Br. James Gaffney, FSC
President of Lewis University
1988-2016
Reflections
June 30, 2016 will soon be upon us. On that day I will end my presidential service that has stretched over nearly three decades. It has been an amazing period in my life and a remarkable era of transformation for Lewis University. I am immensely grateful for the privilege of serving and leading this extraordinary University community for more than 28 years. Of particular significance and delight have been all the relationships that I have been blessed to have and enjoy. This includes faculty, staff, administrators, students, alumni, trustees, benefactors and the 24 other Christian Brothers who exercise their educational ministry here at Lewis. Throughout all of this, the presence and guidance of God’s Holy Spirit have been very palpable.

The three principle themes in my Inaugural Address in 1988 were that we were entering a period of genuine hope; that we were being called to identify, articulate and embrace our Mission as a Catholic university in the Lasallian tradition; and that all of our efforts have to be consistently, generously and wholeheartedly directed toward the quality education and success of our students. The University struggled greatly in that earlier era, although providentially a period of blessed stability had been achieved through the highly dedicated and truly wonderful leadership of Brother David Delahanty, FSC, whose very capable presidential service was tragically cut short by cancer. Nonetheless, the University lacked essential resources, the campus appearance was somewhat bleak, and our very capable faculty and staff did the best they could with very limited financial support.

Accordingly, we immediately set out to establish a comprehensive, collaborative and inclusive process of consultation for identifying the essence of our Mission. Once articulated, this Mission Statement has endured remarkably well and has been a steady source of inspiration and unity of purpose. Moreover, it has been effectively integrated into virtually everything that we do and all that has genuine priority. This most certainly has included the series of impactful Strategic Plans which we have developed during the last two decades. Our Mission is readily embraced by new employees, who are hired with that in mind, and it is embedded into all of our essential documents and planning initiatives. In fact, the University has been identified nationally and even internationally as being "Mission mature" and among the most Mission-oriented universities in the Catholic, Lasallian tradition.

Knowing who we are, what we stand for and aspire towards, and how best to integrate our Mission into the entire fabric of the University in meaningful and relevant ways, we have been able to foresee a far brighter future for Lewis at each step of our development. In every important category, we gradually secured the required resources to excel at what we were doing and providing, for the sake of our rapidly growing student population. New, high quality and valued academic programs and services were created. Great hires were made, and our core group of very capable administrators, faculty, and staff were energized by our Mission and Vision, as we boldly set out to become "one of the finest mid-sized Catholic universities in the Midwest." A preliminary Campus Master Plan was developed and a funding strategy developed, resulting in nearly 30 new or completely renovated buildings and other structures during the last quarter-century. Our faculty and students were regularly accomplishing amazing scholarly results. Not surprisingly, our academic reputation grew nicely throughout the Chicago area and beyond. Moreover, we developed a magnificent campus and provided dozens of extracurricular and co-curricular options of quality and genuine appeal for our students. In the world of Catholic and Lasallian higher education, Lewis moved into a place of increased prominence. Indeed, we were already into a far more hopeful and confident period in our history, and it only got better.
Throughout all of these impressive advancements, we further developed in our understanding of our personal and professional callings. As a University Community, we became more appreciative of our place within the Church, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, and the larger society. Relationships were strengthened and genuinely appreciated. We celebrated often what has become our highly valued spirit of Association, that is, our unity for Mission. Still further, we steadily improved in the integration of our multitude of career-relevant academic offerings with the invaluable liberal arts core of our curriculum. And we recommitted in ways quite extraordinary to the education of our students, their holistic growth, and their ability to succeed now and in their later lives and careers. Innovation and lofty standards of excellence became the norm.

Without doubt, we care deeply and very effectively for students of diverse backgrounds, ages, interests and potential. We are a truly concerned, loving and zealous community of closely-united colleagues, focused upon our students and the very positive difference they will make in the lives of many others, including the disadvantaged, the marginalized, and those seeking to escape the barriers of poverty and prejudice. There is no question that our students perceive and appreciate the care, love, competence and concern of our faculty, administrators and staff. Lewis University has become a marvelous community, unified in promotion of “the human and Christian education” of the students entrusted to our care, to use the imagery of Saint John Baptist de La Salle. I hope and pray that we will forever build on the foundation of this marvelous and highly meaningful culture that we have together developed and upon the values-oriented climate that we consistently provide to each of our students. The vast majority of them are being readied to be ethical leaders in their diverse walks of life.

When I heard my call as a young adult to become a De La Salle Christian Brother, I knew that I wanted to give my life over to doing something very meaningful and worthwhile for young adults and others, within the vision of De La Salle and in the pathway modeled and empowered by Jesus. I cannot think of a better and more purposeful way of doing this than in having served here at Lewis University in several capacities over a 45 year period of my life, and most especially as President for so many years. I have been greatly blessed in being called to be a Brother for others, most especially for our students, during all of these years and in different roles and responsibilities. Above all, I am grateful for all that Lewis University has become and will further grow into, deeply and authentically, for the sake of each of our students and his or her future. My gratitude goes out to the Lord who continues to call, and to all of those with whom I have been wonderfully blessed to be associated, especially my closest colleagues here at Lewis. To all of you, please continue to believe, to commit, to invest, to celebrate and to foster the Mission that we have created here at the University, as a source of significant impact now and as a pathway to an even more wondrous future.

Sincerely,

Brother James Gaffney, FSC,
President
Br. James Gaffney, FSC
PRESIDENT
LEWIS UNIVERSITY
1988-2016
The inauguration of Lewis University’s fourth Christian Brother President took place in October of 1988 in the heart of the Romeoville campus – Sancta Alberta Chapel. The start of Brother James Gaffney’s presidency was seen as a new beginning for Lewis. His inaugural address focused on the theme of “hope.” There was a great deal of transformation that needed to occur which would be a lengthy process, and he fully expected to be President for a long-time. No one then could have predicted 28 years.

Brother James had long been associated with Lewis, first as a faculty member, then as Chair of the Board beginning in 1975, and continuing as a member of the Board throughout the 1980s. This wealth of experience and deepened level of understanding provided him with the background and expertise required for his important new role as President.

Early on, Brother James led efforts to revitalize the Mission, significantly improve the financial situation at Lewis, increase endowment, energize fundraising, grow academic programs, and physically enhance the campus.

Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC, University archivist, remembered the psychological impact that the appearance of the campus had on visitors prior to Brother James’ term as President. “When people came onto the campus, they had a bad impression of the University based upon what they saw outside, but what was going on in the classroom was outstanding.”

Brother James recalled the first time he visited the campus. He said, “There was little evidence of pride in the facilities. The facilities and landscaping were worn-out and depleted of resources. Even with a limited budget, I knew there was a lot of potential here and that the students deserved a better learning environment.”

The work that began in 1988 never stopped. Alumni and long-time friends of the University alike can’t help but notice the amazing physical transformation when visiting the campus today. Since Brother James became President, 28 buildings are either new or vastly improved. He said, “Our ongoing sustainability efforts reflect our responsibility to create an environment for our students that reflects God’s beauty.”

Kathleen Halloran ’74, Board of Trustees member said, “From his time as Chairman of the Board through his years as President, the University has transformed financially, academically and physically to a vibrant and outstanding institution. I, particularly as an alumna, am extremely proud of how Lewis University has evolved over the last three decades, and the foundation that Brother James has established for continued success.”

In the early 1990s, the President led a multi-year effort to renew the Mission of the University. It refocused the institution, unified the Lewis community and provided a framework for academics and planning. The faculty and staff of Lewis and many others came to a better understanding of our heritage as well as our Catholic and Lasallian identity that served as the basis for all that took place inside and outside of the classroom.

The Mission renewal project helped the University community to understand perhaps more than many other institutions sponsored by the Christian Brothers, that the Mission wasn’t only embodied in the Brothers themselves, but was something that everyone had an important role in modeling to students and to the community. The Brothers paved the way, leading by example, but always in association...
and respectful of their lay colleagues. They would ultimately share with faculty, administrators and staff the Lasallian charism and how to incorporate it into their lives and work. This new understanding of the Lasallian Mission at the University led to hundreds of faculty and staff participating in formation programs over the last two decades.

Joseph Falese ’78, ’84, Vice President for Student Services said, “Our Mission integration throughout the University is a significant part of Brother James’ legacy. He makes sure that the Mission is lived and understood by all employees. He wants everyone to understand it and relate it to what they do every day.”

When Brother James became President, Falese said, “We struggled a bit with our Mission and identity. The word Lasallian was not ingrained in our culture. We now know the Lasallian phrase ‘We touch hearts.’ I know how I live that out when I come to work every day.”

Kathleen Halloran commented, “One of Brother James’ finest accomplishments, I feel, is how the Mission of the University has been embedded and supported throughout the entire Lewis community. The Mission is a part of daily campus life. The depth with which it lives and breathes throughout the organization is amazing to experience.”

Michael Parker ’77, Board of Trustees member added, “A few months ago we did a survey of administration, deans, faculty, staff and students. They all noted the importance of the Lasallian Mission in education. It was so pleasing to know of the impact that the Mission has had on student success.”

Brother James said his own calling to be a Christian Brother was due to his education by the Brothers. He recalled, “They were wonderful role models, living their Lasallian association, providing a safe, caring, and challenging environment for their students. Reaching out to students to help them turn their lives around. Always very supportive of the students.” They personally extended an invitation to him, he accepted and has been very fulfilled in his life as a Brother.

Brother Pierre St. Raymond, FSC, Professor of Chemistry said, “He is called by God to do this vocation. I believe he views this assignment of President as a calling from God.”

He continued, “He believes in prayer and community.” Brother Pierre said Brother James’ commitment to living with the Christian Brothers in LaSalle House, indicates his commitment to the community. Pierre said most religious presidents live in a residence by themselves due to their busy schedules. “Brother James has made it a point to live in community and participate in community.”

Dr. Kurt Schackmuth ’98, ’02, Vice President for Mission and Identity, also spoke of Brother James leading by example and how it has impacted him. He said, “He has taught me what it means to have a vocation...To feel that you are called to a certain kind of purpose or work in life. Many of us cannot imagine what else he could possibly do than what he's doing right now in terms of being a leader in Lasallian higher education. If there’s any example of someone who has a true vocation, a true calling, a true purpose in life, he’s one of those people that comes to mind.”

Brother Pierre used a Christian Brother term to describe Brother James. He said, “He is a ‘school man.’ He is a consecrated religious who is faithful to his religious vows through bringing stability to the institution, and his religious order through being one in the community and dedication to ‘the schools.’”
The same religious community that inspired Brother James’ vocation continues to educate students, faculty and staff at Lewis University today. Twenty-three Christian Brothers carry out their educational ministry on campus and continue to be engaged in direct service to students. Some teach and chair academic departments, while others serve in administrative and staff roles, continuing to work “together for the sake of our students.” Lewis has the largest number of Christian Brothers among the 60 universities they sponsor around the world.

