DR. DAVID LIVINGSTON
Joins Lewis University as 10th President
The Lewis University Aviation Building was recently named in honor of Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC, who directed the highly regarded aviation program at Lewis during the 1960s and 1970s when the building was constructed. (page 15)

RESOURCES

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David J. Livingston, Ph.D., has been appointed as the 10th President of Lewis University, beginning his role on July 1. He succeeds Brother James Gaffney, FSC, who retired on June 30 after 28 years of leadership as President of Lewis. Dr. Livingston was selected after a national search by the Lewis University Board of Trustees and a search committee.

“As higher education transforms across the nation, we believe Dr. Livingston is the best person to lead Lewis University in its Mission to provide a Lasallian education,” commented Russ Smyth, Chair of the Lewis University Board of Trustees.

Dr. Livingston said, “This opportunity at Lewis is very exciting because Lewis has positioned itself so well to respond to the needs of the ever-changing economy with its varied degree offerings. Lewis’ focus on developing and sustaining degree programs that meet and anticipate market needs in high demand jobs, as well as its success in serving diverse populations from the Chicago region and around the globe, demonstrate that it is taking a leadership role in the new arena of 21st century higher education. With its unique programs in aviation and an excellent focus on STEM fields and the liberal arts, I believe Lewis can take advantage of these areas of strength to grow.”

“The University’s diverse portfolio of delivery methodologies and campus locations, as well as its strong internship and study abroad opportunities, and its thoughtful master plan demonstrate that Lewis is focused on the future. This strategic thinking is more necessary than ever, given the rapidly changing landscape of higher education.”

“Lewis has done an excellent job of offering a liberal arts education and preparing students for practical
professional careers. Opportunities for a personalized education involving original research, leadership, and service in an environment of reverence for all are the characteristics that Lewis must continue to emphasize.”

“During my first six months at Lewis, I hope to spend a great deal of time with our alumni, faculty, staff, and students to better understand and appreciate the unique value of a Lewis education. I also hope to move forward on strengthening our graduate offerings through the addition of a Masters in Occupational Therapy and a Masters in Social Work. We also plan to continue to grow our residential student population through targeted recruitment efforts in the Midwest region. Great opportunities exist to grow our aviation program based on recent changes in FAA regulations and to increase the number of students who are able to study abroad through partnerships with the worldwide network of Lasallian Universities.”

“Learning is the *sin qua non* of the college enterprise. There has been no greater satisfaction in my professional life than those moments when I have seen the flash of recognition in the eye of a student. Lewis educates women and men to be leaders, artists, healers, creators, inventors, pilots, and entrepreneurs, that is, to be workers in creating a more just world in which we may all live. The alumni that leave Lewis University serve the region in myriad ways, and many also spread around the globe, building the Lewis network. It is very exciting to be in a position to lead such a community.”

Dr. Livingston previously served as President of Lourdes University since 2013. During his tenure, Lourdes experienced an increase in the quality, retention and graduation rates of its students; expanded academic programs and renovated the campus to support their strategic growth initiatives; and successfully completed a capital campaign.

Prior to his presidency at Lourdes University, he served Mercyhurst University for 16 years in various diverse capacities, including President of the Faculty Senate and Vice President for Advancement. Prior to joining the Mercyhurst community, he taught religious studies at Loyola Academy High School in Wilmette, Vanderbilt University in Nashville, University of St. Francis in Joliet, Joliet Catholic Academy and Loyola University of Chicago.

The Dundee, Ill., native earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Augustana College in Rock Island. He completed an M.A. in Theology at Loyola University in Chicago and a Ph.D. in Theology at Vanderbilt University.

Joining him as part of the Lewis University community will be his wife Joan, who works as a clinical social worker, and their adult children Matt and Sara.
More than 300 Lewis University undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty showcased their scholarly work and creative endeavors during the Fifth Annual Lewis University Celebration of Scholarship, held on April 14.

Celebration of Scholarship entries were selected from submitted abstracts through a blind-review process. Expert and lay judges evaluated the poster presentations that reflected the best of undergraduate and graduate scholarship for 2015-16.

Several awards were given to poster presentations. Samantha Brain’s “Synthesis and Characterization of Functionalized CdS-QD Polymeric Nanocomposite Films to Mitigate Laser Attacks on Commercial Aircrafts” earned first place honors at the graduate level. Dr. Jason Keleher, chair and associate professor of chemistry, served as her mentor. Second place honors went to Erin Gee, Andrea Paladino and Rubie Costales. Dr. Janice Smith, professor and coordinator of the parish nursing program, mentored the poster “Evaluation of an Undergraduate Peer Mentor Program.” The third place poster project was “The Synergistic Effect that Semiconductors, Organometallics, and Visible Light Chromophores Have on the Photodegradation of Organic Pollutants” by Jacob Murray and Arielle Floyd. They were mentored by Dr. Keleher.

Undergraduate poster winners included Thomas Cornes with “An Analysis of Lewis University’s Waterprint.” Dr. Jerry Kavouras, chair and associate professor of biology, mentored the first place poster. Second place honors were awarded to “Emojivision: A System for Mapping Facial Expressions to Emoji” by David Lucas Campos-Faja, Evan Wunder and Nicholas Biegel. Dr. Piotr Szczurek, assistant professor and director of the master’s program in data science, served as their faculty mentor. Samantha Bluemer’s poster “What’s Powering Lewis?” earned third place. Dr. Kavouras served as mentor.

The Celebration of Scholarship provides an opportunity for students to present scholarly work to a student, faculty and staff audience to celebrate the academic excellence that is central to the Mission of Lewis University. Undergraduate and graduate students in any major are encouraged to submit posters, present a paper at a concurrent session or present a creative work.
FATHER OLIVER WILLIAMS, CSC, DEBATES PURPOSE OF BUSINESS

Father Oliver Williams, CSC, shared the Catholic Church’s perspective on business during the Lewis University College of Business Ethics Week, April 18-22. During his keynote address, Father Williams urged Lewis students to not look at work as a job or career. The director of the Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business in Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business said business people should view their work as a vocation. It should be a calling that makes the world a better place.

Ethics Week is an annual observance for the College of Business. Professors put an extra emphasis on integrating ethical leadership into their lessons during the week. Some focus on challenging ethical dilemmas, while others create dynamic student projects, such as developing a code of ethics and writing reflective papers and essays.

