

THE MAGAZINE OF

lewisuniversity

FALL 2021

Lewis Experiences Strong Fall Opening

Creativity, Logic + Innovation:
**SURE Students
Making an Impact**

Women in
PHILANTHROPY



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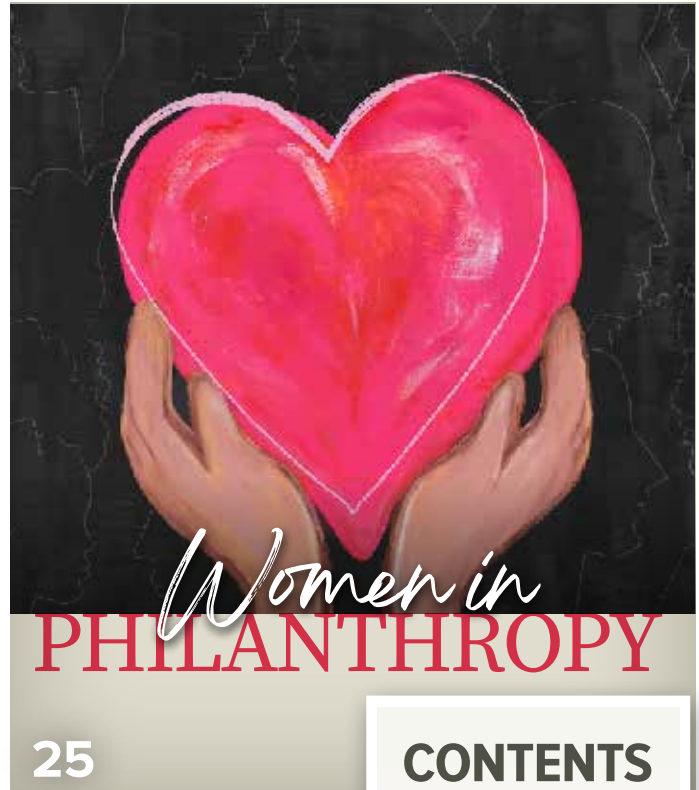
**2020-2021
ANNUAL
REPORT**

Lewis in Color



THE MAGAZINE OF Lewis university

FALL 2021



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(815) 836-5610

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University Advancement
(815) 836-5475

Philip Lynch Theatre
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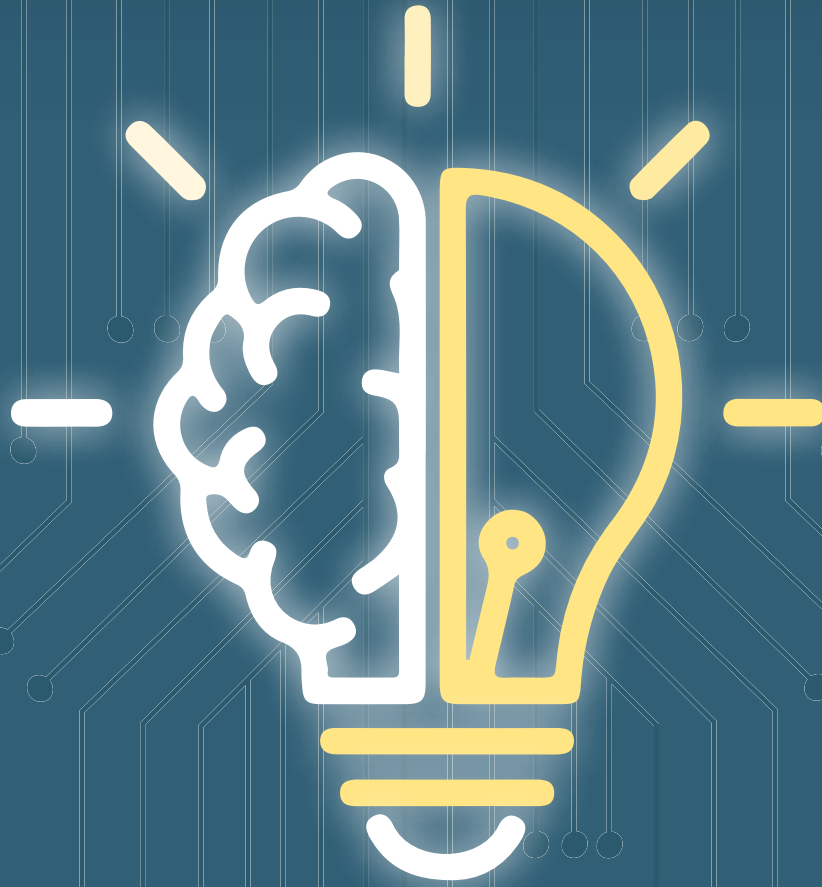
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR and alumni news submissions are welcome. Send letters, news and address changes to: *The Magazine of Lewis University*, Unit 196, One University Parkway, Romeoville, IL 60446 or e-mail lamontra@lewisu.edu.

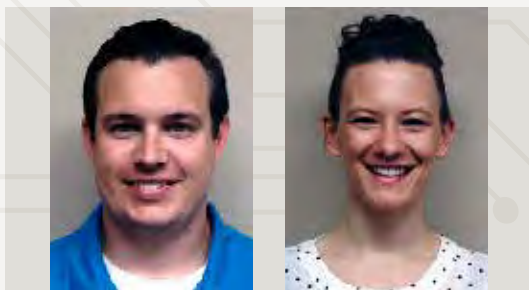


Creativity, Logic + Innovation:

SURE Students Making an Impact

Can these skills be taught? At Lewis University we believe so and are committed to keeping our students engaged in ways that develop problem solving and critical thinking. One such program offered over the summer, SURE, is devoted specifically to STEM Learning.

The Dr. James Girard Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program is a collaborative experience for Lewis University students from multiple STEM disciplines to engage in a 10-week undergraduate research program. Working one-on-one with a faculty mentor, the program funds these students for the summer, and offers an experiential learning environment that teaches creativity, logic and innovation through experimentation.



Co-directors for the SURE program - **Dr. Daniel Kissel**, assistant professor of chemistry, and **Dr. Mallory Havens**, assistant professor of biology - offered their perspectives on teaching students to solve problems and make an impact.

Q How do you get your students to think about “What Might be Possible?”

A In science there are many questions to which we do not have the answers. We always start with a big question and try to find an answer, which sometimes just leads us to new questions. We assume problems are solvable and questions have answers - we just have to find them. Therefore, we enter with the assumption that it is possible to answer any question with the right experiment or method, but also acknowledge that the results of an experiment can lead to new questions. So, we encourage students to approach research with that mindset.

Q In research, we often don't get the result we anticipated. How do you deal with unexpected outcomes?

A Resilience is a big part of research. We remind students that failure is part of the process and you should expect to fail a lot before you succeed. We also approach science as seeking the truth, not a prescribed answer we want to find. Scientists often blind themselves to which experimental group is which to eliminate bias in observation. Approaching research with the mindset of finding out what is happening rather than getting a specific result allows students to get excited about unexpected results. Often the best discoveries come from unexpected results.

Q How did the SURE Program come about?

A SURE was started by four faculty members at Lewis from the departments of Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Psychology, Dr.'s Jason Keleher, Joe Kozminski, Jerry Kavouras and Susan Scheffer, who committed to developing the program after attending a conference at Hope College on research programs at primarily undergraduate institutions. The program officially started in the summer of 2009 with four STEM students working with faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences. It has since grown to where SURE now accommodates up to 17 students and faculty in the College of Aviation, Science and Technology as well as the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Q How has Dr. Girard's gift helped the students and program?

A This has allowed the program to more than double in size, providing increased opportunities for students and faculty to work together in research over the summer. This not only creates fantastic opportunities for students to experience research in a one-on-one mentorship, but also provides faculty with the necessary time and funding to pursue scholarly work. This would not be possible without his generous donation. Lewis undergraduate students can continue to make profound and impactful discoveries while working collaboratively with faculty mentors because of Dr. Girard's '67 gift.

Q Do we have any students who have gone on to continue to use their research?

A Many former SURE students have gone on to Master's and Ph.D. programs. Some students choose not to pursue research as a career but can use the skills learned during research to become better employees and more critical thinkers.

Q Do these research skills translate to other facets of life?