In keeping with the Christian Brothers’ interest in the development of students intellectually, spiritually, physically and socially, Lewis has become an exemplar of student-centeredness under Brother James’ leadership.

Schackmuth said, “Brother James established a student-centered leadership style that many others emulate as a way of being Lasallian. When we think of being Lasallian, one of the first things we think about is being student-centered, and he has taught many, many people to be student-centered in their leadership and management style.”

In his inaugural address, Brother James noted that, “Being involved in the Mission of Lewis University is such a special privilege because of the significance of what is happening to our students while they are with us, and how we can contribute to their growth and holistic development. In God’s providence we have a vital mission that is also a source of great satisfaction. We are offering our students something of lasting value during perhaps the most critical years of their lives.”

Schackmuth said, “What I think is so remarkable about his presidency is that it’s as if every year he revisits that inauguration address to make sure we’re seeing the opportunity to impact and shape the lives of young people through higher education, because here we are 28 years later and it’s still a primary focus of what he does.”

Ensuring that students have the best possible educational experience at Lewis, one that is personalized, values-centered, faith-filled and academically rewarding has been one of the President’s greatest accomplishments. During his tenure as President, the number of academic programs grew to nearly 120 undergraduate and graduate programs. The regional and national recognition for academic quality is endorsement of the status of Lewis as a university of distinction. Student success is at the heart of what Lewis University is about.

Reflecting upon his 28 years in his role as President, Brother James said, “It has become far more complex over the years. Multiple stakeholders have an interest in what is going on in higher education – long gone are the days when it was simply about faculty and students. Now the government, church, donors, and alumni all have a large influence in addition to faculty, staff and students and there can be conflicting interests at times. There is much more emphasis on fundraising to keep tuition affordable.”

“The demands on my time are roughly 85 hours/week which is taxing and challenging. Nationally, 50 percent of Catholic
university presidents have left the position in the last five years,” Brother James continues. “Communication, mutual respect and sharing a common direction are keys to achieving consensus and getting things accomplished. Trying to keep some life balance, remain positive and prayerful with a sense of peace and purpose, all while dealing with the problems, and coming back to a sense of purpose is the life of a university president today.

His nearly three decades in this role provided him with a unique perspective on a higher education presidency. He has learned: what the president says and does is extremely important – actions and deeds are important, events attended are noticed, and convey a sign of support; Mission is pivotal – it takes devoted attention to advance the Mission and we need to be relentless in our ability to provide solutions for the poor and disenfranchised; and consistency in working for affordability and accessibility for students who want to come is the right thing to do, and we need to find a way to secure the resources for them to attend.

Brother James said that while much has been accomplished during his presidency, he could not have done it alone. Relationships needed to be established and everyone engaged. He said, “That is why the spirit of Association is such a powerful tool. It is the heart of what we are and have been since the founding of the Christian Brothers in 1680 – living the tradition of ‘together for mission’ that we embrace, and working for the common good. Lewis was the first university to call ourselves ‘Lasallian.’ We are a Catholic university in the Lasallian tradition.”

Brother James is open to remaining involved with Lewis if asked by the Board of Trustees and incoming President after his retirement on June 30 of this year. He is willing to continue to cultivate his relationships with alumni and donors who have only known one President during their time at the University and after. He will also devote himself to causes that he is personally committed to such as the San Miguel School in Chicago, justice advocacy, and reasonable gun laws that protect lives, including those of students.

He hopes that people will remember him as someone who valued relationships – a leader who was affirming and sharing a spirit of hope. He wants to be remembered as a person who emphasized the student being at the center of what we do.

Schackmuth stated, “Reflecting back to my time as a student, I think he epitomized what students expected a Brother to be. He got to know you by name, he went out of his way to greet you or say hi to you, but he also exemplified what it meant to be a teacher, and what it meant to be a good administrator and a good leader. So when we look at Brother James, we see someone who set the standard for what a Christian Brother is: a person of faith, a teacher, administrator, leader and a student-centered person.

He continued, “Brother James is very much focused on mentoring people and providing encouragement and support and what impresses me is that he’s the living embodiment of what a lot of people want to see in a Christian Brother today because he really tries to live it as De La Salle did 300 plus years ago. That has influenced me. The importance of getting to know a student on a first-name basis, the importance of knowing there’s a story behind the face of every student, the importance of doing as much as we can to make the experience of a student at Lewis a positive experience that will help them grow and develop, those are things that he’s taught me in his role as president.”

Suzanne Klein ’84, member of the Alumni Board said, “I admire Brother James’ ability to recognize and remember what is important to each of the many people he encounters. I hear many people at events we attend at Lewis who remark upon the same thing; he remembers what we talked about the last time we were together or what’s going on with my kids! It’s more than a good memory. It’s because he cares.”

Michael Hennessey ’74, President and CEO of the United Way of Will County said, “One of the most remarkable aspects of his leadership style is the personal touches. People receive personal notes from him and he makes such an impression with his thoughtfulness. I remember receiving a note after he’d read in the paper about something we’d done at the United Way. He even included the article. It was incredible at how touching that note was to our staff.”
Brother James emphasized the attention he strives to provide students. He makes an effort to be present at key events so that they understand his level of caring, commitment and support.

**Sophia Barakat '12, '14** started as a student at Lewis University in the fall of 2008. She quickly became involved in many activities on campus, Student Governing Board, Relay for Life, UPBRAC, PSAC and mission trips. As she became more involved on campus, the more she came to know Brother James as more than the President of the University. “He was also a mentor to us,” she said.

She estimated that Brother James only missed one out of 25 major events sponsored by Student Services on campus in the last semester. His constant presence on campus is not out of obligation, she said. “You can tell he just cares.”

She offered an example of how Brother James would be at the airport at 6 a.m. to wish students goodbye as they left for a mission trip. “I wasn’t sure about going on mission trips to Bolivia and the Philippines, but he encouraged me to go and I went on four consecutive trips.” She said, “He encouraged me to get out of my comfort zone.”

Under his leadership and influence, Brother James moved the University to a higher level of prominence and stature which is known and recognized beyond the region. Joe Falese said, “The University faced so many challenges as it related to our financial strength and the campus needed significant improvements in many areas when he became President.”

Since then Falese feels that the areas that have made outstanding progress include: the transformation of the campus – “it’s nothing short of amazing,” growth as an institution – “enrollment figures are tangible metrics of the progress in this area,” with a current enrollment of nearly 7,000 students; overall improved quality of the
institution – “we have been able to grow in enrollment as it relates to quantity and quality;” and image enhancement of the institution – internally and externally – he tells fellow alumni, “Our diploma is worth more every day, and that’s a credit to Brother James’ leadership and the progress we have made as a University.”

Sue Klein said, “I think there is a greater sense of pride on campus now than there was during my student years in the early ’80s. Lewis always had a good sense of community and it continues today, but I think there’s less of a feeling of being an underdog now than there was years ago. Some of that stems from Brother James’ unshakeable belief in the ability of the Lewis community to achieve more every year.”

Brother Pierre pointed out, “Beyond the financial transformation, Brother James led Lewis in transitioning the University from a purely teaching institution with barely any research underway, to a teaching institution that has incorporated research and application of knowledge as an integral part of the learning process.”

Bob Klein ’83, Past President of the Alumni Board said, “The quality of the education received by the students has continued to improve by increasing the difficulty and breadth of the programs available and at the same time, the University has grown in enrollment. Yet as the University has grown in enrollment, it has maintained its small school atmosphere.”

Brother James understood the Mission as a treasure – something that needs to be cared for and nurtured. Joe Falese feels the understanding of the Mission is a key to success. It makes us distinctive from other Catholic universities. He said, “There are plenty of fine schools, but I think he really felt Mission integration would be one of the differences that would make us distinctive.”

Falese continued on, “Brother James presented a formidable challenge in our history when he said we would become one of the best mid-sized Catholic universities in the Midwest. At that time, we had so many needs on campus. He had a vision. His relentless commitment and passion made
Lewis always had a good sense of community and it continues today, but I think there’s less of a feeling of being an underdog now than there was years ago. Some of that stems from Brother James’ unshakeable belief in the ability of the Lewis community to achieve more every year.

it happen. Today we are in fact one of the best Catholic mid-sized Universities in the Midwest.”

Michael Parker added, “Brother James has been omnipresent in the crafting and success of this fine University. During his tenure he took a good, but not well-known educational institution, strengthened the foundation, and added the bright colors and backgrounds that rounded this place into a fine educational operation. Then he did those things necessary to give it a ‘soul’ with the help of the Christian Brothers by further inculcating the Lasallian mission into it.”
Honoring Brother James

As part of the “Achieve More. Together” campaign and in honor of Brother James Gaffney’s 28 years of Presidential leadership, our goal is to raise at least $5 million toward a new Student Center which will bear his name.

During the course of his lifetime, Brother James has served Lewis University in many capacities, including as Provincial of the Chicago District of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, as Chair of the Lewis University Board of Trustees, as Professor of Theology, and most notably, as President of Lewis University for the past 28 years. Throughout his remarkable tenure as the University’s ninth president, he has played an extraordinary role in the development of Lewis through a renewed and revitalized institutional commitment to Mission; the growth and quality of academic programs; the advancement of student success initiatives; significant growth in enrollment; the physical transformation of the campus and the development of regional sites; and leadership in the surrounding community.

Looking Toward the Future...

Lewis is a University with heart, a school that invites, fosters and inspires students to transform the communities in which they live and work. Our Lasallian heritage is our foundation. For more than 80 years, student success has been at the core of our Mission – whether it’s preparing students for the future through outstanding academic programs or challenging them to engage with, and serve their communities as ethical leaders. Here, we unify the pursuit of spiritual and moral values, intellectual skills, and career education.

Over the past decade, the University has achieved tremendous growth in enrollment and programs while earning numerous awards and national recognition. Lewis has been named a College of Distinction, honored as a Best in the Midwest College by the Princeton Review, and is now consistently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the best regional universities.

We are committed to strengthening the qualities that make Lewis University student-centered and look to the future with a blueprint that integrates experiential learning, access to an excellent education and enhanced facilities.

Together, we can foster an extraordinary future for our students ... and for Lewis. Your gift is an investment in innovative and new programs, enhanced engagement and collaborative growth within the student population, and access to the distinctively unique education and vitality of the Lewis family – all of which showcase the remarkable Lasallian difference of Lewis University.

Make your gift in honor of Brother James at lewisu.edu/Together.

Making An Impact

Did you know the Brent and Jean Wadsworth family has generously pledged to match gifts made to the Student Center and/or in honor of Brother James Gaffney, FSC, up to $300,000? Double your gift by giving to one of these special opportunities!
Making an Impact

Lewis alumni and students are making a positive impact in their professions based on knowledge and experience acquired during their education at Lewis. Faculty at Lewis bring their real-world connections to the classroom to provide meaningful learning experiences and opportunities for students to delve into problems, create solutions and make a significant difference.

The Skyway to Success

The aviation industry is ripe with opportunities for new aviation graduates. Hiring rates for Aviation Maintenance Technicians of the Lewis University May 2016 graduating class were more than 100 percent, as many students received multiple offers.

