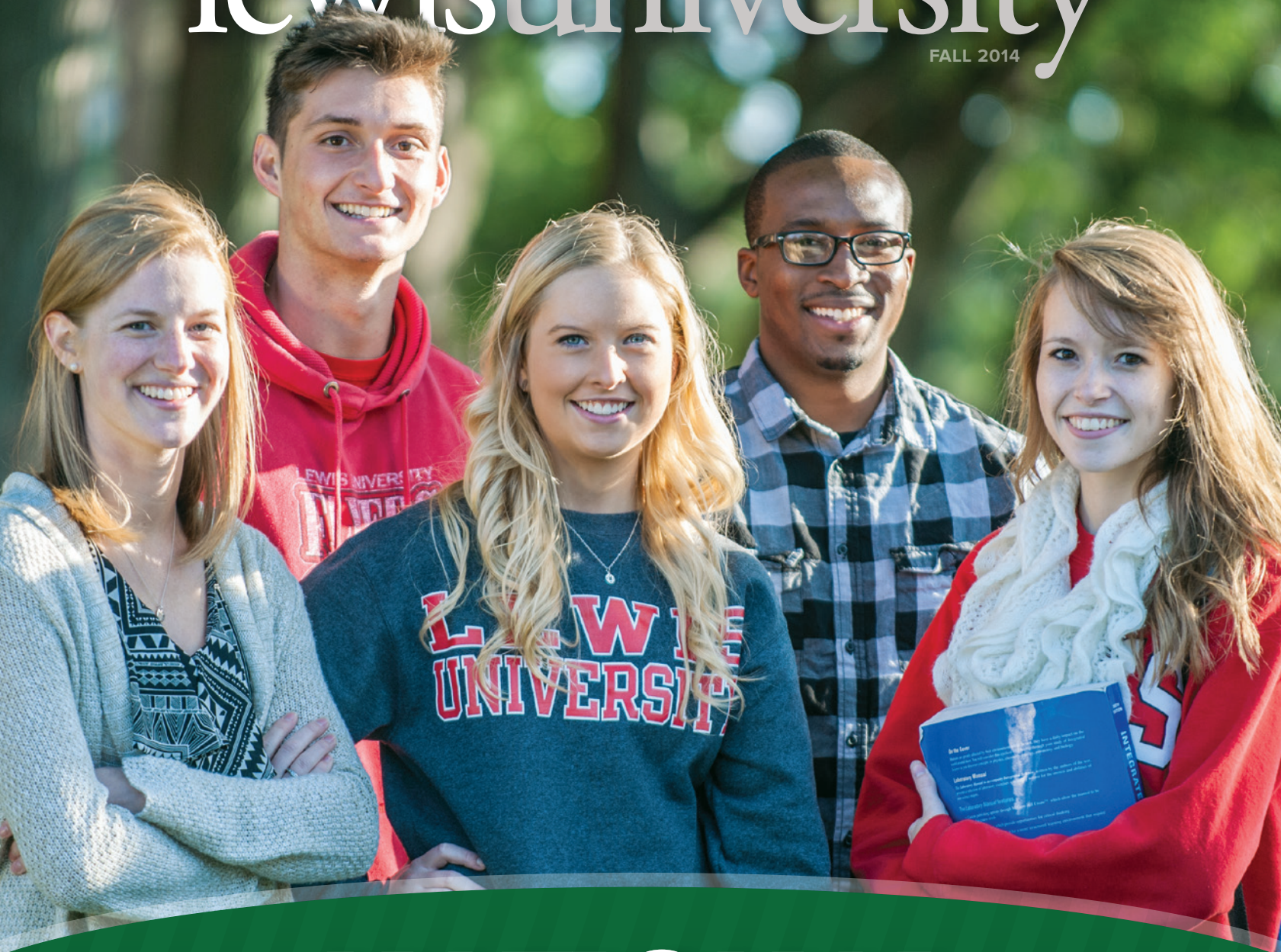


THE MAGAZINE OF  
**lewisuniversity**  
FALL 2014



# NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

VALIDATE LEWIS' COMMITMENT TO  
**STUDENT SUCCESS**





## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

There is no question that Lewis is being transformed in ways unimagined as recently as five or six years ago. Our vision of being a distinctive, mid-sized Catholic university in the Lasallian tradition is steadily being achieved. It is embedded into our current, five-year Strategic Plan and is driving our consistent progress, as we are increasingly recognized as one of the truly fine Catholic universities in the Midwest.

Moreover, this Fall has been a period of frequent accolades. As we celebrate an all-time record enrollment and are closing in on the 7,000 mark, we have been identified as a Top 25 Regional University in the Midwest. Our climb up that chart has been quite exceptional during the last several years. In the College Best Buy category, we are now in the Top 20 among private universities in the Midwest for affordability, actually #5. For the seventh year in succession, we have been recognized as a College of Distinction, one of only 20% of the universities and colleges in Illinois. Still further, we were recently notified that Lewis is in the Top 50 nationally for the provision of higher education to adult students. Still further, once again the University has been acknowledged as Veteran and Military Friendly, that is, providing exceptional services to our students who are veterans or members of the Military. Lewis has the highest percentage of students in this category in Illinois, with our total of nearly 600 divided almost evenly between Illinois and New Mexico.

It is amazing how well our students in the College of Nursing and Health Professions have taken to the splendid new addition to that College's building. One can find numerous students throughout the day and evening in that large facility, gathered in study groups or working on individual academic projects. They are very appreciative to have Jazzman's Café and Bakery in the lower level of the new addition. Meanwhile, the College is doing a very good job accommodating the 19% increase in freshman nursing students, and their undergraduate enrollment is once again the largest (and one of the very best) in Illinois. Many of their graduate students take courses at the University's remarkable Oak Brook Center.

A similar situation exists at the new home for the College of Business and the Graduate School of Management, which is the magnificently transformed Saint Charles Borromeo Center. That College's

enrollment is up nearly 9% and there is an increase of 14% for their first year students. The behavioral and social sciences faculty are now situated at Saint Benilde Hall, and many of their classes are held there as well. Meanwhile, the enrollments in the Natural Sciences and in Mathematics and Computer Science have climbed so rapidly that the former Science Building will be undergoing a major upgrade to serve as an Annex for the Science Center, including for the newly launched program in Computer Engineering.

Another important area for significant modernization, technology enhancements and classroom and lab upgrades is the Aviation Center. As the curriculum in aviation and aerospace technology expands, there is the potential for significant enrollment growth. The faculty in that program is exceptional and they are driving numerous quality improvements and enrollment gains. Meanwhile, the aviation students continue to excel in a variety of ways, including in the Flight Team's once again qualifying for the national tournament in May.

There is good news all around for our NCAA athletic teams, as you will discover in this issue of the Lewis Magazine. The same is true for our 15 club teams. For instance, our club hockey team won a dozen contests in a row, even sweeping the University of Illinois in a two-day dual contest. At the same time, our student athletes continue to achieve at a very high level academically, and they are viewed as campus leaders and generous in their service to needy children. Two other areas of exceptional accomplishment are by our Mock Trial and Mediation Teams, all of which consistently qualify for post-season national and even international competition. Our theatre program and our music program both continue to expand and are greatly appreciated for their overall excellence.

Another area of exceptional accomplishment is in the area of student research. No wonder the University continues to be funded through external grants for STEM research and academic offerings at an unprecedented pace. During the early Fall, the ELS intensive English program for international students began here at Lewis. Courses and individual instruction are offered in four-week segments. The first group to arrive represented countries as diverse as South Korea, China, Columbia, Iran and Brazil.

Much appreciation to our very generous donors for the highly successful Red Tie



Ball in September. That *Signum Fidei* Gala raised approximately \$265,000 for our Mission Fund, which supports high quality students who have very serious financial need. Lewis continues to progress well in the category of student retention and graduation rates. Still further, there is tremendous energy evident everywhere on campus and a range of curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities throughout the campus, seven days each week, like never before in our history. At the same time, we have never been more unified in the spirit of Association, in support of our Mission and the overall growth and success of our students. Our momentum is unparalleled and our students are the very satisfied beneficiaries.

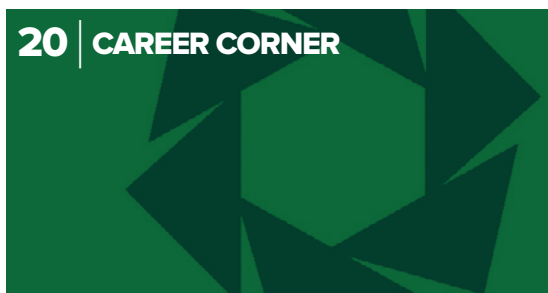
Finally, I announced at the end of October that I would be retiring from the presidency of Lewis University in less than two years, that is, on June 30, 2016. By then I will have served as President for more than 28 years, which is four times the average presidential tenure. This will allow for plenty of time to determine how to carry out and then implement a presidential search. In the meanwhile, there is much for us to accomplish in support of the superior education that we provide our students, deeply rooted in our Mission. Upon retirement and after a sabbatical, I will be able to serve as an active advocate for the University in whatever ways are judged most to be beneficial. My heart is at Lewis, and my passion and commitment to the University's advancement are as strong as ever. Moreover, I am deeply appreciative for the privilege I have had for nearly three decades to lead, to be a source of unity and vision, and to be associated with thousands of marvelous persons within and beyond the University.

Sincerely,

Brother James Gaffney, FSC  
President

# THE MAGAZINE OF lewisuniversity

WINTER 2014



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## RESOURCES

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Alumni	(815) 836-5472
Graduate & Adult Admission	(800) 897-9000 (815) 836-5610
Athletics	(815) 836-5247
Philip Lynch Theatre Box Office	(815) 836-5500
University Advancement	(815) 836-5244



# YOU CAN IT FEEL

Yes, fall is in the air, but there's also a sense of excitement on the Lewis campus.

New students who are eager to learn, faculty who bring a renewed sense of purpose to their teaching, and buildings and programs being developed and transformed to meet the needs of 21st century students – all happening with the goal of student success at the forefront. The combination of everything coming together at the same time makes Lewis a great place to be.

## FALL ENROLLMENT TELLS THE STORY

Classes began at Lewis University on August 25 with a record number of students. Several opening week enrollment records were broken.

The fall freshman class of 760 students and 453 transfer students, along with graduate and adult undergraduate students, increased the total student body to more than 6,700 total students, which is the largest incoming freshman class and the largest total student body in the history of the University. This also caused a waiting list for housing. A record 460 first-year students of a total of 1,322 are living on campus this fall. The Lewis regional center in Albuquerque, N. M. has more than 500 students this academic year. The number of military and veteran students and families also increased to 600. With the addition of the Office of Veterans Affairs last year devoted specifically to military and veteran students and their families, the reputation of Lewis with that student group has expanded. Lewis is a Yellow Ribbon School and recognized as a Military Friendly School by *G.I. Jobs Magazine*. Lewis was ranked in the Top 25 nationally as a Best for Vets school, being in the Top 3 among Private schools.

“Our continued growth in a challenging higher education environment indicates recognition of Lewis University’s commitment to the success of our students through quality academic programs, outstanding faculty, affordable education, and a collaborative atmosphere,” commented Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University.

Quality and affordability are characteristics that prompted Lewis University’s recognition as a Top 5 best private college value in the Midwest by the Great Value Colleges website. Their website states, “By combining

Significant growth in STEM majors also contributed to the record enrollment. There are a growing number of undergraduate students majoring in biochemistry, biology, chemical physics, chemistry, computer engineering, computer science, environmental science, forensic criminal



investigation, information security, mathematics, physics, pre-engineering and pre-pharmacy. Adult and graduate students are increasingly attracted to programs such as the post baccalaureate program in biomedical sciences pre-medical studies and graduate level programs in business analytics, information security and risk management and data science.

“Our new programs continue to attract students who are interested in studying fields that are in demand by the marketplace,” added Ray Kennelly, Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Planning.

“Obviously they are thinking about their future careers when they choose a major.”

Other University enhancements also have been completed to better support the growing population at Lewis. A 25,000 sq. ft. addition was built to increase space for labs, classrooms and support offices for the

College of Nursing and Health Professions which gained almost 200 new traditional and transfer undergraduate nursing majors this fall. The College of Business moved into the recently acquired St. Charles Borromeo Center, which features high tech classroom space, and spacious lounges for students to gather, study and network together.

**“Quality and affordability are characteristics that prompted Lewis University’s recognition as a Top 5 best private college value in the Midwest by the Great Value Colleges website.”**

qualities like research, scholarship, and service, Lewis is able to offer students unique options like LUMINATE, a program of community service and experiential learning opportunities that occur over breaks. The university makes it onto this list because of features like an 82% freshmen retention rate, a 13:1 student-to-teacher ratio, 120 campus organizations, and nearly 80 academic programs.”

## NEW LEWISU APP ROLLED OUT AT WELCOME DAYS

Students coming to campus for the first time this August were treated to a new app for the Welcome Days Fall Orientation. The new LewisU app is designed to boost student engagement with the use of their Smartphones. In addition to the more practical functions of maps, directions, and GPS coordinates, this app will allow student clubs and organizations to post their event information and provide the social aspect that is lacking in many Smartphone apps.

Students register to use the app in the App store or Google Play store. Once they download the app they can create their own schedule of classes with their social events, chat with others in their classes, and take advantage of other things that they choose to get

involved in on campus. Additionally, local vendors can provide deals for the students and they can search for those. Facebook and Twitter are also linked through the app.

Even though the University's website was redesigned to be fully responsive (pages render the content based on the device a person is using when visiting the site) and launched in December 2013, the University felt like it still needed an app to enhance student engagement. Syl Goyette, Director of Web Development said, "In this day and age, we all know that our kids live on their Smartphones. We needed a way to get them engaged because that involvement contributes to their overall success here. We believe this new app will give them a reason to get involved,

LEWIS UNIVERSITY

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know what's going on, meet new people and remain active."

