Flying High – Student Athletes Achieved Numerous Feats On and Off the Field this Spring.
Dear Readers,

Please find throughout this Lewis University Magazine a number of interesting updates on the 2014-15 academic year just concluded. It proved to be highly successful by any measure. The culture and accomplishments of the University community are such that it goes without saying that we always expect student success and overall excellence in all that we undertake for their benefit. Our Mission is clear and broadly embraced, the identity of Lewis as a Catholic university in the Lasallian tradition is firm, and the University continues to give evidence of the advantages to our students of our being a mid-sized university, neither too small nor too large. Moreover, as the late Cardinal Francis George once commented in a public forum, in his judgment, “Lewis University is a quintessential Catholic university.”

The quality of a Lewis University education can be measured in a variety of ways, and yes, it is assessed frequently and in every category. One telling measurement is the amount of external funding that the University receives in support of its Mission and of student engagement. For the first time ever, Lewis will receive a substantial grant ($613,000) from the National Science Foundation (NSF). A second NSF grant is expected shortly. In addition, our long-time patrons and very generous friends, the Lewis Family and the Lewis Foundation, have notified the University of a grant for $500,000 to establish an Endowed Scholarship Fund in celebration of the ethical leadership and generous philanthropy of Edward and Philip Lewis. Still further, a recently deceased alumnus, James Szczepaniak (’60), has left more than $400,000 in his estate for the Endowed Scholarship Fund which he earlier established and generously funded. Shortly before his death, he also committed to funding a wonderful statue, bench and sitting area in the middle of campus to celebrate the many contributions of nearly 110 Christian Brothers dating back to 1960 who are now serving or who have served at the University.

Various pivotal projects on campus are now underway or are in the planning stage. The final third of the Saint Charles Borromeo Center is under construction and renovation. We expect to be able soon to move the School for Professional and Continuing Education and the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies into that large structure. They will be joining the growing College of Business and Graduate School of Management. In addition, we will have a total of 156 sophomores moving into that building, with more than half arriving in the fall of 2015 and the rest in the fall of 2016. Planning is far advanced for the former Science Building renovations and transformation. It will house additional science labs and classrooms, the Lewis University Center for Scientific Innovation, Computer Engineering and other programs. A complete modernization of the Aviation and Aerospace complex is underway, including the large hangar and workshop areas, classrooms and labs, as well as all the technology. Furthermore, preliminary thought is being given to a major addition as various academic programs are developed and the student population grows rapidly.

We also hope to move forward on the transformation of the Sancta Alberta Chapel as we raise another $1-$1.5 million for that project. We are hoping to add a new facility for weight training and exercise equipment to address the mushrooming enrollment of the University, including residential students, NCAA student athletes and the many new club sports teams (16 currently). Other proposed projects include a Center for Student Success and Enrichment, to advance further our already impressive retention rates.

Many honors are coming to our students and their faculty mentors. For instance, more than 300 students exhibited their research and creativity during the Fourth Annual Celebration of Scholarship in mid-April. Many of those same students made scholarly presentations of that same impressive research at various regional and even national conferences. Our Mediation Team earned first place in an international competition and the Mock Trial Team had another successful year. Our campus media, including The Flyer, continue to garner regional and national recognitions, including for “Best in Class,” layout, general excellence and sports reporting for the newspaper. The same is true for our television and radio broadcasting. The theatre program receives many accolades and the student actors are frequently recognized for outstanding performances. The University has been listed on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll in light of our students’ volunteer services at 120 different not-for-profit agencies. The Flight Team once again is off to the national championship competition. In addition, various academic departments can brag of the recognitions their students regularly receive, including Computer Science, Information Security and the Natural Sciences. Lastly, the University has been ranked #91 among the most environmentally responsible campuses in the United States.

This has been an exceptional year for NCAA intercollegiate teams here at Lewis, perhaps the most accomplished year in recent memory. 207 of our 380 student athletes remarkably received recognition for highest honors, with an average GPA of 3.61 on a scale of 4.0. Moreover, the women’s basketball team for five weeks was ranked #1 nationally for NCAA Division II and advanced to the Elite Eight. As of this writing, our men’s volleyball team is ranked #1 nationally and we are hosting the championship tournament for the Midwest Intercollegiate Volleyball Association. In addition, like so many of our other students, Lewis student athletes render much volunteer service. That is certainly the case for many Service Learning classes, and our University Ministry sponsors a large multitude of volunteer service opportunities, in addition to more than a dozen annual retreats.

Thank you for your ongoing pride in, appreciation for and support of this excellent University. We have together accomplished tremendous good, for the benefit of our students, their families and communities, the Church and society in general. With the Lord’s ongoing presence, we are confident and grateful for the privilege of doing even more in the future. Indeed, each year we are achieving more together, and the world is a better place for it.

Sincerely,

Brother James Caffney, FSC
President
Thanks for taking our survey!

We recently asked you to complete a survey on The Magazine of Lewis University. The magazine is still the primary medium through which readers stay current about Lewis University, followed by the website. Readers of all ages prefer the print version of the magazine, and most said they would like both print and online. For those of you who would rather read the magazine online, we have a site where you can read the current magazine, as well as archived issues.

Visit lewisu.edu/publications/magazines
IS PEACE POSSIBLE IN THESE VIOLENT TIMES?
BY KATHRYNNE SKONICKI ’12

On a day in February, the auditorium became silent. In addition to faculty and staff, the seats were filled with young Lewis University students, who had just put down their cell phones and closed their laptops to hear a story about a country they had never seen and people they had never met. Brother Paul Joslin, FSC, shared his experience serving with fellow Lasallians as missionaries in the 1980s during Guatemala’s brutal 36-year Civil War.

The classroom environment was a stark contrast to the world Brother Paul was describing. Furniture still smelled new from recent renovation and the PowerPoint slides were shown on large projection screens in a nice, safe environment.

Brother Paul, the former Regional Superior for Guatemala, began to speak about his friend Brother James (Hermano Santiago) Miller, FSC, sharing their brief experience working together as missionaries in Huehuetenango, Guatemala. On February 13, 1982, Brother James was preparing to patch a wall outside the Casa Indigena De La Salle when he was shot several times and killed. Brother Paul recalled feeling the sweat on the brim of his friend’s hat as he lay on the street. It was a small reminder of the humanity of the person who had died in the midst of doing God’s work.

Brother James is rightfully known as a martyr because he was simply sharing the gift of education with the 150 indigenous boys at the Christian Brothers’ school, noted Brother Paul.

There are hundreds more martyrs that deserved recognition as well, he said. The Christian Brother shared a dozen stories of other innocent people slain while he served in Guatemala.

Brother Paul then turned to the audience of Lewis students, faculty and staff and brought the issue closer to home. He asked, “When you are suffering political oppression or reputation assassination, who do you turn to?”

Days after his presentation, Dr. Ewa Bacon, Professor of History, asked a similar question, “Who do the people of Chicago turn to when they are being gunned down in the streets on a daily basis?”

She reflected upon how she sat in the comfort of her own home over the summer listening to multiple news accounts of innocent people being killed in Chicago. On the weekend of July 19, 2014, there were 47 shooting victims in Chicago, five of them fatally wounded. Filled with empathy, Dr. Bacon considered what she could do to address this tragic violence occurring in her backyard.
The Holocaust scholar responded with the creation of a colloquia launched in fall 2014 at Lewis University called “Violent Times.”

The series originally was designed to mark the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I. It transitioned into the inclusion of present day violence, such as the urban violence occurring in cities like Chicago. The series of presentations, panel discussions, films and exhibits was sponsored by the Lewis History Center and the Arts & Ideas program. Even the Fall Peace Teach-In connected with the “Violent Times” Series, including a “Transformative Justice” presentation by Dr. Christie Billups, Assistant Professor of Theology.

Presenters from many different disciplines across the University participated. Dr. Jerry Kavouras, Professor of Biology, presented “Consequences of Violence on the Environment.” Keith White, Professor of Theatre, presented “Violence and Laughter.”

“What a liberal arts university can do is work to clarify societal problems. We can examine how to stem violence through societal change,” asserted Dr. Bacon. The series afforded faculty opportunities to present research and data on systemic violence through their area of expertise.

“Violent Times” presentations continued into the spring semester with a variety of modern-day and historical issues. Dr. Sheila Kennedy, Professor of English, spoke on “Mightier than the Sword: Writing through Trauma Workshop.” Dr. Mike McFerron, Professor of Music, offered “Analysis of Schonberg’s ‘A Survivor from Warsaw.’” Dr. Natalia Tapia, Assistant Professor of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies, presented “State Violence in Latin America.”

“Once students know about a problem, they should no longer be bystanders. They are called to respond,” said Dr. Bacon. With news of ongoing ISIS beheadings, there’s plenty of violence for our students to choose to address. Dr. Bacon said there will always be some type of violence in the world.

On the weekend of July 19, 2014, there were 47 shooting victims in Chicago, including five fatalities. Overwhelmed with empathy, Dr. Bacon considered what she could do to address this tragic violence occurring in her backyard. The Holocaust scholar responded with the creation of a colloquia launched in fall 2014 at Lewis University called “Violent Times.”

We certainly live in violent times and there is plenty to address, added Dr. Thomas Brignall III, Assistant Professor of Sociology.

Of course one needs to consider what one defines as violent, posed Dr. Brignall. “I suppose that depends on where you live, whether you have any power or influence, whether you are a victim, and whether you take part in the violence.”

Dr. Brignall expands violence to include more than just armed conflict, such as crime and domestic violence.

“I see intimidation, threats of violence, and bullying all as important forms of violence to consider and combat. I also believe discrimination, prejudice, sexism, homophobia, and racism are all forms of violence.”

“Violence can break out when other means of managing conflicts of interest break down,” explained Dr. Laurette Liesen, Professor of Political Science. “In regard to communities or nation-states, violence can occur when politics fail.”

Dr. Liesen believes political systems and skills can manage...
conflicts. She reasoned, “Stable and effective political systems are essential to peace, and practicing the ‘art of politics’ in our own lives can lead to less conflict and less violence.”

Achieving world peace through taking personal responsibility is a concept promoted by Dr. Lynn Tovar, Associate Professor of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies. As a former police commander whose responsibility it was to restore peace, she believes it is possible.

“In my view every person has their own definition and sphere of influence on obtaining peace.” Dr. Tovar concluded, “We may not be able to achieve world peace, but if each person respected one another then peace should be obtainable.”

Lewis alumnus and Commissioner of the Philadelphia Police Department Charles H. Ramsey ’90, MS ’91, was selected by President Barack Obama to co-chair the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. The Task Force is charged with seeking ways to strengthen police and community relations nationally.

See the article on “Building Peace from Within” in the alumni section on page 36.
Si Se Puede Conference inspires Latino Students

More than 180 high school students and over 60 Lewis University students from the Chicago area were motivated by Juan Salgado, President and CEO of Instituto del Progreso Latino Oct. 9 at Lewis University’s annual Si Se Puede Conference. “Always bring your spirit to the table. If you leave your spirit off the table, you leave so much,” the keynote speaker said to the crowd.

The annual event included workshops that provide students with the information and inspiration about the college admission and financial aid process, college life, and what to do now to prepare for college. New this year was a specific college track, which included a presentation by CoolSpeak, a youth engagement organization aimed at keeping students inspired. There was also a workshop for high school staff providing information about the changing demographics of Latinos.

Salgado is inspired by his father who taught him that maximum effort will get you through anything. He attended Illinois Wesleyan University where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree. He continued on to earn his master’s degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and most recently, he received an honorary doctoral degree from Illinois Wesleyan.

The Si Se Puede Conference is presented in the spirit of Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, who believed strongly in community empowerment. The conference is designed to provide Latino students with the tools and resources needed for educational success. Since Lewis first started hosting this conference in 2004, more than 3,700 students have participated.

“I think the value of the conference was that students and staff came together in an attempt to engage students in developing skills and networks that will allow them to advance in their learning,” commented Miguel Cambray, Director of Multicultural Student Services at Lewis University.

Head Start staff receives a lesson in managing illness from Lewis nursing students

Lewis University BAC-BSN students recently presented “Health Risk Assessment, Management and Health Promotion for Head Start Children,” to more than 100 professionals at the Head Start Pre-Service Training, including administration, teachers and staff from Diocese of Joliet’s Catholic Charities’ Early Childhood Division.

“The students were well prepared as evidenced by their ability to field questions from the audience,” said Anne McShane, Assistant Professor of Nursing. “They had interactive educational games that were well received. The PowerPoint presentation was part of the pediatric health promotion clinical.”

Students who presented with Professor McShane include Janelle Gaines, Bryan Hernandez, Meg Konzelman, Lisa Miles and Colleen Mitros.

The accelerated BSN program allows students of various academic backgrounds to fast-track their careers and become registered nurses in as little as two years.
Regional history conference features Lewis University faculty and students

Lewis University chapter of Phi Theta Alpha sponsored the Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference for Illinois. The history honors society conference was held in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the Midwest World History Association, held September 26-27 at Governors State University.

At the conference, senior history majors Nick Czerwinski, Zeferino Martinez and Mary Moran presented papers on a panel "Exploring Local History: Examining the Emergence of Joliet, IL through Material Culture." Dr. Eileen McMahon, Professor of History, moderated the panel.

Dr. Anne Rapp, Associate Professor of History and coordinator of program development in the School for Professional and Continuing Education, moderated “Rights and their Definition: Conflict, Panic, and the Violence.”

Dr. James Tallon, Associate Professor of History, organized the program for the conference and presented a paper "Colonialism, Peripheral Incorporation, and Islamism in the Libyan Hinterland, 1900-1912."

Steven Day awarded second place at computer science conference

Computer Science major Steven Day recently won Second Place Poster at the Consortium for Computing Sciences in College Midwest 2014 Conference. Day’s poster, “SISERTA: System for Information Security Education and Real-Time Awareness,” presented the work he did with Dr. Ray Klump, Professor and Chair of Mathematics and Computer Science, as part of the STEM Undergraduate Research Experience program this summer on developing intuitive visualization tools for identifying critical cyber security threats in real time.