CHEMISTRY HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

Seven Lewis University Chemistry students were inducted this year into Iota Sigma Pi, a national honor society for women in chemistry. Iota Sigma Pi promotes the advancement of women in chemistry by granting recognition to women who have demonstrated superior scholastic achievement and high professional competence.

New initiates include Abigail Dodis, Angela Dominici, Arielle Floyd, Courtney Dial, Michelle Fernandez, Nicole Yuede, Taylor Foytik and Arielle Floyd.

Students with at least four semesters of chemistry are eligible for induction based on their GPA.

STUDENT WINS AWARD AT HONOR SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM

Elizabeth Senese earned an outstanding poster award at the Iota Sigma Pi’s Biennial Undergraduate Symposium, hosted by Lewis University this year. Participants were from Lewis University, St. Xavier University, Benedictine University, North Central College and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Senese earned the award for her poster “Design of a Photocatalytic Biomimetic Nanocomposite for Enhanced Water Filtration.” Other Lewis University students that presented posters included Abigail Dodis, Eman Elshalakany, Michelle Zaleski, Nicole Yuede and Emily Vihnanek.

Courtney Dial and Michelle Fernandez also presented their research, “Analysis of Normal versus Mutated Cyclin D3 Protein Structure Using Molecular Modeling and Novel Polypeptide Synthesis.”

COLLOQUIUM FOSTERS FUTURE LASALLIAN TEACHERS

Nearly 100 students, faculty and Lasallian partners participated in “Becoming Lasallian,” the first colloquium offered by the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education and the College of Education during the spring semester.

Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC shared his vast experience as Vicar General of the Christian Brothers during a keynote address. Brother Thomas provided an inspiring overview of the Lasallian community and the worldwide network which serves more than one million students.

The Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education focuses on leadership development, teacher preparation, professional development, outreach and consulting, grants and research and Lasallian formation.
The Lewis University Flight Team soared to 11th place at the National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) SAFECON competition. Lewis was among 25 schools invited to compete out of the total 75 NIFA teams.

Kayan Todiwalla, flight team coach and graduate assistant, was named NIFA Coach of the Year during the award ceremony. The honor is presented to the coach who exemplifies the standards and goals of NIFA. Criteria considered are leadership, inspiration, support of flight team, professionalism, organization, delegation of team responsibilities, professional development, instructional skills and history of SAFECON excellence.

Other individuals placing well at the competition include Kevin DeBoissiere, second place in Certified Flight Instructor category, and Leigh Agustin, fifth place in Aircraft Preflight Inspection category.

Lewis Flight Team Members include: Leigh Agustin, Jon Brown, Mike Calloway, Geoff Culloton, Daniel Curran, Kevin Deboissiere, Jason Fourdraine, Taylor Klein, James Kobler, Kyle Meyer, Dan Radz, Thomas Roth, Raymond Sanchez, Calvin Warren and Jane Zieba.

Lewis University coaches include Megan Zahos, Daniel Magner, Kyle Jachcinski and Kayan Todiwalla.

**LEWIS PILOTS TAKE OFF IN AIR RACE CLASSIC**

Jessica Hernandez and Sarah Cameron soared in the skies from June 21-24 in the 40th Air Race Classic. It is the oldest airplane race of its kind in the United States.

The Lewis University team was one of more than 130 women pilots from around the country flying in this year’s race, which began in Prescott, Ariz., and ended in Daytona Beach, Fla. They competed against 57 teams, flying a 2,716-mile course.

Hernandez is a Lewis University certified flight instructor and Cameron is a junior studying aviation flight management at Lewis University.

“This was a great opportunity for our flight instructor and student to network with fellow women aviators while flying across the country,” said Megan Zahos, assistant chief pilot at Lewis University.

The ARC draws competitors of all ages, from teenagers to veteran pilots in their 80s, and from all walks of life, from college students to professional airline pilots to military veterans to teachers, writers, doctors and businesswomen.
MOCK TRIAL ENDS SEASON AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

The Lewis University Mock Trial Team ended its season in 13th place in the Opening Round of the National Championships. Two individuals won awards.

“They played hard in the first two rounds but no reward and then took charge in the second half taking three of the possible four ballots,” said Dr. Jim Houlihan, head coach.

Three of the Top 30 teams in the nation competed in the same Opening Round Championship bracket as Lewis University.

In individual awards, Mary Huggins received Outstanding Attorney and Kelly Green was awarded Outstanding Witness. There was strong support and scoring by Anthony Scorzo, who narrowly missed an award on both sides of the case. Erica Swanberg and Gilbert Broderick III also had outstanding performances.

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

MEDIATION TEAM FINISHES SIXTH IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Lewis University’s Mediation Teams concluded the 2015-16 academic year with success at the International Intercollegiate Mediation Competition.

Two Lewis University teams qualified for the international competition. The team of Brianna Diaz, Ying Gao, and Lane Snyder finished sixth. The team of Shannon Lukowski, Lexi Austring and Bridgette Ferreria finished 23rd. By finishing sixth in the international competition, Lewis University maintained its record of having at least one team finish in the top ten of each of the nine years it has competed.

In individual awards, Diaz, Gao and Snyder earned All-American honors, based on total scores.

The team’s success prompted invites to tournaments in Greece, Brazil and Lithuania.

The team is coached by Angela Henderson, attorney-mediator Angela Henderson Law; Dr. Joseph Volin ’08, assistant director, Alumni Relations, Lewis University; and Dr. James Houlihan, pre-law advisor.

NATIONAL AEROBATIC CHAMPION PILOT SPEAKS AT LEWIS UNIVERSITY

Airshow pilot Patty Wagstaff discussed her career as an aerobatic pilot on April 25 in the Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC Aviation Building.

The six-time member of the U.S. Aerobatic Team won the gold, silver and bronze medals in Olympic-level aerobatic competitions. She is one of only a few individuals to win the title of U.S. National Aerobatic Champion three times.

“Our current students were inspired by all the opportunities flight training brings to their lives. Patty Wagstaff was also very encouraging for community members so they can further develop an interest in aviation,” commented Megan Zahos, Lewis University assistant chief pilot and faculty mentor of the University’s Women in Aviation student chapter.
THE FLYER EARN FIRST PLACE AT NEWSPAPER COMPETITION

The print edition of Lewis University’s student newspaper, The Flyer, earned a first place award in the 2015-16 American Scholastic Press Association’s (ASPA) newspaper competition.

ASPA judges used a rubric to critique a variety of areas: content, page design, general plan/organization, art/illustrations, editing and creativity. The Flyer accrued 945 out of a possible 1,000 points.