Go to [lewisu.edu/mobile](http://lewisu.edu/mobile) to view the LewisU app feature.

## BROTHER ROBERT BIMONTE RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE

Brother Robert R. Bimonte, FSC, received an honorary doctorate from Lewis University before giving the annual fall convocation address on Catholic education. A highly dedicated educator and very effective leader, Brother Robert serves as President of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), based in Arlington, Virginia. The NCEA is the largest private professional education organization in the world, serving 150,000 Catholic educators and 6 million students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools, in religious education programs, in seminaries, and in colleges and universities. He has served in numerous



(L to R) Brother Robert R. Bimonte, FSC is presented with an honorary doctorate by Brother James Gaffney, FSC.

teaching and administrative roles during his career.

Born and raised in New York City, Brother Robert was first inspired by his own Catholic education at Our Lady of Refuge Elementary School, and then encountered "the passion and commitment" of the De La Salle Christian Brothers

at Cardinal Spellman High School. After teaching in public schools and then in Catholic schools, Brother Robert realized "the importance of... spiritual grounding...shared religious values... and the advantages of Catholic education." As he notes: "Once I started teaching in Catholic schools, I experienced a tremendous sense of 'home' and decided that I would make a lifelong commitment to Catholic education. It was at that time that I joined the De La Salle Christian Brothers."

Brother Robert's numerous and varied experiences in teaching and his significant contributions as an educational leader, locally and nationally, reflect his breadth and depth of insight. He consistently inspires his colleagues as one who understands deeply the nature of learning, because of his own participation in day-to-day classroom experiences at all levels of education. He regularly shares his vision with other educators through workshops, retreats, and consulting. Still further, he has conducted complex educational programs and overseen large school systems, so that others may, in turn, learn, lead, and serve. Following in the footsteps of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, patron saint of educators, Brother Robert demonstrates the values in the Mission of Lewis University, especially Fidelity, Knowledge, and Association.

# FACULTY NEWS

## ART PROFESSOR'S WORK HIGHLIGHTED AS PART OF NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Leslie Ansteth Colonna (Art and Design), was recently an invited artist at Figurative Association: The Human Form Symposium, held at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Colonna gave a slide presentation on her work and spoke on a panel of invited artists on the topic of how artists deal with failure as part of the creative process. The intensive four-day symposium brought together internationally recognized artists alongside a group of emerging artists from all over the United States, all whose main focus is the human form. Arrowmont is an internationally recognized visual art education center, providing creative experiences year-round with weekend, one-and two-week workshops from March through November.

## DR. TAPIA'S RESEARCH PUBLISHED IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE JOURNAL

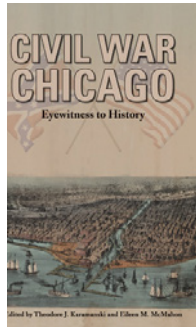
Recent research by Dr. Natalia Tapia (Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies) entitled "Survivors of childhood sexual abuse and predictors of adult re-victimization in the United States: A Forward Logistic Regression Analysis" was recently published in the *International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences*, (Vol. 9(1), 64-73). The study examines the factors that lead to an increased risk of adult sexual re-victimization among childhood sexual abuse survivors.

## ENGLISH PROFESSOR PRESENTS PAPER ON OSCAR WILDE IN PARIS, FRANCE

Dr. Jamil Mustafa (English) presented "Haunting 'The Harlot's House,'" a paper that analyzes Oscar Wilde's poem within the context of late-Victorian culture, this past June in Paris. His presentation was part of Wilde Days in Paris 2014, an international conference marking the 160th anniversary of Wilde's birth.

## HISTORY PROFESSOR CO-AUTHORS BOOK ON THE CIVIL WAR IN CHICAGO

Dr. Eileen McMahon (History) recently edited a book with her husband, Dr. Theodore



Karamanski, a Professor of History at Loyola University Chicago titled, *Civil War Chicago: Eyewitness to History*. Published by Ohio University Press in August, the book uses seldom seen or newly uncovered sources to tell the story of the Civil War through the eyes of those who lived

that history. Photographs throughout the book effectively convey the geography of events in this pivotal period of Chicago's history. The book also features a useful driving guide to Civil War sites in and around the city of Chicago.

## JUSTICE PROVIDES SERVICE LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILY SHELTER SERVICES

Twenty-two students in the Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies' domestic violence course taught by Dr. Lynn Tovar experienced a rewarding service learning project at Family Shelter Services, which broadened their knowledge of domestic violence and the impact it has on children in particular. The original project consisted of completely designing a children's therapeutic room. Due to the students' enthusiasm and desire to help, the project grew to designing a second children's playroom and landscaping the outside play area. The students held several fundraising events in October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Through their fundraising efforts, they were able to educate others about domestic violence and provide the necessary funds to complete the project. Students spent hours designing the perfect atmosphere for the children. The students painted, decorated, and purchased specific therapeutic interactive supplies for each room, which in turn provides a welcoming place for children to receive necessary counseling. This experience provided a means to establishing meaningful connections from the classroom to real people who have been victimized.

## SUMMER RESEARCH

### Involves Students in Hands-on Projects

Over the summer, eight faculty members mentored nine students from biology, chemistry, computer science and physics in the 10-week Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program. Dr. William Chura, Professor of Biology and Director of the program said, “The wide range of projects showcased the many talents of the STEM faculty. This summer program provides students with invaluable experience and challenges them to become better scientists.”

Students presented their projects on August 6 in a variety of science fields: Samantha Brain, “Synthesis of Zinc Oxide Quantum Dots for Solar Cell Applications” mentored by Dr. Jason Keleher; Tami Roginski, “Changing Food Webs in Lake Michigan: Dreissena and the Microbial Loop” mentored by Dr. Jerry Kavouras; Brandon Schabell, “The Use of Semiconductor Incorporated Dye Nanocomposites for the Absorbance of Green Laser Light” mentored by Dr. Joe Kozminski; Steven Day, “System for Information Security Education and Real-Time Awareness (SISERTA)” mentored by Dr. Ray Klump; Leigh Smith, “Characterization of Mutated Cyclin D3 Human Cancer Cell Lines” mentored by Dr. Sarah Powers; Justin Ramotowski, “Antibiotic Sensitivity of Microbes Present on Cellular Devices” mentored by Dr. Marne Bailey and Jeannette Pifer; John Hodul and Zach Struzik, “Nano-Templating and Mesoporous Adjustment of Silica Sol-Gel” mentored by Dr. John Parker; and Daniel Lentz, “Balancing Act: Variance of PVA/Chitosan Ratios in the Optimization of Biomimetic Hydrogels” mentored by Dr. Bill Chura.

The SURE program was sponsored by Lewis University and a generous grant from the Aileen S. Andrew Foundation.



*(L to R) Samantha Brain, Tami Roginski, John Hodul, Zach Struzik, Justin Ramotowski, Brandon Schabell, Steven Day and Leigh Smith present their research projects.*



## SMALL WORLD Initiative

Biology faculty members were selected as partner instructors in the Yale University Center for Scientific Teaching Small World Initiative (SWI) during the 2014-2015 academic year. The project uses undergraduate research courses at universities across the nation to crowdsource the discovery of new antibiotics.

Dr. Marne Bailey, Assistant Professor of Biology, and Jeannette Pifer, Instructor of Biology, will be leading the microbiology lab courses this fall and spring that are participating in the initiative. “It’s a good fit with our microbiology lab course,” Bailey said. “Last semester, biology majors were conducting similar research that enhanced their educational experience. They were sampling cell phones to identify bacteria.”

The Lewis University students participating in the SWI will conduct research by culturing soil microbes, screening for antibiotic activity against pathogens, 16s rRNA gene sequencing, and extracting metabolites. The microbiology lab students will be learning core biological concepts as they do research in this introductory course. They will be undertaking experimental design, data analysis and presentations.

Earlier this year, the Small World Initiative was highlighted at the President’s Forum at the American Society for Microbiology’s 2014 General Meeting in Boston.



## Seven Alumni Serving as **LASALLIAN VOLUNTEERS**

Seven graduates of Lewis University will be serving as Lasallian Volunteers (LVs) during the 2014-2015 academic year, joining young adults throughout the country who are committed to serving the educational needs of the poor through the Lasallian Volunteer Program of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

The Lasallian Volunteers participate in a faith-based service program that provides opportunities for ministry as well as a supportive community experience where the volunteers reside during their terms of service. Volunteers reside in various communities nationally with De La Salle Christian Brothers and other Lasallian Volunteers during their period of service. The term of service is for one year, but most volunteers choose to serve up to two additional years. Most teach or assist in Lasallian schools or other educational missions that are focused on disadvantaged youth throughout the USA.

Seven Lewis University alumni are serving as Lasallian Volunteers at the following sites: David Anderson – La Salle School, Albany, N.Y., Monique Cruz – Cristo Rey High School, Minneapolis, Minn., Alejandra Espitia – Tides Family Services, Pawtucket, R.I., Yolanda Franco – San Miguel High School, Tucson, Ariz., Matt Halick – La Salle School, Albany, N.Y., Lorenzo Mendez (second year) – Tides Family Services, Pawtucket, R.I., Ron Jovi Ramirez (second year) – La Salle Academy, New York, N.Y.

Three Lasallian Volunteers who have completed their terms of service are currently enrolled in graduate studies at Lewis University through the Lasallian Volunteers Scholar Program, including Sean Barber '11 (B.A.), Christopher Hueg '11 (B.A.) and Tracy Bradley '12 (B.S.).



*High school students participating in Lewis University's STARTALK foreign language program pose with Brother Lawrence Oelschlegel, FSC, Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, far right.*

### Foreign Language

## **STARTALK PROGRAM**

Thirty local high school students were immersed into Russian or Chinese cultures while participating in Lewis University's 2014 STARTALK program June 16-July 11 on the University's main campus.

"A Trip to St. Petersburg/Taipei" was the theme for this year's free four-week foreign language program. As students made plans for their journey to the targeted language country, they learned how to get around the major Russian/Taiwanese city, learned about places of interest, engaged in basic conversations with local residents, and conducted simple transactions in stores, restaurants, asked for directions etc.

"Students gained a positive disposition to Russian/Chinese language and culture, developed awareness of the national need to learn these languages, became motivated to continue studying the language and developed basic proficiency in the respective languages," commented Dr. Serafima Gettys, Coordinator of the Foreign Language Program.

Students from various high schools participated in the program, hailing from such places as Bolingbrook, Romeoville, Plainfield, Naperville and Joliet. Several Catholic high school students enrolled in the program as well, including students from Joliet Catholic Academy and Montini Catholic High School.

STARTALK is a project of the National Security Initiative, a multi-agency effort to expand foreign language education in under-taught critical languages by funding new and existing programs and providing incentives and rewards for foreign language learning. The overall mission is to increase the number of young Americans learning and speaking critical-need foreign languages by offering creative and engaging summer learning experiences for students.

## Cremin Consults on Hometown Teams

# SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT

Dr. Dennis Cremin, Professor of History, is consulting with local organizations across the state who are hosting the “Hometown Teams: Sports in American Communities” exhibit of the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street (MOMS) program.

Hometown Teams feature sports as a way to get to the core of American experience. In a time when many towns are experiencing decreases in population and significant changes in their demographics, the community’s culture and pride is often most evident in the support of their local teams. This is one area where everyone can celebrate their past and look toward the future. The local exhibits feature some famous athletes, but the emphasis is really on the competitions that played out between schools or community organizations. The Smithsonian exhibit focuses on the nation, but it is on the local and regional level that many diverse stories come to life.



*Dr. Dennis H. Cremin consults with local organizations on history exhibits as part of a Smithsonian program.*

“Beyond the spectacular new Smithsonian exhibit, the companion displays in the local communities are a central component of this program,” said Dr. Cremin. “These Illinois towns hold the local stories, and they are able to put them on display for their communities. Just as I teach my students at Lewis University about the elements of Museum Studies, I consult with these outstanding local organizations.” In Illinois, the MOMS program is administered by the Illinois Humanities Council, and the communities apply to host the traveling Smithsonian created exhibit.

Hometown Teams is part of the Museum on Main Street program, a partnership with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The exhibits travel to small and medium-sized communities, which brings Smithsonian-quality exhibitions to local museums, libraries and other organizations around the state.

## DR. MITRA FALLAHI

### Joins Education as Associate Dean



Lewis University recently welcomed Dr. Mitra Fallahi as the new Associate Dean of the College of Education. As Associate Dean, Fallahi

will coordinate Lewis University’s accreditation process with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, recruit faculty and develop programs.

“Dr. Fallahi’s expertise in assessment, multicultural education, comparative education, curriculum and teacher preparation will contribute greatly to Lewis University’s College of Education,” commented Dr. Pamela Jessee, Dean of the College.

“I want to be part of a team that moves the institution forward,” said Fallahi, former Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Professor at Saint Xavier University.

Fallahi praises the sense of community at Lewis University. “You feel like you belong to a team,” she commented. “Our leadership is well connected to the Mission.”

Fallahi is enthusiastic about providing innovative ways to further advance the College of Education. “We have to think of new ways to move forward; maybe technology is not the only way,” she said. “Lewis University is very good about developing personal relationship with students. We must make sure technology does not lessen those relationships.”

Fallahi earned her doctorate degree in education from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. She earned a master’s degree in English from Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind. and a bachelor’s degree in English from Pars College in Tehran, Iran. Her areas of research and expertise include assessment, curriculum, teacher preparation, multi-cultural education and comparative education.