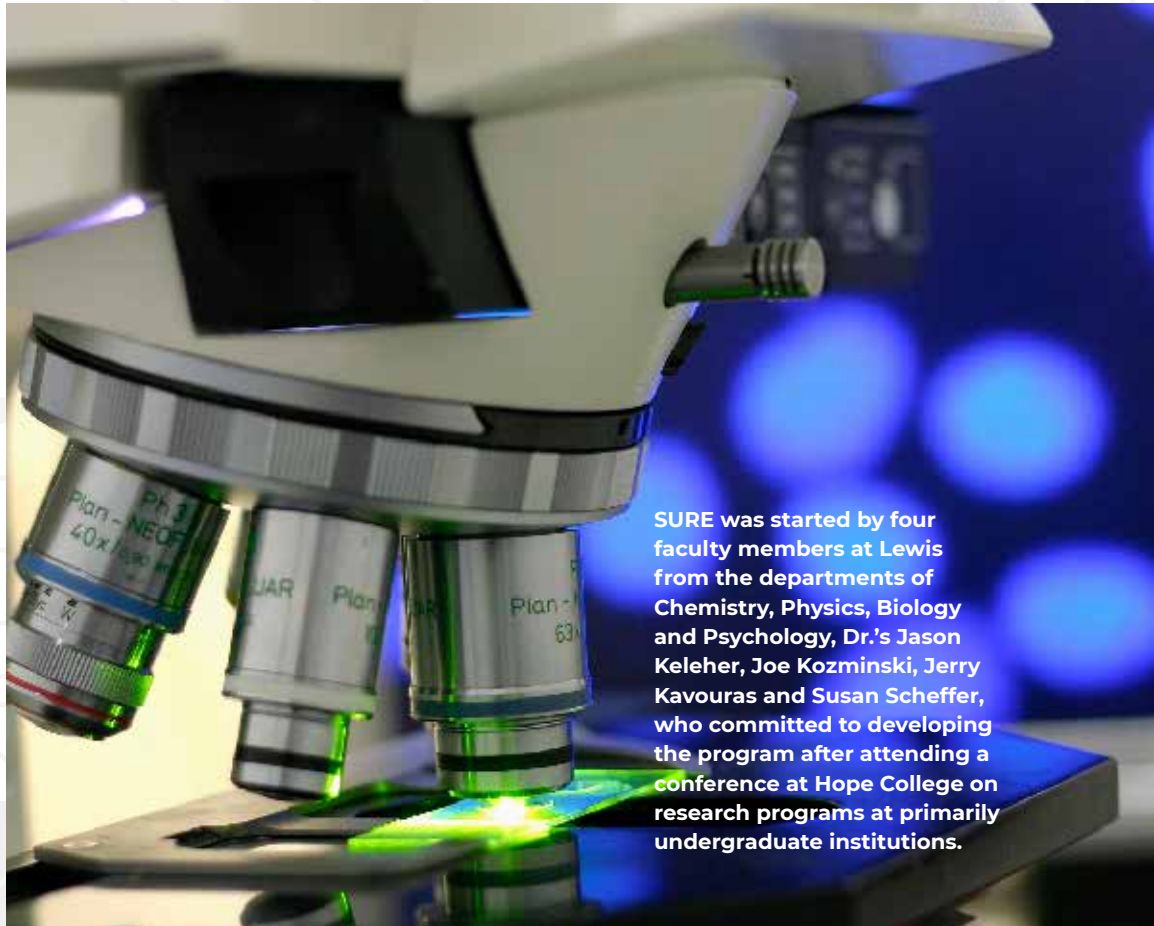
A Absolutely! The problem solving and analytical skills are helpful in any career, and the fortitude to accept failure and learn from it are skills all SURE students can benefit from in life.



SURE PROGRAM RESEARCHERS

Seventeen students researched a variety of topics during the SURE 2021 program

- ▶ **Victoria Petersen** presented “Ozone Disinfection and Decomposition” with faculty mentor Dr. Mallory Havens, assistant professor of biology and co-director of the SURE program.
- ▶ **David O'Rourke** researched “Image Enhancement and Filtering Using Least Squares” with faculty mentor Dr. Mahmood Al-Khassaweneh, associate professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Karolina Krzak** presented “Significance in Machine Learning and Data Analytics Techniques on Oceanography Data” with faculty mentor Dr. Osama Y. Abuomar, associate professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Marek Spader** presented “Simulation of a Direct Fusion Drive for Engine Parameter Optimization” with faculty mentor Dr. Ryan J. Hooper, associate professor of physics.
- ▶ **Kaitlyn Palmer** researched “Exploration of Ce:UiO-66-NH₂ as a Photocatalyst Material for Hydrogen Gas Production” with faculty mentor Dr. Daniel Kissel, assistant professor of chemistry and director of the SURE program.
- ▶ **Caroline Nowak** presented “Examination of Daphnia Microbiomes in a Planktonic Disease System Using a Molecular Approach” with faculty mentor Dr. Jerry Kavouras, chair and professor of biology.
- ▶ **Ryan Syed** presented research of “Feature-based Transfer Learning for Role Discovery in Networks” with faculty mentor Dr. Piotr Szczurek, associate professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences and director of the M.S. in Data Science.
- ▶ **Nicholas Rohmann** presented “Using Mathematical Models to Simulate Disease Transmission and Identify Optimal Prevention Strategies” with faculty mentor Dr. Brittany Stephenson, assistant professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Paige Allen** researched “Laplacian Simplices Associated to Graphs” with faculty mentor Dr. Marie Meyer, assistant professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Brennan Price** presented “Automatic Measurement of Worm Movement from Cell Phone Videos” with faculty mentor Dr. Piotr Szczurek, associate professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences and director of the M.S. Data Science.



SURE was started by four faculty members at Lewis from the departments of Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Psychology, Dr.'s Jason Keleher, Joe Kozminski, Jerry Kavouras and Susan Scheffer, who committed to developing the program after attending a conference at Hope College on research programs at primarily undergraduate institutions.

- ▶ **Michael Zambrano** researched “Using chelating compounds to treat Alzheimer’s in *C. elegans*” with faculty mentor Dr. Mallory Havens, assistant professor of biology and co-director of the SURE program.
- ▶ **Nicholas Tovar** presented his research “Testing different inhibitors against the enzyme Aminoacylase for use in slowing the production of cancer cells in Histone Deacetylase” with faculty mentor Dr. Kari Stone, associate professor of chemistry.
- ▶ **Anthony Moreno** researched “The Influence of Premature Birth on Laryngeal Development for Phonation” with faculty mentor Dr. Victoria Reynolds, associate professor of speech-language pathology

Read more about these student projects at lewisu.edu/sure

- ▶ **Erik Meyer** presented “Design of a Verilog to C++ Translator for Hardware Simulation” with faculty mentor Dr. Lucien Ngalamou, associate professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Will DeBolt** presented “Predictive Modelling for Hockey Analytics Utilizing Markov Chains” with faculty mentor Dr. Amanda Harsy, assistant professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Austin Schaibley** presented “Patterns in Self-Assembling DNA: Web Graphs” with faculty mentor Dr. Amanda Harsy, assistant professor of engineering, computing and mathematical sciences.
- ▶ **Anthony Baudino** presented “Developing a Metal Organic Framework and Phthalocyanine Delivery System for use in Photodynamic Therapy” with faculty mentor Dr. Keri Stone, associate professor of chemistry.

The Dr. James Girard Summer Undergraduate Research Experience is named after Lewis University alumnus Dr. James Girard '67. Girard is currently a professor of chemistry at American University in Washington, D.C. He attended the Cathedral of St. Raymond School and Joliet Catholic High School before earning his Lewis University bachelor’s degree in chemistry, *cum laude*.

Other research entities exist on campus to promote research and scholarship among faculty and students such as the Celebration of Scholarship, Culture of Inquiry, the Colonel Stephen S. and Lyla Doherty Center for Aviation and Health Research, and the Lasallian Research Grant Program. More information can be found at lewisu.edu/research-scholarship.



Lewis Experiences Strong Fall Opening

With many students anxious to return to an on campus experience and re-connect with friends, fall enrollment saw a diverse mix of new and returning students and an increase in international students. Lewis also scored well in national rankings and offered three new undergraduate majors.

Fall Enrollment

Lewis welcomed more than **1,500 new students** to campus this fall to bring its total enrollment to approximately 6,200 students representing 44 states and 64 countries. These incoming students are contributing to the growing ethnic and geographic diversity of Lewis with **40 percent identifying as students of color**.

“Our most recent group of incoming students have shown unique resilience and desire to pursue their college degree as they overcame the additional challenge of searching for a college during the global pandemic. We are honored they chose Lewis University to support them in their academic journeys,” said Ashley Skidmore, vice president for enrollment management.

With more than **600 new graduate degree students** this fall, Lewis has a record number of **2,200 total graduate students**. The arrival of **360 international students** has contributed to this increase, which is the result of several years of training, planning, and activities with the American Council on Education Internationalization Lab and a strategic reorganization of international efforts at Lewis.

“We’re excited to grow our international presence on campus. Our international students enhance everyone’s experience at Lewis University as they enrich the learning environment with cultural perspectives, form lifelong friendships with other students, and support our efforts to create a better world for all,” added Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University.





New Majors

New majors offered this fall acknowledged the importance of the digital world to design and to communications.

- ▶ The new **Design major** includes the ability to select a concentration in Graphic Design, Motion Design and Interaction Design.
- ▶ The **Digital Media and Journalism major** combines a strong degree program in Journalism with the technology of Digital Media.
- ▶ A new **Peace and Justice Studies major** offers students five different pathways to pursue based on personal interests and career goals.
- ▶ A new online **M.S. in Health Information Management (HIM)** will begin in the spring. HIM professionals manage data to connect clinical, operational, and administrative functions in healthcare.