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.

LEWIS STUDENT INTERNS WITH CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION

William Z. Riley obtained a summer internship with the Congressional Black Caucus.

“I am looking forward to this internship because I will gain a better understanding of how the policy making process works, and learn how to serve the Lewis community, as well as my residential community better,” commented Riley, who is studying public policy at Lewis University.

The CBCF Congressional Internship program sponsored by Walmart offers undergraduate students the opportunity to learn about the legislative process, leadership and careers in the policy making process. Interns work in Congressional Black Caucus member offices, attend professional development events, and participate in leadership development projects.

“William is an impressive student. He will be a junior in the fall, and it is unusual for students to secure this type of opportunity during their sophomore year,” said Dr. Laurette T. Liesen, professor and chair of the Lewis University Department of Political Science.
Spurred on by five All-America finishes – including a national championship by Amber Cook (triple jump), the No. 13 Lewis University women’s track and field team finished ninth overall at the 2016 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships, hosted by IMG Academy.

This is the second Top Ten finish by the Flyers this season as they placed fourth overall at the NCAA Indoor Championships earlier this year.

Cook won the triple with a school-record jump of 42’3 1/2” (12.89m), joining teammate Amanda Farrough as the 2016 Flyer National Champions. Farrough won the NCAA Division II Indoor 5,000-meter run title earlier this year.

Farrough placed second overall in the 5,000-meter run with a time of 16:35.58. It is the fourth Track and Field All-America award of Farrough’s career.

Cook was not the only All-American in the triple jump, as freshman Cierra Pulliam earned her second All-America award. Pulliam, who finished second in the NCAA Indoor Championships in the triple jump, was fifth with a personal-best jump of 41’2 1/2” (12.56m).

Lewis senior Chantel Stennis ended her Flyer career in style with her seventh and eighth All-America awards with a pair of sixth-place finishes in the 200-meter dash (23.96) and 400-meter dash (53.67). Her time in the 400-meter dash is a Lewis school-record and she passed two runners with 10 meters left in the 200-meter dash to finish sixth.

COOK NATIONAL TITLE KEYS WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD TO NINTH PLACE FINISH AT NATIONALS

LEWIS MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD EARN TWO ALL-AMERICA FINISHES AT NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thanks to a pair of All-America finishes, the Lewis University men’s track and field team placed 37th overall at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships, hosted by IMG Academy.

Lewis senior Isaac Jean-Paul collected his fifth All-America finish as a Flyer with a fifth-place high jump of 6’11 3/4” (2.13m).

In his first appearance in the national meet, Lewis junior Michael Leet returned to Romeoville with an All-America award. Leet finished seventh overall in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:00.71.
LEWIS ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT ACHIEVES ACADEMICALLY, YET AGAIN

Another school year has come and gone, and the Lewis University Department of Athletics continued to impress academically. Their exploits have been recognized in several different ways including:

COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA

The College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) announced Lewis University seniors Amber Cook, Robert Dofflemyer III, Jill Wetmore and junior Amanda Farrough have received CoSIDA Academic All-America honors for the 2015-16 season.

Cook was named to the Academic All-America Track & Field/Cross Country First Team, while Farrough garnered Second Team accolades. Cook owned a 3.64 cumulative GPA following the Fall ’15 semester, while Farrough checked in with a 3.30 GPA.

Dofflemyer, a men’s golfer with a 3.95 GPA in air traffic control management, was selected to the Academic All-America Men’s At-Large Second Team. Wetmore, a women’s tennis player, earned Women’s At-Large Third Team honors with a perfect 4.0 GPA and a double major in air traffic control management and transportation administration.

The Academic All-America squads are selected by CoSIDA members and recognize the nation’s top student-athletes for their combined performances athletically and in the classroom.

GLVC SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

The Great Lakes Valley Conference announced on June 30th that Lewis University’s Amber Cook has been selected as the GLVC Winter/Spring Sports Scholar-Athlete of the Year for women’s track and field.

Cook, a CoSIDA Academic All-America First Team selection and 2016 NCAA Division II Indoor National Triple Jump Champion, finished her career with a 3.66 cumulative grade point average in marketing.

She helped Lewis to both the 2016 GLVC Indoor and Outdoor Championships as she won five out of six possible jumping events, earning her GLVC Indoor and Outdoor Field Athlete of the Year accolades. Cook added an All-America performance in the triple jump at the NCAA Indoor Championships, finishing fifth overall, helping the Flyers finish fourth overall as a team.

CSCAA ACADEMIC AWARDS

The College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) released its 2016 Spring Team Scholar All-America Awards on June 16th, with both Lewis University swimming squads appearing on the list. The Lewis women’s squad earned a 3.32 team GPA while the men’s squad recorded a 3.13 mark. The women were one of 61 teams recognized in the nation while 37 men’s programs were honored. The Flyers were one of four Great Lakes Valley Conference schools to have both teams honored.

The Flyers also had six swimmers named 2016 Honorable Mention Scholar All-Americans by the CSCAA.

The award recognizes student-athletes that have achieved a GPA of 3.50 and earned a “B” time standard during the 2015-16 season.

On the women’s team, senior Shelby Leonard and sophomore Shannon Sullivan earned the accolade. Junior Aidan Brennan, freshman Mads Knoblauch, junior Quinn Poti and junior Brandon Thoman received the honor on the men’s team.

TEAM ACADEMIC ALL-GLVC

The Great Lakes Valley Conference announced on June 28th that the Lewis University Department of Athletics broke the GLVC record with 13 Team Academic All-GLVC Awards. The previous record of 10 – also set by Lewis - was established in 2015.

The GLVC recognizes each team from member institutions that have maintained a 3.30 grade point average for the academic year.

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<tr>
<th>TEAM</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Golf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Cross Country</td>
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<td>Men’s Golf</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Basketball</td>
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LEWIS ATHLETICS FINISHES SIXTH IN 2015-16 LEARFIELD DIRECTORS’ CUP STANDINGS

The Lewis University Department of Athletics earned its second-straight Top Ten finish in the 2015-16 NCAA Division II Learfield Directors’ Cup rankings released on June 9th. The Flyers finished sixth in the country after registering a school-record showing of fourth-place in 2014-15. 320 institutions compete at the NCAA Division II level.