# HISTORY TOLD

## in Academic Building

A new Legacy Wall in the Academic Building/Science Center displays the first of five modules on Lewis' history and Mission. Current and prospective students, faculty, and staff, as well as friends, donors, and visitors can view the Wall as it displays "Our Founding Story." Organized in a series of panels, photographs, and artifacts, it reflects three decades of Lewis's significant growth and transformation. An in-depth chronicle of the founding story relates the I&M Canal, Lockport, the Fitzpatrick family and the donation of the land for the campus, continuing all the way through the arrival of the Christian Brothers. Notable people featured include Michael Fitzpatrick, Bishop Bernard Sheil, Frank J. Lewis, Father John Brennan, Father Aquinas Colgan, Gordon Gillespie, Fred Ludeman, and Umberto Nobile.

The future modules will continue to express the University's Catholic and Lasallian Mission, pivotal moments



in Lewis history, as well as recent developments that help to communicate the "essence" of the Lewis University experience. A group of committee members from within the University have joined efforts with Dr. Kurt Schackmuth '98 '02, Vice President for Mission and Academic Services, in continuing to develop the Legacy Wall as it introduces modules focused on students, Saint John Baptist de La Salle, academic excellence, liberal and professional education, career preparation, and a vision for the future. Sal Ursino '11, Multimedia Graphic Designer in the Office of Marketing and Communications was the principal designer.

# ELS LANGUAGE CENTER

## Joins Lewis in October

ELS Language Centers (ELS) is pleased to join the Lewis University community and to contribute to the international diversity of the Romeoville region.

Opening in October, ELS offers multiple levels of English as a Second Language (ESL) to international students from abroad. Mother Teresa Hall on the Lewis main campus will provide offices, classrooms and a language laboratory for students. ELS international students will have the opportunity to reside in a Lewis residence hall, or participate in a home stay program in the region while taking courses.

Students who opt for the home stay program live with nearby American families, allowing for additional opportunities to enhance their English speaking abilities, and enjoy numerous American customs. ELS is actively recruiting families for the home stay program.

ELS operates continuously in four-week sessions, consisting of six classes per day, 52 weeks per year. Students participate in various classes that focus on structure and speaking practice, language studies and reading and writing. Students also may choose to take skills enhancement classes that focus on conversation, listening comprehension, American culture, public speaking and current events.

"Bringing ELS to our community is an important aspect of our strategic planning initiative to enhance the global awareness of all of our students, regardless of their major," said Dr. Stephany Schlachter, Provost. "Their program in intensive



*Foreign students of the ELS program arrive on the Lewis University Main Campus.*

English will make Lewis more accessible to international applicants who haven't yet developed strong English proficiency. They have a strong reputation and commitment to their students."

With more than 50 locations nationwide, ELS is the largest network of U.S. campus-based English language instruction centers in the world. Since opening its first center in 1961, ELS has helped more than 1 million international students from more than 140 countries learn English. Building on its many years of experience in preparing international students for university study in the United States, ELS has developed its own unique curriculum, textbooks and branded language-learning software.

For additional information contact Tyler King at [tking@els.edu](mailto:tking@els.edu) or (815)588-7211.

### NURSING STUDENTS STUDY IN GREECE

Nursing students traveled to Greece this summer as part of the Travel Study Program. The group spent time visiting the city of Athens with tours of the Acropolis and New Museum; the Argolis region, with Nafplion, Mycenae and Epidaurus; Cape Sounion; and the island of Crete, including a boat excursion to the island of Spinalonga with a tour of this former leper colony. On Crete, there were also tours of the Minoan Knossos Palace, Heraklion Museum, the Holy Trinity Monastery, and the Doctors of the World (Medicins du Monde) free community clinic. Visits to the University of Athens, School of Nursing and the University of Crete, School of Public Health were among the highlights of the 11 day trip.

The students gained knowledge of a new place and its people, insight from the local healthcare professionals and tour guides, and an increased awareness of culture diversity and recognition of common beliefs. They also developed a new understanding of the effects that economic and political processes can have on the health and wellbeing of a society.

“The trip was really wonderful in every way possible,” said Eleftheria Karapas, Assistant Professor of Nursing and trip coordinator. “Everyone received a lot of exposure to professional, social, cultural and historical aspects of Greece.” Jane Trainor, Assistant Professor of Nursing was the faculty co-leader on this journey. Additional faculty members on the trip were Kathleen Blanchfield,



Associate Professor of Nursing; Angie Patras, Adjunct Professor of Nursing; Ellen Renna, Assistant Professor of Nursing; and Gail Vitale, Associate Professor of Nursing.

“It was an optimum learning community that was created within this tour group and a vivid display of the Lewis University Mission taken on the road,” said Karapas.



### WGN Installs

## WEATHERBUG ON CAMPUS

WGN-TV has located one of its WeatherBug cameras on Lewis University’s main campus in Romeoville. The camera’s high power lens shows weather conditions on the campus and can be focused to provide views of conditions at the Lewis University Airport, the National Weather Service and in the Romeoville, Lockport and Joliet area.

Views from the camera may be incorporated into WGN-TV news broadcasts and weather updates. The camera can also be accessed online 24/7 at [lewisu.edu/news](http://lewisu.edu/news) on the Lewis University website.

Tom Skilling, Chief Meteorologist at WGN-TV, facilitated discussions with the University’s Electronic Media faculty about installation of the WeatherBug and plans to use the camera’s high power lens when appropriate to show weather conditions from the Lewis campus or communities nearby live on WGN-TV (Channel 9).

“Installation of a live television feed here on our campus to assist in reporting weather conditions in the Will County and southwest Chicagoland areas will provide a great community service,” said Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President. “Lewis University is pleased to host this project in conjunction with WGN-TV and Tom Skilling. Highly respected, Tom has been a remarkable voice in explaining weather to the public and in forecasting for the Chicagoland and Midwest.”

John Carey, Assistant Professor and Director of Electronic Media, chaired a committee to install the camera at Lewis. “This partnership, like many that our University has with various media entities, provides a community service and also presents more opportunities for our Radio/TV Broadcasting students to work with industry professionals,” he said. Radio/TV Broadcasting students will be integrating the WeatherBug live feed into the curriculum. Campus media, Lewis University Television Network (LUTN), WLRA radio station and the Online Flyer also may utilize the camera.

Tom Skilling was a special guest at Lewis University’s Red Tie Ball—the *Signum Fidei* Celebration on September 13, 2014. He was presented with an honorary doctorate at Lewis University in 1995 for his distinguished career and mentorship of young people and all interested in meteorology, as well as for his weather forecasting, newscast expertise, and teaching viewers about the weather.

## Communication Students

# TAKE TO THE LIGHTS

Mass Communication students Marvin Gomez, Shane Gustafson and Jessica Resendiz spent their summer participating in multicultural summer radio/tv broadcasting internships at Univision Chicago, Chicago Tonight and Telemundo Chicago.

"I now have a better understanding of the different roles people have, and how hard they work to keep this station running with the number one news in Chicago, regardless of language," said Gomez, who interned for WGBO Univision Chicago Channel 66. He worked with the Creative Services Department, which is in charge of all video creations for the station and clients. Gomez assisted in the promotions for the studio audience, represented WGBO at various events throughout Chicago and helped edit commercials for clients.

Gustafson worked at the Chicago PBS affiliate WTTW 11, focusing primarily on the news and public affairs show, "Chicago Tonight." He also helped with the production of a restaurant review show, "Check, Please." Mostly responsible for producing for the show, Gustafson made seating charts, worked with producers to book guests, wrote stories that went to air, edited video, pre-interviewed guests, accompanied reporters on shoots in the field, made show rundowns, and contributed ideas for segments and stories at the daily staff meetings.

"The internship has helped me achieve my career goals because it gave me insight about the world of professional



*Shane Gustafson interns at WTTW's Chicago Tonight.*

television," said Gustafson. "It helped me realize what news is, what makes certain things more important than others, what working on a deadline is like and how to produce an hour-long live show. There is so much that goes into television production and reporting that many people don't get a chance to see, but I was able to experience it firsthand."

"The best part of my internship was being able to go out on a goose hunt with the reporters," said Resendiz, who interned at Telemundo Chicago. "I was able to assist in locating victims, finding clues that no other news station had, attend press conferences, and in some cases, I was able to be a part of helping individuals feel comfort and joy." She continued, "I am so grateful to be a student at Lewis University and to have great teachers that really take the time to provide their students with a good education."



## FREQUENT FLYER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

### 25% TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FOR LEWIS ALUMNI

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

**Admittance Period: Spring 2015 Term.** For more information regarding eligibility, please contact the Office of Graduate and Adult Admission at [grad@lewisu.edu](mailto:grad@lewisu.edu) or **(815) 836-5610**.

## Awards and Accolades Received Summer of 2014

### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

AVCA Team Academic Award

### MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

AVCA Team Academic Award

### WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

USTFCCCA  
All-Academic Team

### MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

USTFCCCA All-Academic Team

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

2013-14 NABCA Team Academic Excellence Award

Julian Lewis, Tyler Shapiro, Nick Valla: NABC Honors Court Award winners

### MEN'S SWIMMING

Victor Tarin: CSCAA Scholar All-American

Tyson Polock: CSCAA Honorable Mention Scholar All-American

2014 Spring CSCAA Team Scholar Award

### WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Montana Clasby: CSCAA Scholar All-American

Katie Hallenbeck, Cindy Jezuit, Caitlyn Scheirer: CSCAA Honorable Mention Scholar All-American

2014 Spring CSCAA Team Scholar Award

### WOMEN'S TENNIS

ITA All-Academic Team

Zsofia Kranczicki, Zsofia Lanstiak, Kendra Mills, Jill Wetmore: ITA Scholar-Athletes

Zsofia Kranczicki: GLVC Spring Scholar-Athlete of the Year

### MEN'S TENNIS

ITA All-Academic Team

Erik Aunapuu, Armand Levandi, Tom Logan: ITA Scholar-Athletes

Armand Levandi: GLVC Spring Scholar-Athlete of the Year

### WOMEN'S GOLF

Danielle Coffman, Jordan Nichols, Alexandra O'Laughlin: WGCA All-America Scholars

### MEN'S GOLF

Robert Dofflemyer: GLVC Spring Scholar-Athlete of the Year

### MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Dan Friend: CaptainU Men's Volleyball Coach of the Year

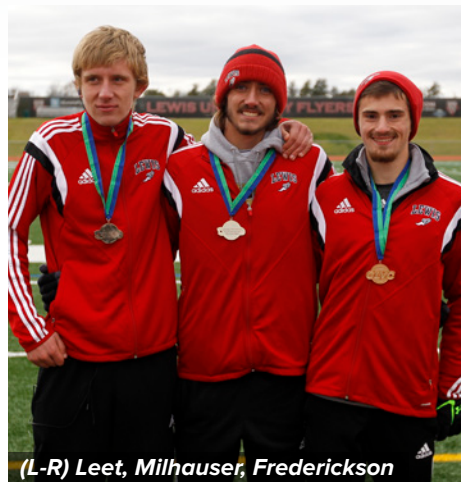
## Lewis Men's Cross Country Finishes Third At GLVC Championships

The future looks bright for the Lewis University men's cross country team, as four Flyers - all underclassmen - were feted by the Great Lakes Valley Conference on their way to finishing third overall at the 2014 8K GLVC Cross Country Championships at the Lewis Cross Country Course on November 8th.

Lewis' top three runners - all sophomores - were named to the All-GLVC Team, as each placed in the Top 15. Shawn Milhauser was the first Flyer to cross the finish line with an 8th place time of 25:11.58, while James Frederickson and Michael Leet finished 12th (25:24.24) and 13th (25:27.97) respectively.

Lewis' Dave Tahiraj claimed GLVC Freshman of the Year accolades following his 19th-place showing of 25:46.00. He is the first Flyer to earn that award since Andrew McLain picked it up in 2010.

"We had a lot of positives today," Lewis head men's cross country coach James



(L-R) Leet, Milhauser, Frederickson

Kearney said. "We're very young, but it's a matter of putting the pieces together on the right day and maybe we can pull this out in the very near future."

Lewis freshman Andrew Timmons was the final Flyer to cross the finish line with a time of 25:53.73.

Southern Indiana, led by individual champion Johnnie Guy (24:13.16), won the team title with 30 points.



Levandi



(L-R) Farrough, Bonsor

## Lewis Women's Cross Country Places Second At GLVC Championships

For the second-straight year, Lewis University's Amanda Farrough and Kristen Bonsor both turned in top five finishes as the Flyers placed second at the 2014 6K Great Lakes Valley Conference Cross Country Championships at the Lewis Cross Country Course on November 8th.

The second-place showing was the highest finish by a Lewis squad since they won the team title in 1997. Southern Indiana won the overall title with 41 points, while Bellarmine's Emily Frith won the race with a time of 21:29.27.

Farrough placed second with a time of 21:38.48, while Bonsor was fifth (21:54.95). For their efforts, they have been named to the All-GLVC Team.

"To have both Amanda and Kristen in the top five is huge for us," Lewis head women's cross country coach James Kearney said. "They've been doing it big for us all year, and I couldn't be prouder."

Lewis redshirt junior Jaime Hershfang narrowly missed All-Conference honors with a 17th-place finish of 22:39.48. Flyer junior Paige Gatter placed 30th (23:07.31), while senior Monica Hahn rounded out the pack with a 31st-place time of 23:09.13.

"Year by year, we're getting closer and I think soon enough, we can hopefully figure out a way to win this thing," Kearney said.



## Lewis Men's Soccer Nets Five On All-GLVC Teams

The defense of the Lewis University men's soccer team was soundly recognized by the Great Lakes Valley Conference, as they accounted for three of the Flyers' five selections to the 2014 All-GLVC Men's Soccer Team, announced on November 6th.