“The research experience has given me a better understanding of how to deal with issues regarding cyber security in the real world,” said Day. “Working with Dr. Ray Klump was a privilege and an honor. Dr. Klump has an incredible amount of knowledge and passion toward the security section of computer science, so it was really great to share in some of that knowledge and see different ways of trying to solve persisting problems.”

The real-time visualization tool provides current operators a unique visual experience into the cyber health of their systems using color-coding and contouring. The visualization tool represents the exposure of individual nodes and of networks to various cyber problems.

Currently, the visualization is in 2D, but the research plan is to develop a 3D representation that would better draw attention to the nodes that are being most severely exploited and why. The training aspect of the tool enables trainees to grasp the concept of how exploits affect hosts on a network, the severity of the exploits, and what the best strategies might be to mitigate them. Tools such as these can improve cyber security training and education and also give current cyber professionals the heads-up they need to battle the persistent threats.
Aviation students visit United Airlines Operations Center

A group of 20 Lewis University students from the American Association of Airport Executives student organization and six students from the Operational Meteorology class recently visited the United Airlines Operations Center in Chicago. Richard DiMaio, Instructor of Aviation and Transportation, led the group on the tour.

The American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) is an aviation-related, student-led organization that is open to any Lewis University student, regardless of major or existing career field. The organization is dedicated to gaining knowledge and building relationships with existing professionals in the aviation field. Those who are interested in becoming an Airport Manager, Air Traffic Controller, or a professional Pilot/Mechanic will benefit from the various events AAAE has to offer throughout the school year. Although the group is tailored toward the stated professions, one common trait every member in the group shares is that they all have an undying passion for all that is aviation.

Students look into public relations at Edelman

Several students from the National Communication Association Student Club at Lewis University recently visited Edelman, a global PR agency, as part of the Publicity Club of Chicago’s 2014 Chicago PR Career Day. The event provided students with an overview of how a PR agency works, what career paths are available and how they can be successful in the industry. Career Day is designed to introduce students interested in careers in public relations to leading Chicago PR firms, and connect firms with future jobs and internship candidates.

“The experience taught me that I can be a part of many different departments and teams within public relations,” said Brooke Kasprowicz, junior public relations student. “I also learned that I could follow my dream at Edelman after college and become an intern for their health team.”

Edelman is the world’s largest public relations firm, with more than 5,000 employees in 65 cities, as well as affiliates in more than 35 cities. Edelman was named one of Advertising Age’s “A-List Agencies” in both 2010 and 2011, and an “Agency to Watch” in 2014; Adweek’s “2011 PR Agency of the Year;” PRWeek’s “2011 Large PR Agency of the Year;” and The Holmes Report’s “2013 Global Agency of the Year” and its 2012 “Digital Agency of the Year.” NCA members who attended the event include Brooke Kasprowicz, Nicole Krage, Marissa Mangala, Jade Osowski, Brianna Peoples and Nicole Wanta.

Sabrina Poulin has been selected to join GreenFaith’s Class of 2015 Fellowship, a year and a half long program that works inter-religiously to intersect environmentalism and religious faiths. Members of this class will work in a wide variety of settings, including congregations, universities, environmental and religious NGOs, denominational organizations and businesses.

“I’m looking forward to joining the Fellowship community,” Poulin said. The Coordinator of Ministry Service added, “I’m deeply concerned about our stewardship of Earth, and believe that religious communities

(to l) Brianna Peoples, Jade Osowski, Brooke Kasprowicz, Nicole Wanta and Nicole Krage.
have a responsibility to work toward healing our planet. As a Christian, I am called to work within this movement and encourage and motivate our students to care as well."

Since 2008, GreenFaith has trained over 130 Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist leaders for environmental leadership. Through three residential retreats, monthly webinars, and extensive reading, the Fellows receive education and training in eco-theology, “greening” the operation of religious institutions, environmental advocacy and environmental justice. Each Fellow writes an eco-theological statement and carries out a leadership project in the community, mobilizing religious leaders in relation to an environmental issue. Upon graduating, they will join the Fellowship’s alumni network and mentor other emerging leaders in this field.

GreenFaith is an interfaith environmental coalition whose mission is to educate and mobilize diverse religious communities for environmental leadership. Founded in 1992, GreenFaith is a leader in the fast-growing religious-environmental movement and has won national and international recognition for its work.

**Flight Team lands second place finish at regional competition**

The Lewis University Flight Team advanced to the national level competition for the sixth consecutive year by taking second place at the NIFA Regional 8 SAFECON competition. Lewis University took second overall and in flight and ground events. The regional event was held Oct. 28-Nov. 1 at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill., with Lewis University as one of five universities competing. The other schools included Indiana State University, Purdue University, Quincy University and Southern Illinois University.

Lewis University will advance to the National SAFECON Competition in May 2015 at The Ohio State University. At the 2013 competition, Lewis University earned the Loening Trophy, which is annually awarded to the outstanding all-around collegiate aviation program in the nation.

“Once again, the Flight Team has shown its commitment, fine competence and great effort in achieving excellent results in the regional competition,” stated Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President. “Their accomplishments reflect the University’s emphasis on academics, aviation skills, professionalism and a comprehensive safety program.”

In addition to Lewis University’s team honors, several Flight Team members earned individual awards. Lewis students Jack Mullen of Naperville tied for first place in Top Pilot Award and second place in Ground Trainer, Cody Marks of Orland Park placed third in Navigation (Pilot), Matthew Pall of Orland Park earned third in Navigation (Observer), and Kevin DeBoissiere of Columbia, Md. finished in third place in Simulated Comprehensive Aircraft Navigation.

Lewis University will advance to the National SAFECON Competition in May 2015 at The Ohio State University.
Students compete in Business Professionals of America contests

The Business Professionals of America (BPA) Area 20 competition was hosted by the College of Business on January 9, 2015. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University welcomed the students. Opening remarks were provided by Dr. Rami Khasawneh, Dean of the College of Business. The competition took place in the Saint Charles Borromeo Center.

Students from five high schools participated, including Hinsdale South, Hinsdale Central, Lyons Township, Westmont and Willowbrook High Schools. Students who are anywhere from freshmen to seniors and have expressed an interest in business, could choose from almost 70 various contests to compete—some individual and some team events. Contests at Lewis ranged from interviewing skills to small business case studies to graphic design and promotion.

The top finishers in this competition advanced to the state competition in Oak Brook in February. Nationals will be held in Anaheim, California this year.

Business Professionals of America is the leading Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) for students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields.

Argonne Undergraduate Research Symposium presenters include Lewis University students

Several Lewis University students presented research at the 24th Annual Argonne Undergraduate Research Symposium to peers, faculty and STEM professionals. The event consisted of presentations and keynote address from cutting edge scientists and engineers. The conference not only aims to provide exceptional students with a platform to present their research, but also serves to offer undergraduate students the opportunity to explore the next step in their STEM trajectory. Various career development panels and presentations were available to all interested participants.

Samantha Brain and Zachary Widel presented “Synthesis of Zinc Oxide Quantum Dots for Solar Cell Applications.” The research worked to employ a “green synthesis” route to the preparation of quantum dots solar cells that exhibits greater efficiency than baseline dye-sensitized solar cell technology. Dr. Jason Keleher, Chair and Associate Professor of Chemistry, served as their faculty mentor.

Julianne Truffa, Alyssa Szponder and Lisa Janes presented “A Study of Nanoparticle-Polymer Interactions Relevant to Chemical Mechanical Polishing Applications.” The research was to investigate the molecular level interactions at the nanoparticle-polymer interface using Photon Correlation Spectroscopy, a modified attenuated total reflectance infrared spectroscopy technique, and a high resolution contact angle method. Dr. Rago also served as their mentor.

Amy Mlynarski, Meghan Nichol and Lisa Janes presented “Exploring the Chemical Mechanical Planarization Process of Diverse Substrates,” mentored by Dr. James Keleher. The research explored the chemical mechanical polishing (CMP) processes used to planarize a variety of substrates, such as Sapphire, Nickel-Phosphorous, as well as Copper for advance interconnect devices. The research also dissected the CMP process to elucidate mechanisms that play a pivotal role in the development of next generation technology.

Julianne Hughes, Bianca Garcia, Daniel Lentz and Taylor Foytik presented “Biomimetic Antimicrobial Hydrogel Nanocomposite for Next Generation Wound Management Materials.” The research examined the development of nanocomposite wound management material that incorporates bimimetic polymers as the core building block, coupled with antimicrobial nanoparticles, which also aided in the overall functionality and structural rigidity. Dr. William Chura, Assistant Professor of Biology; Dr. James Rago, Associate Professor of Biology; and Dr. Keleher served as their faculty mentors.

John Hodul and Zach Struzik presented “Nano-Templating and Mesoporous Adjustment of Silica Sol-Gel.” Nanotemplating is the encasement and removal of nanoparticles from a host of matrix material to control the resultant porosity in both physical and chemical properties. The goal was to first understand the silicon dioxide matrix prior to the addition of nano templates using Fourier transform infra-red spectroscopy. Dr. John Parker, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Physics, served as their faculty mentor.

A number of the students who presented their research are a part of the Scholars Academy at Lewis University, including John Hodul, Meghan Nichol, Zach Struzik and Julianne Truffa.
Domestic violence shelter gets helping hand from Lewis University students

“Our building gets a lot of wear and tear. We are used to making the best of it,” said Amy Milligan, Director of Counseling and Advocacy for a battered women and children shelter in Downers Grove. The shelter serves about 700 non-residential and 300 residential shelter clients throughout a year.

Now, the tattered building has a renewed life after receiving a recent makeover, courtesy of a group of Lewis University students.

“We would not have been able to make the upgrades if it weren’t for them. They went above and beyond what we would have ever imagined,” Milligan said as she described the building’s facelift. The students renovated two different rooms for children in the shelter. One was a playroom, and the other was a child counseling room. A separate group of male students landscaped the exterior of the shelter.

The students were enrolled in the Domestic Violence course, taught by Dr. Lynn Tovar, Associate Professor of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies, which is part of the 3+1 Criminal/Social Justice degree program based at the College of DuPage.

The renovation was part of a semester-long service learning project for two classes of students taking the same course. Nicole Tomasello coordinated her classmates in the project that brought their education to another level. She said, “It was a learning experience that you wouldn’t get in the classroom. You learned how domestic violence affected so many women. It really gives you better insight and how it really affects women.”

It was the first time Tovar offered the optional service learning experience. She was surprised by her students’ enthusiasm. Tovar commented, “I was hoping for 10 or 15 students to sign up for service-learning. I ended up with 27.”

Student Andrew Marquez commented saying, “When I first heard about this project, I thought what better way to show the women and children that there is still a happy life out there. Anything I can do to help, I will.”

They did more than just offer a little help, said Tovar and Milligan. The students exceeded expectations by effectively organizing their talents and resources. They also spent a lot of time and effort on the project that earned them much appreciation from clients, staff and their teacher.

The participating students include Omar Casarez, Janet Chaidez, David Gough, Ronald Howe, Jeffrey Ide, Tracy Krefft, Kimberly Leppert, Lauren Nichols, Deanna Palma, Norah Rabahat, Meghan Sabatini, Nathalie Saputa, Karen Sausen, Cory Stallings, Jouwon Tate, Nicole Tomasello, Timothy Walsh, Adriana Garibay, Julie Gatz, Megan Gurin, Michael Joyce, Christine Kosmach, Ivan Lichvan, Michael Joyce, Christine Kosmach, Ivan Lichvan, Andrew Marquez, Harry Raceala, Armando Tamayo and Anthony Zangrilli.

WLRA’s ‘To Kill a DJ’ radio marathon raised nearly $2,000 for Advocate Children’s Hospital

Lewis University’s WLRA Radio raised nearly $2,000 this fall semester in support of the Lewis University Family Assistance Fund at Advocate Children’s Hospital in Oak Lawn and Park Ridge. The money was raised through the radio’s annual “To Kill a DJ” marathon. WLRA’s “To Kill a DJ” is an annual service-learning project for Lewis students that have WLRA Radio as a lab. Students raise money through continuous on-air marathons with pledged support from listeners.

Some notable student efforts were: Caitlyn Dynes raised $305 with six hours on-air; Shane Gustafson raised $300 with six hours on-air; Marissa Mangala stayed on-air for 24 hours and raised $260.

Other participating students included Katelyn Bittke, Mike Egan, Robert Knapp, Ryan Lange, Joseph Legder, Timothy McCann, Krystel Moran, Brian Neal, Austin Oremus, Rhen Pass, David Popisil and Anthony Rogalla. Student staff for the marathon included Kylie Link, Natalie Budig, Olivia Estrada, Shane Gustafson, David Ridderhoff, Scott Turek and Katie Coleaianni.

This spring WLRA will present another marathon broadcast and the College of Nursing and Health Professions will coordinate their own campaign as well. Both groups support the Lewis University Family Assistance Fund at Children’s Hospital which has received over $100,000 raised by students at WLRA and the Student Nurses Association. The Lewis University Family Assistance Fund is used to assist families of hospitalized children in their greatest time of need. In the past, funds have been used to pay for cab rides to and from the hospital for children to have chemotherapy, outpatient services, medicine, clothes when being discharged, hotel rooms for families, bus passes, airline flights to the hospital and much more.
Philippines mission trip makes for rewarding and memorable experience

Seven Lewis University students were among the 28 volunteer participants in the sixth Joliet Diocesan University Mission Trip December 28, 2014 – January 10, 2015 to the Philippines working on various projects of construction work:

“The hospitality, friendship and constant hugs were God’s blessings on all our lives and affirmations of encouragement for participating in such a life changing experience,” commented Christopher Hueg ’11, graduate assistant at Lewis University.

During their seven days of work, students completed two houses starting from the foundation up and helped to complete another two houses to the roof beams. They painted two houses and dug a six-foot wide, eight-foot long and six-foot deep septic tank.

Many hours were spent with the children of Bacolod City playing soccer, basketball, making friendship bracelets and dancing together. The students attended Mass with the community and experienced a traditional Filipino meal, Boodle Fight, which is served on top of banana leaves.