For the second-straight season, Lewis saw 12 of its 20 teams either qualify as a team or had individuals score points for their squad at their respective NCAA Championships. This is on the heels of the Flyers winning a school-record seven Great Lakes Valley Conference Championships in 2015-16.

“With all of Lewis’ rich athletic history, there has been no equal in terms of the athletic success that we have achieved in the past two years,” Lewis Director of Athletics, Dr. John Planek, said. “To be able to back up last year’s Top Four finish with a Top Six showing is a tribute to our athletes, coaches, staff and administrative support at our University.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport (NCAA Finish)</th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total Points Scored</strong></td>
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LEWIS’ ANDREJSZKI AND MINDIYAROVA NAMED ITA WOMEN’S TENNIS ALL-AMERICANS

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) announced on June 9th that Lewis University sophomores Dora Andrejszki and Nora Mindiyarova have been selected as 2016 Division II Women’s Tennis All-Americans. The duo earned the accolade by virtue of their No. 7 standing in the final 2015-16 Oracle/ITA Division II Women’s National Doubles Rankings.

Andrejszki - the 2016 Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Year - and Mindiyarova - a two-time All-GLVC selection, were a combined 32-3 on the court. They helped the Flyers capture the 2016 GLVC Championship and finished third overall at the USTA/ITA National Small College Women’s Doubles Championships in October.

“This is a great accomplishment by Dora and Nora in their first season together (as doubles partners),” Lewis head women’s tennis coach, Brett Bridel, said. “I am proud of the way they worked to improve and become a better doubles team.

“I am happy that they have not reached their ceiling either and can still continue to make great strides as a double team.”
LEWIS’ MATT MCCARTHY SERVES AS ASSISTANT COACH FOR USA MEN’S JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM

Lewis University men’s volleyball associate head coach Matt McCarthy served as assistant coach on the 2016 U.S. Men’s Junior National Team.

The team competed July 3-11 at the NORCECA U21 Continental Championships in Gatineau, Quebec, Canada. The USA squad defeated Barbardos, St. Vincent, Canada and Cuba to win the gold medal. They dropped only one set in the entire event.

The championship qualifies the United States for the 2017 U21 Men’s World Junior Championship.

“I am always excited and honored to work with USA Volleyball,” McCarthy said. “Representing your country is always special and it made it more exciting being an Olympic year.”

McCarthy, a Wheaton, Illinois native, was a player on the Men’s Junior National Team in 2005.

36TH ANNUAL FLYER ATHLETICS FUND GOLF OUTING AN UNEQUIVOCAL SUCCESS

It was a record-setting day for the 36th Annual Flyer Athletics Fund Golf Outing, as over 200 golfers participated in the annual event at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club on June 10th.

Following last year’s 66.6% increase in funds raised, the outing outdid the 2015 mark by 25%, setting a new event record. The 203 participating golfers played on Courses 1, 3 and the world renowned Dubsdread (Course 4).

“Our Flyer Athletics Fund Golf Outing is a great way for our department to cap off the year with our Flyer faithful,” Lewis Associate Director of Athletics, Brian Sisson, said. “I want to thank all of our golfers, partners, staff and student-athletes for helping us raise a tremendous amount of money that will impact our department and the lives of our student-athletes.”

(Above) Griff MacDonald, Tony Janc, Jack Lenz and Jim Kane, members of the class of 1957, took to the course together.

(Left) Faculty and administrators Dr. Jeanette Mines, Dr. Barb Mackey, Dr. Pamela Jessee and MaryEllen Schaffer played a foursome.
COMMUNITY MEMBERS HONORED WITH
DE LA SALLE AWARDS

Lewis University recognized six members of the community with the De La Salle Award during a special ceremony, April 23. The presentation of the awards was led by Lewis University President, Brother James Gaffney, FSC, and the honorees and guests celebrated afterwards with a dinner. This prestigious award is presented each year to individuals who provide extraordinary service and leadership for the benefit of the community and region. Award recipients for 2016 are Pat Fera, Robert Filotto ’76, Cyril “Bill” and Diane Habiger, Michael Mikuska ’82, and James Rink. The 2016 award recipients represent a diverse, talented and distinguished group of leaders, with substantial accomplishments in their professions and devotion to improving the lives of all in their communities.

BILLUPS RECEIVES COMMUNITY LEADER AWARD

Dr. Christie Billups, assistant professor of theology and director of service learning, received the Community Leader Award from Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Beta Rho Chapter.

Billups was honored for her work with Noté Karacel in Uganda. The non-profit organization provides community development support in Alenga located in northern Uganda. They use funding and direct support to provide opportunity for better lives through education, water security, healthcare and food security.
Lewis Honors 900+ Graduates, Leaders at May Commencement

John Greuling and the Will County Center for Economic Development (CED) were honored at the 98th Commencement Ceremony for graduate students on May 14. Lewis University conferred degrees to 289 graduate students during Saturday’s ceremony and 685 undergraduates during Sunday’s ceremony on May 15. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Lewis President, presided.

The graduate ceremony was followed by the President’s Reception for Graduates and Guests on Saturday. The Sunday schedule began with the Baccalaureate Liturgy, followed by a continental breakfast and awarding of undergraduate degrees. Jack Azman ’55, the first person to receive the Father Aquinas Award at Lewis University (then College) helped present the award to this year’s recipient, Brianna Diaz. Tala Zubi presented the Lasallian Address.

Palestinian Advocate Presents Lasallian Address

Palestinian students were inspiration for Tala Zubi as she offered the May Commencement Lasallian Address. Each Commencement, one graduating senior is chosen to deliver the address, a speech that reflects the principles that guide the University’s Mission as they relate to the speaker’s personal life. It also recognizes the values of diversity, social justice, and service to the poor.

“I believe that a Lewis University’s graduate’s responsibility is to make sure that the poor and oppressed are not neglected,” said Zubi.

The recipient of a bachelor’s degree in chemistry earned many accolades for her academic work and research on solar power. Her team’s research was presented at the 227th Meeting of The Electrochemical Society, a gathering of thousands of scientific leaders from around the world.

Diaz Earns Father Aquinas Colgan Award

Brianna Diaz received the Father Aquinas Colgan Award during the May Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony. This special recognition is awarded to a graduating senior at each of the University’s Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies. It is the oldest recognition in University history.

Diaz earned bachelor degrees in criminal/social justice and theology. Diaz garnered success at an international level as a leader of the Lewis University Mediation and Mock Trial teams. The member of the National Theology Honors Society and National Catholic Honors Society earned numerous awards as Outstanding Witness and Outstanding Attorney.