In 19 games, Lewis surrendered just 15 goals on the campaign and pitched a total of eight shutouts. In all, the Flyers allowed just 0.74 goals-per-game in 2014.

Lewis senior defender David Pyle was named to the All-GLVC First Team, while senior goalkeeper Omar Ramirez was tabbed to the All-GLVC Second Team. Lewis junior back Isaac Sutton earned All-GLVC Third Team accolades for the second-straight season.

Offensively, Lewis senior forward George Thomson was named to the All-GLVC Second Team for the third time in his career. Thomson topped the Flyers with a career-high nine goals, including three game-winners, and 19 points. Flyer junior forward Robert Zieba picked up All-GLVC Third Team honors, as he posted three goals, two of which were game-winners.



## Lewis Men's Basketball Selected No. 17 In NABC/Division II Preseason Rankings

The Lewis University men's basketball team earned its third preseason Top 20 selection, as the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) pegged them for No. 17 in the country in the NABC/Division II Preseason Poll, released on November 6th.

The Flyers previously had been tabbed No. 11, according to DII Bulletin, and No. 17 by Basketball Times. They are one of three Great Lakes Valley Conference teams to be ranked in the NABC poll, including Drury (No. 6) and Bellarmine (No. 10).

Lewis returns two-time All-GLVC First Team and All-NABC Midwest District Second Team selection Ryan Jackson to the court. Jackson, who is also a Preseason Honorable Mention All-American (Sporting News/Division II Bulletin) and Preseason All-American (Basketball Times), has started all 82 games that he has appeared in for Lewis and is averaging 15.9 points-per-game.

Jackson is joined by 2014 All-GLVC Second Team selection in senior point guard Jeff Jarosz. Last season was a breakout year for the Lyons, Ill., native, as he averaged a career-best 13.7 points-per-game and dished out 80 assists with only 26 turnovers.

Senior forward Julian Lewis earned his second-straight All-GLVC Defensive Team selection in 2014, but he was able to get it done on both ends of the court as well. In 2013-14, Lewis averaged 14.3 points-per-game and grabbed a team-best 8.7 rebounds.

## Title Bid For Levandi Falls Short At USTA/ITA National Small College Tennis Championships

The national title bid for Lewis University senior Armand Levandi fell short, as Armstrong State's Fernando Bogajo claimed the 6-1, 6-4 win and USTA/ITA National Small College Men's Tennis singles championship at the Palmetto Tennis Center on Saturday (Oct. 11) morning.

Levandi, who finished fourth at the 2013 National Small College Championships, saw his 27-match winning streak come to an end. His overall performance, however, was not lost on Lewis head men's tennis coach Brett Bridel.

"Armand's opponent played better than him today and got the win," Bridel said. "(Armand) has done some amazing things for our tennis program.

"I am very proud of him and the way he represents Lewis University."

En route to the title match, Levandi defeated Bluefield's Anthony Braem (6-1, 6-0) and Concordia's Manuel Righi (6-1, 6-0).

## Lewis Athletics Announces Flyer Friends And Family Crowdfunding Campaign

The Lewis University Athletics Department, in conjunction with the Lewis University Office of Advancement, is proud to introduce the Flyer Friends And Family Crowdfunding Campaign, which will run from October 28th to December 31st.

Crowdfunding is the practice of funding a project or venture by raising monetary contributions from a large number of people, typically via the Internet. It is immensely popular and has allowed countless numbers of organizations across the country raise funds for special projects with an extensive reach that cannot be matched. Everywhere you look on the Lewis University campus, there are multiple examples of private support impacting the student experience. From scholarships

to faculty, buildings to programs, and technology to athletics, each gift made to Lewis helps to create an exceptional, well-rounded educational experience for students – including student-athletes.

This campaign aims to support all Lewis student-athletes and help them maintain the resources necessary to once again be one of the top Division II athletic programs in the nation. Last season, Lewis finished in the Top 10% of Division II and 28th overall in the Learfield Director's Cup - which is a program that measures overall athletic excellence - for the 2013-14 school year.

The Flyer Friends and Family Crowdfunding Campaign will help our 20 intercollegiate athletic teams raise funds for specific equipment, travel

and training enhancements for their program. With one click of a button, our staff and student-athletes can reach their internal network via social media channels, such as Twitter and Facebook.

"Lewis University Intercollegiate Athletics has had some great accomplishments in recent years," Lewis Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek said. "With the support of the University and donors who can participate in our crowdfunding efforts, we can do even greater things."

Lewis student-athletes work as hard in the classroom as they do on the field, court, course, or in the pool. They dedicate countless hours to practice and excelling in their sport. Academically, we have a Student-Athlete Academic

Success Rate of 86% and collectively, all 20 Flyer teams combined for a cumulative grade-point-average of 3.28 in 2013-14.

Every gift made to this campaign contributes to the training, opportunities, and success for Lewis athletes, and to building an even stronger athletic and educational foundation.



Pearl

## Lewis Tabs Becky Pearl As New Head Softball Coach

Lewis University Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek announced on July 21 that he has hired Becky (Stenning) Pearl as the fifth head softball coach in Flyer history.

"I am so excited for this opportunity," Pearl said. "Lewis has a great tradition of excellence both on and off the field, and I feel blessed to have this opportunity."

"I'm looking forward to meeting the team and starting this new chapter of my life."

Pearl, who has served as the Judson University head softball coach since 2004, takes over for George DiMatteo, who announced his retirement following the 2014 campaign.

"Coach Pearl will be a great addition to the Lewis coaching staff," Planek said. "Her head coaching experience, knowing the Chicagoland recruiting landscape and her pitching expertise really gives her a strong foundation to lead the Flyer program."

"You can't replace Coach DiMatteo and all that he meant to the softball program and Lewis University for over 30 years, but Coach Pearl will continue on this path of excellence that has been forged."

In 10 seasons, Pearl set a school-record with over 250 victories and helped Judson advance to the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) Tournament six times, with three third-place finishes. In 2011, Pearl guided the Eagles to their first-ever Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) championship and was named the CCAC Coach of the Year for her efforts. That year, she was awarded the first of her three NCCAA Regional Coach of the Year awards, including being honored as the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Regional Coach of the Year.

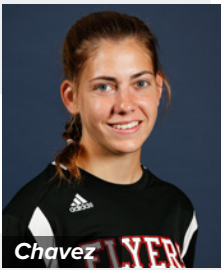
The Eagles had a plethora of individual success under Pearl, as she coached 32 NCCAA All-Region players, 27 CCAC All-Conference players, 21 NCCAA All-American players, six NCCAA All-Tournament players, three NFCA All-Region players, two CCAC Freshmen of the Year

and two NAIA All-Region selections. Most recently, Pearl coached the 2014 North Central Region Player and Pitcher of the Year.

Pearl's players are traditionally excellent in the classroom. During her tenure, Pearl has coached 15 NCCAA Academic All-Americans, 10 NAIA Scholar-Athletes, five NFCA All-Academic Teams, four NAIA Scholar Team Award winners and one College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-American.

Prior to her arrival in Elgin, Pearl spent seven years at Illinois Wesleyan both as a player (1998-2001) and as an assistant coach (2001-04). In those seven seasons, the Titans won 242 games, went to four NCAA Division III National Tournaments, won six College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) Championships, one NCAA Regional Championship and finished third in the nation in 2003. Pearl was a member of the IWU staff that was named the 2003 CCIW Coaching Staff of the Year.





Chavez

## Lewis' Chavez And Moran Named To Women's Soccer All-GLVC Second Team

Lewis University junior forwards Jessica Chavez and Maggie Moran were named to the 2014 All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Women's Soccer Second Team, as announced by the league office.

Chavez finished with a team-high six goals while tying for the team lead in assists with Moran with four.

In GLVC games only, Chavez finished with 14 points, fifth best in the conference. Her 0.31 assists per game in GLVC matches ranked sixth. Chavez had a goal and an assist in Lewis' 3-2 win at Indianapolis. The Flyers rallied from a two-goal deficit to win the contest. Chavez has been named All-GLVC each of her three seasons at Lewis. As a freshman she was named to the All-GLVC Third Team. Last year she picked up All-GLVC Second Team honors. Chavez joins Nancy Reyes (1995-97) as the only three-time All-GLVC honorees in program history.

Moran recorded three goals and four assists. Her best game of the season came late in the year when the Flyers topped Saint Joseph's 3-0. Moran had a goal and assisted on the other two tallies. This is Moran's second All-GLVC honor of her career. Last year she was named to the All-GLVC Third Team.

The pair helped Lewis finish the regular season on a five-match unbeaten streak to qualify for the GLVC Tournament for the second time in three seasons. Lewis finished the year with a 5-7-6 overall mark and a 5-5-5 record in GLVC play.

## Lewis Women's Hoops Defeats Loyola, NIU and Marquette In Exhibition Games

They say there is a first for everything, and the Lewis University women's basketball team proved it even before their season started.

Lewis backed up their early season accolades by becoming the first Division II, Division III or NAIA team to defeat three NCAA Division I opponents in the exhibition season. The Flyers opened up on Nov. 4 with an 83-61 victory at Loyola over the Sheryl Swoopes coached Ramblers. Lewis came back on Nov. 8 to top Northern Illinois 60-49. The Flyers capped the exhibition season with a 75-72 victory at BIG EAST member

Marquette. Senior Jess Reinhart had a game-high 24 points in the contest. Reinhart averaged 15.7 points and 9.0 rebounds over the three contests.

Lewis' performance in the exhibition contests came on the heels of a No. 9 ranking in the nation according to the preseason *USA Today Sports* Division II Top 25 Women's Basketball Poll.

The Flyers earned 404 points. The poll is voted on by 33 coaching members of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA). Four Great Lakes Valley Conference teams

received votes in the poll and Drury earned the No. 3 ranking.

Lewis' No. 9 ranking is close to the highest in school history. The 2006-07 squad holds that title, reaching a high of No. 7 during the season.

"When you have that label of a top 10 team you get each opponent's best game," Lewis head coach Lisa Carlsen said. "I think that's a challenge this group is excited about."

Lewis completed 2013-14 with a 23-6 overall record and a 16-2 record in the GLVC. The Flyers qualified for the NCAA Tournament for the third time in four seasons last year.



Thode

## Men's Golf Wins Championships In Record-Setting Fall

Saying Lewis men's golf finished the fall season strong would be an understatement.

In the last round of the season, junior Alex Thode fired a program-record 66 at the Matt Dyas Invite hosted by West Georgia. Thode finished fourth overall at the event thanks to a 212 (74-72-66) performance. Thode had a sensational fall season, averaging 73.3 over eight rounds. His performance in September

earned him Great Lakes Valley Conference Men's Golfer of the Month honors.

Thode was crucial in Lewis' victory at the UW-Parkside Fall Invitational on Sept. 15-16. He finished five under par and won the individual title. It was Lewis' first victory of the fall. The Flyers also took home the team title in the Midwest Regional #2, hosted by Missouri-St. Louis. Lewis earned a team score of 581 (287-294). Junior Robert Dofflemyer III won the event for the Flyers 142 (71-71).



VanSistine

## Women's Golf Wins Two Events During Fall Season

Three individual championships, two team championships and a conference golfer of the month award. It is safe to say it was a successful fall season for the Lewis women's golf team.

The Flyers won the team title at the 15-team Wolf Pack Invitational, hosted by Colorado State-Pueblo. Lewis closed the fall with another championship in Arkansas-Monticello's Commercial Bank Fall Classic. Sophomore Rachel Sweeney used a score of 157 (76-81) to win the individual championship in Arkansas.

Sophomore Melissa VanSistine was medalist at the season opening Prairie State Preview on Sept. 5, hosted by Lewis at Prairie Buff Golf Course. Her championship along with a third place finish at the Wolfpack Invite and a second place performance at Southern Indiana's Screamin' Eagle Invite earned her Great Lakes Valley Conference Women's Golfer of the Month honors for September. VanSistine recorded an average of 77.4 in the month.

The Flyers' final individual title came Oct. 6-7 in the Cougar Golf Classic hosted by Division I Chicago State. Freshman Hannah Schultz won the title with a two-day total of 154 (79-75).



Reinhart

# GIFTS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

## LIBRARY RECEIVES GRANT TO ENHANCE MIDDLE EASTERN HISTORY

The Lewis University Library received a \$4,000 Library Acquisition Grant from the Institute of Turkish Studies. This is the second grant awarded to Lewis from the Institute in Washington, D.C. The grant funds library resources for faculty and students studying Middle Eastern history and culture. The materials will also have wide interest for



students in history, literature, political science, and contemporary global studies among other academic areas.

“We’re pleased with the new resources and grateful to Dr. James Tallon, Assistant Professor of History, for securing this second grant. The new additions will enhance our offerings to students interested in this area of study,” Thomas Urbanski, Library Director said.

Since 1983, the Institute of Turkish Studies has sponsored an annual grant program that offers a variety of awards to scholars, colleges and universities in the United States. The principal purpose of the grant program is to support and encourage the development of research, scholarship, and learning in the field of Turkish Studies in the U.S.

## AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HUMAN GENETICS AWARDS GRANT

Dr. Erin Zimmer, Professor of Biology, was awarded a two-year grant entitled, “Living in a Genomic World: Tools to Evaluate Students’ Understanding of Genetic Data and Complex Traits” for the Genetics Education Research Project from the American Society of Human Genetics.

Working with Dr. Rivka Glaser from Stevenson University in Maryland, Dr. Zimmer was awarded the grant to explore genetic variation in complex traits in genetic curriculum, to identify gaps in current genetics concept inventories apropos complex traits, and to develop pedagogical resources and assessment tools to repair those gaps.