“What sets Lewis Aviation apart and sends industry leaders to come to us in search of graduates, is that our curriculum often goes above what the industry demands. Lewis is developing curriculum and teaching students on a level of where the industry is going, not where it is now or has been,” said Eric Jones, Assistant Professor and Chair of Aviation and Transportation Studies.

From earning the Loening Trophy in 2013 to taking second place at the NIFA Region VIII SAFECON competition in October 2015, Lewis University continues to build upon an already strong aviation program and provide real-world learning experiences for students.

Companies are seeking employees who can do everything – structures, propulsion systems, and avionics – and be able to do critical problem solving, all core aspects of the curriculum at Lewis.

Providing the Right Tools

The implementation of new programs, including the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) program, and securing the right equipment are keys to providing students with invaluable experience and hands-on learning.

“Southwest Airlines donated a full size CFM-56 turbo fan engine, and many alumni and friends have gifted smaller planes to the University. Snap-on Tools installed six lab rooms located in the side shops of our hangar facility, equipped with two master flight line instructor tool kits and 24 intermediate student tool sets. These new technologies are intrinsic to the success of our students,” says Jones. “Our instructors can lecture in a classroom about technology, show a book or a video and draw out how something works, but when students have that hardware to learn on, education really comes full circle.”

“Lewis’ Mission is core to the Aviation program, and teaches our students how to make ethical decisions,” explains Jones. “We also experience four very dramatic flying seasons a year in one of the world’s busiest air spaces.”

“Representatives from major airline corporations call and ask for our graduates on a regular basis,” Jones says. “Perhaps the project is in Japan, building a 787 wing out of composites – something we teach within our curriculum and something that most airframe and powerplant schools do not.”

For more on how aviation is addressing the needs of the industry, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/LIUAAO.
Responding to the Changing Needs of Healthcare

The implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the aging of the U.S. population has changed the face of healthcare in the United States and is increasing demands for caring, competent healthcare providers. Lewis is on the forefront of preparing outstanding healthcare practitioners who can meet the challenges of the new environment by offering future healthcare leaders academically excellent programs and creating new ones designed to enhance educational opportunities.

“Healthcare goes beyond acute care to include prevention and rehabilitation care, particularly in an aging population,” said Dr. Peggy Rice, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. “Nursing is an area with unprecedented opportunities for students to make a difference in patients’ lives. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the total number of job openings for nurses due to growth and retirements will increase to 1.05 million by 2022.

With a state-of-the-art facility featuring simulation opportunities for nursing students to practice their skills and outstanding faculty who mentor students, Lewis’ pass rate on the National Council Licensure Exam - RN (NCLEX) is 95 percent, well above the national average. Lewis has an unparalleled reputation of preparing quality healthcare practitioners who are not only technically proficient, but who take a holistic view of patients.

“Our nursing graduates are well known in the industry,” said Dr. Stephany Schlachter, Provost. “At every hospital in the area, you’ll hear that Lewis nursing grads are the best.”

A focus on interdisciplinary learning is a key emphasis going forward. “With the Affordable Care Act, there’s been more importance placed on an array of providers who, as a team, work together to provide holistic healthcare,” said Dr. Rice. “Our vision for the future is to bring together a wide variety of professionals to work together and learn from each other during the educational process.”

Regardless of major, healthcare students at Lewis are differentiated by the Lasallian influence of the University. “In all of our programs, we integrate knowledge and values and ultimately focus on the human dignity of the patients our students will eventually serve,” said Dr. Rice.

Lewis nursing students provide much-needed services within the community. For example, with the support of a grant from the Will County Partners for Healthy Families, several groups of senior community health nursing students have implemented the CATCH (Coordinated Action Toward Child Health) program at two local Catholic elementary schools in Bolingbrook where they teach healthy eating and living sessions, and facilitate physical activity with the Pre-K through 5th grade students. In addition, Lewis graduate nursing students worked collaboratively with local healthcare agencies by conducting service-oriented practicum projects, such as providing consultation services to an academic medical center on consolidating two mental health services. Through rigorous research and analysis, this project offered specific recommendations and implementation processes to the organization for the initiative. These projects make significant impact to patient care through enhancing healthcare systems and nursing professional practice.

For more on Nursing at Lewis University, visit lewisu.edu/conhp.
St. Charles Borromeo Center: Enhancing the Student Experience

Purchased from the Diocese of Joliet in 2013, the recently renovated St. Charles Borromeo Center is now an integral part of the Lewis campus. With classrooms and meeting spaces featuring state-of-the-art technology, a cafeteria, and residential space, the Center provides an attractive venue for faculty and students as well as members of the surrounding community to come together to learn and share innovative ideas.

A distinctive home to train tomorrow’s business leaders

State-of-the-art technology and collaborative work spaces welcome business students as they prepare to take on their roles as tomorrow’s leaders. “Our students’ experience is guided by three pillars. These pillars are: experiential learning, ethics, and entrepreneurship,” says Dr. Rami Khasawneh, Dean of the College of Business and Graduate School of Management.

“St. Charles is also ideal because students have everything they need under one roof: classrooms, a dining hall, residence halls, and a place for prayer.” Business students will also have the opportunity to practice their skills through experiential learning in high-tech labs.

“In addition to enhancing the education of current students, the College of Business is also reaching out to prospective high school students with networking opportunities and information at our annual Business Leaders Seminar,” said Michael Progress, Assistant Dean in the College of Business.

The location at the St. Charles Borromeo Center is also stimulating growth of The Lowell Stahl Center for Entrepreneurship and Real Estate, which equips students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to become successful entrepreneurs.

“Students can really collaborate here,” said Kristin Burton, Director of the Lowell Stahl Center for Entrepreneurship and Real Estate. “They can use a conference room to practice talking to investors or a video screen for a web meeting with others in the U.S. or around the world.”

The Stahl Center is energizing interest in entrepreneurial opportunities through its annual competition for developing business plans or an “elevator pitch” to describe a new business idea or product. The program, which was launched two years ago, is gaining traction as more students explore the possibilities of becoming entrepreneurs.

“We’re also looking at additional ways for students to run businesses right on campus, such as hot food carts which would serve students around campus,” said Burton. “We want to serve as an incubator for local entrepreneurs and are working to offer the resources of the Center to anyone in the community who is thinking about starting a business.”

For more on the St. Charles Borromeo Center, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Impact.
The STEM Era of Lewis University

Building upon past success, Lewis University is emerging as a formidable leader in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)—gaining national recognition while preparing students to meet the scientific challenges of tomorrow through experiential learning.

In 2015, the University was recognized with three grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to increase student success through scholarships, encourage retention in STEM majors and improve STEM teacher preparation. “Our NSF grants are very student-focused,” said Dr. Ray Klump, Chair and Professor of Computer and Mathematical Sciences. “They have given us an opportunity to support students in a way that would not have been possible without the financial backing of these grants.”

The grants provide recognition of Lewis’ commitment to excellence in the sciences. “NSF grants are difficult to achieve and to be awarded three of them is a validation of the quality of our science programs and research,” said Dr. Stephany Schlachter, Provost. “Our dynamic faculty are passionate about science. They engage in their own research and share those experiences with undergraduate and graduate students while providing one-on-one mentorship, giving students the best of both worlds.”

Collaboration for Real-world Experience

Lewis’ scientific programs are collaborative, bringing students together to work on real-world projects, not just theory. During the past year, an aviation student and a computer science student teamed up to enhance aviation safety, designing and building a device that may help prevent runway incursions—a potential hazard at airports without control towers that may occur when a plane is preparing for takeoff while another is in the process of landing.

The focus on real-world experience is broadened through partnerships with local corporations and labs, like Argonne and Fermilab, which provide internships that students might not otherwise have access to on a day-to-day basis. The result? “The culture of mentorship at Lewis not only helps students to be successful and grow their own body of research, but also helps them move on to some of the best graduate schools in the country or outstanding employment opportunities,” said Dr. Schlachter.

Lewis is looking at new initiatives to expand student offerings and experiences. “We’ve built a maker lab complete with five 3D printers, a milling machine, and workstation that allows students from all STEM fields to create designs, products or hardware that can then be animated using computer software for their experiments,” said Dr. Klump.

Lewis has also expanded its academic offerings in the sciences. A new computer engineering major launched two years ago will equip students to design and build the next generation of smart devices which can communicate with their environment. In addition to graduate degrees in information security and data science, a new computer science master’s degree was developed which explores three niches—cybersecurity, software engineering and intelligent systems.

“Our hope is to bring the STEM presence not only to the University and the surrounding community, but to the entire region. We want to become a hub, not only for students to work on projects, but also to be the site where the region comes to solve problems,” said Dr. Schlachter.

For more on how Lewis is addressing the need for STEM education, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/STEM.
Lewis University honored Brother Robert Schieler, FSC, Superior General of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, at Spring Convocation on Thursday, April 7, the Feast Day of Saint John Baptist de La Salle. Brother Robert was awarded an honorary doctoral degree for his many accomplishments and effective leadership for the De La Salle Christian Brothers, the largest order of religious Brothers in the Catholic Church, as well as for the global Lasallian family.

Prior to his election as Superior General in Rome, Brother Robert served for seven years as General Councilor for the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN) in Washington, D.C. He also served as Director of Education for the Christian Brothers’ United States-Toronto Region. A Philadelphia native, Brother Robert is a LaSalle University alumnus and former Trustee.

His leadership included service as Executive Secretary of the Regional Education Board and the Lasallian Association of College and University Presidents. He also was the Provincial Visitor for the Baltimore District for seven years. Earlier, he served for eleven years in the Philippines in a variety of administrative positions.

Noted for his focus on the meaning, development and support of Lasallian Association, he actively promotes the close collaboration of the Brothers with their lay partners who are serving in various educational roles and are supported by a sustaining Lasallian spirituality. In his address at last year’s Encuentro XI, a major gathering of the International Association of Lasallian Universities in Bogota, Columbia, Brother Robert posed this challenge for all Lasallians to consider: “How might we find new ways for all of us...to live our Lasallian association more genuinely in partnership for the mission?”

In addressing Lewis faculty, staff and students, he talked about the legacy of De La Salle and the Christian Brothers worldwide. He quoted French philosopher Jacques Maritain who described the charism of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, “From the very start they have understood that as concerns the working classes... education must equip youth with a genuine and efficient professional training and the means of making a living. And they have understood at the same time that the formation of the soul and of the intellect...remains the highest and most indispensible aim of education. That integration, for which all are looking today, of the practical and the theoretical, of vocational preparation and the cultivation of the mind –with the implied general enlightenment, ability to think and judge by oneself, and orientation towards wisdom – that integration is natural for them, and they work it out spontaneously, because they are neither idealists despising matter nor technocrats despising disinterested knowledge; they are Christian educators in the MOST concrete and realist sense of this expression.”