Upon reflecting on the mission trip, many students felt that they offered hope to the people that they met and worked with. “In reality, we were receiving the hope and love from those we worked alongside,” Hueg commented.

Black History Month highlighted by Fulfilling the Dream Conference keynote

“Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a revolutionary warrior for peace and justice, and it is up to young adults to fulfill his dream to address the concerns of the poor and challenge society’s status quo,” stated Dr. David Stovall at the annual Lewis University Fulfilling the Dream Conference, held Feb. 17. The Associate Professor of Educational Policy Studies and African-American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) encouraged the crowd of 120-plus high school and college students during his keynote address.

Stovall shared his concerns about the Illinois correctional system and encouraged the students to become advocates for change. He connected youth and women activism with the great movements for transformation in history. Whether it was sitting in the front of the bus in Montgomery, Ala., or a demonstration in Tiananmen Square, youth and females were involved in being the impetus for revolution, he pointed out. He urged the youth in the audience to be advocates for transformation in whatever circumstances they find themselves in life. The Greater Lawndale/Little Village School for Social Justice volunteer social studies teacher suggested that college was a great place to start their efforts.

The entire Fulfilling the Dream Conference was focused on finding success as an African-American in college. College preparation workshops throughout the day focused on thriving in high school, balancing fun and money, career success and navigating a college campus. A Black History Month trivia game also served as an inspirational part of the day.

A successful college experience served as a good foundation for Stovall. He continued on to research four areas including critical race theory, concepts of social justice in education, the relationship between housing and education, and the relationship between schools and community stakeholders. In the attempt to bring theory to action, he has spent the last 10 years working with community organizations and schools to develop curriculum that addresses issues of social justice. Stovall’s current work has led him to become a member of the Greater Lawndale/Little Village School of Social Justice High School design team, which opened in the Fall of 2005. Furthering his work with communities, students, and teachers, Stovall is involved with youth-centered community organizations in Chicago, New York and the Bay Area.

The Fulfilling the Dream conference draws its name from the great civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who had a dream of equality for all people. Participants this year included high school students from Lockport Township High School, Thornridge School in Dolton and Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora. Lewis University students also participated in the day as attendees and leaders of various events.
Lewis University hosts Spring Service Fair

Community partners from Lewis University and the surrounding community shared their hopes, goals and ideas for serving with each other during the first Lewis University Spring Service Fair. Twenty-six community partners participated in the Jan. 22 event sponsored by the Lewis University Community Engagement Cooperative.

“Partnerships were formed which will promote justice and support efforts to meet the hopes and needs of community members. This new spring semester fair was added as a result of our fall fair’s success. We plan to continue this valuable networking event in the fall and spring semesters,” Dr. Christie Billups, Director of Service Learning, commented. “This service fair acts as a great springboard for our various service learning, volunteer and internship opportunities for students, and was an important factor in the university’s inclusion in the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service.”

The community partners in attendance included Agape Missions, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Camp Fire Illinois Prairie, CASA of Will County, Catholic Charities Diocese of Joliet, Community Service Council of Northern Will County, Cornerstone Services, Feed My Starving Children, Forest Preserve District of Will County, Franciscan Outreach, Greater Joliet Area YMCA, Guardian Angel Services, Heart Haven Outreach, Life Directions, Loaves & Fishes, MorningStar Mission, Seed of Hope Foundation, SOS Children’s Village, Spanish Community Center, Valley View School District, Village of Romeoville, Warehouse Workers for Justice, Warren-Sharpe Community Center and Will County Humane Society.

Girls4Science engineering event gives students insight

The Computer Science Department at Lewis University recently partnered with the Office of University Advancement to host Girls4Science, an engineering event with more than 100 girls from grades six through 12 in attendance.

The Jan. 24 event gave the participants a chance to learn about various aspects of robotics, including electric motors, electric power sources, programming, 3D printing, construction techniques, wiring and design. The girls were divided into four groups of about 25 students, and rotated through four different activities, including a campus tour.

Dr. Cindy Howard, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, led an activity in which the girls learned the basics of computer programming using Finches and a graphical programming language called Snap. Dr. Ray Klump, Professor and Chair of Mathematics and Computer Science, led participants in making their own electric motor, and demonstrated how to create a light show with an LED. Dr. Dana Dominiak, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, explained how 3D printers work and how they are revolutionizing the way things are built. The event concluded with a demonstration of a 3D-printed robotic hand that Lewis Computer Science students made last year.

“It was a great opportunity to introduce girls to the wonderful fields of Computer Science and Engineering, and it is part of our ongoing effort to bring more women to today’s most influential fields,” Klump said.
The Flyer earns ‘Best of Show’ award at journalism convention in Minneapolis

Lewis University’s print student newspaper, won second place in the “Best of Show” award category at the 24th Annual Associated Collegiate Press Best of the Midwest College Journalism Convention held Feb. 6-8 in Minneapolis.

The Flyer competed in the four year non-weekly category. Judges recognized the print edition for its overall excellence in writing, editing, design, depth of coverage and photography. Convention speakers, professional journalists and college newspaper advisers served as judges for the competition.

“This award demonstrates that The Flyer editors produce a bi-weekly newspaper with the full array of strengths,” said Lisa O’Toole, Assistant Professor of Communications and advisor for the print edition of The Flyer. “They are deserving of this recognition by professional journalists.”

Staff members for the print edition of The Flyer include Stephanie Lipinski, editor-in-chief; Laura Fox, news editor; Jessica Resendiz, assistant news editor; Roslyn Summerville, tempo editor; Lauren Grady, assistant tempo editor; Jade Osowski, health editor; Katelyn Bittke, opinions editor; David Ridderhoff, sports editor; Nicole Kappelman, assistant sports editor; Theresa Marten, religion editor; Melissa Carrington, copy editor; Melanie Plowman, copy editor; Nicole Krage, layout editor and advertising manager, Rachel Dlask, layout editor; Georgi Presecky, layout editor; and China McDonald. The online staff members of The Flyer include Andrea Earnest, online editor-in-chief; Kelly Lyons, assistant online editor; Natalie Budig, breaking news editor; Tyler Jankowski, social media editor; and John Przybyla, photo editor. Hayley Miller, Assistant Professor of Communications, is the adviser for the online version of The Flyer.

The Best of the Midwest Convention is a gathering of college news journalists and advisors working with print and online media. The convention offers attendees practical learning sessions led by media professionals, problem-solving discussions and networking opportunities. Other convention activities include ACP’s Best of Show contest for general excellence, Best of the Midwest individual contests and critiques of student news media.

Mediation Team wins international competition

The Mediation Team won the Peacekeeper Championship Tournament, held at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. The team captured the title when it placed first in the Advocacy/Client category and second place in the Mediation category. Taking first in Advocacy/Client were Brianna Diaz, Ying Gao and Marcus Newell. In the Mediation competition, Shannon Lukowski, Dustin Murray and Brian Pustz placed second. Team members also won seven individual awards.

The Mediation Team, ranked fifth internationally, also received a bid to participate in the International Law School Mediation Tournament at Drake Law School, Des Moines, Iowa. Only the top five ranked teams from undergraduate schools are offered a bid. It was the third time Lewis has participated in the International Law School tournament in five years.

A few examples of the undergraduate schools competing in the tournament include Brenau University in Georgia, Principia
History Center opens photography exhibits at the Gaylord Building

Lewis University’s History Center and the Gaylord Building Historic Site will display two exhibits Feb. 20-May 20, featuring several rarely seen images taken from the Illinois & Michigan Canal’s history. The exhibits, free and open to the public, will be on display at the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Gaylord Building, located at 200 W. 8th Street, Lockport, Ill.


“There is no better place to show these images than the Gaylord Building,” said Dr. Dennis Cremin, Lewis Professor of History and Director of the Lewis University History Center. “Lockport’s history is tied to this past, and the Gaylord Building reflects the past and is a core location along the nation’s first heritage corridor.”

The “Visions of the I&M Canal NHC at 30” was featured in a dinner at the Gaylord Building, highlighting Gerald W. Adelmann, President and CEO of Openlands. Adelmann coordinated the special project that led to the creation of the first national heritage corridor, and today, there are over 50 national heritage areas in the United States.

For more information on the exhibits contact the Gaylord Building at (815)838-9400.

Mock Trial Team competes in invitational

Mock Trial Team opened the second half of the season by competing in two of the toughest and most competitive invitational events available. It competed in the Windy City Invitational Jan. 18-19 hosted by Northwestern University at the Daley Center in Chicago and Jan. 24-25 the Hoosier Hoedown hosted by Indiana University in Indianapolis.

The Lewis University team started off 2015 by consolidating its two teams to one.

At the Windy City, the team finished 17th, only two wins from ninth place. Flyers lost the first round to Loyola University, eventual 2nd place finisher. The team split with Macalester College and swept Notre Dame University in the next two matches. Those successes led to drawing a very strong University of Illinois, Chicago in the final round and losing by close scores.

Individually, the team was led by its captain, David DeSchepper, who won an Outstanding Attorney Award for the sixth straight tournament. Anthony Scorzo gave a strong performance, narrowly missing receiving an award. Head Coach Dr. James Houlihan, Professor of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies and advisor of the Pre-Law program, said all the witnesses performed well, with Larry Beyer, M’Aggie Huggins, and Megan Arehart scoring high.

With only a week to practice, the Flyers were back in battle at the Indiana University Law School in Indianapolis. Putting on their strongest and best performance of the new year, Lewis University finished eighth, three wins from first place, taken by undefeated Bellarmine University.

The Flyers opened very strong in the first two rounds, sweeping North Central College and Loyola University A Team. The third round found Lewis in third place, paired against the University of Chicago. They swept Lewis in a very tightly contested battle. Lewis then drew Miami University (Ohio) in the final round. The split resulted in Lewis finishing eighth and Miami 10th, with point differential and combined strength being deciding factors.

“This was a total team effort with David DeSchepper and Anthony Scorzo leading the way in the Outstanding Attorney category,” Houlihan added.

Both narrowly missed the Outstanding Attorney Award. Erica Swanberg and Larry Beyer led the witness scores, with Erica also narrowly missing an outstanding award.

Lewis hosted the Lewis/Will County Regional competition Feb. 21-22 at the Will County Courthouse in Joliet. There were 26 teams from 18 universities competing. A sixth place finish at the regional event earned the Lewis University Mock Trial Team a bid to the national American Mock Trial Association tournament for the 15th time in less than 20 years. For the second consecutive year, Anthony Scorzo (co-captain) won an Outstanding Attorney Award at the Joliet, Illinois regional Tournament hosted by Lewis University.

Lewis University Mock Trial Coaches include Bill Rock of Block, Kulkas, Manzella & Shellin Joliet, Paul Namie of Law Offices of Jason R. Moseley in Merriville, Ind., and Cary Hansing, a financial analyst for BP Oil.
### Student Presents Research with Professor at Annual Immunology Conference

**Dr. Sarah Powers (Biology)** attended the 43rd Annual Autumn Immunology Conference in Chicago this past November along with Biology major, Leigh Smith, who presented a poster at the Undergraduate Student Workshop. Her poster, “Cyclin D3 in Human Cancers,” was a display of research data she generated as a participant in Lewis University’s SURE (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience) program.

### Palmi Conducts Workshops at Catholic School in Brazil

**Dr. Christopher Palmi (Education)** conducted a workshop for the faculty of Our Lady of Mercy School in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on developing middle school curriculum and meeting the needs of English language learners. Dr. Palmi was invited back to conduct workshops with the faculty regarding implementation of middle school philosophy and the design of authentic assessments to be used with students from pre-Kindergarten to high school. Dr. Palmi continues to consult with Our Lady of Mercy administration and faculty as they revise curriculum, and the school welcomes Lewis University pre-service candidates as student teachers each semester.

### Psychology Professor Contributes Chapter to Book on Career Success

A chapter authored by **Dr. Katherine Helm (Psychology)** will be featured in a new book titled *Black Faculty in the Academy: Negotiating Identity and Achieving Career Success*. The chapter is called “Social Networking and Support: No, I Don’t Know How to Play Golf.” The book was published by Routledge in March.

### Education Faculty Present on Special Education and Common Core

A team of faculty from the College of Education presented at the national conference of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children in Indianapolis this past November. Dr. *Pamela Jessee*, Dr. *William Blackwell*, Dr. *Mary Fisher*, Jennifer Buss, and Elizabeth Sturm presented on two issues. First, the group presented on the changing landscape of special education services in Catholic schools, including information on the work of Lewis University’s Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education. The second presentation focused on the national curriculum movement known as the Common Core State Standards. The group presented strategies to help teachers integrate and promote positive messages about disability into these new curriculum standards.

### Doherty Center Funded Research Published by Faculty and Student Team

**Dr. Jerry H. Kavouras (Biology)** and his research undergraduates published “Coliform bacteria, fabrics, and the environment” in the December 16, 2014 edition of *American Journal of Infection and Control*. Victoria Colclasure ’14 was a significant contributor in writing the manuscript and leading the research. The research was funded by Lewis University’s Doherty Center for Aviation and Health Research.

### Graduate Students Present Poster at Counseling Association Conference

“Social Media and Professionalism: What Counselors Should Know” was the topic of the poster presented by graduate students Sarah Barrera and Yenny Sanchez at 66th Annual Illinois Counseling Association (ICA) conference in Schaumburg this past November. Kimberly Duris, (Psychology) was their faculty mentor. This research poster project reviewed various social media platforms and explored the positive and negative aspects of using social media as a counselor.

### Normand Presents at National Communication Association Convention

**Dr. Emily Normand (Communications)** was a presenter at the 2014 National Communication Association Annual Convention in Chicago. Her lesson plan, “Staircase to Heaven: Understanding Relational Development through Popular Music” was accepted and featured in the G.I.T.S. program. Great Ideas for Teaching Students are class-tested activities, assignments, projects, games, simulations, or assessment techniques that address a specific communication theory, concept, skill, or learning objective. Using Knapp’s (1984) well-known staircase model for relational development and a series of relevant popular music records, students explore what happens communicatively during the stages of relationship development and dissolution, while also recognizing how popular culture reflects the nature of our relationship trajectories.