“We saw the need to expose students to genomic technologies, allow them to explore ‘big data,’ and help them make the connection between genetic variation and disease risk,” said Dr. Zimmer. “This project will develop the tools so that genetic educators nationwide can incorporate these concepts into the undergraduate classroom.”



## ALFONSO MONTERO NAMED A DFI FELLOW

Alfonso Montero, a doctoral candidate in the Educational Leadership for Teaching and Learning (Ed.D.) program, was recently named a DFI Fellow by the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) program. The Fellowship award provides approximately \$10,000 in financial assistance to students of an underrepresented group completing graduate degrees.

“This fellowship will provide me additional support to achieve my career goals of working as a critical transformative educator in an institution of higher education,” said Montero, who currently works as a student success specialist at Lewis University while pursuing his doctoral degree. He plans on using the funds to continue participating in national and international scholarly conferences and research studies.

“Overall, the DFI Fellow Program will provide an additional outlet for helping me grow and succeed during my doctoral studies and beyond as a global citizen in an interconnected, globalized environment, through research, innovation and civic engagement,” added Montero.

The goal of DFI is to increase the number of minority full-time tenure track faculty and staff at Illinois’ two- and four-year, public and private colleges and universities.

## \$50,000 GRANT FROM THE AILEEN S. ANDREW FOUNDATION

The Aileen S. Andrew Foundation continued its longtime support of science education at Lewis with a grant of \$50,000 to support the foundation's endowed scholarship fund for students majoring in mathematics or the sciences, as well as the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE). The SURE program is a ten week, annual summer research experience where six to eight undergraduate science majors work directly with faculty members on an original research project. The interdisciplinary science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) research program allows students majoring in any STEM field to play an integral role in cutting edge faculty-led research.

Given the national importance of remaining competitive in scientific innovation, Lewis University is committed to providing effective programs which prepare students to enter careers in the science and technology fields. Recent research has shown that one of the most significant factors in retaining students in science and technology majors is participation in undergraduate research. Students who are engaged in learning through discovery are much more likely to continue careers in the sciences, as they have had the experience of actually contributing to their field. The National Science Board has endorsed undergraduate research programs as crucial to preparing the next generation of scientists, and maintaining U.S. technological leadership.

Universities such as Lewis produce about 70% of all science and engineering bachelor's degree holders, according to 2010 NSF Science Indicators. For this reason, Lewis began offering a Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program in 2010. Lab research work includes discipline-specific research team meetings and educational field trips. The concluding symposium allows students to demonstrate their knowledge of global science issues, direct application of the scientific method, and presentation skills.

## GOLDEN FLYERS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The Golden Flyers Society at Lewis University recognizes those alumni who graduated from Lewis 50 or more years ago. Each year a new Golden Anniversary class is inducted into the Golden Flyers Society, and they are invited to celebrate with their reunion class and with more than 600 current members.

In 2014, the Golden Flyers Scholarship effort was initiated to celebrate the legacy of these special alumni. Once the scholarship is fully endowed, preference will be given to students with a minimum 3.0 GPA, documented financial need and who are descendants of a Golden Flyer. Applicants will be asked how they intend to honor the legacy of the Golden Flyers and contribute to Lewis and society.

If you have any questions, or would like to make a gift to this fund, please contact the Office of University Advancement at (815) 836-5244 during business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Central Time.



*The Girls Create with Technology program aims to introduce girls to the exciting field of Computer Science*

## CATERPILLAR FOUNDATION SUPPORTS PROGRAMMING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

The Caterpillar Foundation granted Lewis University \$10,000 to support a middle school computing program to be offered to 20 Joliet middle school-age girls. The Girls Create with Technology program is coordinated by Dr. Cindy Howard, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, and is designed to address the gender disparity among technology workers by introducing girls to computer science faculty and university student mentors.

Women are still underrepresented in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and computer science careers, according to a recent study by the American Association of University Women. Research shows that middle school is an important time to reach girls because many of them lose confidence in their abilities in science and math.

The Girls Create with Technology program complements Caterpillar Foundation's mission, which is to turn the spiral of poverty into a path to prosperity through the investment in women and girls. The program is designed to expand their horizons by helping them to learn more about tech careers, and how those careers can be attainable for them.

## Your Gift Today Will Make a Difference Forever

Have you ever considered including Lewis University in your will or living trust? Called a charitable bequest, this type of gift allows you to acknowledge Lewis in a meaningful way, make a lasting difference in the lives of future generations of our students and add to your own personal legacy. Best of all, you will be securing Lewis' future with a gift that will cost you nothing during your lifetime!

*The following is a sample of the language your attorney may use to include the University in your plans:*

### Unrestricted Bequest:

"I give [\_\_\_ dollars or \_\_\_ percent of my estate] [a specific asset] or [the remainder of my estate] to Lewis University, a charitable, tax-exempt organization located in Romeoville, Illinois, for its general purposes."

### Bequest for a Specific Purpose

"I give [\_\_\_ dollars or \_\_\_ percent of my estate] [a specific asset] or [the remainder of my estate] to Lewis University, a charitable, tax-exempt organization located in Romeoville, Illinois, to be used for the following purpose: [state the purpose]."

NOTE: It is important to us that we show our appreciation for your commitment and thoughtfulness, so we encourage you to let us know of your charitable bequest for Lewis. We will take great delight in welcoming you to the Harold E. White Legacy Society, a group of special friends of Lewis University who have elected to help ensure the long-term well-being of the University.

For more information, or to learn about other ways you can include Lewis in your estate plans, contact Robert Kanonik, JD, Director of Planned Giving, at [kanoniro@lewisu.edu](mailto:kanoniro@lewisu.edu) or by phone at (815) 836-5813.



## RED TIE BALL BENEFITS MISSION FUND

Lewis University reported record-breaking results from the Red Tie Ball-*Signum Fidei* (Sign of Faith) 16th Annual Celebration, held September 13 at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago. Exceptional support by sponsors and the more than 425 guests who attended netted almost \$270,000 for the Mission Fund, which provides scholarships for students facing financial hardships.

Focusing on the University's past, present and future, the event included an opening reception with scenes highlighting the history of Lewis, followed by a five-course gourmet dinner and interactive entertainment including a video presentation. A highly successful live auction and raffle preceded dancing to the Dan Hayes Orchestra.

Tom Skilling, chief meteorologist for WGN-TV, attended as a special guest and spoke briefly about the new WeatherBug camera on the Lewis main campus, which WGN-TV placed to assist with weather forecasting for regions southwest of Chicago.

Student volunteers, many with scholarships, were at the event to assist guests and serve as ambassadors for the University. Noelle Trainor, a senior Broadcast Journalism major, served as host of a University interactive video tour. In addition, Theatre students presented an original musical selection, written and directed by Professor Keith White '77.

Samantha Brain, a Mission Fund recipient, provided a heartfelt thank you to those in attendance for their support, providing guests with an example of what their generosity does for students. "I am a senior majoring in Chemistry with a minor in Physics," she said. "During my sophomore year, my family experienced unexpected medical and financial hardships, and without a scholarship from the Mission Fund, I would not have been able to continue my studies at Lewis. When I was a little girl, I never really saw myself becoming a scientist. I never even thought I was capable of doing the things I have done at Lewis! When I met Dr. Jason Keleher, Chair of the Chemistry Department, he inspired me to aim high and instilled in me a passion for the sciences and the confidence to pursue research," she continued.

Since 2009, approximately 250 students have been able to continue their pursuit of a Lewis degree through additional support provided by the Mission Fund. Visit [lewisu.edu/RedTieBall](http://lewisu.edu/RedTieBall) to learn more about the event and view pictures and video from this year's celebration.



# RED TIE BALL

THE SIGNUM FIDEI CELEBRATION • LEWIS UNIVERSITY

*CLOCKWISE: More than 425 guests attended this year's gala at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago.*

*Brother James Gaffney, FSC, welcomes WGN-TV chief meteorologist Tom Skilling to the event.*

*Philip Lynch Theatre students perform original lyrics written by Professor Keith White '77 during the evening's program.*

*Pamela Nast, Angelique Parker and her husband, Board of Trustee Member Michael Parker, visit with Brother James Gaffney, FSC, during the Red Tie Ball.*





## AAR Corporation

Many companies find Lewis University to be a great resource for cultivating exceptional talent. AAR Corporation, based out of Wood Dale, Ill., is one employer finding many talented students and alumni to bring on board. The aerospace and defense company has consistently found Lewis students and alumni to be equipped with a well-rounded education and the skills needed to make AAR successful.

*The Mid-Skills Gap in Middle America: Building Today's Workforce* is a report commissioned by AAR which examines the workforce challenges facing companies across the Midwest. It also describes the innovative approaches AAR is using to find talented workers for its career opportunities. Greg Dellinger, previously Director of Recruiting and now Director of Government Affairs, says AAR "is very concerned about the next generation of aviation workers that will fuel the economy and future growth of Romeoville, Will County and the State of Illinois." In light of this, AAR has attended many career fairs and aviation events at Lewis University, where he says the students have the knowledge and dedication to provide outstanding service to the customers and the company.

AAR Corp. is not only interested in students who are well-educated in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, but also in business. In the past, students have received valuable experience including an internal auditing internship, while others have gone on to full-time employment with the company. In fact, one recent graduate was hired thanks to a Career Fair on campus, and will join the 12 alumni who are proud to call AAR their employer. Greg was impressed by how Lewis not only prepares students to be well-educated, but also to have a fresh perspective, be familiar with technology, have an exceptional attitude to serving customers and a strong desire to support the growth of the organization.

In addition to numerous alumni who work at AAR, Lewis and AAR share a common board member, James E. Goodwin, parent of alumnus James Goodwin '93. **Want to learn how you or your company can benefit from the Lewis University Alumni Association and Office of Career Services? Visit our website at [alumni.lewisu.edu/CareerServices](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/CareerServices).**



## Letter from the Alumni Office

It is always so exciting watching the campus come back to life with the activity that accompanies the students' returns. Their enthusiasm is palpable as they attend classes, get involved with organizations and plug themselves into the campus experience. The students aren't the only ones who are

reinvigorated with a new school year. It also brings about a wealth of volunteer opportunities for our alumni.

In order to provide an outlet for alumni to volunteer and reconnect with faculty and students, the Lewis University Alumni Association created Lewis FAVS – the Flyer Alumni Volunteers. This new program strives to place alumni in meaningful, effective volunteer opportunities on campus. Some examples of volunteer activities include speaking to student groups, helping graduates get ready at commencement, and writing letters to students who are considering attending Lewis, but have not yet committed.

Are you passionate about your alma mater? Do you want to help take Lewis University to ever greater heights? If so, consider visiting [alumni.lewisu.edu/volunteer](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/volunteer) to fill out our volunteer application form online. It's a great way to share your time and talents with faculty, students, and other alumni who could benefit.

Go Flyers!

Reggie Bustinza, Director of Alumni Relations

## Aviation Alumni Organization Looking for Interested Alumni

The Lewis University Aviation Alumni Organization (LU-AAO) is interested in locating alumni who would like to help plan networking, professional development events and social activities for aviation alumni. The committees meet monthly via conference call to plan opportunities for all Lewis aviation alumni. If you would like to get involved with a LU-AAO committee, please contact Joe Volin '08, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations at [volinjo@lewisu.edu](mailto:volinjo@lewisu.edu) or (815) 836-5472.

## Lewis University Nursing Alumni Network Continues Providing Opportunities

The Lewis University Nursing Alumni Network (LU-NAN) will host opportunities for alumni to get involved this coming year and asks for your feedback and support in making these events a success. LU-NAN provides professional development and networking opportunities to alumni from the College of Nursing and Health Professions. To learn more about LU-NAN events please visit [alumni.lewisu.edu/LUNAN](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/LUNAN) or to get involved with a committee, please contact Joe Volin '08, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations at [volinjo@lewisu.edu](mailto:volinjo@lewisu.edu) or (815) 836-5472.

## Save the dates

**12.05.14**

**President's Circle Dinner**

**12.07.14**

**Cookies with Santa**

9am - Noon  
Register online

[alumni.lewisu.edu/cookies](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/cookies)

**01.16.15**

**01.17.15**

**Men's and Women's Volleyball Alumni Gathering**

[alumni.lewisu.edu/volleyball](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/volleyball)

**01.31.15**

**Alumni Day & All Decades Team**

[alumni.lewisu.edu/events](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/events)

**06.05.15**

**Golf Outing**

[alumni.lewisu.edu/golf](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/golf)



## The Pratl Family: A Tradition of Giving

Dr. Don Pratl, a 1981 graduate and a member of the Lewis University Alumni Association Board of Directors, says his family's tradition of being involved goes back to his parents and grandparents – role models who he says were very active in their community and church. Don and his wife Rita have also been involved in church and community, leading by example and instilling that sense of volunteerism in their three children. Don is active in the family's Chicago Ridge community as a volunteer coach, in church ministries and by serving on the local Library Board and Village Board.

"It's easy to take on those roles," Don humbly said. "It's important to me and I'm grateful that it has affected Lauren and my other daughters in such a positive way."

Lauren '14, who graduated with her degree in Accounting and works as a Junior Accountant at Tripp Lite in Chicago, has been volunteering from an early age. Lauren said, "I get involved because of my family and everything I've seen them do. My parents have always volunteered - that's been a big part of my life growing up."

As a dedicated student-athlete at Lewis, Lauren spent most of her time with the women's softball team. Although she was very happy being a part of a team, by the end of Lauren's junior year she felt that something was missing in her life.

"I loved it. I got lucky because I had a family of 22 girls, a kind of huge sisterhood. But I wanted more," she said. "I was used to being more involved in my school."