Brother Robert said, “In a word, today, as inheritors of the Lasallian contribution to modern education, we – you and I – are men and women characterized by a “practical faith” attentive to the trends that announce the future which will be the responsibility of this generation that is entrusted to our care.”

Brother Robert concluded his remarks by challenging the audience to continue to work together through research and education to find solutions to improve the lives of the vulnerable.

Brother Robert joined the De La Salle Christian Brothers in 1968. Along with his undergraduate degree from LaSalle University, Brother Robert holds a master’s degree in European History from the University of Notre Dame and a doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Pennsylvania.
**Signum Fidei Lecture Highlights Pope Francis’ Encyclical**

Dr. Hille Haker, who holds the Richard McCormick, S.J. Endowed Chair of Catholic Moral Theology at Loyola University Chicago, presented a lecture on “New Covenant: Responsibility for the Earth,” at the 14th Annual Signum Fidei (Sign of Faith) Lecture.

Pope Francis’ encyclical letter *Laudato Si’* (On the Care of Our Common Home) addresses the care for the planet within Christian theology. It also offers a critique of the technological and economic paradigm of domination of the earth.

Haker’s presentation highlighted the analysis given by Pope Francis, and spelled out the New Covenant that he proposes: a covenant between humans and the earth. He recommends that personal conversion, social change, and policies are needed to make the transformation to a sustainable lifestyle possible.

**The Flyer Newspaper Wins Awards**

The *Flyer*, Lewis University’s student newspaper, was awarded multiple honors for the fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters.

The *Flyer* took home three significant awards at the American Collegiate Press “Best of the Midwest” competition, held on January 29-31 in Minneapolis, including fifth place in “Best in Show” for the print edition, sixth place in “Best in Show” for the online edition, and seventh place in staff editorial. Several of the editors participated in the competition, which had more than 250 student journalists in attendance representing approximately 20 student publications from across the Midwest.

The Illinois College Press Association also honored the *Flyer* with multiple awards at their convention held Feb. 20 and 21 in Chicago, including second place awards in Headline Writing and Feature Page Design.

Staff members for the *Flyer* include Laura Fox, editor-in-chief; Dominic Liberatore, news editor; Samantha Gennett, assistant news editor; Melanie Plowman, Tempo editor; Brianna Peoples, assistant Tempo editor; Marissa Mangala, health editor; Taylor Morgan, opinions editor; David Ridderhoff, sports editor; Nicole Wanta, assistant sports editor; Ashley McCann, religion editor; Erin Patrick, copy editor; Kristen Sisto, copy editor; Michael Lane, copy editor; Georgi Presecky, lead layout editor; Abby Persicketti, layout editor; Kayla Chambers, layout editor; Jessica Tennant, advertising/graphics editor; David Olsen, photographer; Stephanie Brandner, web designer; and Natalie Budig, director of online content.

**College of Education Students Return to National Presentation**

If last year was any indication, the room is going to be packed, and we’re going to introduce more games and vocabulary strategies to the science teachers,” said Tiffany Albers-Lopez. A graduate Secondary Education major with an endorsement in Chemistry, she described the activities as a Lewis University College of Education team returned to co-present at the National Science Teacher Association Conference and Expo March 29-April 3 in Nashville, Tenn.

The team of presenters included Secondary Education and Physics undergraduate student, C.J. Blogg and Secondary Education Assistant Professor, Dr. Lauren Rentfro. They presented “Academic Language: More Vocabulary Strategies to Enhance Engagement and Learning.”

The components of academic language and over 30 vocabulary strategies and games were shared and modeled during this year’s presentation. The Lewis University team shared close to 60 vocabulary strategies at last year’s standing-room only session.

“The hard part about science vocabulary is the amount of difficulty involved. This could be from having to distinguish between the “table” you eat on and the “table” that data goes into. If that wasn’t enough to make some kids go insane, there are also words like “homozygous” or concepts like the “Kinetic Molecular Theory.” When students hear words like those, they might be instantly turned off by science,” explained Albers-Lopez. “We don’t want that to happen.”
Computer Science Students Achieve First Place in Programming Competition

One of Lewis University’s Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences teams earned first place in the 2016 Associated Colleges of the Chicagoland Area (ACCA) Programming competition.

ACCA, a consortium of 15 private liberal arts colleges in the Chicago area, holds the competition each year. It challenges students to write code in Java or C++ to solve eight problems in four hours. The problems tend to be mathematical in nature.

The first place team consisted of Michael Korzon, Steven Suggett, and Pete Thongsri. They finished more problems faster than the other 13 teams in the four-hour competition.

“This tests the students’ ability not only to write code, but to dissect a complex problem into smaller pieces so that they can devise a suitable algorithm to solve it,” commented Dr. Ray Klump, Chair and Professor of Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

“We are very proud that Lewis University teams regularly place in the top five. This year’s students are among the best and brightest students,” continued Klump.

Dr. Cindy Howard, Associate Professor, and Dr. Paul Kaiser, Professor Emeritus, coached the team.

Saya Attends Kirtland Honorary Commanders Program

(Fifty-four area civic and business leaders became the newest members of Kirtland Air Force Base’s Honorary Commanders Program during a ceremony that officially kicked off the base’s yearlong 75th anniversary celebration.

Kirtland pegs its birthday as Jan. 7, 1941 – the day construction began on Albuquerque Army Air Base, which started training bomber crews for World War II. Today, Kirtland has hundreds of tenant organizations, including Sandia National Laboratories, and employs nearly 21,000 people.

An estimated 230 Air Force personnel, honorary commanders and their guests attended Friday evening’s dinner and ceremonies at Kirtland’s Mountain View Club.

Among them was Sheri Milone, CEO of Lovelace Women’s Hospital, who will work with Lt. Col. Chris Bishop with the 377th Aerospace Medicine Squadron – one segment of Kirtland’s host unit, the 377th Air Base Wing.

“I would love to learn more about the operation – at least as much as I’m allowed to learn,” Milone said. “Because we offer women’s health services, I’m hoping we can figure out how we can partner with Kirtland and maybe supplement the services here with our specialists.” She said she would also like to explore ways that Lovelace might be able to offer services to Kirtland’s personnel.

The honorary commanders program, in existence since 1986, is designed to increase public awareness and understanding of the Air Force, and foster relationships with the military and civilian communities. Honorary commanders are paired with Kirtland wing, group and squadron commanders.

The commanders immerse their honorary commanders in the unit’s mission, structure and programs, and invite them to take part in quarterly activities and other events on base. Honorary commanders may then reciprocate by inviting their Kirtland counterparts to similar functions within their organizations.

Honorary commanders go through a nomination process and are selected by the base commander. They serve for two years, according to base officials.

Typically, about 20 honorary commanders are selected at a time but, because of the base’s 75th anniversary, the program was expanded to 54 this year.

Mayor Richard Berry, who presented a proclamation to base commander Col. Eric Froehlich naming the day 75th Anniversary of Kirtland Air Force Day, said Albuquerque is “blessed to have Kirtland in our city.”
Lewis University’s Mock Trial Team again earned a bid to the American Mock Trial Association national championship tournament. The Lewis team competed in the Opening Round Championship Series Tournament, held March 11-13, in Geneva, Ill.

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University, congratulated the team and its coaches for being invited to nationals for the 16th time in less than 20 years.

The bid was received after the Lewis team posted another successful Top 10 finish at the Illinois Regional Tournament. Lewis University hosted this regional competition in Joliet.

For the third consecutive year, Anthony Scorzo (co-captain) won an Outstanding Attorney Award at the regional tournament. First-year team member Kelly Green also received an Outstanding Witness Award.

Head Coach Dr. James Houlihan, Professor of Justice, Law, and Public Safety Studies and Advisor of the Pre-Law program, said all the team members performed well against tough competition.

The Flyers opened very strong in the first day of competition with the A team winning all their matches. The second day proved more challenging. In the first two rounds, the A team managed wins against St. Ambrose University and Northwood University. In the third round, Lewis took a loss against Wheaton College. Lewis came back in a tough final round and split with Wisconsin-Madison to secure the national bid. The B team earned three of four ballots on the first day. They had tough competition on the second day with close losses to the University of Chicago and Northern Illinois University.

“The B team had tougher competition than most teams in the tournament and finished 13th. First year players who led the team in scoring were attorney Michael Stramaglia and witness Lacey Boulware,” Dr. Houlihan added.

The University of Chicago finished the tournament in first place as an undefeated team.

Lewis University Mock Trial members include M’Aggie Huggins, Dustin Murray, Anthony Scorzo, Kelly Green, Sara Asif, Nick Matuszewski, Gilbert Broderick, Michael Stramaglia, Erica Swanberg, Jessica Sheppard, Luzmaria Arroyo, Lacey Boulware, Anthony Ciarlette, Karen Escamilla and Luis Angeles.

Mock Trial coaches include Paul Namie ’06, attorney, Moseley and Martinez, LLC; Cary Hansing ’12, financial analyst, BP Warrenville, Ill.; Kaitlyn Worst ’11, attorney of the firm, Erin Webster O’Brien, PC, Joliet, Ill.; Martin Shanahan, attorney, City of Joliet, Ill., and Joshua Rehak ’12, attorney, United States Marine Corps Judge Advocate.

Prison reform and the welcoming of refugees were topics of discussion at Lewis University’s Peace Studies Series this spring. “Overcoming Indifference with Mercy” was the title of the series.

“Change of Heart: Justice, Mercy, and Making Peace with My Sister’s Killer” presented by author and attorney Jeanne Bishop kicked off the series. Bishop discussed her journey to meeting and reconciling with the man who took her sister’s life.

A movie screening of “The Stanford Prison Experiment” portrayed the 1971 experiment conducted by Stanford University professor Dr. Philip Zimbardo.

President and Executive Director of the Syrian Community Network’s Suzanne Sahloul presented “Welcoming Syrian Refugees.” The discussion examined the Syrian Refugee process in the Chicago area.

The series concluded with a Peace Garden Dedication led by Drs. Christie Billups and James Burke on the Green north of McNamara Hall.

Peace Series Highlights
The Importance of Mercy

We are honored to maintain our campus as an arboretum for our students, faculty, staff and visitors. The program is sponsored by Toyota.
Nearly forty students, faculty and staff participated in a MAP Rally in Chicago on Tuesday, February 16, to urge Governor Bruce Rauner to sign SB2043 to release funding for Monetary Assistance Program (MAP) grants. Organized by the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities, the rally was held outside the Thompson Center, in the Chicago Loop. Lewis faculty and administrators served as chaperones. Buses were furnished to take students to and from the rally. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President, provided a luncheon for the participants when they returned to campus.

Participating in the rally was just one of the responses by Lewis University to the MAP crisis which has been created by a budget standoff between the State Legislature and the Governor that has resulted in a lack of funding for education. Nearly 140,000 Illinois students who were approved for supplemental MAP grants for 2015-2016 have been affected by the impasse in Springfield. MAP grants provide supplemental funding to help those in need to pursue college degrees.