In addition to her academic work, Diaz volunteered at the Guardian Angel Home in Joliet and served as a board member at Youth Transformation Services in Chicago.
TERRY GRANGER EARNS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Lewis University Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education honored Terry Granger, principal of both Maternity BVM and Bishop McNamara High School, with the Seventh Annual Bishop Roger Kaffer Outstanding Principal Award in the Diocese of Joliet.

The April 28 award ceremony at Lewis University included more than 100 principals, educators, support staff and friends from around the Diocese of Joliet.

Granger, a 1993 alumnus, has been a principal in the Joliet Diocese for 14 years where he served at Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Elementary School for 10 years and four years at Bishop McNamara High School.

Recently, Granger was appointed president of the Bishop McNamara Catholic School, a newly formed regional Pre-K through 12 Catholic school system in Kankakee County that will go into effect for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Bishop Roger L. Kaffer Award is in honor of the auxiliary bishop that served in many roles as an educational leader during his more than 50 years of priesthood in the Joliet Diocese.

LEWIS UNIVERSITY IS AMONG HIGHEST RANKED CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES IN ILLINOIS

Lewis University was selected as one of the highest ranked Catholic universities in Illinois by the 2016 CollegeChoice.net rankings of the 75 Best Catholic Colleges and Universities.

Qualifying factors considered in the distinction include academic reputation, financial aid offerings, overall cost and success of graduates in the post-college job market. Lewis University was ranked in 28th place nationwide and second place in the state of Illinois.

Collegechoice.net recognizes Lewis University in its listing for its commitment to the Lasallian educational experience, stating: “The Lasallian tradition is the hallmark of the university and continues to inform the direction of the school at every turn.” Lewis educational programs and its Lasallian Mission are based on five interconnecting values including knowledge, fidelity, wisdom, justice and association.

AVIATION BUILDING NAMED FOR BROTHER NEIL KIEFFE, FSC

The Lewis University Aviation Building was named in honor of Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC, who directed the highly regarded aviation program at Lewis during the 1960s and 1970s when the building was constructed.

A ceremony to dedicate the building to Brother Neil was held March 30. Students, faculty, staff and friends gathered with Brother Neil and University administrators and trustees for the dedication. In use since 1975, the building is located directly south of the Harold E. White Aviation Center on the west side of campus, adjacent to the Lewis University Airport.

“Brother Neil is undoubtedly one of the most outstanding persons in the proud and accomplished history of this University,” stated Brother James Gaffney, FSC, then President of Lewis University, at the dedication ceremony.

Brother Neil currently serves as a senior education administrator at Bethlehem University in Palestine, but he returned to the Lewis University campus to participate in the dedication ceremony. “I’m deeply honored to have this building carry my name,” said Brother Neil. “There are two great loves in my life, aviation and the Christian Brothers. I hope in some little way, the new name of this building represents the union of the strong aviation association at Lewis and the strong educational tradition of the Christian Brothers.”

Brother Neil was among the first De La Salle Christian Brothers to be assigned to then Lewis College in the early 1960s. He taught physics and aviation-related courses. He was the driving force for expansion of the aviation program and for overseeing the construction of the building that now bears his name.

Acting President of Lewis University from August of 1976 through June of 1977, Brother Neil then was a member of the University’s Board of Trustees for many years, continuing his service to the Lewis community.
Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Honored as President Emeritus

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University for 28 years, was honored June 18 at a special celebration of his leadership and service to the University. More than 500 community leaders, donors, faculty, staff, students and alumni returned to campus to pay tribute.

A special proclamation from the Board of Trustees was presented by Kathleen Halloran ’74, Vice Chair of the Board, James LaGrippe ’61, past Chair of the Board, and Brother Larry Schatz, FSC, Board member and Provincial of the Christian Brothers of the Midwest. The proclamation was approved at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees. Brother James is only the second President to be so honored.

The program also included various prayers and reflections by Christian Brothers and faculty, staff and friends. Michael Frale, Lewis University theatre major, sang “Goodbye” from Catch Me If You Can and Brother Armand Alcazar, FSC, closed the program with the song “Thankful” by Josh Groban. A reception followed the program.

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 Chairperson 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.
EPA Contest Awards Up to $15,000 to Lewis University Chemistry Students

A team of student researchers at Lewis University was among the 38 university student teams awarded a grant through the People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) student design competition, funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Each team received up to $15,000 for their proposed projects to develop new, sustainable products and strategies.

These teams showcased their projects at the National Sustainable Design Expo during the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington D.C. After the Expo, the teams competed for Phase II awards of up to $75,000 to further develop their designs and potentially bring them to the marketplace.

Lewis University’s award-winning project is “Design of a Solar Powered Water Purification System Utilizing Biomimetic Photocatalytic Nanocomposite Materials.” The research team includes undergraduate students Jeromy Rech, Zachary Widel, Lisa Janes and Elizabeth Senese. Jacob Murray and Samantha Brain are graduate student mentors. The research team is led by Dr. Jason Keleher, associate professor and chair of chemistry at Lewis University.

The project provides a solution for the lack of access to clean water by creating a sustainable water supply that improves the overall quality of life in developing nations across the world. The project is unique in that it uses solar energy to power a self-sufficient water purification system.

STEM Teacher NSF Program Names Noyce Scholars

Six Lewis University students have been selected to receive up to $12,000 in scholarships through the Lewis University Noyce Scholar program.

The four undergraduate students who were selected are: Joseph Lambert III, majoring in physics; Rob Funke, majoring in middle level education and math; Emily Pearson, majoring in middle level education with endorsements in math and science; and Elizabeth Geier, majoring in secondary education with an endorsement in math.

The two graduate students selected were Maisa Abu-Mallouh and Caitlin Moeller. Abu-Mallouh will be endorsed in science with a designation in biology. Moeller will be endorsed in math and science with a physics designation.

Noyce Scholars are selected based on current GPA, full-time enrollment, application essay, financial application, citizenship status and credit hours in biology, chemistry, mathematics or physics.

The program is part of a National Science Foundation grant to enhance the preparation of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education teachers. The grant will help the school better prepare undergraduate majors in biology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics to become 6-12th grade mathematics or science teachers.

Three main components of the Lewis University Noyce Scholar program include scholarships, quality STEM teacher preparation and collaboration with community partners.
Guardians of the Grid

With technology as an integral part of day-to-day life, it is vital to instill an interest in STEM fields early on in a student’s education. Lewis is partnering with area schools to provide opportunities for students in STEM education.