An opportunity to fill that void manifested itself in the form of an e-mail that was sent looking for applicants to fill open positions within the Lewis University Student Governing Board (SGB). Lauren applied and landed an interview. She told the coordinators of SGB that if they were willing to work with her softball schedule, she knew she would do a great job for the organization.

"They took a chance on me," Lauren said. She was elected SGB Treasurer during her senior year.

One of the goals that Lauren set out with – and achieved – was to bring the student-athletes and the members of student organizations together according to Sean Fagan '10 (M.A.), Associate Director of Student Development and Leadership.

"Being a student-athlete, Lauren was able to be a voice for students that had not typically been a strong presence within SGB. More than that, Lauren helped bridge a gap between the athletes and SGB. This brought about an unparalleled amount of cooperation between these two groups. SGB events saw increased athlete participation, and when athletics asked for some extra student support, SGB helped deliver," Fagan said.

One specific example of Lauren working to bridge the gap was when SGB hosted a Spring Leadership Retreat last year and students were invited to hear from professors and members of the administration speak about their areas of expertise.

"I helped advertise this program with athletics and we had several groups of athletes come for the day. It was great to see a mix of students from Greek life, academic clubs and athletics all come together," Lauren said.



Although it was a challenge balancing school work, softball practices and SGB meetings, becoming the Treasurer of SGB provided that missing piece of service for Lauren and getting involved at a deeper level at Lewis gave her great satisfaction. She remembers being dressed up for SGB General Assembly meetings, changing into her softball clothes and sprinting to practice. Other times she would leave softball practice and head straight to her night class. Somehow, Lauren even found time to be a member of the 2014 Senior Challenge Committee, a student-driven fundraising effort which ended up raising \$10,755.87, an event she's especially proud of.

"When I was wondering what I was missing, I realized I wanted to do more at Lewis and for Lewis. During my senior year, working as Student Government Treasurer, it all came together."

Being a part of student government also runs in the family. Don was the President of Student Government during his senior year at Lewis. He even has a Heritage Circle Brick outside the Sancta Alberta Chapel that reads, "Don Pratl, The Prez" (Lauren said that her brick will join his soon) and he spoke at the SGB Spring Leadership Retreat that Lauren worked on as a former President.

As the President of Student Government, Don worked closely with Joseph Falese '78 '84, Senior Vice President for Student Services and Special Assistant to the President for Alumni Development (formerly Director of Student Life and Housing at the time) and Dr. Paul Kaiser, who was the Dean of Students and with whom Don became "fast friends". (Dr. Kaiser retired from Lewis in 2007 as Professor *Emeritus*.)

"Don was very bright and very hard-working. He looked at SGB in a broad perspective. He wanted to make it a formal structure, a link between students and the administration. He took his job seriously," Falese said of Don.

"I remember him to be very forthright and direct," Dr. Kaiser recalls. "He had a great sense of humor and a winning personality."

Before becoming "The Prez" of Lewis' student government, Don attended another university but left because it wasn't the right fit for him. He began working for the Illinois Department of



## By the numbers

Transportation (IDOT) at the facility on Caton Farm Road and spent a lot of time driving up and down Rt. 53, passing Lewis while cleaning the road in the summer and plowing it in the winter.

"I drove past Lewis thousands of times. One day I sent a letter to the registrar, Bob Kempiak '66, asking how to apply to Lewis. I drove the plow up the driveway and onto campus to deliver my transcripts."

As a working student, he had late afternoon and evening classes and it was in one of those classes that he met Rev. Kevin Spiess, Professor in the College of Business, who was a caring and influential professor for Don.

"He wanted to help me. He knew I wanted to be successful and that I was on my own figuring out college and my future. He became a mentor. I think very kindly of him," Don said.

Don and Father Spiess often talked about education, something that Don has always been very passionate about. Although he went to Lewis to become a teacher, Don earned a position at the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE) after he graduated and made a career for himself there.

On September 11, 2001, the company that Don worked for, Carr Futures, was greatly impacted by the terror attacks on the World Trade Center towers. All of their New York employees were killed that day.

"After 9/11, I thought a lot about how all of those people never got to do what they really wanted to do," Don recalls with tears in his eyes and a lump in his throat.

He decided then to return to his true passion for teaching. He received his Ph.D. from Capella University, and as a result, a steady stream of adjunct teaching positions flowed in from Moraine Valley Community College, Robert Morris University and Olivet Nazarene University. Yet Don recalls a special encounter that helped him earn a teaching job much closer to his heart.

At one of Lauren's softball games, Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University, asked Don which player was his daughter. They struck up a conversation about Lauren and how Don is an alumnus of Lewis, and Don gave Brother James his business card. When Brother James commented on the Ph.D. in Don's title, he asked Don if he ever thought about teaching at Lewis.

"I think about it all the time," Don told him. He recalls that Brother James responded by saying, "I think you should. This is your home." Don applied for a teaching position, and he has been an adjunct business instructor in the School for Professional and Continuing Education since 2012.

"It's been a great two years," Don said. "I loved returning to Lewis with Lauren, and I love continuing on as an instructor."

Both Don and Lauren Pratl continue their service within their community and at Lewis. Don is a member of the District 218s Board of Education, which includes his alma mater, Richards High School. He has been on the Lewis University Alumni Association Board of Directors for the past six years. Both Don and Lauren are Eucharistic Ministers in their parish. Lauren will be volunteering as a coach for the 6th grade girls' volleyball team at Our Lady of the Ridge School and is looking to stay connected to Lewis through different volunteer initiatives.

Don and Lauren Pratl exemplify a family working together to extend the value of their Lewis education in the community by giving back.

**80%** Each year for the past two years, more than 80% of Lewis **faculty and staff have made a charitable gift** in support of the University.

**87%** of Fall 2013 Lewis University undergraduate students have **received some form of financial aid**.

**2,312** The number of **alumni who financially contributed to Lewis** in the 2013-14 fiscal year, which marked a new all-time high. Alumni support of the University is one of a number of criterion examined by *U.S. News & World Report* in determining its annual rankings of colleges and universities across the country.

**186** Lewis has more than 186 **privately-funded scholarships** named in memory or honor of loved ones, faculty, alumni and students.

**7,700** Lewis University **Phonathon Callers contact** approximately 7,700 alumni each year.

**800** More than 800 **parents donate annually** to Lewis to support scholarships, campus improvement and athletics.

**30K** Since 2011, Lewis Seniors have donated more than \$30,000 through the **Senior Challenge Campaign**.

Change a life. Make a gift at  
[alumni.lewisu.edu/give](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/give)



## Inspiring Young Women

Now, more than ever, young women need safe places and inspiring mentors to help them grow and thrive. Lewis alumna Gwendolyn L. Young, MS '13, is working to provide assistance to these young women as Executive Director of the Seed of Hope Foundation. A not-for-profit organization, The Foundation offers life skills programs to teenage girls in the area of Westchester, Bellwood, Maywood, Broadview, and LaGrange Park. For the past five years, the foundation has "devoted its energy to passionately advocating for the emotional healing and leadership development of minority, under-represented teenage girls."

During her tenure as the Executive Director, she has worked to obtain more than \$30,000 in gifts from individual donors. She has also procured many institutional and corporate sponsorships, and increased the volunteer and donor bases by an impressive 100% since 2009.

To continue securing a strong future, Gwendolyn has developed an exceptionally strong board of directors – including leadership from Lewis University. Her efforts have paid off, as the Seed of Hope Foundation achieved the *GreatNonProfits.Org's* Top Rated Non-Profit Designation in 2012 and 2013 in addition to earning a Gold Level Designation from GuideStar. While her work is extremely important, Gwendolyn's family always comes first – her husband, James of 18 years and three children: Jacquelynne, 22, James, 21, and Justin, 19. Gwendolyn's mother-daughter team efforts with her own daughter, Jacquelynne, include writing a book entitled *20 Tips for Building Stronger Mother-Daughter Relationships*.



*Gwendolyn L. Young '13 (M.A.) is the Executive Director of the Seed of Hope Foundation. The organization offers life skills programs to teenage girls. Photo courtesy of Gwendolyn L. Young.*

Gwendolyn enjoyed her coursework at Lewis University and found that she was able to implement new ideas in her own organization, especially those in strategic planning and servant leadership to create successful programs, and succeed she did. She recently returned to campus

to make a presentation at the Celebrating Women in Leadership Conference. In addition to her position at Seed of Hope, Gwendolyn is the Sr. Executive Planning Strategist for G.L. Young Consulting Corporation, a full-service consulting firm dedicated to serving small businesses and nonprofits. She helps clients across five states implement strategic operating plans to increase efficiency, accountability and client attraction. Recently, she was chosen to serve as a Stevie Awards preliminary round judge for Women in Business. She was also honored in 2013

by the *Daily Herald Business Ledger* – in partnership with the National Association of Women Business Owners Chicago Chapter and the Women's Innovation Network as an "Influential Women in Business." In 2012, her work in the community was recognized by Passages Alternative Living, Inc., which awarded her the Elizabeth Tipton Girls Mentoring Award. BoardSource selected her as one of 20 emerging leaders in the United States and awarded her the 2012 Judith O'Connor Scholar Award for Emerging Nonprofit Leaders.

"It takes the efforts of the whole community," she said. "People working together can achieve tremendous results."

## Taking Education Global

During his days at Joliet Catholic High School and then Lewis University, Joe "Tip" McFadden '54 knew he wanted to become a teacher; what he didn't know is how far his dreams would take him. From Chicago all the way to Ireland, Joe continued to build educational opportunities to provide the best quality of education to students.

"Teaching was and is my joy and vocation in life. In 1960, driving home from class while studying for my master's degree, I decided to stop at Lewis to pay Gordon Gillespie a visit. Gordie had been instrumental in encouraging me to become involved in coaching at JCHS in football and track," explains Dr. McFadden. "Gordie

asked me what I wanted to do with my life. I wanted to teach at the university level. He informed me that the Christian Brothers were about to assume control of Lewis University and I should apply for a position."

Dr. McFadden's response was, "I am not finished with my master's degree and I am not ready yet." Gordie simply answered back, "Baloney - if the New York Knicks call me tomorrow to be their coach, I'm ready. You're ready!"

Later on in his career after many years in both faculty and administration, Dr. McFadden became the first lay President of the University of St. Thomas (UST). Upon



*Dr. Joe McFadden '54 and Tom Kennedy '62 at the ICUSTA Conference in France.*

his retirement as President, his successor at UST, Fr. Michael Miller, CSB, asked Dr. McFadden to assume a special role as Director of ICUSTA, an international Catholic association of Universities around the world dedicated to expanding opportunities for faculty and students in international education.

## Developing International Meal Sharing

Providing an opportunity for tourists to have a more personal and less touristy meal during their travels, Jay Savsani '07 (Marketing) and his extraordinary team developed *mealsharing.org* as a means to bring tourists and locals together over home-cooked meals. Not only does this provide travelers with an intricate look at the culture and lifestyle of the places they are traveling, but it also affords locals a chance to share their traditions and knowledge with guests from all over the world. "Our mission is really to build communities," explains Jay. "If we can encourage a deeper cultural conversation and a more personal look at the philosophies and customs of the countless amazing destinations around the world, we can build a better travel experience."

Jay's idea began on a backpacking trip to Cambodia with his cousin. "I thought, 'I didn't travel all the way across the world to eat a hamburger and not connect with the people,'" he said. "I grew up in an Indian family where we love food and have an 'invite everyone to dinner' attitude." So on a whim, he asked employees at the front desk of his hotel in Siem Reap, Cambodia, where the locals ate and asked if they would help him find a home-cooked meal. The staff found 15 people on the street and in the lobby and asked who would invite Jay over for dinner – and the locals began to fight over who would enjoy this traveler's company.

"There was this reciprocal curiosity," Jay explains. "I found myself an hour in the countryside having a meal with a family – a man, his wife, his kids, his best friend. We talked about everything; their culture, American culture. It really brought us together. When I came back to Chicago, I gathered up a team to create Meal Sharing so people can explore the world through food and discussion." Part of building a successful company was researching and developing a comprehensive experience. After much time spent coding and designing, Jay asked his team to take a break with him and go really learn what meal sharing was all about. Together, they took a month-long road trip across the United States, eating only through Meal Sharing.

Now, Meal Sharing exists in 450 cities worldwide. The founder of OpenTable is an investor in the company. Through his



*Jay Savsani '07 (left) and his team.*

company, Jay has been able to travel the world and has become a thought leader in the space. He was invited to give a speech at the British Parliament, and was also invited to the United Nations to work on solving current global issues. "Our next goal is to really make it so that people can point to anywhere on the map and be welcomed to a home-cooked meal. We are constantly looking to grow," says Jason. "When I transferred to Lewis, I was looking for a more personal experience. All of the professors, especially Robert Bergman and Arthur Regal, were very inspirational and did a great job of preparing students to explore. They set a good foundation to grow, and it was my time at Lewis that led me on the path to where I am today."

ICUSTA was founded in 1993 in Chile, and today its membership approaches forty Catholic Universities representing every inhabited continent around the world. It has provided many opportunities for international exchange among faculty and students of its 40 or so institutional members. Students regularly participate in a number of exchange opportunities globally. ICUSTA and all this emphasis on international education has also inspired travel for the McFadden's, who have journeyed every summer since 1997.

In 1997, UST was kind enough to grant a one semester sabbatical to help Dr. McFadden prepare for his next

assignment as a full-time history professor. His wife, Norma, suggested they spend the six months in Ireland and he was able to arrange for an office and a teaching opportunity at Mary Immaculate College, in Limerick, Ireland. Dr. McFadden ended up with an office there and one at the University of Limerick, and for the next three summers, the McFadden's returned to Ireland and Mary Immaculate where he taught UST students in a study abroad program. After studying in Ireland, Dr. McFadden added Irish History to his expertise and with the encouragement of Fr. Michael Miller launched a new Center for Irish Studies at UST. The Center today is

led by his successor, Lori Gallagher, and it is recognized as one of the top three Centers for Irish Studies in the USA.