Lewis faculty and staff began writing letters to their legislators about the delay in MAP funding in January. The legislators approved SB2043 which provided for the release of funding for MAP grants, but the Governor vetoed this bill. Students joined in the letter-writing efforts with excellent results. Nearly 1,700 student letters were mailed to the Governor’s Office.

Then the Illinois House of Representatives and the Illinois Senate passed a new bill on Friday, April 22 to provide $170 million in funding for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) to approximately 130,000 MAP recipients in the State. This amount represents 50 percent of the total MAP allocation owed to these financially needy students. This legislation also includes $600 million for Illinois public universities and community colleges.

Governor Bruce Rauner signed the SB2059 on April 25. In a statement, he said, “By passing this bipartisan agreement, lawmakers in both chambers put aside political differences to provide emergency assistance for higher education, ensuring universities and community colleges remain open and low-income students can pay for school.”

There are 1,397 Lewis University students that have the MAP awards for the 2015-2016 academic year. The amount totals more than $6 million. The MAP students at Lewis University have had a pending credit on their account while the State did not fund the grants.

“This brings much needed relief to our students, although this represents only half of the expected MAP funding for this year. We appreciate all those who worked together to advocate for our students in their time of need,” said Brother James Gaffney, FSC. According to the Chair of the Illinois Senate’s Higher Education Committee, Lewis University proved to be the #1 advocate for MAP students among all the private universities and colleges in Illinois, so much gratitude to everyone who wrote letters, made phone calls and sent emails.

Joliet Prison Photo Exhibit Showcases Work of Student

What to do with an architecturally and culturally significant prison that has been unused for over a decade? This is the question at the heart of two exhibits on display at the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Gaylord Building in Lockport, Ill.

“Unlocking the Past: Larissa Barnat’s Joliet Prison Photographs” is exhibited on the third floor of the Gaylord Building. “Photographing the Old Joliet Prison makes me appreciate the structure and history of older buildings. I am intrigued by their vintage aesthetic. When asked to photograph the prison, I was appalled to learn that anyone would want to tear down these magnificent buildings,” Larissa Barnat said.

Larissa is currently studying Computer Graphic Design at Lewis University. She described, “In my photos, I tried to document the delicately handmade detail along with the natural beauty growing onto it, contrasted by the strength and solidity of the architecture. I felt as though nature combined with the building have a purpose and work together harmoniously.”

Dr. Dennis H. Cremin, Professor of History and Director of the Lewis University History Center said, “Larissa is already an award-winning photographer. Her images capture the stories of the Old Joliet Prison. Her images provide a way to dream about these buildings, which have been unused for the past decade.”

The second exhibit opened in March on the second floor of the Gaylord Building. It addressed several themes, such as the history of the prison, models of preservation, and the prison in popular culture.
Lewis Men’s Hoops Drops UW-Parkside to Win GLVC Title

The Lewis University men’s basketball team, led by five players in double-figures, did not trail once as the Flyers earned the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament title with the 80-71 victory over No. 14 UW-Parkside at the Family Center on March 6.

The tournament title is Lewis’ second, as they last won in 2002, and gave the Flyers its second consecutive berth into the NCAA Tournament.

Lewis senior forward Kyle Nelson posted a double-double with a game-high 23 points on 10-for-17 shooting, including 10 rebounds. Sophomore forward Max Strus, the 2016 GLVC Tournament MVP, had 17 points, while freshman guard Delaney Blaylock and junior guard Capel Henshaw each contributed 11 points.

Junior point guard Miles Simelton, a GLVC All-Tournament Team selection, had 10 points and four assists in the win for the Flyers.

Record Breaking Season for Lewis Women’s Basketball

It seemed each week the 2015-16 Lewis women’s basketball squad was making some sort of history.

Senior Mariyah Brawner-Henley became Lewis’ all-time leader in points (1,981) and rebounds (1,282) on her way to multiple All-America awards. Her 72 career double-doubles rank second all-time in the history of NCAA Division II.

Brawner-Henley was named the GLVC Player of the Year after averaging 20.1 points and 11.8 rebounds per game. Teammate Jessica Kelliher averaged 18.3 points per game to earn GLVC Freshman of the Year accolades. Combined with Kristen Gillespie being named the GLVC Coach of the Year, Lewis became the first team in league history to win all three awards in the same season.

Their awards were well deserved after Lewis went a perfect 18-0 in GLVC play, becoming only the third team in GLVC history to do so. Lewis finished the season 28-3 overall and ranked No. 15 in the nation.

Lewis Women’s Golf Earns Another Trip to NCAA Play

For the second consecutive season, the Lewis women’s golf team earned a bid to the NCAA East Super Regional. The Flyers put together a four-player team average of 319.5 in 2015-16. It is the best season average in school history.

Individually, Lewis was led by junior Rachel Sweeney. Coming off a sophomore season where she qualified for Nationals as an individual, she improved her average by nearly two strokes in 2015-16 to 76.5. Sweeney won Colorado State Pueblo’s and Missouri-St. Louis’ tournaments. She was named All-GLVC for her third place finish at the 2016 GLVC Championship.

Lewis Men’s Golf Posts Best NCAA Finish Since 2006

Lewis’ sixth place performance at the 2016 NCAA Men’s Golf Midwest/Central Regional on May 2-4 was Lewis’ best finish in NCAA play since 2006. The Flyers came just two strokes shy of finishing in fifth, which would have qualified them for the NCAA Division II National Championship.

The Flyers were led by seniors Alex Thode and Robert Dofflemyer III. The duo helped Lewis to the NCAA Regional Tournament each of their four years as a Flyer. That feat had never been accomplished in the history of the program before their arrival.

Thode picked up All-GLVC honors in 2016 thanks to a fifth place individual finish at the 2016 Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship. He shot a one-under 70-71-74=215. Dofflemyer put together a top 10 performance at the NCAA Regional, shooting a 73-72-79=224.

For their careers, both finished in the top 10 in career scoring at Lewis. Thode finished with a per round average of 74.9 while Dofflemyer compiled a 75.29 average.
Men’s Tennis Advances to NCAA Tournament for Second-Straight Year

The Lewis University men’s tennis team earned its second consecutive berth in the NCAA Midwest Regional Tournament, as the Flyers earned a record of 12-9 during the regular-season.

Lewis had two players selected to the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference team, including junior Mate Srdanovic and freshman Alan Braschinsky.

Srdanovic earned the award for the second time in three seasons, as he compiled a record of 25-6 in singles play during the regular season, including an unblemished mark of 6-0 in GLVC action.

He and Braschinsky were equally as dominant in doubles play as they accumulated a mark of 26-6, including a record of 18-3 in dual matches. They finished seventh overall at the USTA/ITA National Small College Doubles Championships last October.

In singles action, Braschinsky picked up a record of 16-9 in his rookie season, playing primarily at No. 2 singles.

Lewis Men’s Track and Field Places 11th at NCAA Indoor Championships

The Lewis University men’s track and field team received four All-America finishes as the Flyers placed 11th overall at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships, hosted by Pittsburg State, on March 12th.

Tiffin won the team title with 49 points, while the Flyers picked up 18 points.

Junior Isaac Jean-Paul earned his third consecutive All-America award in the high jump, as he cleared 6’11” (2.11m) to finish fourth overall in the event. The Flyers received another fourth-place finish from junior Sergio Miranda in the 800-meter run (1:49.48).

Flyer senior Andre Barnes claimed his second consecutive All-America honor in the 400-meter dash with a school-record and seventh-place showing of 47.60.

The Flyers’ 4x400 relay team of Barnes, Miranda, senior Matt Jemilo and sophomore Chris Wilson placed third overall with a school-record time of 3:10.74.

“Isaac started the day off with a huge finish on a bruised heel and that really ignited the guys,” Lewis head men’s track and field coach Dana Schwarting said. “Andre kept the momentum going and Sergio stepped it up too.

“The school-record in the 4x400 was just the best way to end this amazing day.”

Lewis Women’s Tennis Defeats Drury for 2016 GLVC Title

An all-around effort pushed the Lewis University women’s tennis team to its second Great Lakes Valley Conference title in five years with the 5-1 win over No. 24 Drury University at the 5 Star Tennis Center on May 1st.

The Flyers (19-5) received an automatic berth into the NCAA Division II Tournament and earned a 5-2 victory over Davis & Elkins in an opening round match-up before falling to Indianapolis in the finals.

Against Drury, the Flyers had a 2-1 advantage after doubles and rode that momentum into singles action with three straight wins to claim the championship. The victory avenges a 7-2 loss at the hands of Drury on February 26th earlier this year.

“Drury is a tough, tough team and we knew we had a tough task ahead of us,” Lewis head women’s tennis coach and GLVC Coach of the Year Brett Bridel said. “I’m so proud of the way we battled right from the beginning.

“After the very first point of doubles, we knew we were in for a fight and it wasn’t going to be easy,” Bridel continued. “I couldn’t be prouder of the kids for how hard we fought and how much we’ve improved from back in February.”

At No. 1 doubles, Lewis’ sophomore tandem of Dora Andrejszki and Nora Mindiyarova earned the 8-4 triumph over Drury’s Lara Muller and Samanta Zambrano. Andrejszki added a 6-2, 4-6, 6-1 victory over Drury’s Hadeil Ali at No. 1 singles, while Mindiyarova battled for a 7-6 (6), 3-6, 6-1 win over Muller at No. 2 singles, clinching the team victory for the Flyers.

Lewis’ senior duo of Megan Nguyen and Jill Wetmore proved dominant once again after blanking Drury’s Larissa Karl and Ali, 8-0, at No. 2 doubles. Nguyen also defeated Zambrano 7-6 (6), 6-4 at No. 3 singles.

Prior to the tournament, Andrejszki was selected as the GLVC Women’s Tennis Player of the Year, while Mindiyarova and Nguyen were both named to the All-GLVC Team.

Lewis Men’s Tennis Advances to NCAA Tournament for Second-Straight Year

The Lewis University men’s tennis team earned its second consecutive berth in the NCAA Midwest Regional Tournament, as the Flyers earned a record of 12-9 during the regular-season.

Lewis had two players selected to the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference team, including junior Mate Srdanovic and freshman Alan Braschinsky.

Srdanovic earned the award for the second time in three seasons, as he compiled a record of 25-6 in singles play during the regular season, including an unblemished mark of 6-0 in GLVC action.

He and Braschinsky were equally as dominant in doubles play as they accumulated a mark of 26-6, including a record of 18-3 in dual matches. They finished seventh overall at the USTA/ITA National Small College Doubles Championships last October.

In singles action, Braschinsky picked up a record of 16-9 in his rookie season, playing primarily at No. 2 singles.
Lewis Women’s Track and Field Finishes Fourth at NCAA Championships

The Lewis University women’s track and field team received five All-America finishes, including a National Championship, as the Flyers placed fourth overall at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships, hosted by Pittsburg State, on March 12th.

Lincoln (Mo.) won the overall title with 60 points, while the Flyers tied for fourth with Pittsburg State with 31 points.