The Guardians of the Grid competition took place on April 23 at Lewis University, and is one such example. Professor and chair of the Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Ray Klump hosted several high school students to discuss the electrical grid, its security issues and future careers in cyber security.

Funded by the National Security Agency and contributions from ComEd, this competition featured a simulation of the commercial power grid. Students played the role of hacker, working in teams to try to cause a blackout on the grid. The system has automatic defenses to try to keep the system stable even in the event of attack, but persistent, orchestrated threats can compromise it, and students received an opportunity to explore those kinds of weaknesses. Through this, they were able to see the impact cyber security can have on the grid’s operation.

“The Guardians of the Grid competition gives students the ability to learn about the cyber security threats facing one of our most critical infrastructures — the electric power grid,” commented Dr. Klump. “Most people probably don’t think very much about the network of generators and transmission lines that bring electric power to our homes, but hackers have been thinking a lot about it and how to interrupt that flow of power,” he added.

Prior to the competition, all participating students learned how the grid works and how data is encrypted. They then applied these lessons in the competition.

“It is important to teach high school students about this, because they have been learning about cyber security largely from the perspective of privacy and how cyber-attack can compromise it,” Dr. Klump said. “But most of them haven’t thought too much about the physical consequences of a cyber-attack, how it can compromise all of the systems on which modern life depends.”

The first, second, and third-place teams won scholarships. All participants were given a Raspberry Pi computer.

Education Student Earns National James Madison Scholarship

Brandon Ceplecha is one of six students in the nation to be selected as a James Madison Memorial Junior Fellow. The Joliet student is currently pursuing a master’s degree in secondary education at Lewis University. He plans to teach social studies at the middle school level. In 2013, he earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and economics from Lewis University.

The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Alexandria, Va., supports the graduate study of American history by aspiring and experienced secondary school teachers of American history, American government, and social studies. The James Madison Fellowship funds up to $24,000 of each Fellow’s course of study towards a master’s degree. Fellows are required to teach American history or social studies in a secondary school for at least one year for each year of fellowship support.

“The selection committee commended my commitment to civic involvement. My passion to serve my community stems from the Lasallian Mission at Lewis University. Its core values: knowledge, wisdom, justice, fidelity, and association advocate for a commitment to serve,” added Ceplecha.

Founded by an Act of Congress in 1986, the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation is an independent agency of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government.
**Lilly Endowment Grant Supports High School Youth Theology Institute at Lewis University**

Lewis University received a grant of almost $600,000 to establish “Engaging Stories: An Intensive Journey of Faith, Life & Action!” part of the Lilly Endowment Inc.’s High School Youth Theology Institutes initiative. The program will begin in June 2017. It encourages young people to explore theological traditions, ask questions about the moral dimensions of contemporary issues, and examine how their faith calls them to lives of service.

“Engaging Stories” is a weeklong residential summer experience encouraging high school juniors and seniors to explore theology as an academic study and a lived practice, cultivating their personal sense of God and life’s calling. The program invites participants to engage stories at four interconnected levels—human, Catholic, Lasallian, and personal—correlating with the Lasallian Mission of Lewis University.

Instituto Fe y Vida, which is a Hispanic youth ministry, will partner with Engaging Stories to bring its widely recognized expertise in pastoral theological processes to foster leadership formation among young Latinos in the United States. Lewis Theology Department members collaborated with University Ministry, Instituto Fe y Vida, the Warren-Sharpe Community Center in Joliet, Ill., and faculty from across Lewis University to propose the program.

Dr. Joanne Kuttner, director of Engaging Stories and assistant professor of theology at Lewis University, will be reaching out to invite high school juniors and seniors to participate in the first summer experience in June 2017. Contact Joanne at kuttnejo@lewisu.edu to volunteer for the program.

**Efficient Showerheads Idea Wins “Come Clean, Go Green” 2016 Award**

Ideas for more efficient showerheads, drip irrigation systems and sensitive sprinklers won awards in the Come Clean, Go Green 2016 Contest sponsored by Lewis University’s Sustainability Council.

The contest encouraged students, faculty and staff to submit their ideas for conserving water at Lewis University. First place winner Erik Medina won for his proposal “Implementing Efficient Laminar-Flow Showerheads,” which discussed the benefits of switching to low-flow showerheads in the Fieldhouse.

Lisa Schopper and Melissa Schraub took second place for “Drip Irrigation: Saving Plants and Water Alike,” stating that drip irrigation would be used in areas with a high concentration of flowers and plant life.

Michael Leet’s “Moisture Sensitive Sprinkler System” took third place for proposing the incorporation of moisture sensitive sprinklers in certain areas on campus to assist the University in water saving techniques to ensure the wise use of water.

Cash prizes, ranging from $250-$1,000, were awarded. A portion of the funds will be used as the winners partner with Lewis University facilities staff members to implement their projects on campus.

Prior to the award ceremony, Maya van Rossum of Delaware Riverkeeper Network and Jeff Weiss of the Buffalo Creek Clean Water Partnership offered insights on advocating for the environment.
Featured Young Alumni

Davenport Gives Back to His Community

Kevin Davenport ’11 has dedicated his career to empowering and educating youth in underprivileged communities around the Chicago region.

After graduating from Lewis University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and a Minor in Radio/Television Broadcasting, Kevin started a modeling, marketing, and events company called The Status Group Inc., where he served as president and minority owner for two years. In 2015, he made the decision to sell his share in the company in order to focus on a new opportunity in his professional career.

Kevin founded The Ideal Candidate, a company that provides high achieving students in distressed communities with opportunities to learn and grow. The company developed a code of conduct intended to build confidence and strengthen values that are critical to achieving professional success. The Ideal Candidate positively impacts areas that have a 75 percent or higher unemployment rate and focuses its efforts on students in their junior or senior year in high school.

“The Ideal Candidate’s goal is to increase job rates within diverse communities by teaching skills that are imperative to succeed in the work force in various fields by providing a basis of etiquette, table manners, behavior modification, and leadership training,” Kevin explained. “Through the completion of The Ideal Candidate program, students will not only receive certification, but will have a new level of confidence, the ability to lead, and the opportunity to obtain internships and entry-level positions. The Ideal Candidate seeks to further the development of student leaders by providing a program that upon completion will make our graduates more attractive to future employers.”