"What I have learned throughout all of my life's adventures is that if you are open to opportunities, opportunities happen. The key is to be open. I still teach part-time when needed and I am blessed by still being able to do something that I love. The study abroad experience is a life changing experience. It is important in life to be challenged, and I have learned from my Lewis experience that the key for a good life is to have received a challenging education in your formative years."



## Looking Beyond the Stars

When Maureen Madden '86 (Physics) was four-and-a-half years old, her mom sat her down on the floor in front of the big television and together, they watched the Apollo 11 moon landing. "I remember my mom telling me that this was history being made as we watched Neil Armstrong land on the moon. I loved science from that point on," said Maureen. "Lewis offered me a scholarship and under the late Sr. Noel Dreska, OSF and Dr. Leonard Weisenthal, my love for science only grew."

Maureen earned a B.S. in Physics from Lewis University and a master's degree in applied physics from Northern Illinois University. During the 24 years she has been at the NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center, Maureen has used her knowledge and skills in a variety of career opportunities to enhance knowledge about the universe – as well as the community in which she lives. After having a difficult time finding a job in physics upon graduation during a job recession in 1986, Maureen put out hundreds of resumes and researched

companies to find out who was hiring any job associated with physics. A friend had landed a job at NASA and encouraged Maureen to find a position there. Maureen obtained an interview with a Physicist who had just lost his lab manager and thus began her first position at NASA.

"I've done a little of everything in the time I've been at NASA," says Maureen. "I started off working on high energy astrophysics particle detectors, then moved over to optics and lasers. I've also worked on a spacecraft that studied ice in the polar regions," says Maureen. "I served as Deputy Mission Operations Manager for the Joint Polar Satellite System spacecraft and was part of the team building a ground system that captures data from satellites. Basically, we launch a new satellite and coordinate all the readiness activities that enable the spacecraft to talk to the ground system, and ground system to transport data to scientists and weather systems personnel for interpretation. I recently accepted a new position as Deputy Director for the Office of Satellite Ground



Services at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA)."

One of her proudest achievements was fighting for a better public school education for students as the founder and CEO of Save Our Schools, Inc., so that students may go to college someday and find their dream job just as she did.

"When you go through college you have this tunnel vision of what you can do with your degree and are really focused on that degree for the first few years after school," she said. "Then you have experience and connections and new paths, and all of a sudden the whole world opens up. Basically the sky is the limit and you can do so many different things. Keep an open mind, and never stop learning."

## Otting to the Rescue

Mary "Mo" Otting '12 (Nursing) had plans for traveling the world. The *how* wasn't the question – she knew she'd become a nurse and use her skills to carry her work to the places she wanted to go – but the *what* still nagged at her. What, exactly, was she going to do next? "When I graduated in 1986, I graduated from a diploma program in Iowa and I really wanted to travel the world. While I was a traveling nurse, I couldn't help but keep thinking, 'I need to go back,' but for a while I pushed the thought aside and kept on working. When I settled into Chicago, I knew that this was the opportunity to make myself go back and finish my degree. Lewis University really wowed me. They accepted a lot of my life credit which told me that, to Lewis, experience mattered. That was key," said Mary.

Nursing has allotted Mary some exceptional opportunities to grow both personally and professionally. "I was actually at a transport conference in March 2011, and a friend of mine and I decided to sign up to become members of National Disaster Medical Services through the federal government. We were processed just prior to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center. When you see tragedies like that, and natural disasters, you can't help but wonder what you can do to help. I'm privileged to have this gift that I can use to help others, and I would be remiss if I didn't use it to the best of my ability. I have had the privilege of working and serving during Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Ivan, and Dennis, as well as in Haiti after the earthquake. These people, many times, have lost everything and are so grateful. We provided care for so many children in Haiti after the quake. Providing medical care during times of disaster truly renews your faith in humanity as well as your ability to provide top



quality medical care with little of the technology we have grown so used to relying upon. Takes me back to those good old days when assessment skills were everything! Being a

part of this program has been life-changing. I know I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing – and I love being a nurse."

Currently, Mary is the EMS coordinator, the liaison between Lurie Children's Hospital and the Chicago Fire Department and the ambulance service companies. She educates the next generation of paramedics at Malcolm X College while also teaching students from the Loyola and Highland Park's programs. "As a nurse, you are the person that a family experiencing their worst day ever looks to for comfort, for advocacy, for care," says Mary. "You have to be ready to step up to the plate. You're going to have good days and bad days but you have to remember they are at their worst moment and be able to provide them with care, understanding and knowledge that they need from someone who is truly trying to be their advocate. One of the best pieces of advice given to me when I first started was to be a sponge. If you don't learn something every day at your job, get out. Be a duck. People are going to yell at you and you need to let it roll off your back and do the best job you can do."

For more on these alumni stories, read the full version online at [alumni.lewisu.edu/FeaturedAlumni](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/FeaturedAlumni).

## The Written Word: Lewis Authors



### From News to Novels

Tom Hernandez '88 graduated with a degree in journalism and communications, which has served him well throughout his career. His

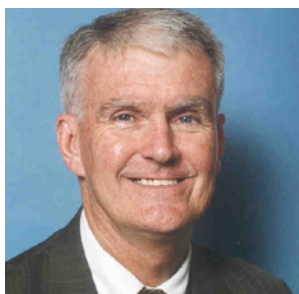
days of creating a newspaper for his elementary school to his experience as a journalist and columnist have prepared him for one of his most memorable experiences yet – writing and publishing books. “I have always written poetry,” explains Tom. “I’ve always been a performer, actor, and musician, whenever I can find the time. I really enjoy the fine arts. After years of family and friends encouraging me to write a book, I finally made the leap.” He has now published two books and is working on a third.

After college, Tom served as a newspaper reporter for ten years before changing course and finding a niche in school district communications. He is currently the Director of Community Relations for the Plainfield School District. “In 1998, I started writing a column for the *Plainfield Sun* newspaper to get back to writing, which I loved to do. The column started out more as political commentary but turned into a piece on life through the eyes of a young, suburban dad. I wrote about marriage, age, family and faith. I re-read and edited down 700 columns I’d written over 11 years to 70 for the book.”

For example, one column focused on his efforts as a young father, and what his daughters would write about him one day. Would they remember him as the dad who played baseball or the one who worked too much? That essay provided the title of Tom’s book, *Chocolate Cows and Purple Cheese: And Other Tales from the Homefront*.

In 2012, Tom published *Abundance*, a book of his poetry, written over the course of his life. Now, he is writing a novel. This fictional story surrounds a young man who was adopted, and slowly learns forgiveness and finds a sense of personal identity following his father’s death.

The books of all three authors are available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



### Attitude for the Ages

Pat Sullivan '65 spent 34 years as a coach and administrator at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Ill.

He has spoken on leadership and attitude to coaching clinics across the globe, including the USA Coaching Clinics and camps

in Greece, Ireland, Belgium, and Austria. He has also spoken nationally to businesses. He took that presentation and, after encouragement from his supporters, turned it into a book which debuted in late 2013. The book, *Attitude – The Cornerstone of Leadership*, is a practical guide for leaders.

Pat is an alumnus of Joliet Catholic High School, and spent seven years coaching basketball at Providence Catholic High School. He was hired at College of St. Francis in 1976 by then Athletics Director and baseball coach – and beloved Lewis University icon – Gordie Gillespie to coach basketball.

He moved through the ranks at the University of St. Francis, mentoring students and athletes alike while also raising five children. Now a grandfather to 12, soon to be 13, Pat is enjoying his retirement – and the opportunity to help build the future leaders of tomorrow through his experiences.

“There is the potential to be a leader in everyone,” explains Pat. “It’s not the best grades or the best skills or the most determination, separately, that make leaders excel. It’s a combination of many factors and putting forth the effort consistently. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, is a great leader because he consistently puts forth that effort. That leader lives in all of us, and it’s up to all of us – the coaches, educators and administrators of the world – to expose and develop that potential.”



### Lewis Fosters Love of Writing

Captain Todd Kruder '88, USN, Retired, has no doubt that his freshman year writing course shaped his love of writing. After more than 25 years of service in the

United States Navy, Captain Kruder recently published *A Journey in the Fog of Depression: A Military Spouse's Experience*.

This book joins two works which address depression among military personnel and their families. Captain Kruder has also published three fictional novels including *Archer: In the Shadow of Our Fathers*, which uses American History as a backdrop to portray the human condition. Captain Kruder plans on releasing several more books in this series under the pen name Gerard Todd, which will use scenes from the historical background of Lewis University to guide his story.

Captain Kruder was commissioned in the United States Navy following the completion of his B.S. in Aviation Maintenance. He also earned a Master of Science in Space Systems Operations from the Naval Post Graduate School. Captain Kruder is married to his high school sweetheart, Sharon (Freelin) Kruder '88 and they have five children: Joshua, Zachariah, Rebekah, Nathaniel, and Ethan.

# Class Notes

## 1970s

**James Skiotos '74** (*Business Administration*) was recently elected to the Office of Lt. Governor-Elect, Southwest District 18, Kiwanis Clubs of Arizona. Additionally, he was recently honored by Kiwanis International and awarded the "Walter Zeller Fellowship" for his fundraising efforts to help eliminate maternal/neonatal tetanus in many Third World countries. He also received their "Distinguished President" award for his tenure at president of the Queen Creek Kiwanis Club in Queen Creek, Arizona. Mr. Skiotos has been an active Kiwanis member since joining the Kiwanis Club of Joliet, Ill. in 1970.

## 1980s

**Bryan Durkin '82 '93** (*Business Administration, MBA*) Chief Commercial Officer, CME Group, is a member of the College of Business Executive Advisory Board and was recently quoted in *Business Week*.

**William Meehan '82** (*Aviation Maintenance Management*) recently joined Frontier Airlines as Chief Operating Officer after previously serving as CEO of aircraft-maintenance and repair company PEMCO World Air Services and as a longtime Continental Airlines executive. Meehan was an executive of the former Continental Airlines for 27 years, including stints as president and COO of Continental Micronesia and senior vice president of airport services, overseeing Continental's airport and cargo operations.

**Theodore Slowik '87** (*Journalism*) works at North Central College in Naperville, as Director of Public and Media Relations.

## 1990s

**Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio '94** (*Mathematics*) is Assistant Professor of Elementary Education at Lewis University.

**Stephen Jangelis '94** (*Aviation Flight Management*) recently received Air Line Pilots Association Honors with a Prestigious Presidential Citation for upholding the Highest Standards of Commitment and Professionalism.

**Allen Cain '95 '01** (*Criminal/Social Justice; Graduate Criminal/Social Justice*) has recently accepted a position as Operations Manager of Security for Edward Jones Financial. He retired in December 2013 as a Sergeant from the Chicago Police Department after 22 years of faithful service.

## 2000s

**Dr. Siham Ibrahim '01 '03** (*Business Administration, MBA*) was recently honored by the National Association of Professional Women as 2014 Professional Woman of the Year. She obtained her Doctorate in Management in Organizational Leadership from the University of Phoenix. She is also an Adjunct Professor at both of her alma maters as well as a consultant to other businesses and a respected speaker on the subjects of personal finance, loyalty, ethics and leadership. She has written two books, *Keep It in the Family: A Guide to Longevity for Your Family Business* and *DOs & DON'Ts of Personal Money Management*.

She is the Founder and President of America Children's Village, which she established in 1994 to build homes for foster children in Crest Hill, Ill. She is currently a member of the Lewis Board of Trustees.

**Rachel Ellingson '02** (*Graduate Education*) is currently the Director of Enrollment and Head Girls' Volleyball Coach at Providence Catholic. Prior to becoming Head Volleyball Coach in 2010, Rachel was the Celtics' assistant varsity coach for ten years. In 2011, she was named Coach of the Year when the Celtics tied for 1st place in the East Suburban Catholic Conference.

**Frederick Hayes '03 '07** (*Criminal/Social Justice; Graduate Public Safety*) took office as President of the 1,200 member Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police (ILACP) at the organization's Summer Conference in Tinley Park on June 21, along with six other new officers. Chief Hayes is an ILACP-Certified Police Chief and an Adjunct Professor at Lewis University in the Department of Justice, Law and Public Safety. He was the Illinois Crime Prevention Association's 2009 Chief of the Year, among multiple professional awards. Chief Hayes served with the Joliet Police Department for 31 years the last five years as Chief of Police, prior to becoming Chief for Elwood.

**Deborah Graves '05** (*Special Education*) is currently the Assistant Director of Student Services for the Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202. She began her career at Plainfield North High School as a Vocational Coordinator in the Special Education department and has since been selected to the State of Illinois STEP Division and also participates in a variety of transition committees statewide.

**Jason Savsani '07** (*Marketing*) is the creator of *Mealsharing.org* and was recently featured in a new story on NPR (WBEZ Chicago).

**Steven Hoffman '07 '08** (*Finance; Graduate Finance*) recently published his first novel, *How to Live for Free and Make Money Doing It*. Available for purchase through Amazon, the book offers an entirely new spin on the many aspects of consumer finance. It is full of tips and strategies designed by Hoffman to help consumers save substantial amounts of money simply by asking for it.

**Katrina Binaku '08** (*Chemistry*) successfully defended her dissertation for a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Loyola University Chicago.

**Laura Meli '08** (*Philosophy*) graduated from University of Illinois College of Law in May 2014.

**Anthony Szymel '09** (*Business Administration*) was recently hired as one of DePaul Men's Soccer Assistant Coaches after spending four seasons at NCAA Division II national champion Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla. after the last two years as first assistant coach. After starring at Naperville North High School, the standout goalkeeper led the Flyers to a pair of NCAA Division II Tournament appearances and led the nation as a senior in save percentage. That season, Lewis went 14-1-4 and advanced to the NCAA Midwest Region finals.