The Flyers earned two All-America showings in the triple jump from freshman Cierra Pulliam and senior Amber Cook. Pulliam uncorked a school-record jump of 40’10 1/4” (12.45m) on her very last attempt of the evening. Cook placed fifth with a leap of 40’2 1/4” on her last attempt.

Lewis junior Amanda Farrough picked up her second All-America honor in as many nights, as she finished third in the 3,000-meter run (9:32.06). The night before, Farrough won the 5,000-meter run with a school-record time of 16:09.10.

She is the second Flyer in as many years to win a national indoor championship, as Rebecca Priesler took home the pole vault title in 2015.

Flyer senior Chantel Stennis earned her sixth career All-America mark with a sixth-place and school-record finish of 24.27 in the 200-meter dash.

“What an unbelievable day,” Lewis head women’s coach Dana Schwarting said. “Triple jumps came down to the last jumps (for both Cierra and Amber) and the 3,000-meter run was finishing at the same time.

“This was the most unbelievable 10 minutes of my coaching career,” Schwarting continued. “We are bringing home a team trophy!”

Women’s Volleyball Takes Home 2015 GLVC Championship

Lewis became the most decorated women’s volleyball program in Great Lakes Valley Conference history in 2015 by winning its ninth GLVC title.

The total is now the most of any program in the GLVC. Lewis earned the title in convincing fashion thanks to a sweep of rival Indianapolis in the GLVC Championship match.

The conference title preceded Lewis’ 10th consecutive berth in the NCAA Tournament. Their NCAA postseason streak is the longest of any team in Lewis history since the Flyers joined NCAA Division II in 1981.

The Flyers finished with a 31-5 record, their fourth 30-win season since Lorelee Smith took over the program in 2007. Along the way, they put together a 21-match win streak. Sophomore middle hitter Aly Schneider was named to the 2015 American Volleyball Coaches Association NCAA Division II All-America Third Team and junior Nicole Yuede took home GLVC Libero of the Year honors.

Men’s Volleyball Advances to Fifth Consecutive MIVA Championship Match

The 2016 Lewis men’s volleyball team advanced to the Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association title match before falling 3-2 to eventual National Champion Ohio State.

The Flyers battled back after dropping the first two sets to force a fifth game. The Buckeyes and Flyers were tied at 11 in the fifth when Ohio State closed the match on a 4-1 run to deny Lewis a MIVA title. It was Lewis’ fifth consecutive trip to the conference title match.

Many Flyers made major strides in 2016 to make up for the talent that graduated following their national runner-up season last year. One such Flyer was Channahon, Ill., native Mitch Perinar. The freshman opposite hitter finished the season averaging 3.15 kills per set on a .325 attack percentage. His play earned him MIVA Freshman of the Year honors. His 20 kills were crucial in Lewis’ 3-1 win over Loyola-Chicago in the MIVA Semifinals.

Senior middle hitter Bobby Walsh was named an American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American thanks to his play in 2016. He hit .471, third best in the nation, with 2.10 kills per set. Defensively he finished his career second in program history with 556 blocks.

Lewis closed the season 19-13 and ranked No. 9 in the nation. The Flyers have finished the season ranked in the top 10 in the nation for five consecutive seasons.
Lewis University Unveiled 2016 Athletics Hall of Fame Class

Lewis University inducted former student-athletes Monta McGhee (men’s basketball), Dr. Mary Moskal (women’s basketball); and coaches Karen Lockyer (women’s volleyball/basketball) and Irish O’Reilly (baseball) into the Lewis Athletics Hall of Fame on February 13th.

Longtime Lewis University staff member Brother Raymond McManaman, FSC was also recognized as the Lasallian of the Year.

“The tradition of Lewis athletics is again enriched by recognizing the achievements of our inductees this year,” Lewis Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek said. “The accomplishments of these individuals add to our history of excellence and provide a benchmark of excellence for future Flyers.”

Monta McGhee  
Men’s Basketball (2002-04)

Monta McGhee may have played just two seasons in a Lewis University uniform from 2002-04, but he certainly made his time worthwhile as a Flyer. McGhee totaled 1,097 points and 530 rebounds in two seasons and helped push the Flyers to a pair of NCAA Tournament berths. He was a two-time All-Great Lakes Valley Conference First Team and All-Region selection.

As a senior, he led the Flyers in both points-per-game (19.1 ppg) and rebounds-per-game (8.6 rpg) on his way to National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABCA) All-America and GLVC Player of the Year honors. During his junior campaign, McGhee averaged 16.4 points and 8.5 rebounds-per-game during his first season as a Flyer in 2002-03. McGhee also excelled academically, as he was named a Br. David Delahanty Award winner - given to Lewis student-athletes for academic excellence. Upon graduation, McGhee played for several teams in Europe, including Team Sjælland Holbæk (Denmark), Horsens IC (Denmark), Cuxhaven BasCats (Germany), Giants Nordlingen (Germany), Zorg en Zekerheid Leiden (Netherlands), Leuven Bears (Belgium) and Elitzur Jawne (Israel).

Dr. Mary Moskal  
Women’s Basketball (2003-07)

Mary Moskal played for the Lewis women’s basketball team from 2003-2007. She earned All-GLVC First Team honors in each of her final two seasons. In 2006-07 she was named a Kodak All-America Honorable Mention selection after helping Lewis to a GLVC Championship and 28-4 record. This three-time all-region selection was named the GLVC Player of the Year in 2005-06. Moskal ranks first in school history in free throws (609) and free throws attempted (784). Her 53.6% field goal percentage ranks second all-time. She scored 1,761 points, sixth in Lewis history and grabbed 708 rebounds, good for ninth.

She was part of a recruiting class that revitalized the Lewis program. Moskal’s four teams each finished over .500. The 2006-07 compiled a then, school-record 28 wins as they marched to a GLVC Championship. Before that squad, it had been nine years since Lewis won 20 games in a season.

In the classroom, she was named the GLVC Women’s Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07. She was a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-District selection, taking home Academic All-America honors in 2006-07. She was one of 10 NCAA Division II finalists for the 2007 NCAA Women of the Year Award. Moskal also was named the 2007 GLVC Richard F. Scharf Paragon Award recipient.

Karen Lockyer  
Women’s Volleyball / Basketball (1975-2006)

Karen Lockyer was Lewis University’s women’s volleyball head coach for 31 seasons. She compiled a record of 734-426-7. Her 734 career wins rank ninth all-time in NCAA Division II history.


Her career record includes a 256-77-7 ledger during Lewis’ years in the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW), making her the third-winningest coach in AIAW history. Lockyer took over a year-old Lewis program in 1975 and made an immediate impact, as the Flyers produced a 12-4 record. It was the first of 24 winning campaigns for Lewis under Lockyer’s guidance. She coached Lewis to four AIAW postseason appearances.

Lockyer is chairperson of Lewis’ Sport and Exercise Science Department, holding the rank of Professor.

She also served as women’s basketball coach for two seasons, compiling a 21-6 record during the 1975-76 and 1976-77 campaigns. She also held the title of Lewis Athletics Senior Woman Administrator.

Br. Raymond McManaman, FSC  
Lasallian of the Year

Br. Raymond McManaman, FSC is the inaugural Lewis University Lasallian of the Year.

Br. Raymond, a devoted Christian Brother for several decades has provided valuable and dedicated leadership and service to Lewis University for over 45 years. He was one of the original seven Christian Brothers to arrive at Lewis in 1960. He has served the University in various capacities, but most notably as an outstanding professor in the Theology Department. He also served for a time as the Dean of Students.

In addition to being an outstanding theologian and Professor, Br. Raymond is an avid Notre Dame and Chicago White Sox fan. He, however, is most passionate about Lewis University Athletics and especially the baseball team, where he developed a very special bond with legendary baseball coach and former Lewis Director of Athletics, Gordie Gillespie.

Br. Raymond and his very dear friend, the late Br. Leo Forgette, could be seen at Brennan field for all the Lewis University home games. The two Flyer fans on many occasions traveled with the team on their annual Spring Southern trip.

For all of these reasons and especially for the extraordinary contributions Br. Raymond McManaman has made to Lewis University over the past 45 years, we are pleased and most privileged to bestow the honor of Lasallian of the Year on his behalf.
Lewis Athletics Ties School-Record for Br. David Delahanty, FSC Awards

The Lewis University student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom as the Flyers tied last year’s school-record with 207 Br. David Delahanty Student-Athlete Awards held on April 11th.

The Delahanty Award recognizes student-athletes who maintained a cumulative grade-point-average of 3.25 or higher as of December 31, 2015. In total, 53.6% (207 of 386) of the student-athlete population were in attendance at the awards ceremony, and that group totaled a cumulative GPA of 3.61.

“The ability to achieve academic and athletic success has been a hallmark of the Lewis Athletics department,” Lewis Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek said. “Our academic excellence is a tribute to our student-athletes, coaches, dedicated faculty and staff.”

The Lewis women’s track and field team had the most Delahanty Award winners with 27 recipients, which accounts for 13.0% of the 207 award winners. Every member of the Lewis women’s golf and women’s tennis teams earned Delahanty Awards for the highest percentage of recipients of any Flyer squad.

Additionally, more than 50 of O’Reilly’s former players went on to coach at various levels of baseball.

He earned six GLVC Coach of the Year awards (1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1992 and 1994) and five times he was named the Region Coach of the Year. All but eight of O’Reilly’s teams enjoyed a winning season.

Lewis placed among the top five at the NCAA Division II Championship five times, including third place in 1988, 1990 and 1994. His squads won six Great Lakes Valley Conference titles.

O’Reilly also coached Lewis to an NAIA national runner-up finish in 1980 when the Flyers won a school-record 61 games.

He was named NAIA Area Coach of the Year.

He served as Lewis’ Special Assistant to the Vice-President for University Advancement with a focus on major gift / athletic fund raising following his retirement as a baseball coach.

Lewis Athletics Raises School-Record in Annual Crowdfunding Campaign

The second annual Flyer Friends and Family Crowdfunding Campaign raised $64,977, shattering last year’s standard of nearly $50,000. It is the most money raised for the Lewis University Athletics Department in school history.

The campaign saw an increase of 32% in total campaign dollars raised. There was a total of 721 donors and gifts. This resulted in a 23.6% donor growth and 14.6% growth in gifts.

The funds raised will be used to purchase equipment, provide new training opportunities and travel to out-of-state competitions for all Flyer athletic teams.

“I want to thank Len Bertolini and his staff, within University Advancement, especially Kathryn Risor-Heise, for helping make this second annual crowdfunding campaign an even bigger success than the year before,” Lewis Associate Athletics Director / Director of External Relations Brian Sisson said, “Our student-athletes, coaches and staff did an even better job in spreading the word on this campaign.”

The team that raised the most money during the campaign was the Lewis men’s basketball team, as they collected $9,760.

“I’d like to thank everyone who participated in the Crowdfunding Campaign, because it proved to be a very successful endeavor,” Lewis head men’s basketball coach Scott Trost said. “Having this kind of support from our generous donors is a huge help to our program.”