For more information on any of these new majors contact admission@lewisu.edu.



Top 20 Rankings

U.S. News & World Report 2022 Best Colleges Rankings

- ▶ #19 / among Regional Midwest Universities
- ▶ #9 / Best Colleges for Veterans–Regional Universities Midwest
- ▶ #20 / Undergraduate Teaching–Regional Universities Midwest
- ▶ #19 / Social Mobility–Regional Universities Midwest

The Princeton Review Rankings

- ▶ “Best Midwestern” 2022 Best Colleges Region by Region web list.

Selections are based on six categories – academics, admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety, quality of life and green.

“We chose Lewis University and the other outstanding institutions on this list primarily for their excellent academics,” said Robert Franek, *The Princeton Review’s* Editor-in-Chief.

Washington Monthly Ranking

- ▶ #2 / best private university in Illinois

The publication analyzes four-year liberal arts institutions based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories - social mobility, research, and promoting public service.

Forbes’ Top Colleges List

- ▶ Top 15% of all degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the U.S.

The annual review of undergraduate institutions that deliver the top academics, best experiences, career success and lowest debt looks at a school’s overall value for a family. Lewis University made Forbes’ lists for Top Colleges 2021, in Private Colleges and in the Midwest.



Arno Michaelis & Pardeep Singh Kaleka

“FROM FEAR TO COMPASSION” 2021 PEACE TEACH-IN SERIES

On October 13, 14 and 15, the Lewis community had an opportunity to delve into important and relevant issues of peace and justice through multiple sessions at the annual Peace Teach-In. This year’s theme focused on “From Fear to Compassion: Growing Connections, Changing Narratives, Deepening Empathy” as well as the Annual Gros Memorial event, “The Gift of our Wounds.”

Authors of *The Gift of Our Wounds*, Pardeep Singh Kaleka and Arno Michaelis, joined the Lewis community and its Lasallian partner organizations virtually to share their stories of transformation, forgiveness and collaboration to overcome hate and grow understanding.

Through the annual Peace Teach-In, we grow mindful of our intrinsic longing for community, even as the pandemic continues. We hear the cries of the poor and of the Earth to craft and tell more truthful and inclusive stories. Our capacity to deeply care for one another awakens.

The event is co-sponsored by Lewis University’s Gros Institute, Peace & Justice Studies, Holocaust Genocide and Interfaith Education Center Manhattan College.

The complete program including the Gros Memorial event can be found on our website at lewisu.edu/peaceteachin.



CAMPUS MASTER PLAN APPROVED

Approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2021, the new Campus Master Plan was developed over the last year led by the Smith Group, and provides a comprehensive approach to the future in providing for development of our campus, projected to 2040.

Dr. David Livingston, president, said the visionary plan reflects the construction and renovations that have taken place on campus during past years and provides for future needs as the campus develops. “The Campus Master Plan has been developed to guide current and future decisions for academic and space needs, including buildings, open spaces, infrastructure, pedestrian connections, and their relation to each other and the campus at large,” he stated.

“Linked to the University’s Strategic Plan for growth which is also in progress, the new Campus Master Plan provides a comprehensive strategy for Lewis University,” said Ray Kennelly, senior vice president and chief strategy officer.

Seven principles guide the Campus Master Plan: 1) build community on campus; 2) amplify student success; 3) prioritize re-use of existing facilities; 4) focus on elements that impact recruitment, retention and revenue; 5) enhance the core of campus; 6) make Lasallian values evident in the environment; and 7) create a connected campus.

The new Campus Master Plan has been posted online at lewisu.edu/CampusMasterPlan.



AVIATION FLEET GAINS AIRCRAFT

A Piper PA-44 Seminole is an American twin-engine light aircraft manufactured by Piper Aircraft that has joined the Lewis University Aircraft Fleet.

A contingent of Lewis representatives flew August 2 to the Piper Aircraft Inc., headquartered in Vero Beach, Fla., to collect the new aircraft.



Colleen Domke & Dr. Jennifer Buss

EDUCATION HONORS MANHATTAN PRINCIPAL WITH BISHOP KAFFER AWARD

Lewis University’s Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education recently recognized Colleen Domke, principal of St. Joseph Catholic School in Manhattan, Ill., with the Roger L. Kaffer Outstanding Principal Award.

“This award is to honor her outstanding dedication to the education profession and school leadership, and her commitment to the finest Christian ideals of education,” said Dr. Jennifer Buss, director of the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education.

Bishop Kaffer was the rector of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary for five years, and principal of Providence High School for 15 years. The Joliet native served as auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Joliet from 1985 until his retirement in 2002. He remained bishop *emeritus* until his death in 2009.

The Lewis University Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education offers assistance and programs to advance Pre-K through 12 Catholic education, preparing the next generation of educators and administrators to lead Catholic and Lasallian schools in their work to transform lives, educate all and instill Christian and Gospel values in those entrusted to their care. To learn more visit the website at lewisu.edu/welcome/offices/mission/institute.

STUDENTS PLACE IN TOP 5 OF NATIONAL CYBERFORCE COMPETITION

Senior Cybersecurity major Jocelyn Murray placed third and Ryan Syed, a junior double majoring in Computer Science and Mathematics, placed fifth out of over 330 competitors in the U.S. Department of Energy's Conquer the Hill Adventure Edition Cyberforce Competition, held July 16-18.

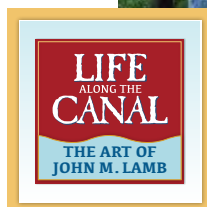
The competition was a virtual, individual contest in which participants were presented with anomalies (i.e. things that raise suspicion of an attack) and had to formulate ways to identify and address their causes. Participants received the anomalies earlier in the week and then had time to prepare their responses. The competitors who correctly responded to the most scenarios rose to the top of the rankings.

STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO PI THETA EPSILON

Six Lewis University students were inducted into Pi Theta Epsilon, the Occupational Therapy National Honor Society on September 8. Elizabeth Carignan, Sokea Chidlow, Rachel Eriksen, Miranda Grizaffi, Nicole Santillo, and Rachel Schneider are the first Lewis students to be initiated into Pi Theta Epsilon.

These inductees are among the top 35 percent of their class, and have a minimum 3.5 GPA. To be formally accepted into Pi Theta Epsilon, applicants also submitted items for evaluation by the national organization. These items include a sample of scholarly work, and evidence of scholastic recognition, publication, leadership and/or service.

Faculty advisor Dr. Allison Richardson, assistant professor of occupational therapy, assisted in establishing the Zeta Alpha chapter of Pi Theta Epsilon at Lewis University.



UNVARNISHED



SCZEPANIAK ENDOWED LECTURE HIGHLIGHTS CIVIL RIGHTS IN OUR BACKYARDS

The Lewis University History Department presented the annual James and Mary Clare Sczepaniak Endowed Lecture on October 26. This year's lecture featured a panel presentation "Unvarnished: Civil Rights in Our Backyards."

The panelists are part of a federally-funded program that explores segregation in the Northern and Western United States that includes 6 museums/cultural institutions. They discussed their research that documents exclusionary practices, such as restrictive housing covenants and sundown towns. They also previewed a new exhibit.

The panel included: Sarah Doherty, Ph.D., associate professor, North Park University, Chicago; Frank Lipo, executive director, The Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest; Nicholas Hoffman, administrator of museums and historic sites, Wisconsin Historical Society; Sabrina Robins, Ph.D., Board member, African Heritage, Inc. of Appleton, Wisconsin; and Donna Sack, vice president and chief program officer, Naper Settlement, Naperville.

Scan the QR code to view a video of the panel presentation.



PRESERVATION MAGAZINE SPOTLIGHTS HISTORY EXHIBIT

"Life Along the Canal: The Art of John M. Lamb" is on display at the Gaylord Building, a National Trust Historic Site in Lockport, Illinois. The exhibit was recently the spotlight in the "object lesson," a feature of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's award winning members magazine. The segment mentions Lewis professor emeritus John Lamb. The exhibit continues through the Fall.

The exhibit was the result of the collaboration between the Gaylord Building Historic Site and the Lewis University Adelman Regional History Center. To learn more visit the History Center website at lewisu.edu/historycenter.

PARTNER

PARTNERSHIPS

Silver Cross Hospital Partners with Lewis on Nursing Student Loan Repayment

With a shared commitment to the future of the nursing profession, Silver Cross Hospital in New Lenox has partnered with the Lewis University College of Nursing and Health Sciences to provide student loan repayment support of up to \$27,000 for Lewis nursing graduates who pursue a nursing career at Silver Cross after graduation.

“This program will help to alleviate some of the concern over student debt for our nursing graduates, and enable

them to fulfill their professional goals of providing excellent healthcare with compassion as part of the Silver Cross team,” said Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University.