### Nawara Studies Presidential Politics and Motivated Reasoning Theory

**Dr. Steven Nawara (Political Science)** authored an article titled “Who is Responsible, the Incumbent or the Former President? Motivated Reasoning in Responsibility Attributions” in the March 2015 edition of *President Studies Quarterly*. For the article, Dr. Nawara conducted a random sample survey to assess how respondents ascribe credit and blame across the current and former presidential administrations for economic conditions and conditions in the Iraq War. Applying a psychological theory called motivated reasoning, Dr. Nawara shows that respondents confront the ambiguity of whether President Bush or President Obama is responsible for those conditions in a partisan manner by crediting the president of their own political party for perceived successes and blaming the president of the opposite party for perceived failures.
**Donna Martin Receives 2015 Nurse Educator Fellowship Award**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) named Donna Martin, Assistant Professor of Nursing, a 2015 Nurse Educator Fellowship Award recipient.

“"I feel very honored and blessed to be awarded the IBHE 2015 Nurse Educator Fellowship Award,” said Martin, who will be using the funds of the fellowship to support her professional growth.

Martin plans on attending several conferences focusing on faculty development and teaching effectiveness, while also obtaining the Certified Nurse Educator certification during the next year. In addition, part of the funds will also be used to support the cost of providing study sessions for her Sophomore II nursing students.

“I began doing study sessions as part of my Doctor of Nursing Practice project to help students acclimate to nursing courses and students have found them to be helpful, so I have continued to offer the study sessions,” Martin commented.

The Nurse Educator Fellowship program promotes the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher education that award nursing degrees. The fellowship supplements the recipients’ salaries and helps to defray professional development and continuing education expenses.

“I love watching the ‘light bulb’ go on when students make the connection between what they are learning in the classroom and the application of this material in the clinical setting,” Martin said.

Martin earned a bachelor’s degree from Loyola University and master’s degree in Nursing Education from Lewis University. She is currently working on her Doctorate of Nursing Practice in Nursing Leadership from Capella University.

Dr. Daisy Sherry, Assistant Professor of Nursing, received a 2014 Nurse Educator Fellowship Award from the IBHE. Participation in this program is open to Illinois institutions of higher learning with a nursing program approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

**Lewis Named a STEM-Friendly School**

Lewis University has been included on the inaugural list of “2015 STEM Jobs Approved Colleges” by STEM Jobs Magazine. The list rates universities, colleges, community colleges and trade schools on their responsiveness and relevance to high-demand, high-growth STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) occupations.

Significant progress in STEM majors at Lewis University contributed to achieving this designation. According to Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University: “Our splendid new Science Center has stimulated greater interest in the sciences and provided excellent facilities for study and research. Our students have made impressive national presentations on their real-world research, and the University has developed many new partnerships with scientific research firms in the area.”

More than 1,600 colleges participated in the STEM Jobs ratings process. Colleges were scored on publicly available data and responses to proprietary survey questions around three key indicators of success: program alignment to job demand, job placement after graduation, and diversity in a school’s STEM programs.

Samantha Rinehart ’14 presented her research with Dr. Jason Keleher and classmate Jeremy Rech to legislators in Washington, D.C. during the Center for Undergraduate Research “Posters on the Hill” event. Lewis students in various majors are working on research year-round through university programs, such as the Summer STEM Undergraduate Research Experience, Celebration of Scholarship, and the Colonel Stephen S. and Lyla Doherty Center for Aviation and Health Research.

Partnerships with medical schools, graduate and professional schools provide students with opportunities to expand their learning as well as cooperative agreements and research projects with institutions like Argonne National Laboratory, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Nanophase and Sherwin Williams.

A rapidly growing number of Lewis University undergraduate students are majoring in Biochemistry, Biology, Chemical Physics, Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Forensic Criminal Investigation, Information Security, Information Security and Risk Management, Mathematics, Physics, Pre-Engineering and Pre-Pharmacy. Adult and graduate students are increasingly attracted to Lewis programs such as the Post-Baccalaureate Biomedical Sciences Pre-Medical Studies program and graduate level programs of Business and Analytics, Information Security.
Christian Brothers and Colleagues Honor Brother James Gaffney, FSC

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University, received the Brother John Johnston, FSC, Award at the Huether Lasallian Conference Thursday, Nov. 20, in Chicago. The highest national recognition presented annually by the Christian Brothers National Conference, this award was presented in conjunction with the meeting of the Directors of Education/Mission for the four Provinces of the Christian Brothers in the U.S.A. and Canada.

Attending the Conference were over 300 representatives from six Lasallian universities, including Lewis University, from 55 Lasallian high schools, including four in the Chicagoland area, and from a large number of middle schools, retreat centers and several religious publishing firms within the national network of Lasallian ministries, based on the teachings of St. John Baptist de La Salle, patron saint of teachers.

Now in his 27th year as President of Lewis University, Brother James was recognized for the significant growth and quality enhancements at Lewis University during his tenure, including the remarkable expansion of undergraduate and graduate programs. The award also acknowledges the very effective focus on the Lewis Mission as a Catholic university in the Lasallian tradition.

Brother James has led the University during a period of significant growth in enrollment, tripling to nearly 6,800 students, while Lewis has received regional and national recognition for its academic quality. During his presidency, academic offerings have expanded to include more than 85 undergraduate programs, 35 graduate degrees, and doctoral programs in education and nursing. The campus has been transformed through an investment of approximately $275 million in numerous construction and renovation projects.

Active in more than a dozen organizations, Brother James chairs the Community Foundation of Will County and serves as a member and former chair of the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities. A board member and former chairman for the South Metropolitan Regional Higher Education Consortium and for the Great Lakes Valley Athletic Conference, Brother James also chairs the Lasallian Association of College and University Presidents and serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Illinois Justice Project. An alumnus of St. Mary’s University of Minnesota, he holds master’s degrees from St. Mary’s and Manhattan College (N.Y.), plus a doctorate in pastoral theology from the University of St. Mary of the Lake (Ill.).

President’s Honor Roll Recognizes Lewis for Community Service

Lewis University has been named to the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Lewis University is included among the nation’s leading colleges and universities for its commitment to bettering communities through community service and service learning.

“We achieved this honor by pursuing our Mission, with its main focus on educational programs, while developing community in all teaching, learning and service,” said Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University. “Our faculty, students and staff actively demonstrate this commitment in serving the community through courses that provide service learning as well as personal participation in service,” he commented.

In the 2013-2014 academic year, Lewis University provided more than 3,600 service hours and collaborated with more than 120 community partners. Lewis University is among the 21 Illinois colleges and universities admitted to the Honor Roll for its work on a variety of service and service learning projects in cooperation with community members and organizations.

Examples of service learning at Lewis University include: LUMINATE; participation in University Ministry service retreats; serving at Habitat for Humanity, food banks, volunteering at youth camps, shelters and other venues; and participating in a public relations partnership with local non-profits to promote the organizations. College of Nursing and Health Professions students and faculty regularly provide illness management tips to Catholic Charities’ Head Start staff and families; and Communication broadcasting students and the College of Nursing & Health Professions students raise more than $100,000 for the Lewis University Family Assistance Fund at Advocate Children’s Hospital in Oak Lawn and Park Ridge.

“Our service has grown tremendously since being included on the President’s Honor Roll in 2012. Today, service continues institution-wide at curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular levels locally, nationally and internationally,” commented Dr. Christie Billups, Coordinator of Service Learning at Lewis University.

The President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll recognizes institutions of higher education that support exemplary community service programs and raise the visibility of effective practices in campus community partnerships. A full list of recipients can be found by visiting NationalService.gov/HonorRoll.

lewisu.edu/publications/magazines
Lewis University held Winter Commencement ceremonies on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13-14 on its main campus in Romeoville. Among the degrees awarded to students, Lewis presented three honorary degrees, recognizing the achievements of the following community leaders: Susan Perez, Executive Director of Tolton Center which provides adult education programs for low-income communities in Chicago; Frank H. Beal, an industrial leader also noted for his achievements as Executive Director of Metropolis Strategies and in municipal planning; and The Chicago Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, founded by the first Black military pilots in the United States who fought legal segregation to be accepted into military flight training programs, and became known for their heroism and achievements during World War II.

**Susan Perez**

Susan Perez was commended for her extraordinary achievements in creating vital educational opportunities for the underprivileged and underserved in Chicago, designing educational programs for the Tolton Center in collaboration with De La Salle Institute. She has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to social justice within the community and zeal that has enhanced her work in envisioning and shaping the community-based adult education programs at Tolton which focus on literacy, child services, and employability skills. Perez is considered to be an exceptional representative of the mission of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, founder of the Christian Brothers.

Born in Wisconsin and now a resident of Oak Park, Perez combined education and catechesis in her career, excelling in teaching and designing educational courses while also ministering to others by teaching catechism. She received a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire with a minor in Psychology. After graduation, Perez served as a teacher at St. Mel Grade School in Chicago from 1965 to 1969.

The mother of four children, she served as the Director of Religious Education and Catechesis at the St. Giles Parish Community in Oak Park from 1978 to 1987. Perez designed and taught academic courses at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein from 1987 to 2006.

**Frank H. Beal**

Highly-respected for his distinguished career in business and government, Frank H. Beal focuses on significant community issues, helping to develop effective initiatives for the Chicagoland area and for Illinois. His leadership within organizations displays his expertise and genuine concern in addressing vital issues such as public education, the environment, transportation and juvenile justice.

During his 14 years as Executive Director of Metropolis Strategies (formerly Chicago Metropolis...
2020), he led the regional planning organization in several successful initiatives. Among them were a quality early childhood education plan, a program for rehabilitation of non-violent ex-offenders, strategies and a plan for transporting goods by rail and truck through the Chicagoland area, a climate action plan for Chicago, and Cook County’s first comprehensive economic growth plan.

Former President of Inland Steel, Beal was an industry leader who held leadership positions at Inland Steel Industries, Ryerson/West, and Inland Steel Coal Company. Earlier in his career, Beal served the State of Illinois from 1971 to 1981, holding positions as Deputy Director for the Institute for Environmental Quality; Special Assistant to Governor James Thompson; and Director of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources.

His work experience began with his appointment at the American Planning Association as the Deputy Director and Director of Research. A native of Harvey, Illinois, Beal earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering in 1962 from Antioch College in Ohio, and a master’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

Beal currently volunteers fulltime as a Senior Executive at the Civic Consulting Alliance, a not-for-profit corporation. The father of three children, he also actively participates on the board of Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), and the Board of Directors of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) where he assists the planning organization for the northeastern Illinois counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. He is a member of the National Sea-Grant Policy Advisory Board. Active on the World Business Chicago (WBC) Steering Committee, Beal chairs the WBC’s Transportation and Logistic Strategy Team.

**The Chicago Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen**

Attending the Lewis ceremonies were three of the original Tuskegee Airmen who are members of the Chicago Chapter—Hollis Cornelius, Milton Williams and Julian Johnson who were seated in the front row at the ceremony. Receiving the honorary doctorate on their behalf was Colonel Duane Hayden, decorated as a member of the U.S. Air Force and a current member of the Air National Guard. Hayden also is a 1988 Lewis University alumnus and current graduate student, as well a member of the Chicago Chapter.

The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II have earned a place in history as the first Black military pilots in the United States. Originally rejected as applicants for flight programs by the U.S. Army Air Corps at a time when the military was segregated, the young men continued to apply, attracting attention as the demand for pilots became paramount during the spread of World War II. In 1939, Public Law 18 was adopted which allowed for creation of training programs although still segregated. About 1,000 pilots were trained from 1941-1946 at segregated air fields in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Valiantly serving with the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II, the Airmen achieved notable success despite bitter discrimination, marking the beginning of greater roles for African-Americans in the military and the creation of a strong organization for developing African-American leaders.

Although they had one of the lowest loss records among escort fighting groups, 66 of the Tuskegee Airmen died in combat. The Tuskegee Airmen flew over 15,000 combat sorties, collectively earning eight Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars, 744 Air Medals, and 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses. Three Tuskegee Airmen went on to become generals. Decorated during World War II, the 332nd Fighter Group also was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2007 for its service and sacrifice.

Members of the 477th Bombardment group established the Chicago Officers Council, which later became the DODO Club and was officially organized as a Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., in the early 1970s. The Chicago Chapter has more than 80 members who preserve the Tuskegee Airmen’s legacy while supporting youth in developing a passion for aviation and pursuing post-secondary education.

The chapter also provides outreach activities and an educational assistance program. In the recent past, the chapter partnered with the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Lewis University, and other groups to offer a Youth Aviation Summer Program.

The Lewis University citation honors the original Tuskegee Airmen of the Chicago Chapter who are still active today: Hollis Cornelius, Clifford Davis, Julian Johnson, William Loving, John Lyle, Robert Martin, Luther McDermid, William Patterson, Virgil Poole, Shelby Westbrook, O. Lawton Wilkerson, Dr. James Williams and Milton Williams. The University also posthumously recognizes Past Chapter Presidents Roy Chappell and Beverly Dunjill.
Lasallian Speaker Reflects on Mission values

Each Commencement, one graduating senior is chosen to deliver the Student Lasallian Address, reflecting the principles that guide the University’s Mission as they relate to the speaker’s personal life, and that recognizes the values of diversity, social justice, and service to the poor.

Josiah Bolanos asked his fellow graduates to reflect on how the Lewis University Mission shaped their lives. He also challenged them to consider how they can always change the ordinary or local into something extraordinary or global. The Chicago resident said, “Lewis University graduates have a responsibility to aiding the poor and oppressed.”

Bolanos’ eagerness to recruit his fellow graduates in sharing their gifts is rooted in his appreciation for the gratitude for the kind donors that provided scholarships for his education. The eight-semester Dean’s List honoree received the Frank Brozich Memorial Scholarship, Harold E. White Endowed Scholarship and Bishop Sheil Scholarship. He added, “As a Lasallian and the son of poor and marginalized parents, I now carry a responsibility to aid the poor and oppressed in my community.”

