studies) welcomed identical twin girls on July 12, 2011. Cailin Margaret and Molly Catherine join big brother, Victor.

Nicholas Waldenmeyer ’03, ’09 (Criminal/Social Justice/Public Safety Administration) and Nicole Waldenmeyer welcomed their daughter Layla Nicole on February 28, 2011.

In Memoriam

Murad Agenlian ’55 (Political Science) June 21, 2011
Norma Guess ’76 (Political Science) March 20, 2011
Beverly Burns ’01 (Graduate Education) February 2011
George Mielke ’65 (Aviation Maintenance) November 23, 2011
Anselmo Calderon ’39 (Applied Science) October 2011
Jim Pesoli, Sr. ’03 (Political Science) September 13, 2011
Thomas Clark ’94 (Biology) September 12, 2011
Judith Petrucci ’80 (Political Science) October 23, 2011
Thomas Cywinski ’64 (Marketing), June 18, 2011
Clare (Crowley) Soich ’56, December 23, 2011
Susan (Hoster) Suggs ’92 (Public Administration) October 9, 2011
James Devlin ’62 (Business Administration) August 23, 2011
Paul Trick ’70 (Mathematics), December 7, 2011
Stephen Farraday, ’57 (Aviation Maintenance/Avionics) January 24, 2012
David Videtich ’61 (Chemistry) December 7, 2011
Margaret Galloway ’97 (Graduate Nursing), November 2, 2011
Frank Voltarel ’61 (Business Administration) November 22, 2011

Peter Gavankar, husband to Lewis University Trustee Mohra Shahane Gavankar, passed away January 22, 2012. He was an admired and esteemed engineer, inventor, and founder of Rockdale Controls, Inc. and loving father to two daughters.

Lewis University Trustee Brother Michael Collins, FSC, the longtime President of De La Salle High School in Minneapolis, passed away on January 8. Brother Michael was a member of the Christian Brothers for 54 years, and was a De La Salle High School graduate, where he served as President since 1991. A leader in Catholic education, Brother Michael sat on the board of directors of the National Catholic Educational Association from 1996-2004, serving as President of secondary schools from 1996 to 2000 and as Vice Chair of the full Board from 2001 to 2004. He had been a member of the Lewis University Board of Trustees since 2009 and also served on the board of St. Mary’s University of Minnesota.
Alumni Gatherings


1. Anita, Lisa and John Mylander at the Philip Lynch Theatre Rose & the Rime reception. 2. Linda, '76 and John Sather enjoy the Rose and the Rime theatre reception.

Cookies with Santa: December 4, 2011.

3. Kathy Lyons ’74 spending some time as a loving grandmother. 4. Vice President for University Advancement, Len Bertolini ’11, and wife Donna sit their grandson, Vinny, on Santa’s lap for the first time. 5. Future Flyers having fun posing with Santa Claus.

DePaul Basketball: November 7, 2011.

6. Joe Skarbek ’71, Bruce Martin, and Ben Billups ’84 hang out at McGee’s Tavern for the pre-game reception held for Lewis alumni before the Flyers faced off against the DePaul Blue Demons. 7. Bill Hartmann, Eileen Sherry ’77, and John Sherry ’78 enjoy socializing with fellow alumni at McGee’s Tavern.


8. Lewis alumni and friends hit the road to support the Flyers Men’s Basketball team in Indiana.
Alumni Gatherings

Basketball Alumni Receptions: February 4, 2012:
1. Women’s basketball alumnae gather with Bedcheck Charlie to cheer on the Flyers in their game vs. Bellarmine on February 4.
2. Even future Flyers enjoyed the game!
4. Men’s basketball alumni reconnect at the Neil Carey Arena during the Bellarmine game.

5. Socializing before the Philip Lynch Theatre performance are Lynne Lichtenauer, Lorin Lynch, Sally Bagley and Tom Bagley.
6. Scott Baietti, Alina Rivas ‘07 and Anthony Sam ‘07 enjoy the pre-show reception for Almost, Maine.