Equal payments will be made directly to students over a four-year period which they can use to assist in repaying their student loans. For Lewis University graduates to qualify, they must:

- ▶ Complete their BSN degree at Lewis University
- ▶ Pass the NCLEX licensure exam
- ▶ Commit to a nursing career at Silver Cross for a minimum of four years
- ▶ Participate in Silver Cross’ Student Nurse Assistant Program, complete a clinical rotation at the hospital, or work in a paid summer employment opportunity at Silver Cross.

“We have an exceptional nursing team at Silver Cross,” said Ruth Colby, president and CEO of Silver Cross Hospital. “I’m delighted to partner with Lewis University and invite their well-trained graduates to our family.”



(L to R) Ruth Colby, President and CEO of Silver Cross Hospital, and Dr. David Livingston, President of Lewis University, sign a student loan repayment agreement Oct. 22 at Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill



Inha Aviation College Partners with Lewis

An international pathway has been created by a five-year Agreement of Cooperation and Exchange signed October 15 by Lewis University and Inha Aviation College, located in Incheon South Korea.

Under the agreement, Inha Aviation students will begin their studies in South Korea and complete them at Lewis University in the United States. The students have the option of either earning an Aviation Maintenance Technology Associate Degree or an Aviation Maintenance Certificate as they train on transport category quality equipment in addition to a retired MD-80.

“As a leader in aviation education since 1932, Lewis University is excited to support Inha students in their educational journey toward becoming licensed aviation professionals,” Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University, commented while signing the agreement. Also

representing Lewis were Dr. Christopher Sindt, provost, and Dr. Ryan Phillips, chair and professor of Aviation and Transportation Studies.

Attending the signing ceremony was a delegation from Inha Aviation, including Jong Hyun Kim, President/CEO, Jin Sung Hwang, Manager, Hoon Hee Kim, Attorney, Bill Cho, U.S. based Communication Liaison, and Shelley Johnson, U.S. based Communication Liaison.

This agreement is the latest in initiatives by Lewis University to address the global demand for maintenance technicians. Boeing’s Pilot and Technician Outlook 2021–2040 estimated that 626,000 new maintenance technicians are needed to maintain the global commercial fleet over the next 20 years. In collaboration with Inha Aviation and the Incheon International Airport, Lewis also is exploring course offerings in South Korea.

Araca, Inc. Enters 5-Year Partnership to Further Advance Planarization Technology

The Keleher Research Group at Lewis University has signed a new five-year sponsored research agreement with Araca, Inc., an innovative company specializing in Chemical Mechanical Planarization (CMP).

With an initial funding of \$150,000 USD by Araca, Inc., the collaboration will focus on developing innovative CMP and post-CMP cleaning materials, processes and approaches in exclusive support of Araca, Inc.’s strategic objectives.

“Such a long-term agreement will provide invaluable experience for students working with state-of-the-art polishing and cleaning equipment, help strengthen the new generation of scientists entering our field, and, in turn, enhance the company’s technology and pathfinding efforts. It is truly a win-win,” said Dr. Ara Philipossian, president and CEO of Araca, Inc.

Araca, Inc. will additionally donate several brand-new pieces of equipment (including its flagship RDP-500® Polisher and Tribometer, as well as a PCC-300® post-CMP PVA Brush Scrubber and Tribometer, totaling \$750,000 USD to be housed in the new “Araca Planarization Technology Center” on the campus of Lewis University.

“This initiative recognizes Professor Keleher’s extraordinary research, provides students with unparalleled learning opportunities, and connects Lewis University to a leading-edge company in a vital industry,” said Dr. Christopher Sindt, provost of Lewis University.

Araca Inc., headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, is a global provider of unique, enabling, and fully customized solutions for semiconductor device planarization application.

National and Regional GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

HRSA AWARDS \$2.1 MILLION GRANT TO NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES

Nursing education opportunities for disadvantaged students recently increased with the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration \$2.1 million Nursing Workforce Diversity grant to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

“Racially and ethnically diverse students, specifically Black and Hispanic students, as well as economically or educationally disadvantaged students will substantially benefit from this program. The goal of this program is to attract, retain, and complete a bachelor of science in nursing degree with a more diverse student population that better represents our community,” commented Dr. Daisy Sherry, MSN, PhD, associate professor of nursing and associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

The HRSA Nursing Workforce Diversity grant funds a scholarship program that addresses the needs of disadvantaged students in Cook, DuPage, and Will Counties in Illinois. “This partnership at the national level with HRSA provides significant support of Lewis University’s ability to provide a liberal arts



education with professional preparation. It extends our academic programming into the broader community while impacting the workforce and serving our neighbors,” Dr. Christopher Sindt, provost of Lewis University added.

Dr. Sherry will serve as project director in collaboration with Dr. Julia Koklys, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, chair of the Department of Nursing, Maureen Moore, MS, RN, coordinator of retention and interim undergraduate director for the Department

of Nursing and a new coordinator position to specifically oversee the scholarship program. The new coordinator will implement an academic support program for these students, as well as establish a living-learning community and a mentoring program for first-year nursing students.

The scholarship program for freshman, eligible nursing students is expected to diversify the nursing workforce graduating from Lewis University and begin to address the reduction of healthcare disparities for Black and Hispanic disadvantaged populations in the aforementioned counties. Healthcare disparities for Black/African American and Hispanic/Latinx populations include, but are not limited to, a shortage of primary care providers and a lack of representation from disadvantaged backgrounds in the nursing workforce. The program will support nursing students and expand a nursing workforce that includes individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds and is dedicated to provide quality care and demonstrate inclusivity to communities in need.

\$1.5 MILLION HRSA GRANT AWARDED TO HELP REDUCE MENTAL HEALTH CARE DISPARITIES

The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) also awarded a \$1.5 million Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Grant to graduate students in the Masters in Social Work and Masters in Nursing - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

The HRSA grant is to address workforce shortages that lead to inadequate access to treatment and result in health care disparities among the target population in African-American, Latino, and low-income communities.

“This grant will fund our program as it focuses on integrating competencies in child/adolescent health, interprofessional

collaboration, youth violence, and telehealth into courses and field placement,” said Dr. Ellen Thursby, associate professor of social work and project director. Drs. Doris Van Byssum, associate professor of nursing, and John Halloran, chair and assistant professor of social work, are also collaborating on the Lewis University initiative.

In the next four years, 60 students in the Lewis Master of Social Work program and 45 students in the Lewis Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner - Master of Science in Nursing program are expected to benefit from the program.

“We’re excited to partner again with HRSA on preparing our students to address behavioral



healthcare shortages. This investment in Lewis University’s preparation of professionals with a liberal arts education recognizes our Lasallian institution’s influence on the community,” Dr. Christopher Sindt, provost commented.

To learn more visit the Lewis website at lewisu.edu/behavioralhealth/.

UNIVERSITY AVIATION ASSOCIATION AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP TO LEWIS FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR AND ALUMNUS

The University Aviation Association recently awarded its CAE Entry Jet Level Scholarship to four recipients. Each student will receive a scholarship for training offered through CAE valued at \$17,000. Ross Harris, Lewis University certified flight instructor and alumnus since 2019, was among this year's recipients. The Singapore Army veteran plans to use the scholarship to become a pilot in the business aviation industry.

In 2019, Ross earned *Magna Cum Laude* honors with his bachelor's degree in Aviation Flight Management with a minor in Dispatch and a minor in Aviation Administration and began his current role as a CFI. A year later, he earned his M.S. in Aviation and Transportation.

University Aviation Association (UAA) represents collegiate aviation for over 200-plus colleges and universities worldwide offering aviation majors (pilots, ATC, dispatch, drones, airline and airport management). UAA publishes the Collegiate Aviation Guide college catalog and partners with industry and government to advance collegiate aviation through internships, career fairs, scholarships and research studies

CAE is a high technology company at the leading edge of digital immersion, providing solutions to make the world a safer place. Backed by a record of more than 70 years of industry firsts, it continues to reimagine the customer experience and revolutionize training and operational support solutions in civil aviation, defense and security, and healthcare. It has the broadest global presence in its industry, with approximately 10,000 employees, 160 sites and training locations in over 35 countries.



ARTS & IDEAS PROGRAM RECEIVES GRANT FROM HUMANITIES COUNCIL

The Arts & Ideas Program at Lewis University received a \$5,000 grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. This grant is in support of Arts & Ideas programming for the 2021-2022 academic year.

"With this and other grant support we look forward to Lewis University's becoming the artistic and cultural center of Will County and beyond," commented Dr. Laura Franklin, dean of the College of Humanities, Fine Arts and Communications.

Illinois Humanities, the Illinois affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a statewide nonprofit organization that activates the humanities through free public programs, grants, and educational opportunities that foster reflection, spark conversation, build community, and strengthen civic engagement.

Lewis University Arts & Ideas events are open to the public. For Arts & Ideas programming and information visit luartsandideas.org.