**James O'Hagan '09** (*Graduate Educational Leadership*) was recently appointed to the Rockford Public Library Board of Trustees. He is currently the Director of Instructional Technology & Library Services for Rockford Public Schools 205. He has worked in education for 15 years as a teacher, technology integration specialist, assistant principal and director.

**Amy Maskiewicz '09** (*Graduate Information Security*) is currently employed by an internal computer forensic examinations team, and has previous experience working for the Chicago Police Department and the Regional Forensic Computer Lab at Chicago.

**Michelle Cullen '09** (*Special/Elementary Education*) was selected as a Great Teacher Winner by the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce. Michelle has taught at Taft Elementary for five years as an intermediate adaptive skills, behavior, and communications classroom teacher.

## 2010s

**Summer Hallaj '10** (*Political Science*) graduated from John Marshall Law School in May 2014.

**Michelle Fregoso '11** (*Graduate Organizational Leadership*) has been named Director of Communications for Naperville School District 203.

**Kelleen Doherty '12** (*Paralegal Studies*) was recently hired as a Paralegal at Neumann, Boyer & Statham.

**Michael Gates '13** (*Mass Communications*) is currently employed as a consultant at McDonald's Corporation.

**Lacey Granko '13** (*Computer Science*) is currently employed at Adapt Telephony Services LLC.

**Merle Green '10** (*M.A. Secondary Education*), teaches math and made it possible for Lewis Computer Science students Jose Marquez and Andrew Camphouse to have access to the facilities and the students at Lukancic Middle School for their Computer Science project.

**Sherri Kavanagh '11 '13** (*Organizational Leadership; Graduate Organizational Leadership*) was recently named chapter leader of The TCF of the Greater Joliet Area, a chartered chapter of The Compassionate Friends/USA, a national nonprofit, self-help organization offering friendship, understanding, and hope to families grieving the death of a child of any age, from any cause.

**Abdul King '12** (*Graduate Organizational Leadership*) was recently promoted to the Director of Enrollment Management for Washburne Culinary & Hospitality Institute which is connected to Kennedy King College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago.

**Emily Lech '11** (*Graduate Educational Leadership*) was recently appointed to Assistant Principal for Carpenter and Franklin schools in East Maine District 64 in Park Ridge.

**Courtney Makowski '13** (*Biology*) has been selected to sit on Roosevelt University's Board of Trustees for a two-year term. Makowski is the first student ever from the College of Pharmacy to be selected for the 73-member Board of Trustees and will be one of two student trustees on the board. As a student trustee, she will vote on policy matters concerning the University, including its budget, programming and appointments.

**Molly Szilard '13** (*Contemporary Global Studies*) was recently named "Intern of the Year" for the House Republican caucus. Molly is a member services intern who works with Reps. Bob Behning, Martin Carbaugh, and David Ober.

**Monisa Victrum '12** (*Liberal Arts*) is currently directing a play called *The 39 Steps* produced by Latitude 41 at

Bicentennial Park in Joliet, Ill. *The 39 Steps* is Broadway's longest running comedy, based on Alfred Hitchcock's thriller.

**Kaitlyn Worst '11** (*Philosophy of Law*) graduated from John Marshall Law School in May 2014.

## Engagements

**Joe Volin '08** (*Philosophy of Law*) to **Summer Hallaj '10** (*Political Science*).

**Nicole Tourville '09** (*Marketing*) to John Melstrom.

**Kristen Fagan '14** (*Graduate Special Education*) to Mike Hottinger.

## Marriages

**Elaine (Belen) Kramarz '14** (*Early Childhood Education*) married **Lukasz Kramarz '14** (*History*) May 18, 2014 in the D'Arcy Great Room following Commencement after Luke was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant.

**Kelly (Polnik) Beck '09** (*Nursing*) married Jerry Beck on June 14, 2014.

**Kimberly (Carvell) Marshall '11** (*Elementary Education*) married Brian Marshall on July 26, 2014.

**Amanda Reimer '10** (*Graduate Business-MBA*) married Eric Wilkes on May 31, 2014. Amanda currently works in the marketing division of CVS Pharmacy in Scottsdale, Arizona.

**Ryan Southcomb '10** (*Sport Management*) married **Heather Hagberg '12** (*Elementary Education/Special Education*) at Messiah Lutheran Church in Joliet, Ill. on August 2, 2013.

**Sharon (Canariato) Rangel '07** (*Graduate Nursing/Business*) married Rupert Rangel on May 3, 2014.

## Future Flyer



**Israel Velazquez '00 '10** (*Accountancy; Secondary Education-MA*) and **Dina Ann Velazquez '00 '07** (*Elementary Education; Graduate Education*) welcomed Daniel (7 lbs. and 19 inches) on Friday, August 22.

## In Memoriam

**Herman A. Barichello '58**  
7/29/2014

**Robert Briski '77**  
5/5/2014

**Joseph W. DeMarco '65**  
6/29/2014

**Joan M. Gismondi '00 '03**  
6/9/2014

**Harry P. Hockings '76**  
6/9/2014

**Edward A. Kammer '05**  
6/4/2014

**Sue E. Smith '94**  
7/19/2014

**Bill J. Sullivan '99**  
7/4/2014

**Reginald J. Vanekerken '68**  
6/15/2014

**Francis J. Vidmar '56**  
6/12/2014

Submit your  
Class Notes to  
[alumni@lewisu.edu](mailto:alumni@lewisu.edu)

## Homecoming

Lewis University celebrated Homecoming on October 4, 2014. Attendees participated in many special events on campus including the Golden Flyers Reunion, athletic events, Alumni Achievement Awards and Charlie's Saloon Beer Tent. This year, alumni competed in the Homecoming t-shirt design competition, with Dustin Long '06 and Sal Ursino '11 being chosen for the two winning designs.



Ursino

Long



1



2



3



4



5



6

1 Alumnae of Delta Sigma Theta gather at Charlie's Saloon. 2 Soccer alumni braved the weather to cheer on Lewis. 3 Softball alumnae attended a reception to reminisce, and meet new softball coach. 4 Members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors gathered for a board meeting prior to the Homecoming festivities. 5 Arlene Olson (center) attended the Golden Flyers Luncheon. She attended Lewis in the 1950s, and married athlete James Olson '56, and was a cheerleader during her days on campus. 6 Members of the class of 1964 celebrated together at the Golden Flyers Luncheon. (Left to right) Ted Belanger, George Bora, Bob Pustay, Dan Mazzolini, Phil Rose, Ron Ariagno, Harold Reddsperger and Carl Udovich.



# Alumni Events



## Lewis Firemen Reunion

Recently, a reunion was held at the Fire Museum in Greater Chicago on Western Avenue for Lewis College firemen. Attendees included (left to right) Jack Hadfield '66, Bill Storie '69, John Senffner '67, Mike Bovyn '81, and Henry (Skip) Gilmore '68.



## PLT Alum Nights

On August 15 and 16, Heritage Theatre Company (HTC) proudly produced the production entitled "AlumNights 2014: An Evening of Familiar Faces."

"AlumNights 2014" featured 11 familiar faces including: Theatre Department Chairperson, Keith White '77, and PLT Theatre Manager, Jo Slowik '88 who performed a scene together entitled "I'm Herbert." Directing and performing in the production was alumna Monisa Victrum teaming up with PLT friend Becky Hicks, both of Joliet, as music director and performer. Other alumni and friends include Tim Karkowski '07, Aubrey Malito, Tim Tholl, Matt Colbert, Christopher Hueg '11, Sean Barber '11 and Laura Wisniewski '07.

"AlumNights 2014" was conceived and written by alumnus Chad Tallon '08. Chad has performed the title role in "Shrek the Musical" and has received a teaching fellowship with the Red House Arts Center in Syracuse, NY. Working behind the scenes on the show were Jackie Sabani '08 (stage manager), Ross Reed '14 (assistant stage manager), Andrew Nelsen '04 (lighting and set design), Melissa Chicola '13 (sound), Ashley Daun '12 (props), Melanie Gillies '13 and Sandy Bednarz '12 (box office), Stephanie Hill '11 (house manager).



## Alumni Achievement Award Recipients

Lewis University recognized ten notable alumni during its Annual Alumni Awards Dinner on Saturday, October 4, 2014. Brother James Gaffney, FSC, (left) is pictured with (left to right) Justin Kempniak '07, MBA '12 (Young Alumni Achievement); Sharon (Freelin) Kruder '88 (Father Brennan Service with Honor Award); Captain Todd Kruder '88 (Father Brennan Service with Honor Award); Colonel Duane Hayden '88 (Aviation); Sergeant James McGreal '02, M.S. '04 (Criminal/Social Justice); Ed Puisis '83 (Business); Dr. James Girard '67 (Education); Dr. Ronald Ariagno '64 (Sciences); and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient John "Jack" Marco '68 (Business). Not pictured is Dana (Erickson) Mayer RN, BSN, CCRN, '04 (Young Alumni Achievement).

To read about the incredible achievements of these alumni, visit [alumni.lewisu.edu/Awards](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/Awards).



## Shrek Theatre Event

Kevin Kaiser '96, Carolyn Kaiser '93, Kathleen and Dr. Paul Kaiser and their grandchildren, gather with Anne (Jordan) '87 and Dr. Arvid '85 Johnson at the event.



## Freshmen 50 Reunion

On July 22 and 23, Lewis University held the Freshmen 50 Reunion. This event was attended by those who began their college careers in 1964. The reason for the unique start date is because during these years, some didn't graduate in just four years – many were called to serve our country during the war. A golf outing, campus tours, receptions and more brought laughter, stories, and new memories of a campus they once called home.



## Cubs Rooftop

Alumni Gregg '80 and CJ '18 (current student) Koeller join alumni and friends at the Cubs rooftop event on June 22, 2014.



## Return to Campus

Ron Erjavec '63 returned to visit campus. Tom Kennedy '62 took him on a personal campus tour of the Science Center, Fine Arts Building, and the new College of Business location at the St. Charles Borromeo Center.



## McCallum Visit

Rick McCallum '77 visited Keith White's '77 class on campus. Rick, a stuntman and actor in Hollywood, answered questions from students and shared his experiences working in show business. For more on Rick, read his story online at [alumni.lewisu.edu/McCallum](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/McCallum).



## Networking

Tim Osterhaus '04 '11 addressed attendees at the networking event in July. For more on networking events, visit [alumni.lewisu.edu/Networking](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/Networking).

Rich Burke '80 (center) spoke with alumni at the networking event in July.



## Oshkosh Air Show

Alumni gathered at the EAA Air Venture Oshkosh in July 2014 to pose for a group photo.



## Girard Speaks to Students

Dr. James E. Girard '67 spoke to students on Oct. 3 about "Forensic DNA Typing and CODIS," which described the use of DNA in forensic science.

## Marco Family Reunion

In July, the Marco family (now 115 strong) held their 45th annual reunion at Lewis University. It was their usual three day event with 75 family members attending from five states. "We stayed in the dorms and ate in the cafeteria, swam in the pool and had our olympiad in the field house," explains Phil Marco '71. "Our family includes seven alumni of Lewis and St. Francis. Since I have not been back on campus since 1982, I was totally blown away with all the new buildings and the campus landscaping. I had a wonderful conversation with Brother James Gaffney. We have already scheduled our next family reunion at Lewis next July!"



*Phillip Marco '71, Joanne Marco Lieberman (St. Francis '65), Andrew Marco '71, Mary Pat Marco Brady (St. Francis '74 – attended classes at Lewis), Robert Brady '72 (founding member of the Friars Fraternity), and Jack Marco '68 (founding member and President of Phi Kappa Theta) showcased their love for local, Catholic education. Not pictured is Richard Marco '59.*



Alumni, if you'd like to plan a special reunion or event on campus, please contact us at (815) 836-5488 for available dates and rates.

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**Br. Stephen Markham, FSC**, [smarkham@cbmidwest.org](mailto:smarkham@cbmidwest.org)

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# Readership Survey

Please take a few minutes to let us know your thoughts on the *Magazine of Lewis University*. We would like your feedback so that we can continue to provide you with relevant and timely information in your alumni magazine, in a format that fits your needs and lifestyle.

**1) How do you stay current with information about Lewis University?**

- Magazine     Website     E-newsletter updates     Word of mouth  
 College/department communications     Other

**2) What features of the magazine would you like to read?**

- University News:     Online     Print     Both  
Alumni News:     Online     Print     Both  
Athletics:     Online     Print     Both  
Feature Articles:     Online     Print     Both  
Gifts, Grants, & Scholarships:     Online     Print     Both

**3) Please suggest any additional topics you would like to see included in the magazine.**

\_\_\_\_\_  Online     Print     Both  
\_\_\_\_\_  Online     Print     Both

**4) What actions have you taken as a result of reading the magazine? (check all that apply)**

- Attended an event     Volunteered for an activity     Gave a gift to the University  
 Recommended the University to a potential student, coworker, or family member  
 Submitted a class note     Visited the University     No action taken

**5) Are there other changes you would like to suggest?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

**6) Relationship to the University**

- Alumnus/alumna (year graduated \_\_\_\_\_)     Attended     Donor     Faculty/staff  
 Family member     University administrator     Other \_\_\_\_\_

**7) Age**     20-29     30-39     40-49     50-59     60-69     70-79     80+

**8) Gender**     Male     Female

Thank you for your participation in our survey. *If you would like to discontinue receiving a print version of our magazine, please complete the name and address information below.* We will send you information about our online magazine when it becomes available.

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