Alumni root on the Flyers in Hawaii:
Winter Commencement 2011

1. The Lewis University ROTC Color Guard presents the American flag before the Commencement ceremony.

2. Ibrahim Alsulobi ’11, Mubas Alzahrani ’11, Naif Alqranim ’11, Bakheet Alhedmaani ’11 along with family and friends pose for a photo with Brother James Gaffney, FSC.

3. Crystal Koetz ’11 and family visit with other families of graduates after the undergraduate ceremony.

4. Eleese Farrar ’11 walks to her seat with fellow classmates before the start of the undergraduate ceremony.

5. Mahal Lynn Yadao ’11 receives her graduate hood from Dr. Stephany Schlachter and Dr. James Moses.

Alumni Gatherings

Naples, Florida. Alumni and friends reconnect in sunny Naples, Florida on February 24, 2012 at the home of Trustee Jim LaGripp ’61 and his wife, Anne.

Sarasota, Florida. Alumni also gathered in Sarasota Florida on February 17, at the home of Trustee Ed Prodehl and his wife Sandy.
Alumni Represent the Spirit of Lewis!

Amy Weierman ’05
“I provide compassionate care to my patients daily. I give back to my profession by serving as a preceptor for PA students, helping to further their education and prepare them to enter the workforce.”

Dana Swiderek ’09
“I represent the Spirit of Lewis because I am a teacher who cares about every student and who wants to make a difference. I am also a tutor to many children. I am fun loving and hard working.”

Amy Anders ’09
“I teach and tutor students in the Chicagoland area. Everywhere I go I let people know that I am a proud alum of Lewis University and how my great education helped shape my career!”

Ken Smith ’11
“I represent The Spirit of Lewis by encouraging Lewis students to study abroad where they can learn about other cultures and share the Lewis spirit with others abroad. I attend and support as many Lewis events as I can.”

Amy Yusko ’06
“I like to think I represent the Spirit of Lewis by what I left behind. While playing softball, I dedicated my life for four years to the school and especially the sport. I gave my heart and soul every day, and I believe people can learn by my example and that my legacy of heart and determination will inspire future Flyers.”

Don Kupina ’75
“I always tell people about Lewis and the great experience I had going there.”
Wight & Company presents the 32nd Annual Lewis University Varsity Club Golf Outing
9 a.m. Shotgun Start

Friday June 8 2012

Two locations:
Prairie Bluff Golf Course $150
19433 Renwick Road
Crest Hill, IL 60441

Mistwood Golf Club $175
1700 W. Renwick Road
Romeoville, IL 60446

Register today at www.lewisflyers.com

What’s new in your life that you would like to share with your fellow alumni? It may not seem like news to you, but your former classmates at Lewis would like to hear about you. Take a little time to let us know – we’ll see that your news gets into the Class Notes section of The Magazine of Lewis University as space permits. Photos are welcome, but due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee publication. Please fill in the information below, or log on to www.alumni.lewisu.edu and submit your class notes online. □ Check here if address is new

Name ___________________________ (Maiden) ___________________________

Home Address ___________________________________________ City __________ State __________ Zip __________

Phone ( ___ ) __________________________ Gender __________________________

Class Year(s) ______________________________________ Major/Program __________________________ Birth Date __________________________

Business Name ___________________________________________ Job Title __________________________

Business Address ___________________________________________ City __________ State __________ Zip __________

Business Phone ( ___ ) __________________________ E-Mail Address __________________________

Career/Family News (Attach additional sheets if necessary) __________________________________

Would you like to be a board member of the Alumni Association or serve on a standing committee? __________________________

Interested in mentoring to current students? Visit the ‘Career Resources’ section of www.alumni.lewisu.edu to sign up as a mentor.

Please clip and fax to (815) 836-5535, e-mail the information to alumni@lewisu.edu, or mail to Lewis University, Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, Unit 1068, One University Parkway, Romeoville, Illinois 60446-2200

www.alumni.lewisu.edu/classnotes
save the dates

For more information on any events, please visit the alumni website calendar of events at www.alumni.lewisu.edu