WORLD LANGUAGES PROGRAM RECEIVES STARTALK GRANT FUNDED BY NSA

The Lewis University World Languages Program is the recipient of a \$350,000 STARTALK grant funded by the National Security Agency to support the development of programs in critical-need languages that meet the national security priorities. A four-week, residential summer full-immersion language camp in Arabic, Chinese, and Russian will take place on the Romeoville Campus from June 20-July 16, 2022 and is open to high school juniors and seniors, and college freshmen and sophomores with at least 2 semesters in the target languages or equivalent. In addition to the summer program, students will take both pre- and post-program courses to be prepared for a full immersion experience and to sustain their language growth over the duration of a full year.



STARTALK mission is to inspire young Americans to language careers, thereby contributing to language workforce development for the Federal Government. Information can be found at lewisu.edu/STARTALK.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

Lewis University was allocated \$5,727,753 for funding of Higher Education Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the American Rescue Plan or HEERF III.

Lewis University awarded approximately 50 percent of the HEERF III funds during the timeframe of July 1 through December 31, 2021. The remaining 50 percent will be awarded between January 1 and June 30 of 2022.

Details on eligibility can be found on our website at lewisu.edu/admissions/financial/beerf-III.htm.

McMahon Participated in American Conference for Irish Studies

On June 4, 2021, **Dr. Eileen McMahon** (Professor, History) participated in the American Conference for Irish Studies, which was held virtually and hosted by Ulster University-Derry in Northern Ireland. Her presentation was entitled "Irish Women and the American Civil War."

Helm Awarded Supervisor of the Year

Dr. Katherine Helm (Professor, Psychology) was awarded the 2021 Clinical Supervisor of the Year Award on behalf of the Illinois Counselor Educators & Supervisors (ICES) Division of the Illinois Counseling Association (ICA).

Muench and White Collaboration Featured as Poem of the Week

Drs. Simone Muench (Professor, English Studies) and **Jackie White's** (Professor, English Studies, retired) poem "Self-Portrait as Mina Loy" was featured in *The Missouri Review* for the "Poem of the Week" series on October 18, 2021. Simone Muench's chapbook, *Hex & Howl*, co-written with Jackie K. White, was published by Black Lawrence Press, New York, August 2021. It was reviewed by Ryo Yamaguchi for Harriet Books/Poetry Foundation.

Tapia Co-Authors Paper in International Journal

Dr. Natalia Tapia (Professor, Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies) co-authored a paper with Dr. Wendi Pollock and Dr. Deborah Sibilía that was published on August 6, 2021 in the *International Journal of Police Science and Management*. The article entitled "Cultivation theory: The impact of crime media's portrayal of race on the desire to become a U.S. police officer" proposes that media, combined with cultivation theory and social cognition concepts may create implicit biases that are potential contributors to why U.S. police officers so commonly resort to the use of deadly force when interacting with Black individuals.

Markovic Presents Papers at NATO, Co-Authors Article, and Was Named Editor of New Journal

Dr. Vesna Markovic (Professor & Chair, Justice, Law, Public Safety Studies) virtually presented a paper on financing terrorism for the NATO Center of Excellence in Ankara, Turkey on October 25-29, 2021. She was also invited to present three topics on terrorism at an Advanced Training Course for NATO in Kuwait in November 2021.

In August 2021, a paper that Markovic co-authored titled "Suicide Bombing Terrorism" with Dr. Derrick Tin, MD from Harvard University, Dr. Gregory Ciottone, MD from Harvard University, and Dr. Jordan Galehan from Flagler College was accepted for publication by *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine Journal* from Cambridge University Press.

She was also named editor of the new *International Journal of Police Science*, the inaugural issue to be published in 2022.

Klappa Presents at Physical Therapy Leadership Conference

Dr. Susan Klappa (Professor, Doctor of Physical Therapy) presented a research poster presentation entitled, "Teaching & Learning in the Time of COVID: Flow State & Quality of Life" at the American Physical Therapy Association Educational Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia on October 22, 2021.

Letcher Named Fifth Executive Director of ALAN

In January 2021, **Dr. Mark Letcher** (Associate Professor, English Studies) was selected as the Executive Director of the Assembly on Literature for Adolescents (ALAN) of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), which is one of the largest organizations devoted to the study of adolescent literature. Mark is only the fifth Executive Director in ALAN's nearly 50-year history.

Canzonetta Work Continues to be Published... and Republished

Dr. Jordan Canzonetta (Assistant Professor, English Studies) published a chapter in an edited collection entitled *Intersectional Automations: Robotics, AI, Algorithms and Equity*. Her chapter, "From Automating to Informating: Toward a Productive Model of Human/Machine Collaboration in Higher Education," offers a look at the distinction between automating data versus informing data about student writing.

She also published an article entitled "Repurposing Plagiarism Detection Services for Responsible Pedagogical Application and (In)Formative Assessment of Source Attribution Practices" in the international journal *Assessing Writing*. The article discusses the pedagogical implications and consequences of working with plagiarism detection services in classrooms, with student-centered learning and pedagogical suggestions at its basis.

Lastly, a 2016 article that Canzonetta co-authored with Vani Kannan in the *Journal of Writing Assessment* is being republished for a book that "looks back at the last twenty years of writing assessment work and charts the changing landscape of the field through key articles published in the Journal of Writing Assessment (JWA)." The article entitled "Globalizing Plagiarism & Writing Assessment: A Case Study of Turnitin" has been selected to be part of this collection.

Chen Named Distinguished Member of IAES

Dr. Wei Chen (Associate Professor, Economics) was acknowledged as a distinguished member by the International Atlantic Economic Society (IAES). The IAES highlighted Chen as their Member of the Month for August 2021 on their website, along with his academic accomplishments. Members of the IAES include leading economists and experts from academe, government, and the private sector.

Honnold Receives Grant and Becomes GenNext Fellow

In July 2021, **Dr. Adrienne Honnold** (Assistant Professor, Music) was awarded a joint grant from the National Association of Music Merchants and the College Music Society. As a NAMM/CMS GenNext Fellow, Honnold attended the Summer NAMM Conference in Nashville, Tenn. and participated in specialized programming on curricula and leadership development in the music industry. As a result of the grant and participation at the conference, Honnold serves as a member of the CMS working group that is developing a music industry certification program for undergraduate students.

Interdisciplinary Team Presents at Midwest Conference

On October 15, 2021 an interdisciplinary team of professors made a presentation entitled "The future of work and people development" at the 2021 Midwest Academy of Management Conference hosted at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa. The topics discussed during the presentation included: Do we need a new way of working, or do we need a new way to increase engagement; the future of work after the pandemic; and holding onto our humanity at work: implications of the pandemic experience for the future of management. The team was composed of **Dr. Elizabeth Belgio** (Assistant Professor, Business Administration), **Dr. Sheila Boysen** (Associate Professor, Organizational Leadership), **Dr. Michael Cherry** (Associate Professor, Organizational Leadership), **Dr. Scott Kerth** (Associate Professor, Organizational Leadership), **Dr. Keith Lavine** (Associate Professor and Chair, Psychology), **Dr. Lesley Page** (Professor and Chair, Organizational Leadership), **Dr. Kami Tsai** (Assistant Professor, Psychology).

Plass Provides Expert Commentary on Cyber Risk

Dr. Matt Plass (Assistant Professor, ECAMS - Cybersecurity) provided expert commentary for an October 5 article published on AdvisorSmith, the small business resource website. The article is called "Cyberattacks Targeting Small Businesses – From spear-phishing to ransomware, cyberattacks targeting small businesses are on the rise," and the information provided by Dr. Plass looks at the cyber risks that small businesses should be concerned about, how to organize and manage their cyber risk, and some of the significant challenges to the cyber insurance market.

Kavouras Shares Study Findings about Soil Contamination

Dr. Jerry Kavouras (Professor, Biology) was a panelist for a seminar in the Doctorate and Master's Programs in Agrosociences at the Universidad de La Salle in Bogota, Colombia on September 24, 2021. The presentation was "Contamination of the Soil: normative development and case studies in sustainable soil management." Dr. Kavouras shared published findings from a Doherty Center funded study which examined airport soils.

Reyes Presents at Exploring Visual Worlds of Education Conference

Dr. Juana Reyes (Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Special Education) along with Dr. GERALYN (Gigi) Yu from University of New Mexico made a presentation at the Exploring Visual Worlds of Education Digital Conference from June 9-11 hosted by Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/Association for Visual Pedagogies in Bergen, Norway. The presentation, "Educators Drawn Together: A community of practice creates images from the field and offers counternarratives during the COVID-19 Pandemic," worked with early childhood education (ECE) teachers to use graphic materials to re-imagine the ECE field and their role within it.

Hinkle Named School Nurse of the Year

Dr. Dena Hinkle (Assistant Professor, School Nursing) was selected School Nurse of the Year at the Illinois Association of School Nurses Annual Conference on October 2, 2021. She was nominated by a fellow school nurse, and a letter written by a former principal endorsing her nomination and congratulating her for the honor was presented at the awards ceremony.

Dr. Jung Kim Co-Authors a Book and Co-Chairs STAR Mentoring Program

Dr. Jung Kim (Associate Professor, Literacy) co-authored a book with Dr. Betina Hsieh from California State University that was published in November 2021. The book entitled *Racialized Experiences of Asian American Teachers in the US: Applications of Asian Critical Race Theory to Resist Marginalization* draws upon Asian Critical Race Theory to synthesize understandings of the experiences of Asian American teachers in this country, an important issue as Asian Americans are the fastest growing racial group in the country.