Kevin is passionate about what he does each day and is grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community. “Being an active member in the success of our next generation by educating and opening doors for these students is a great feeling,” Kevin said.

His goal in life is to lead by example and give back to the community. He believes that Lewis provided him with opportunities to gain the proper knowledge and discipline to do so successfully in his future.

“Lewis really helped in my critical thinking process; I am able to view a problem now from many perspectives and dissect it so I can solve it in the most efficient way possible,” Kevin said. “I attribute much of this skill to a professor of mine, Dr. Cathy Ayers, who really took me under her wing and challenged me to be the best person possible.”

Kevin is a chess addict who loves to read, travel the world, and play soccer. In fact, he was a member of the Men’s Soccer Team at Lewis University. “Playing sports and maintaining good grades is a challenging task that ultimately taught me about time management,” added Kevin. “I bring my knowledge of time management, sportsmanship, and discipline to all professional endeavors.”

Kevin recently accepted a new position as the marketing director for Pi Surveying Group, P.C. in Chicago. He hopes to apply his knowledge and skills from prior experiences to this new role.

He offers the same advice that he found helpful on his journey to success: “Visualize, set goals, and make a strategic plan! Find a mentor to help you get there and then take action! With a little patience, it will all come together.”

To learn more about The Ideal Candidate, visit theidealcandidate.org.
Class Notes

1990s

Christopher Knight (Aviation Administration) ’93, a Senior Sales Executive for Ensono™ formerly Acxiom IT, assisted in unveiling a new identity and strategy to provide progressive IT solutions that help CIOs maximize efficiency and evolve operations to meet strategic goals.

Michael Mertens (Business Administration) ’93 was hired by the Homer Glen Village Board as the new village manager. Mertens previously served as the assistant village manager of building and planning for the Village of Tinley Park since 2003.

Dr. Erik Garrett (History) ’98 received The Joseph Lagana Volunteer Award for his work with Pittsburgh’s Homeless Children’s Education Fund. Garrett was recognized for his efforts to draw attention to the issue among his colleagues and students at Duquesne University, where he is an assistant professor of communication and rhetorical studies. He helped design project-based neighborhood events, involve students in his upper-level classes to host and promote events on campus. Last year, he received a Gaultier Community-Engaged Teaching Fellowship at Duquesne for his community engagement work. “I want to challenge the traditional beliefs and perspectives and attitudes that people have about homelessness and get them to develop a sense of empathy,” Garrett said.

Dr. Jessica Greminger (Chemistry and Physics) ’03 was selected as Kankakee Community College’s (KCC) Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Award winner for 2016. She joined the full-time faculty at KCC in 2010. Greminger teaches chemistry and physical science and is now the faculty sponsor for the college’s Science Club.

2000s

Ayanna Collins (Business Administration) ’04 (MBA) ’06 and Kerby Hypolite were married on July 18, 2015. Ayanna recently graduated with her Juris Doctorate (J.D.) from Barry University School of Law in Orlando, Florida, and is currently studying for the Florida Bar Exam.

Victoria Prestia (Business Administration-Accelerated-LP) ’04 (MBA) ’07 and her husband Nicholas moved to Arizona.

2010s

Christopher Linker (Marketing) ’12 (MBA) ’13 and Rebecca Yu (Biology) ’14 became engaged in May.

Career Services Needs Volunteers

The Office of Career Services will be looking for alumni volunteers to assist with resume reviews and practice interviews in advance of the following events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part-time Job and Internship Fair</td>
<td>Friday, September 16, 2016</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Interview Day</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 12, 2016</td>
<td>(primarily business, accounting, and finance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet the Firms</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 9, 2016</td>
<td>(for business students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Expo</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 22, 2017</td>
<td></td>
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If interested, please e-mail alumni@lewisu.edu.
Event Photo Gallery

Brother’s Birthday Bash
April 28, 2016

Nearly 150 alumni and friends gathered to celebrate the birthday of Brother James Gaffney, FSC and kick-off the Birth-Day of Giving.

Urinetown The Musical

Tyler Barker ’15 and Amanda Miller joined Brother James Gaffney, FSC, for a special reception before the Philip Lynch Theatre production of Urinetown The Musical. Anthony Harris and Michael Harris ’14 also attended the event.

Courtyard Garden

The Prodehl family made a generous gift to support the Courtyard Garden at Lewis University’s newest campus addition, St. Charles Borromeo Center. The Ed and Sandy Prodehl Family Courtyard is a beautifully landscaped space that includes benches, tables and chairs. A relaxing space available for students to study, it will also be utilized to host outdoor events on the intricately bricked patio. Pictured: The Ed and Sandy Prodehl family poses with Brother James Gaffney, FSC, in the garden after the June 6 dedication ceremony.
Schmitt Scholars

The Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation welcomed 12 Lewis University students into its Schmitt Scholars Program in April. The Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation has granted Lewis University more than $1.3 million dollars over the past 31 years. The Foundation supports Schmitt Scholars programs at Lewis and a number of other Catholic universities in the Midwest. Schmitt Scholarships recognize both academic distinction and leadership qualities.

Pictured are: (L-R) Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Nia White, Cassandra Hendrickson, Zana Dixon, Rosa Chavez, Kaitlyn Kman, Dana DeJacimo, Jackson Waters, Lisa Janes, Christen Alcordo, Ashley Barrera, Mallory Moore, Kyana Vasquez, and Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation Executive Director Patricia Shevlin.

Volunteer for FAVS

The Flyers Alumni Volunteers (FAVS) cultivate the spirit of the Lasallian tradition among alumni through opportunities to serve other graduates of Lewis and the current student body. There are many different volunteer opportunities available, from social media volunteers to speakers to prepping graduates at commencement. Find out more at alumni.lewisu.edu/FAVS.

Did you know?
• 30 ICE Class volunteers interacted with over 700 first-year students during the Fall 2015 semester.
• There have been about 220 unique Flyer Alumni Volunteers during the 2015-2016 academic year.

We Believe Campaign

During this year’s We Believe Campaign, 83 percent of faculty and staff at Lewis made a gift to support the University and students. Members of the committee thanked donors with an ice cream treat! (L-R) Rachael Tracey ’14, ’16; Jo Slowik ’88; and Kathy Bruss ’11, ’14.