On the women’s side, the Lewis women’s soccer team raised $5,530 while also securing the largest gift of $2,500.

“I want to sincerely thank all the friends and family of the Lewis women’s soccer team,” Lewis head women’s soccer coach Chris Koenig said. “To raise over $5,000 really shows their commitment to Lewis Athletics.”

Lewis Athletics
Baseball (1978-2007)

Irish O’Reilly served as Lewis’ head baseball coach for 29 seasons with 23 of his teams reaching NAIA or NCAA postseason play. Following his retirement, he was elected into the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Hall of Fame.

In his 38 years as a head coach at the college, junior college and high school levels, O’Reilly compiled a 1,246-916-8 overall record, for a .576 winning percentage. With a 29-year Lewis record of 982-771-8 (.560), he has the most wins of any baseball coach in Lewis history. O’Reilly finished his career eighth in victories among all coaches in NCAA Division II history.

O’Reilly coached 41 All-Americans and has saw 51 of his former players sign professional baseball contracts, with four making it to the majors and one earning a gold medal at the 2000 Olympics.
Lewis University celebrated the 19th annual President’s Circle dinner – the last one hosted by Brother James Gaffney, FSC, during his Presidency – on Friday, December 4, 2015 at Lewis University’s St. Charles Borromeo Center. The evening included a cocktail and hors d’oeuvres reception and four-course gourmet dinner for more than 240 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. Chair of the Board of Trustees, Russ Smyth, announced to guests the public phase of the “Achieve More. Together,” Campaign, and debuted a unique new video about Lewis University. In addition, delightful entertainment was provided by the Lewis University Chamber Choir and Professor Leandro Lopez Varady. For more information on the campaign or to view the video, visit lewisu.edu/Together.

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. Learn more about the President’s Circle and how you can become a member at alumni.lewisu.edu/PresidentsCircle.
Dr. Lawrence G. Hill Receives 18th Annual Adam Smith Award

Dr. Larry Hill, Chair and Professor of Economics, received the Adam Smith Award from the College of Business on March 10.

Dr. Hill wrote several journal articles in the areas of government, environment, and business. Author of several texts, Dr. Hill began the Adam Smith Week at Lewis and has served as the only Chair of the Economics Department.

Additionally, Dr. Hill had a dual appointment at Argonne National Laboratory from 1978 until he retired from there in May 2015. He worked as an economist and became the Department of Energy’s expert in rare resources and electric vehicles. During his tenure at Argonne, economists, environmental lawyers, archeologists, sociologists, and energy modelers reported to him.

Specifically, Dr. Hill conducted studies for the Department of Energy, Veterans Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Emergency Management Administration, Department of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and many other agencies. His work included the Fourth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation, Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Veterans Administration records, Army Reserve Recruitment, and several early logistics programs for the Department of the Army and the United States Marine Corps. Furthermore, Dr. Hill assumed the direction of the Argonne National Laboratory BioChip Research Center which was later spun-off to a private company.

Chamber of Commerce Honors Br. James with Excellence in Education Award

The Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry bestowed the inaugural Br. James Gaffney, FSC, Excellence in Education Award on Saturday, February 6, 2016 at its CARNIVAL Gala Event for chamber members and guests. Larry Wiers, Director of School Partnerships for the College of Education presented the award along with Mary Jaworski, President of the Chamber.

CARNIVAL took place at The Patrick C. Haley Mansion as a celebration of 101 years for the Joliet Chamber. Among the almost 300 guests, dignitaries in attendance at this year’s event included U.S. Congressman Bill Foster (IL-11), Will County States Attorney James Glasgow, local representatives and partners in education in the community including Joliet Junior College and the University of St. Francis.

When asked about the selection of Brother James Gaffney, FSC as the inaugural recipient of the Excellence in Education award, Chamber President Mary Jaworski had this to say, “This community is fortunate to have an individual like Br. James. His legacy will far outlast all of us as his impact in this region has been immeasurable. We have closely admired his vision and the image that he has built at Lewis University. There is no better individual to honor with this inaugural award.”

Upon presenting the award to Brother James, Larry Wiers said, “John Quincy Adams had it right, Brother James. For all of us who have been touched by your leadership, know that you truly have inspired us to dream more, learn more, do more and become more. For this, we offer our profound gratitude and appreciation. For in my 46 years in education, I have not known a better leader than you.”

Kavouras is Named Visiting Scientist for NSF Project

Dr. Jerry Kavouras, Chair and Associate Professor of Biology, was selected as a Visiting Scientist this summer at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The 10-week program is part of the National Science Foundation-wide Research at Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) program. It enables faculty at predominantly undergraduate institutions, including community colleges, to pursue research as visiting scientists with NSF-supported investigators at other institutions.

The program enhances research productivity and professional development of science faculty at undergraduate institutions through research activities that explore emerging frontiers of science.

Dr. Lawrence G. Hill
Chair and Professor of Economics
Lewis University
Chief Timothy McCarthy of Orland Park has been named the first recipient of the Chief of the Year Award by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police. The award, to be given for the first time this year, is for leadership in law enforcement, leadership in his own police department, and service to the association.

McCarthy received the award April 22 during the Association's Annual Awards Banquet in Schaumburg. He was selected by the association's Board of Officers from a very strong pool of nominations from different parts of Illinois. "Many of us have known and worked with Tim on local and statewide initiatives and we recognize him as an innovative leader who has done so much for law enforcement," said Chief Frank Kaminski of the Park Ridge Police Department, who is the ILACP President.

McCarthy began his law enforcement career in 1972 when he was appointed an agent with the United States Secret Service. Early in his career, McCarthy did investigative work while assigned to the Chicago Field Office. In 1979 he was reassigned to the Presidential Protection Division in Washington, D.C. On March 31, 1981, McCarthy distinguished himself while protecting President Ronald Reagan when he was shot in the line of duty during an assassination attempt. McCarthy recovered from serious injuries and returned to work. He was promoted to several supervisory positions prior to retiring in 1993 as the Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Field Office.

McCarthy has been Chief in Orland Park since 1994. "The Orland Park Police Department is recognized as a professional organization that has kept pace with change," wrote Deputy Chief Thomas Kenealy in nominating McCarthy for the award. "McCarthy has accomplished this through training, professional development, networking, community engagement and technological enhancement."

McCarthy's accomplishments cited by the Association include: his role in establishing the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force; automation of the Orland Park Police Department, including equipping all police cars with in-car camera systems; built the first L.E.E.D. Gold (green building) police station in the U.S.; implemented several community policing initiatives; and recognition of a growing heroin problem in the suburbs and problems with mental health, trained and equipped all of his officers.

Ed Wojcicki of Springfield, the ILACP Executive Director said, "He has created an atmosphere in Orland Park in which training is seen as essential for his own officers so that they can make their own community safer, and by doing that, McCarthy has become an example for all other police departments in Illinois."

McCarthy graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in finance and received his master's degree in criminal/social justice from Lewis University in 1999. Chief McCarthy is married and has three children.
Kurt Bluder ’03 (Graduate Public Safety Administration) was appointed by the Village of Downers Grove as the village’s new Chief of Police. Bluder is a lifelong resident of Downers Grove and has 27 years of law enforcement experience with the village.

Robert Briski ’03 (Marketing) was appointed by FirstMerit Corporation as Senior Vice President, Commercial Lending, in Chicago. Prior to working for FirstMerit Bank, he worked at Old Second National Bank in Aurora, Ill.

Nichole Pasteris ’04 (Social Work) is Director of the Victim Witness Services Division and was honored with an award from the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists. Pasteris and her team of victim advocates provide services, information and support to help crime victims navigate the complex criminal justice system. Before working at the state’s attorney’s office, Pasteris was a counselor for at-risk children for Aunt Martha’s Youth Service Center in Joliet, Ill. She earned her master’s in Social Work from Aurora University and her bachelor’s in Social Work from Lewis University.

Brian Scott ’05 (Graduate Public Safety Administration) was promoted from Division Chief to Deputy Chief of Operations and Fire Prevention in September 2015. Scott joined the Evanston Fire Department in December 1999 as a firefighter/paramedic. In 2006, Scott was promoted to Fire Captain/Paramedic. He was Co-Chair of the Department’s Training Committee, EMS Committee Member, Rescue Dive Team Member and is currently a Field Instructor for the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Urbana-Champaign.

Dustin Long ’06 (Computer Graphic Design) married Jennifer Doerr on September 19, 2015 in Big Rock, Ill.

Eleanor Garrow-Holding ’07 (Healthcare Leadership) was chosen by the National Association of Professional Women (NAPW) as a 2015-2016 inductee into its VIP Woman of the Year Circle. She is recognized with this prestigious distinction for leadership in the healthcare and nonprofit industry.

Luke Gomoll ’07 (Elected Studies) was hired by Elliott Aviation as Avionics Manager. Having ten years of aviation experience, Luke was most recently employed with J.A. Air Center in Sugar Grove, Ill. as Avionics Manager.

Margaret Senese ’07 (Political Science and Criminal/ Social Justice) and her husband, Victor Senese ’09 (Elected Studies) welcomed a baby girl on June 14, 2015. Nora Charlotte joins big brother, Victor and big sisters, Caitlin, Molly, and Erin.

Dawn Erickson ’08 (Graduate School Counseling) is now a Student Services Department Chairperson at East Leyden High School and was recently named Illinois School Counselor of the Year. “My master’s degree program through Lewis University not only prepared me for my high school counseling career, but gave me the confidence to quickly take on leadership roles and become an agent for positive change for both students and the field of education,” she said. Dawn was also the first person to accept the School Counseling Alumni Award on November 4, 2015 at the Graduate Program in School Counseling reception.

Kendra Hadnott ’08 (English) is the author of a recently published young adult science fiction novel, Death Leaders. Previously, her middle school novel, Something Watching Me, was nominated and chosen for 2016 Chicago Public Schools ‘Battle of the Books’ competition. Her short story, “Sparrow’s Nightcap,” was chosen for the Chicago Center of Literature and Photography’s City All-Star Student ‘Chicago after Dark’ Anthology. Kendra’s adult mystery novella, Somebody’s Nobody was named third place winner of the 2014 International 3-Day Novel Contest. She is also the author of a five-part “LIVE” science fiction adult novella series and is a freelance writer, educator and blogger. The 2012 Friends of American Writers scholarship recipient helps children improve literacy, practice social skills, and learn basic science concepts as a Site Director for a before-and-after school program. “I came into the English program at Lewis as a writer with potential,” Kendra said, “and I left as a confident and efficient author with an authentic and original voice.”

Michael Smith ’08 (Elementary Education) was sworn-in September 28, 2015 as a new Deputy Sheriff with the Kendall County Sheriff’s Office. Smith worked as an elementary school teacher prior to his employment with the Kendall County Sheriff’s Office.

Sean Smith ’08 (Graduate School Counseling) was approved by the Board of Education for the position of Principal at Grande Park Elementary in Plainfield, Ill. beginning in July 2016.