Kim was selected as co-chair of the STAR (Scholars of color Transitioning into Academic Research institutions) Mentoring Program for the Literacy Research Association. STAR is a selective mentoring program for scholars of color beginning their careers as literacy researchers.

Jet Fuel Review Honored

In October 2021, *Jet Fuel Review (JFR)* faculty advisor **Dr. Simone Muench** (Professor, English Studies) and the JFR editors received a College Media Association Pinnacle Award, placing 2nd for "Literary Magazine of the Year."



Lewis University Athletics To Host Fifth Annual Flyer Red Dinner

The fifth annual Flyer Red Dinner – presented by the Lewis University Athletic Department – will be held on Thursday (March 17) at the Bolingbrook Country Club in Bolingbrook at 6:30 p.m. The dinner is a fundraising event to benefit Lewis Flyer Athletics, its 23 teams and more than 450 student-athletes.

There will be a cocktail hour to start the night, followed by dinner and a celebration of the Flyer Athletics, closed out by a final program that includes honoring the inductees of the Hall of Fame Class of 2022. The inductees from the 2022 Hall of Fame Class include: Austin Real (Basketball, '04), Doug McBride (Volleyball, 1997), Malgorzata Biela (Track and Field, 1998), Sarah Scott (Swimming, '03) and Jayme Heffler (Softball, '13).

Tom Sochowski, the voice of the Flyers, will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

To register or for more information on partnership opportunities contact John Fitzgerald at (815) 836-5228 or by email at j Fitzgerald@lewisu.edu. Come join us in a celebration of Lewis Flyer Athletics.



Lewis Men's And Women's Cross Country Teams Both Return To Nationals

Lewis University's men's and women's cross country teams had a successful season as both programs ran at the NCAA Division II Cross Country Championships for the first time since 1997 this fall.

The men's team finished the year ranked ninth in the U.S. Track and Field Cross Country Coaches Association Top 25 Poll while the women finished ranked 18th in the country.

The men's team received an automatic bid to the national meet, it's first since 2017, thanks to its second-place finish at the Midwest Regional at Angel Mounds in Evansville, Ind., while the women received an at-large berth to the championship meet for its first appearance at nationals since 2015.

Each team had three runners earn All-Region honors at the meet. For the men it was sophomore Anthony Farmer and graduate students Dustin Macuiba and Garrett White and for the women senior Cassidy Learn,

sophomore Anna Kozak and senior Stephanie Jarvis earned the accolades.

Lewis' men also successfully defended its Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship as it hosted the conference meet and repeated as champs defeating Illinois Springfield by 11 points. Farmer, Macuiba, White, graduate student Zach Fresenko, senior Anthony Pena and junior Daniel Arimi all earned All-GLVC honors by finishing in the top 20. Head coach James Kearney was named GLVC Coach of the Year on the men's side for the second straight season.

Lewis' women finished second at the conference meet scoring 80 points and had four runners place in the top 20 at the championships led by Learn who finished eighth overall while senior Arianna Amill-Ramos was 14th and Jarvis and Kozak finished 16th and 17th respectively. All four runners received All-GLVC honors.

Lewis Men's Soccer Caps Successful Season With Trip To NCAA Tournament

Lewis' men's soccer season capped a successful 2021 with its first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 2013 as the Flyers finished the season with a record of 12-5-3 including a 9-3-2 mark in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Lewis played a challenging schedule in 2021 as it played the top five teams in the region this season highlighted by a 2-1 win over Maryville, ranked 10th at the time, a 1-1 draw at then top ranked Indianapolis and rallied for a 3-3 draw against Parkside scoring two goals in the final four minutes of regulation to tie the game.

The Flyers started the season 4-0-1 but hit a rough stretch going 0-3-1 over a four-game stretch in late September and early October. They rebounded finishing the regular season on an eight game unbeaten (7-0-1) to get the fourth seed in the GLVC Tournament and host a first round game for the second consecutive season. Lewis' quest for a GLVC Championship came up short as its eight game unbeaten streak was snapped in the first round of the tournament by fifth seeded Drury with a 1-0 loss in double overtime.

Lewis received the seventh seed in Super Region Three and took on 10th seeded Davenport in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament at Lake Erie College in Mentor, Ohio. The Flyers scored twice in the span of 86 seconds to defeat the Panthers and advanced to the second round to take on second seeded Lake Erie. Against the Storm, Lewis took the lead into the halftime thanks to a late goal from senior Jimmy Mwanga but were unable to maintain that lead as Lake Erie scored twice in the second half to end the Flyers season.

Lewis was well rewarded with individual accolades in the 2021 season as Mwanga and fellow senior Domenic Baumann earned First Team All-GLVC honors while junior Nathaniel Campbell, sophomore Justin Darlage and junior Aris Oluwatuyi were named to the second team and junior Matt Beaulieu and freshman Sebastian Doppelhofer landed on the third team. Doppelhofer was also named the GLVC's Freshman of the Year.

Baumann, Mwanga, Oluwatuyi, and senior Matt Budreck were named to the United Soccer Coaches All-Region team with Baumann and Mwanga selected to the first



team while Oluwatuyi garnered second team honors and Budreck landed on the third team. In addition, Baumann and Mwanga were also named to the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association All-Region team. Baumann landed on the first team while Mwanga grabbed second team honors.

Beaulieu was rewarded for his outstanding work on the pitch and in the classroom as he was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District team for District Four. Beaulieu, a computer science major, has a 3.97 cumulative grade point average.

Women's Soccer Advances To GLVC Tournament For Third Time In Four Years

Lewis University's women's soccer team advanced to the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament for the third time in the last four seasons this fall thanks to a 9-6-2 record including a 7-5-2 mark in the GLVC.

The Flyers opened the season with three straight wins and were unbeaten through their first five games at 4-0-1. Heading into the second weekend of October, Lewis had a 5-1-2

record before dropping back-to-back 1-0 home contests to Truman State and Quincy.

The Flyers responded well to those losses winning its next four games by a margin of 12-4. The winning streak was highlighted by a 2-0 win at Rockhurst for the team's first ever win against the Hawks in Kansas City and followed by a season-high five goal scoring performance at William Jewell two days later.

Lewis wrapped up its home slate defeating NCAA Tournament participant Drury 1-0 at Lewis Stadium and then knocked off Southwest Baptist 4-2 to finish its home schedule with a record of 5-2-1.

The Flyers were in position to host a first round GLVC Tournament contest but suffered a pair of heart breaking one goal losses at Maryville and Missouri S&T to drop to the seventh seed and took on second seeded Drury in the opening round of the conference tournament in Springfield, Mo. The Panthers got their revenge on Lewis defeating the Flyers 2-0 to end their season.

Lewis had several accolades in the 2021 campaign as three players received GLVC Player of the Week honors as senior goalkeeper Lucy Clark was named the GLVC's Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 4 while sophomore Raina Spencer and senior Miranda Nirchi were named the GLVC's Offensive Player of the Week in back-to-back weeks on Oct. 18 and Oct. 25.

Senior Abby Gustafson received multiple postseason honors as she was named First Team All-GLVC and First Team All-Midwest Region on the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association (D2CCA) All-Region Teams. She was also rewarded for her work on the pitch and in the classroom as she was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America Third Team becoming the second player in program history joining Mackenzie Fuller (2016 and 2017) to earn the prestigious honor. She currently holds a grade point average of 4.00 and is double majoring in business administration and political science.

Senior Cali Havelka-Vanderplow earned second team All-GLVC honors and was named to the D2CCA All-Midwest Region second team.





Women's Volleyball Wins 11th GLVC Title

Lewis' women's volleyball team continued its run of success in 2021 as it recorded at 20-plus wins for the 15th time in the last 16 seasons. The Flyers finished the season with a 26-7 record, were 17-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference and won the GLVC Regular Season and Tournament championships. Lewis extended its GLVC record by winning its 11th title and advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the 15th consecutive season.

The Flyers opened the season with four wins at the Flagler Saints Invitational in St. Augustine, Fla., over Labor Day Weekend. The following weekend Lewis dropped three of its four contests at the prestigious Colorado Premier Challenge but one of those wins came against Western Washington who advanced to the Final Four in the Division II Women's Volleyball Tournament.

The Flyers came back from Colorado and opened conference play with an eight-match winning streak before suffering a five-set defeat at Drury on Oct. 8. Lewis bounced back with a sweep at Missouri S&T the next day to finish the first half of league play with a 9-1 record.

The Flyers took a break from conference play taking part in the Midwest Region Crossover in Hammond, Ind., where they went 1-2 losing to Michigan Tech and Hillsdale before defeating Northwood to conclude the weekend.

Lewis won its final eight matches in GLVC action highlighted by a four-set win at Missouri-St. Louis on Nov. 6 to claim its second consecutive GLVC Regular Season championship and earn the top seed in the conference tournament.