Bolanos earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Administration, but his Lewis University experience was filled with much more than simple academics. He volunteered extensively for UNICEF, Feed My Starving Children and the Global Art Project. He was a founding member of the SWAG, a support group for male minority students. He also held various leadership positions in Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

A study abroad experience in fall of 2011 also transformed Bolano’s mindset. He studied at John Cabot University in Rome. He said, “Through this life-changing opportunity, I came back to Lewis University more open-minded and respectful of people’s personal perspective.”

Aquinas Award Recipient Brings International Perspective to Commencement

“Being a non-citizen of the United States was very complex and it was difficult for me to consider coming to college as an option for my future. Yet, here I am standing four years after coming into Lewis University, graduating with two majors and being honored with the Father Aquinas Colgan Award,” Cecilia Arias said after the Lewis University Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony on December 14.

Recipient of a degree in International Relations and Sociology, Arias was honored during the ceremony with the Father Aquinas Colgan Award. The Father Aquinas Colgan Award, a Lewis University tradition, has been presented to an outstanding undergraduate student at the University’s Commencement exercises since 1955. The award recognizes students who have demonstrated personal and intellectual growth, a strong commitment to their faith, and a firm dedication to the Lasallian values of justice and association.

Arias’ growth through various international and domestic opportunities while studying at Lewis University was evident in her confident posture and proud dialogue. She said, “It was a university that provided me with great projects and great opportunities for me to develop myself professionally and academically, and they gave me opportunity to go abroad to Switzerland. They allowed me to connect with people that I will cherish for the rest of my life.”

Despite being busy as a double major, Arias found time to advocate for immigration reform. She put her knowledge into action on several occasions. Most recently, she brainstormed with other college students from Catholic colleges from around the Midwest at the Julian Samora Conference in East Lansing, Michigan.

On the Romeoville campus, Arias increased awareness about immigration and the legal system as she presented “Bearing Witness to Lives on the Border” during the 2014 Peace Teach-In. She discussed her findings as she participated in Court Watch, a program in which advocates witness and watch deportation hearings in Immigration Court.

Arias found her passion for international immigration advocacy when the future lawyer participated in a four-week study abroad experience at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. Among the many places she visited was the United Nations Office in Geneva. She remembered, “When I stood on the floor of the United Nations, I knew I was home. This is where I needed to be.”
You don’t have the best season in program history without plenty of firsts along the way. Anyway you measure it, the 2014-15 Lewis women’s basketball season was one to remember. The Flyers earned the program’s first ever No. 1 ranking, holding the top spot in the NCAA Division II poll for five weeks midway through the season.

Lewis advanced to the school’s first ever Elite Eight by winning the 2015 Midwest Regional. Head coach Lisa Carlsen earned the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association National Coach of the Year Award, another first for the program.

Lewis finished the campaign 31-3, the most wins and fewest losses in team history. Lewis set a program record win streak by winning 23 consecutive games. The streak doesn’t include wins in exhibitions over Division I Marquette, Northern Illinois and Loyola to open the season. The squad featured a high-powered offense, averaging 80.5 points per game and winning games by 17 points per contest.

Guard Jamie Johnson averaged a league-best 18.2 points per game on the way to Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Year honors. She was named to the Daktronics All-American Third Team. She was one of five players in the nation named to the CoSIDA Academic All-America First Team after putting together a cumulative 4.00 GPA.

Teammate forward Mariah Brawner-Henley recorded 600 points and a school-record 410 rebounds in 2014-15. She was the only junior in the nation to be named a WBCA All-American.

Seniors Kristin Itschner, Nikki Nellen and Jess Reinhart joined Brawner-Henley and Johnson in the regular starting lineup. This group of five Flyers held a 47-7 career record when they started as a unit. Nellen finished her career as Lewis’ all-time leader in assists with 510. Reinhart graduated seventh all-time in Lewis history in points with 1,668 and fourth in rebounding (831). Itschner finished her career with 857 points, 381 rebounds, 267 assists and the 10th most blocks in school history (73).
Men’s Basketball Earns At-Large Berth in NCAA Tournament

For the second time in four seasons, the Lewis University men’s basketball team earned an at-large berth to the NCAA Division II Tournament. The Flyers (22-9) won 20+ games for the second-straight season. They defeated No. 8 ranked UW-Parkside in the opening round of the NCAA Midwest Regional for their first postseason win since 2002 and also beat No. 1 Indianapolis during the regular-season.

Lewis was led offensively by All-GLVC Second Team selections in senior Ryan Jackson and freshman Max Strus. Jackson led the Flyers in scoring (14.2 ppg.) and assists (3.7 apg.). Strus, who was named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Freshman of the Year, averaged 13.3 points and 5.3 rebounds-per-game for the Flyers.

Following the season, Lewis head men’s basketball coach Scott Trost was selected as the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association (IBCA) NCAA Division II Coach of the Year. This is the seventh year that Trost has earned this distinction.

Men’s Swimming Records First-Ever Relay Points at NCAA Nationals

Thanks to five relay teams qualifying for the 2015 NCAA Division II Swimming and Diving Championships, the Lewis men’s swimming team finished 17th in the nation in 2015. Bryan Wiener was an All-American in the 100 backstroke and Victor Tarin was an All-American Honorable Mention in the 500 freestyle.

At the GLVC Championships, Tarin won the 500 freestyle title while Wiener won the 100 backstroke championship. On the women’s side, sophomore Shelby Leonard finished as conference runner-up in the 100 and 200 backstroke.

Lewis Student-Athletes Set New Standard for Br. David Delahanty Award Winners

After a four-year streak of breaking previous school-records ended in 2014, the Lewis University student-athletes started a new one on April 13, as 207 individuals took home Br. David Delahanty Student-Athlete Awards at the Convocation Hall located within the St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center.

The previous record of 181 award winners was set in 2013.

The Delahanty Award recognizes student-athletes who maintained a cumulative grade-point-average of 3.25 or higher as of December 31, 2014. In total, 53% (207 of 389) of the student-athlete population were in attendance at the awards ceremony, and that group totaled a cumulative GPA of 3.61.

The Lewis women’s track and field team had the most Delahanty Award winners with 30 recipients, which accounts for 14.5% of the 207 award-winners. The Lewis women’s golf team had the highest percentage of Delahanty Award winners on their roster of any Flyer team, as 90.9% of their student-athletes were awarded.

Two student-athletes that received special recognition were Tyson Polack and Jamie Johnson. Polack (men’s swimming) and Johnson (women’s basketball) both took home the Senior Student-Athlete Award, given to the male and female senior student-athlete with the highest cumulative GPA.

Polack is a history major with a 3.86 GPA, while Johnson owns a perfect 4.0 in communication studies.
Women’s Track & Field Wins GLVC Indoor Championship and Finishes 11th At NCAA Indoor Championships

The Lewis University women’s track and field team won its fourth Great Lakes Valley Conference Indoor Championship in the past six seasons and capped off the indoor campaign with an 11th-place finish at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Helping the Flyers reach that goal was the performance of senior pole vaulter Rebecca Preisler. Preisler became the first Flyer in 17 years to win a national championship, as she took home the pole vault title with a school-record mark of 4.10m (13’5 ¼”). She is the first Lewis women’s indoor national champion since Magdalena Paszta won the 1-mile run in 1998.

Other Flyer All-Americans include junior Chantel Stennis (400-meter dash) and sophomore Amanda Farrough (3,000-meter run). Both Stennis and Farrough broke their own school-records in each event.

All three played a vital role in leading Lewis to the GLVC Indoor title. Farrough won both the 1-mile run and 3,000-meter run, while Preisler won the pole vault by almost a foot. Stennis recorded three second-place finishes in the 200 and 400-meter dashes and as a member of the 4x400 relay team. Lewis also received first-place finishes from junior Amber Cook (triple jump), sophomore Phoenix Smallwood (long jump) and its Distance Medley Relay team.

Men’s Track & Field Wins GLVC Indoor Championship and Finishes Eighth At NCAA Indoor Championships

The Lewis University men’s track and field team cemented itself as one of the top programs in the country in the early spring. The Flyers won their second-straight Great Lakes Valley Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship and placed eighth overall at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Helping the Flyers finish eighth was Isaac Jean-Paul, who won the national championship in the high jump. He is Lewis’ first national champion since Mark Zilch took home the indoor pole vault championship in 2005. Lewis also received All-America performances from sophomore Andre Barnes (400-meter dash), junior Adam Barr (weight throw) and senior Andrew McLain (3,000-meter run; 5,000-meter run).

Jean-Paul was also named the GLVC Indoor Field Athlete of the Year, as he won both the high jump and the long jump at the conference championships.

The Flyers also received conference titles from Barnes (400-meter dash), senior Kevin Dorenkamper (60-meter hurdles), sophomore Shawn Milhauser (800-meter run) and their 4x400 relay team.

New this year:

- All Women’s Division
- Best Dressed Foursome Award
- Premium Tee Times on Dubsdread
Athletics Department in 18th Place For Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup Standings

The Lewis University Athletics Department is not resting on its laurels, as the Flyers - following their 28th-place finish last year - are 18th overall in the 2014-15 Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup Division II Winter Standings.

“Finishing in the top 30 last year was a tremendous accomplishment for our department, but give all the credit to our student-athletes, coaches and staff for setting even higher standards and achieving those goals so far this season,” Lewis Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek said. “To be in the top 20 is a wonderful achievement and is reflective of the broad-based excellence that our department continually strives for.”

The Flyers have totaled 322.25 points through the winter season, which makes them the highest ranked Great Lakes Valley Conference team. They are the third-highest ranked Midwest region team, following Grand Valley State (1st, 660) and Ashland (6th, 405).

Lewis, who was 38th in the country as of March 19, can thank its surge in the standings to the No. 5 ranked women’s basketball team. Lewis (31-3) advanced to the Elite Eight, following its first-ever regional championship.

Both of the Flyer track and field teams made history, as the men finished eighth at the NCAA Division II Indoor Championships, while the women placed 11th as a team.

The men were led by national high jump champion, Isaac Jean-Paul, while Rebecca Preisler took home the pole vault championship for the women.

The Lewis men’s swimming team notched its second-best finish in school-history at the NCAA Championships, as the Flyers came home with a 17th-place showing.

Men’s Volleyball Regular Season Recap

Thanks to one of the best regular seasons in program history, Lewis men’s volleyball won its fourth regular season Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association Championship in 2015. A balanced attack lifted the Flyers to the title. Seniors Greg Petty, Geoff Powell and Eric Fitterer each recorded more than 200 kills. The Flyers took home five MIWA Player of the Week awards. Junior Bobby Walsh won the American Volleyball Coaches Association National Player of the Week on Feb. 24. Walsh led a defense that averaged 3.25 blocks per set, best in the nation.

Lewis cruised to the regular-season title thanks to a pair of victories over defending national champion Loyola. Fitterer was key in both victories. He had back-to-back aces to clinch the match at Loyola on March 9. He was the server on match point for the Flyers’ win at home on April 1 in front of an overflow crowd at Neil Carey Arena.

Lewis ended the regular season ranked No. 1 in the nation, and earned home court advantage for their games in the MIWA tournament, held April 24-May 1, 2015.
Legendary Former Lewis Coach and Athletics Director Gordie Gillespie Dies At Age 88

By Dick Goss

A Chicago native who starred in college basketball for DePaul coach Ray Meyer, he arrived in Joliet in 1950 and since then brought this community to sports heights never previously imagined. Whether it was coaching Joliet Catholic football, or Lewis basketball or baseball, or women’s basketball at St. Francis, it didn’t matter. Gillespie’s teams won, and his players ran through the wall for him. They didn’t have to be asked.

Gillespie retired from coaching in 2010 with 2,402 total victories against 1,170 losses and eight ties in the three sports combined. That’s a .672 winning percentage. His Lewis teams won three consecutive NAIA baseball championships in the mid-1970s. His Joliet Catholic football teams won four straight state titles from 1975 through 1978 and won a fifth in 1981. His USF baseball team was the NAIA national champion in 1993. He retired from college baseball coaching in 2010 as the winningest coach of all time. But even more remarkable than all the success, he coached college baseball for 59 years, including 10 years at Ripon in Wisconsin, and coached quality teams in 110 sports seasons.

Of course, for as long as his health allowed, he never really retired. In recent years, he helped his close friend Dan Sharp with the Joliet Catholic football program, mentoring the quarterbacks. Gillespie was a member of the inaugural class of the Joliet Area Sports Hall of Fame and has been inducted into more halls of fame and received more coach of the year, coach of the decade and coach of the century honors than most of us can even imagine. Yet as much as he accomplished as a coach, and as much as his legend grew through the years, he was equally talented as a teacher, a public speaker and, most of all, a true friend and human being. At the induction ceremony for Joliet Catholic’s first Hall of Champions class last September, Tom Thayer got up before the crowd, looked over at Gillespie and said, “Gordie, we are all here for you.” That spoke volumes.

When Gillespie was asked about possible retirement several years ago, he said, “God will retire me. He’ll tell me when it’s time.” God has made his decision. He must have needed a baseball coach. Or a football coach or basketball coach. He got the best, perhaps the only person in the world who coached 110 sports seasons at high levels, who always won much more than his share and never seemed to slow down. He is Joliet’s legend. Forever. He was Gordie. That never will change.

Gillespie and his widow, Joan, have 40 grandchildren and 42 great-grandchildren between them.

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LEWIS AWARDED NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded Lewis University in Romeoville a prestigious $613,428 grant for the “Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Connections” program.

The funds will assist in the creation of a five-year scholarship program for Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics, and Chemical Physics students at Lewis University. The program is set to begin in the fall semester under the direction of Dr. Jason Keleher, Associate Professor and Chair of Chemistry, and Dr. Joseph Kozinski, Associate Professor and Chair of Physics.

“Lewis University has long supported expansion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) programs. This grant from the National Science Foundation will provide additional funding of our efforts to better prepare our student for careers in the ever-growing and important STEM workforce,” stated Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President.

“STEM Connections will enrich our undergraduate physical sciences education through an experiential learning model based on real-world experiences,” Dr. Kozinski commented. “Our work at the national level in developing curriculum for the sciences assisted in the creation of this challenging new program.”