Lewis University Nursing Alumni Network (LU-NAN) Student/Alumni Mentoring Program

On April 2, alumni and students of the LU-NAN Student/Alumni Mentoring program met for the first time. The goal of the mentoring program is to support graduating seniors with their transition from nursing student to nurse. The program pairs a Senior II with a graduate from the CONHP that has recently experienced this same transition. For more information, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/LUNAN.
Alumni Authors
Return to Campus

On March 17, alumni authors Kendra Hadnott ’08 and Susan Slaviero ’07 returned to campus to read as part of the English Department Showcase.

Kendra is an author, freelance writer, educator, and blogger. In 2015, she was named the third place winner in the 2014 International 3-Day Novel Contest for her novel, Somebody’s Nobody. Her short stories have been published in various University magazine publications. She is the author of the five-book LIVE series and children’s paranormal fantasy novel, Something Watching Me (an official 2016 Chicago Public School Battle of the Books title). Her science-fiction novel, Death Leaders, is the latest of her work to be published. Previously a writer/project manager for a well-known toy company, Kendra happily traded in her 9-to-5 gig for a rewarding career as an author.

Susan’s full-length collection of poems, CYBORGIA, is available from Mayapple Press. Her chapbooks include An Introduction to the Archetypes (Shadowbox Press 2008), Apocrypha (Dancing Girl Press 2009), A Wicked Apple (Hyacinth Girl Press, 2011) and Selections From The Murder Book (Ghost Ocean, 2012). For many years, she designed and edited the online literary journal Blossom Bones, and now she performs as her alter ego, August Rose, with The Chicago Poetry Brothel. She is the recipient of a 2014 Pushcart Prize.

Join us in Creating the Future of Lewis

Did you know that estate gifts by alumni and other friends have been a significant source of financial support for Lewis and have had a profound and lasting impact on scholarship, teaching and research at the University? Such gifts have endowed scholarships, helped sustain innovative programs and made possible a variety of magnificent facility initiatives. The continuation and expansion of this wonderful tradition of generosity will contribute to Lewis’ future strength and continue our trajectory of academic success.

In December of 2015, we publicly announced the largest comprehensive campaign in the history of the University. The $35 million “Achieve More. Together” campaign is a resounding call to invest in our remarkable University and directly influence Lewis’ continued growth and outstanding academic achievement. This five-year effort began in July of 2012 and through the amazing generosity of our alumni and other friends, we have raised nearly $33 million and just over $10 million of this amount has been in the form of estate gifts or other planned gifts!

Plan for Lewis. Participate in this Historic Campaign

Charitable gifts as part of your long-range estate and financial plans can be an excellent way to participate in this historic campaign and provide dynamic and exciting future opportunities for our students for many years to come.

You can make a meaningful campaign gift of any size in one or more of the following ways:

• By making a gift through your will or living trust
• By naming Lewis as a beneficiary of all or a portion of retirement plan accounts, life insurance policies or investment accounts.

Your generous gift of a lifetime in support of the “Achieve More. Together” Campaign costs nothing now, yet will certainly give you a great deal of satisfaction knowing that your gift will live on and create an extraordinary future for our University, faculty and students. Please contact Robert Kanonik, J.D., Director of Planned Giving, at kanonik@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5813 if we can provide more information to you or your professional advisor to assist you in the charitable aspects of your estate and financial plans.

If you have already included Lewis in your estate or established another planned gift, we hope you will let us know. We will respect those who wish to remain anonymous, but we urge you to let us know of your charitable plans on a confidential basis, as it allows the University to plan for the implementation of your vision for our future excellence.

Harold E. White
Legacy Society
of Lewis University
Crowdfunding
The Newest Fundraising Wave
Gifts of All Sizes are Providing Big Opportunities at Lewis University

In fall 2014, Lewis began testing crowdfunding for University fundraising initiatives, allowing donors to follow their passions and give to what they care most about. This type of fundraising provides students, alumni and staff the opportunity to reach out to their social networks and share their passion for different programs and opportunities at the University.

Athletics seemed the perfect place to start. The social networks of almost 400 student athletes provided a strong foundation for the campaign. The idea worked, as athletics saw an exceptional response as more than $50,000 was gifted to the program from the crowdfunding campaign.

“This was a significant increase over previous years,” said Brian Sisson, associate athletic director, and director of external relations. “This new tool gives volunteers and donors the ability to easily reach audiences online and raise money for what they care about most at Lewis.”

In conjunction with University Advancement, Lewis Athletics completed its second annual crowdfunding campaign on November 30, 2015 and saw its most successful fundraising campaign in the school’s history. More than 757 donors contributed $69,952 for Athletics.

The impact of crowdfunding and its potential to raise large amounts of money by combining many gifts is definitely evident. In March, more than 100 donors gifted $14,623 to a crowdfunding campaign for new lighting at the Philip Lynch Theatre.

“The majority of our lighting equipment is original to the theatre’s opening 40 years ago,” explained Jo Slowik ’88, Philip Lynch Theatre manager and adjunct assistant professor. “We researched intelligent High End Lighting, or moving digital fixtures. The PLT can accommodate up to six fixtures at a cost of $5,000 each.”

In April, yet another crowdfunding campaign was established to celebrate all Brother James Gaffney, FSC, has done for the University. With set goals of 250 donors and $50,000, the 48-hour campaign began on April 28 and ended on April 30 – Brother James’ birthday. Incredibly, more than 393 donors contributed over $94,000 in honor of Brother James.

“The convenience and ease of online giving coupled with the potential to reach friends and family all over the country makes crowdfunding an ideal fundraising platform where gifts of any amount can really start to add up to big opportunities,” said Luigi Amendola ’01, interim Vice President for University Advancement. “As we move forward, the University will look to expand crowdfunding opportunities. We appreciate the continued support of our alumni and other friends as we make great strides at Lewis.”

For more on crowdfunding initiatives at Lewis University, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Give.
Women in Leadership Conference
Friday, October 7, 2016
Lewis University Main Campus
alumni.lewisu.edu/WomenInLeadership

Government Career Fair
Friday, November 18, 2016 • 1-4 pm
UIC Student Center East, Illinois Room
750 South Halsted, Chicago, IL 60607
Email jaimev@uic.edu for information.

Rooftop Game:
Cubs vs. Cardinals
Sunday, August 14, 2016
alumni.lewisu.edu/cubsgame2016

16th Annual Electronic Music Midwest Festival
Thursday–Saturday, October 13–15, 2016
Philip Lynch Theatre emmfestival.org

Annual Career Expo:
Job & Internship Fair
Wednesday, March 22, 2017
More details to come!