The Flyers won their first two matches in straight sets to setup a rematch against the Tritons for the GLVC crown. Lewis won the first set but UMSL rallied to win the next two. The Flyers took the fourth set to even the match at two sets apiece and were ahead 12-4 in the final set when the Tritons went on a 7-1 run to cut Lewis' lead to 13-11. Senior Ava Venema recorded a kill to set up championship point and then junior Megan Schlechte finished the match hitting a ball off UMSL's block and hit the floor ahead of a diving Triton to win the championship.

Lewis received the fourth seed in the NCAA Tournament and had to play the Tritons, the fifth seed, again in the opening

round of the tournament. The Flyers again won the first set but dropped the next two and again had to rally. They did winning the fourth set but this time were unable to win the fifth set as UMSL held on for a 15-13 victory.

Lewis had six players named to the All-GLVC squad in 2021 with Venema, senior Jamie Poppen, junior Juliana Van Loo and sophomore Lauren Stenman all named to the first team while Schlechte and sophomore Bella Ray landed on the second team. Poppen was named the GLVC's Libero of the Year for the second consecutive season and head coach Lorelee Smith was named the GLVC Coach of the Year for the fifth time in her career and second straight season.

Poppen, Stenman, Van Loo and Venema were all named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-America squad as Poppen was a third team selection while Stenman, Van Loo and Venema were honorable mention selections. Poppen was a second team All-America selection on the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association (D2CCA) All-America Team.

Poppen and Venema and were both rewarded for the work on the court and in the classroom being named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District Team for District Four.



Lewis Earns NCAA Division II Presidents' Award For Academic Excellence

The NCAA announced on Wednesday afternoon (Dec. 15) that Lewis University was one of 43 schools to receive the Presidents' Award For Academic Excellence. This award is presented to Division II member schools earning an Academic Success Rate (ASR) of 90 percent or higher.

Lewis has a four-year ASR of 91 percent and is one of five schools in the Great Lakes Valley Conference to receive the award. The Northeast-10 conference led Division II's 24 conferences, with eight schools earning the award, followed by the GLVC with five and the Sunshine State Conference and Central Athletic Collegiate Conference with four apiece.

"It is an honor recognizing 43 schools for this prestigious award," said Steven Shirley, president of Minot State and chair of the Division II Presidents Council. "I applaud these schools and student-athletes for their hard work, commitment and dedication to achieving academic excellence."

The Academic Success Rate is the percentage of student-athletes who graduate within six years of initial collegiate enrollment and includes virtually all Division II student-athletes.

Unlike the federal rate, the Division II ASR includes nearly 34,000 nonscholarship student-athletes and accounts for those who transfer to a Division II school after initial enrollment elsewhere, while removing student-athletes who leave school while academically eligible. The national ASR for the four cohorts of student-athletes who entered college from 2010 to 2013 is 74%.

Division II student-athletes continue to graduate at a higher rate than the general student body. Even when using the less-inclusive federal graduation rate, the 2013 entering class of student-athletes graduated at a rate of 62%, compared with 53% for the general student body.

Lewis Athletics Announces Third Class Of Academy Of Coaches

Lewis University Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek announced on Wednesday (Dec. 15) the third class of the Lewis Academy of Coaches. The four-member class will be honored during halftime of the men's basketball game against McKendree on Saturday, January 15th at 3 p.m.

This year's class includes Mike Dooley (Class of 1972), Bob Gillespie (Class of 1971), Kenn Krizan (Class of 1967) and Tom A. White (Class of 1983).

Dooley led the baseball program at St. Xavier University for 22 seasons from 1993-2014 and was associated with the team for more than 30 years. He guided SXU to an 807-501-3 overall record good for a .617 winning percentage. He built a strong program as his teams averaged over 37 wins each season and sent 20 players to professional careers. Dooley's best season came in 2006 as he led the Cougars to the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC), NAIA Region VII Tournament and the NAIA Region VII-VIII Super Regional titles and advanced to the NAIA World Series for the first time since 1988. He was named the NAIA Region VII and CCAC Baseball Coach of the Year in 2006. He was also named Regional Coach of the Year in 1994 and was the CCAC Coach of the Year in 1994, 1999, 2002 and 2009. Dooley has been inducted into the CCAC Hall of Fame, the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Hall of Fame and the St. Xavier Hall of Fame.

Gillespie is the winningest coach in Ripon College history in both baseball and men's basketball. He had a combined record of 869-536-3. He took the Red Hawks to new heights in men's basketball winning six Midwest Conference championships and took the team to 10 NCAA Tournaments while averaging 16 wins per season. In his 32 years as head coach, Gillespie saw just four losing seasons, while recording a school-record 22 consecutive winning campaigns from 1983-2004. Gillespie's winning percentage of .673 in basketball is amongst the top 40 in Division III history. As basketball coach, he coached four All-Americans, three Academic All-America selections, 14 All-Region selections, 76 All-Conference performers and five MWC Players of the Year.

On the baseball diamond, Gillespie led Ripon to six conference championships and three NCAA Division-III playoff appearances,

while compiling a 359-288-3 record. One highlight of his baseball coaching career came in 2006 when the Red Hawks became the first MWC team to go undefeated in a 16-game conference season. Gillespie led Ripon to seven conference titles on the diamond and was a part of seven more as an assistant coach under his father Gordie from 1995-2005. He has been inducted into the Ripon College Athletic Hall of Fame, the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and the basketball court in Ripon's Wyman Gymnasium at Storzer Center was renamed Bob Gillespie Court in 2010.

Krizan won over 1,000 games between junior high school and high school in his 40-year career at Beecher High School. He won 24 conference championships, 10 regional titles, five sectional titles and made two appearances in the state finals. At the high school level, Krizan led the Bobcats to 508 wins placing him 30th on the IHSA all-time career list. He tops all 2A coaches in victories. He was inducted into the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association's Hall of Fame in 2010.

White spent 26 seasons as the head boys basketball coach at De La Salle where he accumulated a record of 417-252. He put together eight 20-plus win seasons, won six Chicago Catholic League (CCL) championships, one CCL tournament title and nine regional championships. He coached more than 30 players that would go onto to play NCAA Division I basketball. He led the Meteors to four consecutive regional titles from 2008 to 2011. He spent 24 years in the classroom as an English/Reading teacher. He was nominated for the Golden Apple Award. White is a two-time recipient of the Archdiocese of Chicago, Heart of the School Award winning at Archbishop Weber High School and De La Salle Institute. He was also named the Lasallian Educator of Year, was the Chicago Catholic League Coach of the Year, the Chicago Southtown Coach of the Year and was a recipient of the Tony Lawless Award. White was named the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association District Coach of the Year three times in his career and was named the Illinois Athletic Director of the Year, Division I, for the city of Chicago. He is enshrined in four Halls of Fame: Girls Catholic Athletic Conference, Chicago Catholic League, Illinois Basketball Coaches Association and the De La Salle Institute.



2020-2021
**ANNUAL
REPORT**

LEWIS UNIVERSITY



ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

The enclosed annual report shows a remarkable milestone for Lewis University. Fiscal year 2021 was a year which demonstrated the resiliency, perseverance, and collaborative nature of the Lewis community. As a community, we achieved our best fundraising year in the last decade and our second-best in the last 20 years! Not only will these generous gifts transform the lives of our current students, but this type of achievement is one sign of what is ahead for the future of Lewis University.

With an endowment that has grown to over \$105 million from \$69 million in 2017, we are better positioned to plan for the future. As we embark on a new university Strategic plan centered around distinctive student experiences, values in action, and institutional prosperity we will also develop a new five-year strategic fundraising plan to support these pillars. Philanthropic support will continue to be an important part of serving our students. We are immensely grateful for your commitment to our students and, in turn, those they impact as they go out into the world and live their calling.

Enjoy the following pages which demonstrate the impact of your generosity.

With much gratitude,

Dr. David J. Livingston

Colleen Ahearn

ADVANCEMENT LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Forever a Flyer

It is with much gratitude, that we say goodbye to Luigi B. Amendola '01. Luigi has served our Advancement department for nine years, most recently as Vice President of University Advancement. He has helped Lewis University achieve great milestones. "Although I am moving on, as an alum, I will always be a Flyer," says Luigi as he advances in his career.

As of October 1, 2021, we welcomed Colleen Ahearn into the role of Interim Vice President of University Advancement. Colleen has served Lasallian institutions for over a decade and is now in her fourth year at Lewis. She leads with zeal and is dedicated to ensuring that we are great stewards of your philanthropic contributions while keeping students at the forefront. Colleen can be contacted at cahearn@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5475.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

6,183
TOTAL STUDENTS



47,566

Total
Alumni



3,161

Donors
in FY21



\$10.7
MILLION

Raised in FY21



300+

Privately Funded
Scholarships



469

President's
Circle Members
in FY21

ENDOWMENT GROWTH



1,054

OF LEWIS
STUDENTS
RECEIVED
\$1,689,770
IN COVID
RELIEF
FUNDS

91% OF
UNDERGRAD
STUDENTS
RECEIVED
FINANCIAL
AID

55% OF TUITION

On average, Lewis covers 55.9% of first-year students' tuition.