The approximately dozen students that are selected for the “STEM Connections” program each fall at Lewis will receive advanced training through this grant funding that will provide a solid foundation for excelling in STEM-related employment and graduate school. The students are expected to explore real-world STEM concerns, such as alternative energy, novel materials for information storage, next generation healthcare materials and advanced optical technology.

“We’ve had great success with developing collaborations with industry partners, such as Nanophase Technologies Corporation and Argonne and Fermi National Laboratories,” Dr. Keleher explained. “Our accomplishments with our current students motivated us to develop this STEM Connections program, which will ultimately benefit our future students.”

The STEM Connections program is expected to continue Lewis University’s work with previous industry partners as well as expand its collaborations with domestic and international companies and laboratories.

“This NSF grant resulted from a major initiative by our dedicated faculty. It recognizes the University’s significant progress in STEM experiences for our students,” added Dr. Stephany Schlachter, Provost.

In 2014 and 2015, Lewis University students were selected to present their research in Washington, D.C. during the Council for Undergraduate Research “Posters on the Hill” event. Lewis students in various majors are working on research year-round through university programs, such as the Summer STEM Undergraduate Research Experience, Celebration of Scholarship, and the Colonel Stephen S. and Lyla Doherty Center for Aviation and Health Research.

Partnerships with medical schools, graduate and professional schools provide students with opportunities to expand their learning along with cooperative agreements and research projects with institutions and companies such as Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Pall Corp., and Sherwin Williams.

The approximately dozen students that are selected for the “STEM Connections” program each fall at Lewis will receive advanced training through this grant funding that will provide a solid foundation for excelling in STEM-related employment and graduate school.

LEWIS RECEIVES GRANT FOR NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH RWJF NEW CAREERS IN NURSING PROGRAM

The College of Nursing and Health Professions (CONHP) has been awarded a grant from the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN). It is one of 52 schools of nursing that will comprise the final cohort of the program. For the 2014-2015 academic year, CONHP will receive $50,000+ to support traditionally underrepresented students who are making a career change to nursing through an accelerated baccalaureate degree program.

NCIN is a program of RWJF and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

“New Careers in Nursing has made amazing strides in helping schools of nursing recruit and retain diverse students in these competitive and rigorous accelerated degree programs,” said David Krol, MD, MPH, FAAP, RWJF senior program officer. “Through supporting these institutions, NCIN is working to increase the diversity of our nursing workforce, while also assisting schools of nursing in making their institutions more inclusive. The leadership, mentoring and other support these institutions provide are helping to prepare a diverse nursing workforce able to meet the challenges associated with building a culture of health in our nation.”

Each NCIN Scholar has already earned a bachelor’s degree in another field, and is making a transition to nursing through an accelerated nursing degree program, which prepares students to assume the role of registered nurse in as little as 12-18 months.

Five students will each be awarded a $10,000 NCIN scholarship. They are Jake Greczek (Chicago); Jacqueline Monfre (Plainfield); Kevin Murray...
THERE’S STILL TIME TO BE COUNTED!

Samantha Brain ’15 is a senior at Lewis University majoring in Chemistry and minoring in Physics. During her sophomore year, her family experienced unexpected medical and financial hardships, and without financial aid she would not have been able to continue her studies at Lewis. Because of gifts made by alumni and friends, Samantha is preparing for graduation this May.

Your generosity allows Lewis to assist more than 85 percent of undergraduate students who receive financial aid, implement state-of-the-art technology for more than 80 undergraduate and 35 graduate programs, retain top-level faculty, and provide exceptional support services. There is still time to make a gift and be counted as one of Lewis University’s generous donors of 2015.

Visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Give before June 30, 2015 to make a gift this fiscal year and help other students continue their studies and create strong leaders for tomorrow.

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In addition to a $10,000 scholarship, NCIN scholars receive other support to help them meet the demands of an accelerated degree program. All NCIN grantee schools maintain a leadership program and a mentoring program for their scholars, as well as a pre-entry immersion program to assist scholars in learning essential study, test-taking and other skills needed to succeed in their program of study.

“Nursing and nursing education are at a critical juncture right now, and NCIN’s exemplary approach to supporting nursing schools is helping to strengthen both,” said AACN President Eileen Breslin, PhD, RN, FAAN. “NCIN’s creative, innovative and responsive approach to providing grantees with tools to ensure academic success will result in lasting changes at nursing schools nationwide. The NCIN program has truly raised the bar for recruitment, retention, mentoring, and leadership development for nursing students from groups underrepresented in nursing.”

The 2010 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, recommends increasing the proportion of nurses with a baccalaureate degree or higher, and increasing the diversity of students to create a nursing workforce prepared to meet the health care demands of diverse populations across the lifespan. NCIN is helping to advance those recommendations by enabling schools to expand student capacity and by encouraging more diversity.

By bringing more nurses into the profession at the baccalaureate and master’s degree levels, the NCIN program also helps to address the nation’s nurse faculty shortage. This trend is reflected in the NCIN scholars, as 91 percent of the students receiving funding in the first three years of the program indicated a desire to advance their education to the master’s and doctoral levels.
A PERFECT LANDING AT LEWIS
Gifts of three planes strengthen aviation maintenance program

Frank J. Lewis, noted Chicago philanthropist and industrialist, and his wife Julia took an active interest in Lewis — then Holy Name Technical School — since the founding of the institution. Over the years, Mr. Lewis provided funds to support student scholarships and also financed the construction of several buildings that became the core of the campus, beginning a rich history of investment in the University. While Mr. Lewis died in 1960, his spirit of giving continues to touch the University today.

This year, Robert Kelly approached Lewis University about the idea of donating an aircraft to the aviation program.

“Frank and Julia Lewis were friends of my parents,” Kelly explains, “so I’ve known about this University for a very long time. My daughter attended St. Mary’s College, a Christian Brothers school, and that was really my first exposure to the Brothers. I was impressed, and continue to be impressed, by the commitment they have to educating students and providing the best opportunities for success.”

Kelly is also a neighbor to Lowell Stahl, a generous supporter and former Trustee of Lewis University and for whom the Lowell Stahl Center for Entrepreneurship & Real Estate is named.

“The aircraft, a Cessna 182 RG Turbo, is a very high performance single engine aircraft,” said Bill Brogan ’93, Chair of the Department of Aviation and Transportation Studies and Associate Professor of Aviation at Lewis. “It has retractable landing gear and a turbo charged engine for high altitude flight. We are grateful to have this addition to the department, as it will be extremely beneficial for our students in regards to flight and mechanical training.”

Early in his career, Kelly founded Kelly and Associates, a third party administration firm, providing medical plan claims services and pension record keeping services. In the 1980s he sold the business to Mutual of New York (MONY). Mr. Kelly then started a successful investment firm, National Investment Services, which managed $4 billion of retirement plan assets, and later sold it to a London based conglomerate. He spent a few more years working and traveling internationally before retiring. He and his partner, Dr. Carolyn Smeltzer, a thought leader in the nursing profession and retired partner of PriceWaterhouse Coopers, now spend their time consulting, traveling, and enjoying time with his children, Jacquelyn and Robert, and their seven granddaughters. More recently they are now volunteering in Cuba with the Christian Brothers, teaching and doing mission work.

“I’ve always been intrigued by flying, ever since I was a kid,” he says. “My dad used to drive me here to Lewis in the early 1960s and there was an old military jet parked here. I went to Florida right after graduation and worked for a small aviation company. I’ve been flying for 49 years and have owned a couple planes.”

Kelly hadn’t flown the plane as much in the last few years. His fondness of the Christian Brothers and the idea of having the plane utilized for education and invigorating students with the same passion that he possessed encouraged him to look towards gifting the plane to an academic program.

“I want the plane to be used and enjoyed by someone,” he says. “If at the same time it can be used to learn, even better. Once I decided to donate it, the question became to where. Lewis, because of the stellar aviation program, came to mind right away. This is a great plane for long trips, and it can lift you above some weather. It’s a great tool for students.”

For more about the aviation program at Lewis, visit lewisu.edu. To make a gift to the aviation program, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Give.
Phi Kappa Theta:
EXTENDING THE TRADITION
OF BROTHERHOOD

"Phi Kappa Theta is a brotherhood," explains Dennis Sura ’70. "The men in our fraternity were—and still are—a major part of my life. We were there to support each other in school, extracurricular activities, and our personal lives. We thought it was important now, as we get older, that we establish a scholarship to give others a chance to experience what we did, and to remember our brothers who passed away."

With that in mind, six alumni of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity established the Brothers of Phi Kappa Theta Catholic Fraternity Endowed Scholarship in 2014. The endowment will provide well-qualified students attending Lewis University who are in need of financial assistance and maintain a 3.0 grade point average with the opportunity to complete their education.

“I joined Phi Kappa Theta because I wanted to get involved in the campus community,” adds Ed Flynn, ’72. “I looked around at different options and different clubs and organizations but found that Phi Kaps offered a sense of community, belonging, and purpose. The values that were presented to me during the exchange with members suited me, gave me a good college experience, and a sense of brotherhood.”

After meeting with Luigi Amendola ’01, Associate Vice President of University Advancement, Sura and Kevin Ryan ’71 began the process of establishing the endowment. They reached out to fellow alumni and found quite a few willing to make a gift towards the endowment fund, including John Boles ’70 among others.

President and founding member John “Jack” Marco ’68 was excited for the opportunity to be a part of founding another legacy for Phi Kappa Theta. “Times have changed. Responsibilities are different for students now, and many are stretched thin between school, work, and other obligations. This is our opportunity to give today’s generation a piece of what we had when we were in school; a chance to engage more fully with the University that did so much for us.”

“I think it’s important to give back, first and foremost to the University, and secondly to the fraternity,” adds Ed. “We had a reunion a few years ago where more than 100 brothers got together, dating back to the 1960s. It was good to have that bond and that feeling that you are part of something that continues with you throughout your life. Through this endowment, we will remain tied into Lewis and see the traditions we celebrated continue on with new generations.”

Preference for the endowment will be given to a current member of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity. In the event there are no qualified applicants from Phi Kappa Theta, preference will be given to the child or grandchild of a Phi Kappa Theta Lewis University alumnus. In the event that no applicants meet either of the above criteria, the recipient must be an active member of another student organization.

“Now is the time,” says Dennis. “When you are able to do something like this, you should. There are brilliant minds in college today who face the very real likelihood that they will have to drop out for one reason or another. Keeping these students in school will allow them to go on and accomplish great things. We want that for our own kids. And Lewis has always been home to us, so we want that for the kids there, too.”

If you would like to make a gift to the Brothers of Phi KappaTheta Catholic Fraternity Endowed Scholarship, please contact Luigi Amendola at amendolu@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5875.
You’ve heard us say it: alumni giving matters. But what does that really mean? Of course, gifts to the University assist with scholarships and the enhancement of facilities and programs – yet there is more to making a gift than that, and alumni demonstrated the difference they can make.

Corporations and foundations base their awards more on alumni participation than on total dollars raised. Every alumni gift – including yours – has a multiplier effect, which means your gift enables us to gain support from corporations and foundations, essentially maximizing support for Lewis.

Alumni gifts also impact the University’s national ranking. Publications such as *U.S. News & World Report* consider alumni giving participation when ranking colleges and universities. So the gift you make today advances the reputation of Lewis and the value of a Lewis degree.

By showing through your annual gift that Lewis matters to you, it is a vote of confidence for your alma mater! When we add in the fact that faculty and staff giving is at a very impressive 82% and Senior Challenge and parent giving are the highest they have ever been, we demonstrate that together there is a strong faith in the University and its future.

Showing faith in the University is exactly what happened with the Barbara Martin Nursing Challenge and the Forever Flyers Athletic Challenge in 2014.

**Barbara Martin Nursing Challenge**

For nursing, alumna Barbara Martin ’77 BSN, ’85 MBA, stepped forward to offer a match of up to $50,000 for the College of Nursing and Health Professions (CONHP). Martin, President and CEO of Vista Health Systems, and a member of the Lewis University Board of Trustees, sought to inspire other nursing alumni in support of the College. The gifts made through this campaign not only contributed to the major building expansion to the CONHP, but also ensure that dedicated students will benefit from a Lewis nursing education for generations to come. The Challenge was a success, with more than 462 gifts and pledges to the campaign - doubling nursing alumni giving participation.

“It is excellent to note that the Barbara Martin Challenge saw more than 400 gifts and pledges come in for the nursing program last year,” says Cheryl Portner, MSN ’10. “This program shows support for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and has grown and will continue to grow with alumni support.”

**Forever Flyers Athletic Challenge**

Athletics has also made strides in program support through alumni gifts. The last two years, Lewis University has held the Forever Flyers Athletic Challenge (learn more at alumni.lewisu.edu/ForeverFlyers). The campaign has featured today’s team leaders and their aspirations for their athletic team, detailing what they might accomplish with the assistance of athletic alumni. From new equipment to competitive trips abroad, alumni have responded by pledging their support of their alma mater. In 2014, the campaign raised nearly $25,000 for athletics.

“It’s incredible to hear from our alumni and see that they still support the athletic program they were so devoted to while they were here,” says Assistant Director of Athletics Brian Sisson. “The alumni have been here; they know how much new equipment and new opportunities mean to a student athlete, and they’ve come through for us.”

Les Kraft ’55 has generously pledged $10,000 to the Lewis teams that can encourage the most alumni athletes to participate in the Forever Flyers fundraising challenge.

To learn more about giving at Lewis University, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Give.
GIFTS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

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Your gifts at work

Future alumnus Kyle Rohde, class of 2016, is in his junior year at Lewis pursuing a bachelor’s degree in physics. He has played for both the Men’s Volleyball and Men’s Track and Field teams, and he volunteers at Feed my Starving Children in addition to participating in the Pretty Muddy Run for charity. Yet shortly into his sophomore year, his academic aspirations and contributions to his community nearly came to an abrupt halt.

“In September of 2013, my father was diagnosed with lymphoma and began chemotherapy. There was nothing but bad news throughout my first semester, which made it very difficult to concentrate on school. My dad passed away on January 15, 2014 during the first week of second semester,” says Kyle.