Karen Sullivan ’09 (Doctor of Education) was honored with the 2015 Educationis Lumen Award at Lewis University. A leader in the field of education for the past 34 years, Sullivan personifies Catholic and Lasallian values and was a member of Lewis University’s inaugural doctoral graduating class in 2009 when she earned her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership for Teaching and Learning.

Jenny Jasper ’10 (Graduate School Counseling) is working as an Academic Aid in the Academic Resource Center at Joliet Catholic Academy. Jasper spent nine years in banking before switching to education. She loves theater and is a graduate of the conservatory program at the Second City of Chicago. She also runs the drama club at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic School in Joliet, Ill.

Nikvik Wojcik ’11 (Biology, PharmD) and Nikki Wojcik ’11 (Elementary Education) were engaged on June 13, 2015.
Courtney Everett ’11 (Theatre), a former Flyer golfer, was recently hired as the Wisconsin-Eau Claire Blugolds head men’s and women’s Golf Coach. Everett was a four-year letter winner for Lewis from 2007-11 and averaged 91.3 strokes in 59 rounds, including four Top 10 finishes for the Flyers. She was a four-year Academic All-Great Lakes Valley Conference and Brother David Delahanty Award recipient.

Casey Pyne ’11 (Business Administration) finished runner-up in the 2014 Chicago Open at Cantigny Golf in Wheaton, Ill. Pyne is currently a professional golfer on the U.S. mini-tours.

Stephanie Halcomb ’11 (Aviation Administration) and Bill Sebestik ’11 (Aviation Administration) are engaged. They met at Lewis in 2010. Bill currently works in software development for a firm in Chicago and Stephanie works for The Boeing Company. They reside in St. Louis, Mo.

Michael McDougall ’12 (Graduate Aviation Administration) earned Credited Membership (C.M.) with the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE).

Bridget Folliard ’12 (Radio-TV Broadcasting) received a Silver Anvil award from the Public Relations Society of America for her work on her company’s consumer awareness campaign called “Love The Gums You’re With” in 2015. In addition, she also received five other awards in the Public Relations industry.

Ryan Harrison ’12 (Sports Management) is currently employed by the City of Florissant Parks and Recreation Department as a Recreation Specialist and Aquatics Director, overseeing the city’s outdoor swimming pool and aquatics center. He and wife Bri, along with sons Maxwell and Augustus, will be welcoming another addition to their family in July 2016.

Stephen Loza ’12, ’15 (Business Administration, MBA) is the first in his family to earn a master’s degree. In addition to his academic studies, he worked with the Office of Residence Life for six years, where he said he, “found a passion for working with students.” He plans to work in a Student Services or Human Resources Department.

Jacqueline Selfridge ’12 (Special Education/Elementary Education) recently accepted a Special Education teaching position in California at Gunn High School, part of the Palo Alto Unified School District. She will be living in San Jose and will be working toward getting a CTEL/CLAD certificate, which will certify her to teach English Language Learners.

Ronald Pollak ’13 (Accountancy) and Artrina Slabich ’13 (Psychology) became engaged around Christmas.

Kyle Hayes ’14, ’15 (Multimedia Journalism, Graduate Organizational Leadership) works as a Development Coordinator for After School Matters, a non-profit organization that provides impactful after-school program opportunities to thousands of Chicago high school teens. “With God on my side, along with supportive family and friends, the decision to attend Lewis is one of the greatest decisions I have ever made,” said Kyle.

Nicholas Skrip ’14 (Sport Management) was hired over the summer in 2015 by Aurora University to become their Graduate Assistant Coach for their men’s soccer program. While at Lewis, Nick was a member of the men’s soccer program and a two-time captain.

Brittani Alston ’15 (Music Merchandising) earned a position at Brass Bell Music Store in Milwaukee as the Social Media Coordinator. She was named Miss Black Wisconsin USA 2016.

Faith Berry ’15 (Organizational Communication) is moving to Florida to pursue an internship with the iconic Disney World. To help with this transition, Faith has been heavily involved in theatre which allows her the opportunity to get comfortable meeting new people, thus becoming, she said, “a better version of myself.” Faith continued, “Lewis helped me to feel more confident in my communication and interview skills which will come in handy. I have been able to critically think about what I want in my future and now I am ready to show the world who I am,” she said.

Michael Corey ’15 (Special Education/Elementary Education) is a Marine Corps veteran who earned one of the program’s highest scores on the edTPA – a new high-stakes assessment required for Illinois teacher licensure. Currently, Illinois is the first state in the U.S. to require a passing score on the edTPA in order to become licensed as a K-12 teacher. Roman Ortega Jr., Director of Veterans Affairs and Recruitment said of Michael, “He
has truly embodied the ethos of yesterday’s warrior, today’s leader, tomorrow’s future.”

**Alexander Hallahan ’15 (Finance)** interned at First Midwest Bank and started a job at National Securities Corporation immediately after graduation. Hallahan recently passed the Series 7 Exam and is currently studying for the Series 63 and Life Insurance License – necessities to start a legally registered practice. “I would not be where I am today without the guidance of my professors and advisors at Lewis,” said Alexander. “They not only taught me the fundamentals of Finance and Economics, but also how to succeed as a true professional.”

**Tyson Polack ’15 (History)** works as an Operations Coordinator and Business Development Coordinator for Rapid Records Request (R3Rx)/Medorizon, a medical billing company and medical record retrieval service based in Romeoville. In addition to his academic studies and participation on the men’s swimming team, Tyson received the 2015 Brother David Delahanty senior student athlete of the year award and the Senior Department award for History.

**Jessica Tennant ’16 (Computer Science and Graphic Design)** was honored in fall 2015 by Governor Bruce Rauner as Student Laureate by the Lincoln Academy of Illinois. The award is presented for excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities to seniors from each four-year, degree-granting colleges and universities in Illinois. During her studies at Lewis, the women’s basketball player was an EPIC leader, Writing Center Tutor, member of Club Ultimate Frisbee, Peer Minister, participated in SOL and Luminate, Delta Epsilon Sigma National Catholic Honor Society member, and Lewis Flyer staff member.

**A Proud Lewis Family!**

**August Deuser ’98 (Educational Administration, M.Ed.) and Cynthia ’87 (Nursing) with their children August ’10 (English) and Luke ’15 (Liberal Arts).** August, a retired special education teacher, encouraged both of his sons to attend Lewis because, he says, “the people care and they want you to become your best.”

**In Memoriam**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Graduation Year</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristen J. Anklin</td>
<td>’00</td>
<td>November 3, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul J. Arndt</td>
<td>’70</td>
<td>September 12, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony J. Benacka</td>
<td>’53</td>
<td>January 26, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald J. Berard</td>
<td>’67</td>
<td>November 7, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca R. Berg</td>
<td>’99</td>
<td>October 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas M. Boelter</td>
<td>’13</td>
<td>September 24, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bette A. Bonacci</td>
<td>’63</td>
<td>February 8, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank M. Cale</td>
<td>’56</td>
<td>October 20, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas M. Cantwell</td>
<td>’72</td>
<td>November 11, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald L. Cordano</td>
<td>’56</td>
<td>September 7, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert J. Delaney</td>
<td>’06</td>
<td>February 22, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John R. Eustace</td>
<td>’66</td>
<td>November 16, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald C. Fagan</td>
<td>’60</td>
<td>October 16, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith M. Fox</td>
<td>’97</td>
<td>January 21, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley G. Golin</td>
<td>’66</td>
<td>February 18, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James E. Gorman</td>
<td>’78</td>
<td>December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert W. Greenback</td>
<td>’77</td>
<td>February 1, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin W. Hargrove</td>
<td>’92</td>
<td>February 20, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James P. Hendren</td>
<td>’67</td>
<td>October 8, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elvira A. Hogan</td>
<td>’84, ’88</td>
<td>January 31, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernard F. Kapella</td>
<td>’71</td>
<td>November 24, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael T. Kovacik</td>
<td>’68</td>
<td>December 8, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol R. Liedtke</td>
<td>’95</td>
<td>December 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank J. Lombardo</td>
<td>’72</td>
<td>December 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael G. Michalski</td>
<td>’71</td>
<td>January 16, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodolfo V. Olavarri</td>
<td>’55</td>
<td>October 28, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert J. Pales</td>
<td>’71</td>
<td>January 16, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stella Sallie</td>
<td>’76</td>
<td>October 31, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George H. Sams</td>
<td>’84</td>
<td>September 2, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David W. Scholes</td>
<td>’72</td>
<td>March 7, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William J. Stanfill</td>
<td>’71</td>
<td>October 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert G. Sutton</td>
<td>’71</td>
<td>December 6, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry L. Turk</td>
<td>’77</td>
<td>December 6, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John S. Zepaltas</td>
<td>’66</td>
<td>December 3, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Patricia Klug** passed away on December 11, 2015. You may remember we wrote a story on her in 2013, as she was one of the first female students on campus. See her video at alumni.lewisu.edu/CampusMemories
Sarasota Wine Tasting

Alumni and friends gathered at Michael’s on East – Tasting Room on Saturday, February 23 to sample wine and enjoy an evening out together. Above: Elaine Splitt, Maureen MacDonald, Griff MacDonald ’57, Vic Splitt ’56, Stu Christensen ’58, and Jeri Christensen. Left: Joe Adler, Jim Wilson, and Ryan Henning ’00

Cookies with Santa

(Top photo) Jeff ’99 and Carolyn ’99 Licata’s children Anthony and Naomi brought lists to share with Santa. Andrew ’08 and Kimberly ’07 Northrup brought their adorable son, Alexander, to meet Santa!

St. Charles Borromeo Center Blessing and Open House

On November 2, 2015, more than 100 Lewis University students, faculty, staff, alumni, Board of Trustees and invited guests gathered to participate in the Open House and Blessing ceremony for the newly renovated St. Charles Borromeo Center.
TKE Gathering

A recent TKE gathering brought together good friends from their college days: Tim Sullivan ’73, Mike Dooley ’72, Larry Weimer ’72, Rick Otto ’73, Phil Zigulich ’73, Mike Slovick ’71, Tom Wilda ’73, seated, Frank Palmasani ’75, Ronnie Weiner ’83, John Vainisi ’73 and Bill Nangle ’72.

Arizona – Chicago Cubs vs. Chicago White Sox

Alumni came out to cheer on their favorite team as the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago White Sox went head-to-head in a pre-season battle, with the Chicago Cubs securing a win.

Alumni Day

Cliff Evans ’85 (left) and Ben Billips ’84 were honored on Alumni Day as members of the 1980s All Decades Men’s Basketball Team.
With profound gratitude for 28 years of dedicated service as President, Lewis University cordially invites you to

a celebration of
**BROTHER JAMES GAFFNEY, FSC**

**AS TIME GOES BY**

**Saturday, June 18, 2016**
Lewis University Main Campus

**Program** 6:00 p.m.
Cocktail and hors d’oeuvre reception to follow

Kindly respond by June 4, 2016 by visiting lewisu.edu/BrotherJames