Because of those who made gifts to the Sister M. Noel Dreska, OSF, Endowed Scholarship – like Dr. Arvid ’85 and Anne (Jordan) Johnson ’87 and Dr. Gene Ferretti ’69 – Kyle was able to continue his education. “I am grateful for the Sister Noel Dreska, OSF, Endowed Scholarship now more than ever,” explains Kyle. “The stress, grief, and financial hardship of my situation have made the generosity of this scholarship even more comforting and meaningful to me and my family.”

In 2014, Dr. Arvid ’85 and Anne (Jordan) Johnson ’87 announced they would match dollar-for-dollar gifts made to the Sister M. Noel Dreska, OSF, Endowed Scholarship Fund up to $25,000. One of those who met the challenge and contributed to the endowment – just as he has for many years – was alumnus Dr. Ferretti.

“I am very happy to be able to give something back to Lewis, and I am most appreciative for the wonderful education I received while a student at the University,” says Dr. Ferretti. “I am even more pleased that my gift has been made to the Sister Noel Dreska, OSF, endowment, as she was a very influential person in my life. Not only did she develop the physics undergraduate program at Lewis from which I graduated as one of the first two physics majors, but I also admired her for the enthusiasm and dedication she always brought to her teaching./uni00A0She certainly made studying physics interesting and exciting. But, perhaps even more importantly, she took a personal interest in all of her students, offering guidance and encouragement to each and everyone along the way. Her students loved her, and she loved them back.”

There are more than 150 named annual and endowed scholarships at Lewis University. Creating a named scholarship or contributing to an endowment are just two of the ways you can assist students and leave a legacy to Lewis University. It’s also a very meaningful way to honor family and friends, as Dr. Ferretti says.

“I would encourage any student or alum to consider contributing to a scholarship or endowment as a way of recognizing a faculty or staff member’s significant contributions,” says Dr. Ferretti. “and even more so as a way of showing one’s appreciation for the impact Lewis has had on your life.”

To see a full list of scholarships, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Scholarships.

Thinking outside the will

Did you know it’s possible to provide for Lewis University without changing your will or living trust? Here are three charitable gift planning ideas which are very easy to arrange, may provide tax savings, and will allow you to create extraordinary opportunities for future generations of our students:

**Life Insurance** – You can name Lewis University the beneficiary of a policy or transfer ownership of a policy that is no longer needed for your family’s security.

**Retirement Accounts** – You can name Lewis University as a beneficiary of all or part of an IRA or other qualified retirement plan, avoiding income tax your family might owe on distributions.

**Beneficiary Designations** – Savings accounts can generally be designated to pass at death to an individual or charity, without affecting your use of the funds during your lifetime.

For more information on beneficiary designation planning, please contact Robert A. Kanonik, JD, Director of Planned Giving at (815) 836-5813 or kanoniro@lewisu.edu.

Lewis University dedicated a Physics lab on April 16 in honor and memory of extraordinary educator Sister Noel Dreska, OSF.
Lewis University celebrated the 18th Annual President’s Circle Dinner on Friday, December 6, 2014 at the Lewis main campus. The evening included a cocktail and hors d’oeuvres reception and four-course gourmet dinner for more than 230 guests. 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. Special performances by the Lewis University Gospel Choir and the Lewis University Chamber Choir provided a festive atmosphere during the event.

From its beginning, Lewis University has relied on the generosity of those who understand that shaping the lives of young people builds a better future for all. Their gifts make it possible for all talented students to enroll and secure an excellent education, regardless of their stations in life. Such selfless benefactors have helped our University to become one of the premier Catholic educational institutions in the region. In 2014, Lewis welcomed its largest and most academically qualified freshman class in its history. Now more than ever, Lewis relies upon the generosity of benefactors as more students seek the benefit of a Lasallian education. In recognition of this invaluable support, Lewis University created the President’s Circle to honor those individuals who share in the University’s vision to prepare graduates who are intellectually engaged, ethically grounded, socially responsible, and globally aware by supporting this Mission with an annual gift of $1,000 or more. Learn more about the President’s Circle and how you can become a member at alumni.lewisu.edu/PresidentsCircle.
ALUMNI AT WORK

Bringing the Lasallian tradition to the places it is needed most

“Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.” The Lasallian Volunteers are living the example as written in this popular hymn. They are working to make a difference in the silent war against poverty, violence and ignorance right in our communities, caused by lack of education and working to promote the positive development of our at-risk youth.

The Lasallian Volunteers program was initiated by the Christian Brothers and assigns volunteers to provide service in education or human development to Lasallian Missions across America. Many Lewis University alumni join this dedicated group and devote one or two years of their post-graduation life to service. More than 650 total volunteers have been participants in this program of faith, service and community, with 33 of them being Lewis alumni.

As someone who grew up as an at-risk youth in Milwaukee, Tracy Bradley '12, was able to experience firsthand the positive impact of volunteering and education. His family found times when they needed assistance from community resources. Tracy’s uncle went to college and in doing so, pulled himself out of a bad situation and set a great example for Tracy. The passion toward furthering the positive influence of education brought Tracy to spend two years at the LaSalle School in Albany, New York, after graduating from Lewis. According to their website, the “LaSalle School provides therapeutic, educational and supportive services” to at-risk youth since its founding in 1854 by the De La Salle Christian Brothers.

Tracy used his skills in tutoring to reach students, especially those who suffered from mental disabilities or stunted growth due to abuse or neglect. “Look at each person as a human being and understand that we all have overcome difficulties,” he says. “A person should never neglect whatever vocation or whatever route you can use to reach people.”

“Practically, Lasallian Volunteers enable ministries to happen... schools teach, ministries reach out to students, troubled students find challenging and caring mentors,” explains Steve Zlatic ’96, Director of University Ministry. “Spiritually, I think, the volunteers are invited to grow in their faith in a God with great love for all who invites all of us into a ministry of love. In the midst of this practical work and spiritual growth, they discover companions in the Brothers, other volunteers, and fellow teachers who are also seeking to be a light in the world.”

Sean Ruane ’12 served at La Salle High School in Yakima, Wash., where he says he strived to bring peace to his community by working hard to be a positive, uplifting role model for students. “I set out with the hope that, as a teacher, coach, and campus minister, I could impassion students to be effective leaders of tomorrow and, in the midst of so much violence and negative temptation, could help them to pick up a book and not a gun.”

Sean adds, “If people look out at the world and think ‘We are never going to live in a peaceful world,’ then they are failing to see the fundamental power they have to affect the world through their words and actions. Imagine if Martin Luther King, Jr., had said that. We have to all believe that we have the power to create a more peaceful world.”

Five members of the Lewis community will become Lasallian Volunteers this July.

Celebrating Women in Leadership Conference

On October 10, 2014, more than 100 women gathered for the inaugural Celebrating Women in Leadership Conference at Lewis University. The conference was open to all Lewis women – alumnae, students, faculty and staff – and featured presentations by a variety of alumnae and friends of the University.

Presenters included Sharon Rangel MSN MBA ’07, Judge Dinah Lennon Archambault ’74, Pam Loucks, Judge Carla Policandriotes ’83, Gwendolyn L. Young MA ’13, Diane Ballweg ’13 (Honorary Doctorate), Kristie Bavaro ’81, MBA ’82, and Shawn Tyrrell ‘78

Diane Ballweg ’13 (Honorary Doctorate) began the conference with an inspirational keynote speech during lunch. After lunch, participants chose from various breakout sessions.

The conference concluded with a networking reception.

Emily Grimm ’13, Freshman Admission Counselor at Lewis University said, “I felt that this was a great opportunity for networking and support for me as I begin my career.”

Mark your calendars for the 2015 Celebrating Women in Leadership Conference to be held on Friday, October 9, 2015!
Basketball honors top players of the 1970s

On January 31, 2015, alumni and friends gathered as the Lewis University Athletics Department unveiled its All-Decades Men’s Basketball (1970s) and All-Decades Women’s Basketball (1970s) Teams. The initiative began last year with the men’s All-Decades Team from the 50s and 60s. It was a huge success, paving the way for an annual tradition of honoring some of the best basketball players of each decade.

The men’s team includes Darnell Anderson, Sylvester Cottrell, Mike Flaherty, Bill Groeper, Tim Ferrarell, Jay Miller, Herb Mumford, Frank Kaminsky, George Robson and Ron Williams. Cottrell, Flaherty, Kaminsky, Robson and Williams are all members of the Lewis Athletics Hall of Fame.

“This fine group of gentlemen carried on the tradition set by their predecessors and helped pave the way for the continued success that our program has sustained throughout the years,” Lewis University Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek said.

The women’s team includes Marge Pozen, Michelle Ford, Karen Gallagher, Sue Giacomi, Jane Condon, Mary Schoenhoff and Connie Bruns.

“This will be the first All-Decades Team we honor for the women’s basketball program and we couldn’t be happier to recognize this group,” Dr. Planek said. “These women were true trailblazers for not only the athletic department but the entire University.”

For more information on the honorees, visit lewisflyers.com.

Alumni reach out to ICE students

This fall 2014 semester, the Flyer Alumni Volunteers (FAVS) hosted a Lewis University Jeopardy game at each of the last sessions of the Intro to College Experience (ICE) classes for first-year students. The new project was a good way to connect the ICE students with alumni.

The categories for the Jeopardy game were: “Office” Space (questions about the different offices on campus and what they’re responsible for), Organizations (questions about the organizations and clubs that students could join), Freshman Class (fun facts about the Class of 2018), Around Lewis (trivia about Lewis), and All About Alumni (questions about the Alumni Association). The game was created to educate the first-year students about Lewis University, but both the students and alumni found the game to be informational.

Emily Keene ’13, who hosted the Jeopardy game in Dr. James Tallon’s ICE Class, said, “I think it was a great opportunity for the students and me as an alumna to connect and learn a few things about Lewis that we didn’t otherwise know!”

“I am very happy to have participated in the ICE Class with a past co-worker and wonderful students. All of the students were very interactive and learned a lot of facts from the Jeopardy game,” said Abraham Adrianzen ’14, who volunteered with Reference and Instruction Librarian Kelly Plass.

If you are interested in participating in this volunteer opportunity during the Fall 2015 semester, please contact Margaret Grabowski at grabowski@lewisu.edu, and visit alumni.lewisu.edu/volunteer.

Kelly Beck ’09, “11 hosts a Lewis Jeopardy game in Donna Martin’s ICE class for Nursing students.
Charles H. Ramsey: Building Peace from Within the Community

With his expansive experience and expertise, alumnus and Commissioner of the Philadelphia Police Department Charles H. Ramsey ’90, MS ’91, was recently selected by President Barack Obama to co-chair the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. The Task Force is charged with seeking ways to strengthen police and community relations nationally, and their first report to the President was submitted on March 2, 2015.

“I think this is going to lead to significant changes in policing,” explains Commissioner Ramsey. “Obviously, there are issues we need to confront within our communities; a mistrust that does exist that is very real. We have to find a way to be able to change some of our practices in a way in which we relate to community, and also the transparency that’s needed so people have faith in the system once again. I think that the report that we put together and submitted to President Obama serves as a framework for any department to move in that direction. There are some solid recommendations there that if a department or other agency chose to follow; would lead toward improved relationships. I think that’s important because without the public we cannot be effective in our job.”

Commissioner Ramsey has spent 47 years in the field of law enforcement and earned numerous awards for his work. Currently, he leads the fourth largest police department in the nation in Philadelphia, a capacity in which he has served for seven years. Commissioner Ramsey previously served as Washington, D.C. Police Chief for nine years, after a 30-year career in various ranks within the Chicago Police Department (CPD). He has spent a great deal of time building relationships between law enforcement and the community. In fact, he was the first project manager for the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy, a model of community policing that he was key in designing and implementing within the Department.

“When I came to Washington, D.C., I implemented another community policing strategy there called Policing for Prevention. Now, I’ve taken all I learned from Chicago and D.C. and implemented a community policing strategy in Philadelphia. We have 21 police districts and each is subdivided into police service areas. Each of these 64 areas across the city is headed by a lieutenant with sergeants and officers that get to know the community, all of the issues, people causing harm, and people who are willing to work with them. They have monthly meetings where they have to create action plans to deal with some of the chronic problems they are confronted with. They form the kinds of partnerships that we really need to be successful. Community-oriented policing is really the foundation of our policing strategy in Philly.”

Ramsey, who was inspired both personally and professionally during his time at Lewis by the Chair of the Criminal Justice Department, Dr. Russell Levy, says one of the goals of this strategy is to strive for peace within communities.

“We work to achieve safety and security in all of our neighborhoods by trying to reduce crime in partnership with our community – both residential and business. I think you always have to strive towards finding peace, and that needs to start early. Students can make a difference by getting involved and not being bystanders; by recognizing that it may not have occurred in their neighborhood today, but tomorrow that might not be the case. We have a sense of responsibility in ridding all communities of crime and disorder. Maybe it’s through law enforcement, becoming an activist, through your church or school, mentoring, or taking part in community service. There are many ways to get involved.”

Ramsey is involved himself in many different initiatives. He currently serves as President of the Police Executive Research Forum and is on the Executive Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Asked what keeps him pushing forward in a law enforcement career that sees both the best and worst of the world, Ramsey stated, “I know that we are making a difference. This is my 47th year in law enforcement. It’s not perfect; nothing is. But I can see where progress is being made. I can see it in terms of not just the amount of crime taking place in these communities but also between the police and community relationship. Unfortunately, I had an officer killed in the line of duty last Thursday. Last night, I attended a rally that the community put on and there were hundreds of people out there to show their support of the men and women in our Department. It gives us the incentive to continue on, push forward, and try to make a difference. We may never achieve universal peace, but we can strive for it and make progress toward achieving that goal.”

Lewis University will present an Honorary Doctorate degree to Commissioner Ramsey on Saturday, May 16.
Pop Quiz: What are the five values that guide the Mission of Lewis University?

Give up? They are: Knowledge, Fidelity, Wisdom, Justice, and Association. These are the foundational values that shape everything we do at Lewis University in building a strong learning environment. Not only are our students excellent examples of these values, but our alumni are, as well.

In this issue you read about a few alumni who show their dedication to these values. From Charles Ramsey ’90, MS ’91 and his distinguished career in law enforcement to Duane Hayden ‘88 and his dedication to the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen, we have alumni who show their Lasallian values through their actions. That impressive list doesn’t even include our Lasallian Volunteers. What an impressive group!

I hope you take as much pride in your fellow alumni’s accomplishments as we do when we hear of them. If you know of an alumnus or alumna who is showing Lewis values through their life, please tell us about it. We would love to share it with the rest of our alumni.

Go Flyers!

Reggie Bustinza
Director of Alumni Relations

CLASS NOTES

1970s

Richard Joyce '73 '93 (History, Graduate Education) presented a coal mining program at the Spring Valley Historical Society on October 7. Joyce is a descendant of immigrant coal miners on both sides of his family. He grew up on a family farm near South Wilmington near Grundy County.

Mary (Freehauf) Worst '73 (Spanish) returned to Joliet Catholic Academy as a foreign language teacher. She began her teaching career at Rosary Catholic High School in Aurora and taught at JCA for 25 years before retiring in 2007. When additional sections of Spanish were added, Worst returned.

1980s

Bryan Durkin '82 '93 (Business Administration, MBA) was named by CME Group as Chief Commercial Officer. He oversees the company’s International Offices, Client Development and Sales, Business Development, Co-location and Technology Services, Information Products, Index Services, Marketing, Research and Product Development & GFX. He will receive an Honorary Doctorate degree from Lewis University on Sunday, May 17.

Ted Slowik '87 (Print Journalism) recently learned his new album “Comfort Zone” was named on Tom Lounges’ Top 10 regional albums of 2014. Slowik’s sound is reminiscent of ’60s troubadour Phil Ochs, according to the Northwest Indiana Times. His music is available at TedSlowikMusic.com.

Thomas Hurlburt ’88 (Psychology) was named Principal by the American School. He brings more than two decades of educational experience to his new job.

Michael Brennan ’89 (Aviation Maintenance Management) and Dorice (Gorz) Brennan ’89 (Marketing) are proud to announce that their daughter Lauren (class of 2019) will be attending Lewis to play on the Flyer Softball team in the fall. The Brennans reside in Pensacola, Fla., where Mike, a pilot for a United Airlines, retired from the U.S. Navy and Dorice teaches sixth grade Language Arts.

1990s

Phillip Kaufmann ’91 ’95 (Business Administration, MBA) was a featured artist at the Homestead Talent Showcase in September 2014. Kaufmann grew up in Tiskilwa in a family that traveled and sang. He is the administrator at Greenfield Retirement Home in Princeton. For the past several years, Kaufmann has traveled America performing the “Cotton Patch Gospel” as a solo presentation. Through those presentations, he has raised more than $50,000 for hunger relief.

Renee Zimmerman ’95 ’07 (Business Administration, MBA) was named Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer on October 1, 2014 for Wells-Gardner Electronics Corporation. Ms. Zimmerman has been with Wells-Gardner since September 2006.

John Carpio ’96 ’99 (Criminal/Social Justice, Graduate Criminal/Social Justice) was appointed the Chief of Police in Westchester, Ill. in 2013. He was recognized as Man of the Year on November 8, 2014 by the Italian American Police Association.

Robin Popelka ’96 (Criminal/Social Justice) married Dr. Christine Swartz on August 31, 2014 in Chicago.

Daniel Costello ’98 (History and Political Science), managing partner of Daniel P. Costello & Associates, LLC, spoke at the 2014 CLM Litigation Management Institute on the topic, “Coverage Perspectives.” Hosted at Columbia Law School in New York City, the Litigation Management Institute (LMI) is the first certification program specifically designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the business of litigation management.
2000s

Timothy Pajak '00 (Print Journalism) married Kathryn G. Tinney on November 2, 2013 at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Tim has been working for the past five years as corporate communications specialist for MOL (America) Inc., in Lombard.

Daniel Kelly '01 '06 (History, Graduate Special Education) is a new member of the Special Education Department. Since 2006, Kelly has taught at Romeoville High School. He has a Bachelor of Arts, History from Lewis University, a Master of Arts, Special Education from Lewis University, and a Master of Education Candidate, School Counselor at Lamar University.

Steven Millsaps '01 (History and Secondary Education), Joliet West High School Athletic Director, was named the 2014 Lewis University Educationis Lumen Award recipient. Millsaps holds over 14 years of educational experience. During his career, Millsaps served as the Secretary of the South West Suburban Conference and currently is the organization’s President. He serves as the Cheerleading Liaison for the Conference. He is also deeply involved in the community through his children’s education. He is as a board member at his children’s parochial school. Millsaps has also served on the Joliet Softball Association Board. He serves as a mentor to his coaches and has been at the forefront of educating JWHS athletes as a founder of the Captain’s Club and Team Awareness sessions at Joliet West.

Jose Reynaldo Martins '04 (Marketing) was named volunteer assistant coach to the Rutgers women’s volleyball team. Martins was a four-year volleyball letter winner at Lewis University. During his time at Lewis, he served as team captain and earned a spot on the Dean’s List in eight semesters. In his final year, he was named a student assistant coach.

Laura Pahl '06 (Elementary Education) joined Joliet Catholic Academy as Vice Principal for Curriculum and Technology.

Lauren Dembek ’07 (Marketing) joined TricorBraun as Marketing Communications Manager where she will be responsible for day-to-day management of print, online and web site marketing communications for this leading provider of packaging solutions, and will participate in the planning and execution of long-range marketing campaigns.

2010s

Matthew Laiter '10 (Air Traffic Control Management) and Mallory Markert '11 (Elementary Education) were engaged on December 13, 2014.

Nicholas Leonard ’11 (Graduate School Counseling) joined Joliet Catholic Academy as a guidance counselor. He has served as a counselor at both Pleasant Plains Middle School and Plains Prairie High School in Sangamon County. Leonard also plans to coach JCA’s basketball and baseball teams.

Diana Styrczula ’11 (Elementary Education) was hired as a seventh grade teacher at Old Quarry Middle School in Lemont, Ill.

Christine Carey ’14 (Special Education, Elementary Education) is engaged to Joe Segvich ’14 (Radio/TV Broadcast).

Michael Farrell ’14 (Graduate Information Security) has been named information security officer at the corporate office in Jackson, Miss., where he serves as information security network risk analyst. Farrell has more than 15 years of experience in the areas of information security and information technology.

Madison Whitaker ’14 (Air Traffic Control Management) and Lucas Whitaker, of Minier, were married in Funk’s Grove June 28.

In Memoriam

Russell E. Grundy ’53 December 5, 2014
Jerome P. Comer ’54 November 5, 2014
Ronald E. Sheilfo ’56 October 1, 2014
James P. Sczepaniak ’60 November 9, 2014
Alfred J. Latham ’61 November 2014
Thomas J. Secor ’68 November 1, 2014
Frank L. Guagenti ’69 February 20, 2015
Daniel J. Lambert ’70 January 16, 2015
Robert A. Manhatton ’71 October 17, 2014
Glenn Smith ’73 October 22, 2014
William M. Speckin ’73 November 20, 2014
Jimmy L. Worden ’73 September 16, 2014
James W. Hall ’74 January 2, 2015
Betty L. Davito ’75 February 4, 2015
Margaretta R. Graves ’75 January 21, 2015
Edward C. Kaps ’75 February 5, 2015
Edwin J. Lewandowski ’76 February 16, 2015
Claude J. Hallyburton ’80 November 20, 2014
Lawrence F. Berg ’91 January 31, 2015
John J. Ahern ’00 ’01 February 15, 2015
Donald G.loyd ’04 February 26, 2015
Gordie Gillespie February 28, 2015
(See story on p. 26)

On the Big Screen. Congratulations, Kay!

“Screenwriter, producer, performer and future director Kay Cannon has achieved the near-impossible: She hasn’t just broken into the notoriously male-dominated comedy world, but has had major hits on the big screen (Pitch Perfect) and the small (30 Rock, New Girl).

The success of the [Pitch Perfect] led Universal to greenlight the highly anticipated sequel Pitch Perfect 2, due in theaters this May.”

Forbes.com
College of Education Alumni Honored

Three Lewis graduates were honored as “Great Teachers.” Dana (Zuelke) Schuster ’08 is a Special Education Teacher at Gompers Junior High in Joliet, Ill. and received a master’s degree in Curriculum and Leadership. Yenny Munoz-Zwaninger MA ’11 received an M.A. in the Elementary Education Licensure Program and Arlene Roderick ’09 is a graduate from the first English as a Second Language cohort. Yenny teaches at Sator Sanchez in Joliet, Ill and Arlene teaches at Troy School in Plainfield, Ill.

(top) Dr. Todd Koehl, Superintendent of Troy School District 30-C; Dana (Zuelke) Schuster; Mrs. Mary Jaworski, President of the Joliet Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Constance Russell, Principal at Gompers Junior High; Russ Slinkard, former President of the Joliet Chamber of Commerce and Industry. (lower left) Arlene Roderick and Dr. Todd Koehl. (lower right) Lisa Moreno, Principal at Sator Sanchez Elementary school and Yenny Munoz-Zwaininger ’11.

For more information regarding eligibility, please contact the Office of Graduate Admission grad@lewisu.edu (815) 836-5610

"Note: In situations where an applicant is eligible for more than one discount or scholarship, the higher level discount or scholarship will apply. The tuition rate should be confirmed and verified by the Admissions Counselor at the time of registration."

25% TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FOR LEWIS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

Lewis University alumni qualify for a 25% tuition scholarship when admitted into a graduate degree, doctoral degree, second bachelor degree or qualifying certificate program at Lewis University.

Eligibility Guidelines

- Applies to newly enrolled Lewis Alumni.
- The student’s degree will be verified with the Registrar’s Office at the time of application.
- The Frequent Flyer Scholarship can be applied to all undergraduate, graduate and qualifying certificate programs at any location and online.*
- Applicants must meet program admission requirements.
- The Frequent Flyer Scholarship awards an amount equal to 25 percent of the published per credit hour tuition rate for the program.
- The Frequent Flyer Scholarship may not be used in combination with other Lewis University scholarships, discounts, waivers or awards.
- The student must pay for all fees and the cost of books and supplies associated with courses.
- The scholarship will apply throughout the duration of the program as long as the student is concurrently enrolled.

*Note: In situations where an applicant is eligible for more than one discount or scholarship, the higher level discount or scholarship will apply. The tuition rate should be confirmed and verified by the Admissions Counselor at the time of registration.
The December Commencement Alumni Volunteers include Tom Hernandez ’88 and Rosanne Chirumbolo ’95. For more information on volunteering, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Volunteer.

Cookies with Santa. On Sunday, December 8, 2014, alumni gathered with their children and grandchildren to visit with Santa at Lewis while donating unwrapped gifts to benefit Westyn’s Wish.

Cookies with Santa. On Sunday, December 8, 2014, alumni gathered with their children and grandchildren to visit with Santa at Lewis while donating unwrapped gifts to benefit Westyn’s Wish.

Daughter Olivia wasn’t so sure about Santa, but smiled with mom and dad Steve ’96 and Kelly Zlatic.

Cookies with Santa. On Sunday, December 8, 2014, alumni gathered with their children and grandchildren to visit with Santa at Lewis while donating unwrapped gifts to benefit Westyn’s Wish.

Matt ’00 MBA ’02, Laura, Andrew and Sabrina Geerde.

Cookies with Santa. On Sunday, December 8, 2014, alumni gathered with their children and grandchildren to visit with Santa at Lewis while donating unwrapped gifts to benefit Westyn’s Wish.

Grandma Kathy (Cook) Lyons ’74, Grandpa Bill Lyons, Hope (Lyons) Zawaski ’01, Jay Zawaski ’01, daughter Addie Zawaski, Natalie (Lyons) Jostes ’04, Chris Jostes, and baby Emerson Jostes.


(Back row, l-r) Steve and Barbara Eberhard ’74, Professor Keith White ’77, Michael Zigrossi ’75, (front row, l-r) Board of Trustee member Mohra Gavankar, Karen Lega, and Carol Wassberg.
Volleyball Alumni Match. Lewis University volleyball alumni gathered on Saturday, January 17, 2015 for a special volleyball alumni reception and match.

Pictured are: Matt McCarthy (Assistant Men’s Volleyball Coach), Dan Friend (Men’s Volleyball Coach), Jay Petty ’13, Eli Masud ’10, Tom Garvey ’10, Aaron Flick ’12, Nathan Klaas ’10, Matt Gallik ’09, Jared Dayton ’07, Billy Sahagian ’09, Kevin Miller ’03, Brian Collins ’13, Yiwei Zhou ’14, Omar Moran, Bryan Johnwick ’00, and Marc Denson ’13.


President’s 7th Annual Art Exhibition. Congratulations to our alumni who contributed artwork to the President’s 7th Annual Art Exhibition. Alumni included Rebecca (Rebe) Banasiak ’97, Jenny Chi ’95, Barbara Eberhard ’74, Albert Escanilla ’09, Paula (Jankowski) Phelan ’77, and Dave Pomatto ’71. Pictured are Rebe Banasiak and Dave Pomatto.

Sarasota Wine Tasting. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President, joined alumni and friends for a fun and festive evening of wine tasting on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at Michael’s on East Tasting Room in Sarasota, Florida.

Tom ’65 and Judy Rollins
Stuart ’58 and Jeri Christensen
06.05.15  
Friday  
35th Annual Varsity Club Golf Outing  
alumni.lewisu.edu/Golf

07.23.15  
Thursday  
Aviation Alumni Gathering  
alumni.lewisu.edu/LUAAO

09.12.15  
Saturday  
Red Tie Ball: Signum Fidei Celebration  
alumni.lewisu.edu/RedTieBall

10.09.15  
Friday  
Celebrating Women in Leadership Conference

12.04.15  
Friday  
President’s Circle Dinner

12.06.15  
Sunday  
Cookies With Santa

alumni.lewisu.edu/events