It is our mission to make a Lewis education accessible for ALL. Your generosity to the Annual Fund helps to make this possible.

163

DEGREE
PROGRAMS

33% OF
UNDERGRAD
STUDENTS ARE
CONSIDERED
LOW-INCOME

NEW PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Digital Media and Journalism, BA
- ▶ Design, BA
- ▶ Health Information Management, MS
- ▶ Peace and Justice Studies, BA
- ▶ Pre-Electrical and Computer Engineering, BS

27% OF
UNDERGRAD
STUDENTS
ARE **FIRST-GENERATION**

2,276
GRADUATE
STUDENTS

3,907
UNDERGRAD
STUDENTS

STUDENT
STATS



GIFTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Imagination. Innovation. Impact.

At Lewis, students are welcomed to an innovative community that prizes their dreams for the future. With personalized attention through leading-edge community partnerships, students are challenged and equipped to live out those dreams. They work hard to address issues that matter in our community. Together with you, and in association, we're building a better world.



Tom and Nancy Brodnicki on the Lewis University campus to present the check from the Yawkey Foundation to the WLRA Endowment.

WLRA Endowment Grant from Yawkey Foundation

Lewis University was awarded a **\$25,000 charitable grant in support of the WLRA Endowment.** This donation was provided in recognition of the Yawkey Foundation's deep appreciation and gratitude for Nancy Brodnicki, whose talent, commitment, and kindness were demonstrated every day of her many years of service with the foundation.

The Yawkey Foundation is dedicated to perpetuating the philanthropic legacy of Tom and Jean Yawkey, whose eight decades of quiet generosity supported individuals and families in the communities that were closest to their hearts. The foundation is committed to preserving and sustaining the charitable values of the Yawkeys by investing in impactful nonprofits providing resources, opportunity, and dignity to the vulnerable and underserved.

Lewis University and its mission of helping students reach their fullest potential hold a special place in Nancy's heart. As former Lewis employees and parents of Lewis graduates, Nancy and her husband, Thomas, have been generous supporters of our students for nearly four decades. In 2008, they established an endowed scholarship to provide financial assistance to students studying Radio and Television Broadcasting or Communications. This grant serves as a testament to their valued philanthropic support and unwavering commitment to the success of our students at Lewis.

"This gift will help to build the Lewis University WLRA Radio Endowment and leave an impact on the future of the radio and television station. Our goal is to bring the endowment up to \$100,000 as the broadcasting program reaches its 50th Anniversary in 2023." – John Carey, associate professor/director of Electronic Media.

The WLRA Endowment will help to ensure the longevity of the WLRA radio station, a legacy that started in 1973, and impact Flyers today and for generations to come. To learn more about this endowment or make a gift, please visit alumni.lewisu.edu/WLRAQueue.



The WLRA radio station has and always will be a program committed to student success, fueled by a spirit of innovation.

ISTAT Foundation

A recent gift of \$7,500 from the ISTAT Foundation will help to provide desktop training aids that the Aviation and Transportation Department can use in on-site visits to high schools in order to teach prospective students about aviation. The ISTAT Foundation also provides \$20,000 in scholarship assistance for aviation students annually.

"The continued support from ISTAT positively impacts the lives of our students and programs. Lewis is very fortunate to have such a generous partner as we collectively work to help our students realize their dreams." – Dr. Ryan Phillips, Co-chair, professor, Aviation and Transportation Studies



Representatives from Girls 4 Science visited the Romeoville campus to speak with aviation camp participants.

Girls 4 Science Aviation Camp

Lewis University was excited to bring back the youth aviation summer camp this past summer. The Department of Aviation and Transportation Studies partnered with Girls 4 Science to bring this experience to middle and high school girls in our region. Girls 4 Science is a nonprofit organization dedicated to exposing girls, ages 10-18, in Chicago to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math.) A special thank you to our corporate partners Arco Murray, Ecolab, and Ingredion for sponsoring the camp.

On The Rise Endowment Campaign Update

Lewis is on the rise! We meet our students where they are and take them where they need to go, changing their lives in the process. In fiscal year 2021, just over \$1.3 million was raised toward the endowment. **The endowment has grown from \$69 million in fiscal year 2017 to over \$105 million today.** We will continue growing through our On the Rise endowment campaign this fiscal year.

Now with over \$100 million in scholarship support, growing endowment funds, and privately funded programs and events, it is evident that the Lewis community works together, and in association, to impact the world for the better.



2021-22 Golden Flyer Scholarship Recipient

Golden Flyers

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

A combined 50-year reunion for the class of '69, '70, '71 and '72 has been rescheduled for May 14, 2022, as a part of Alumni Day. Stay tuned for more details. If you have any questions, please contact Dennisa Walker, Executive Director of Alumni Engagement, at walkerde@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5882.

In 2014, the Golden Flyers Annual Scholarship was established to celebrate the legacy of this special group of alumni and has since grown into an endowed fund to leave a lasting impact on today's Flyers.

"This recognition inspires me to continue to push myself forward and achieve my goals within aviation. I come from a hardworking family who always strived to give our best no matter the situation. This led me to grow into who I am today and give my best to my passion – whether that be in my education, career, or personal life.

Not only does this [scholarship] assist me in my studies and professional development, but this award assures me that there truly are people out there looking out for others. I want to thank you for being a major part of the reason that it is possible for me to get one step closer to my dream career. I hope to utilize your generosity to spread my passion and to teach others along the way." – 2021-22 Golden Flyer Scholarship Recipient

To make a gift to the Golden Flyers Endowed Scholarship, please visit us online at alumni.lewisu.edu/GoldenFlyersGive.

Today's Flyers. Tomorrow's Leaders...



Pilot



Police Officer



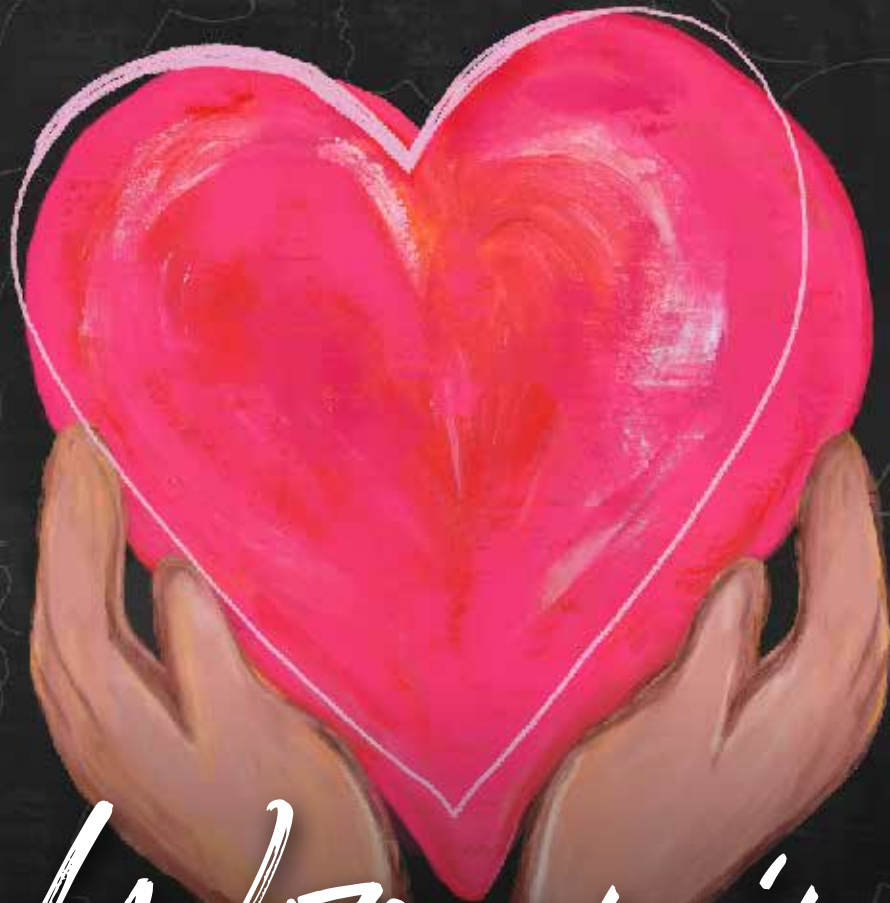
Musician



Occupational Therapist



Accountant



Women in PHILANTHROPY

“Dating all the way back to the earliest times for Saint De La Salle and his Brothers, women have played a pivotal role in the advancement of Lasallian education. In large measure, those remarkably generous women financially made possible the establishment of the first Lasallian schools for the human and Christian education of the young, especially the poor and marginalized. They established the foundation for the tens of thousands of women today whose engagement and leadership in the Lasallian mission at every level of education are vital to its sustainability today. Were very dedicated and resourceful women not to have embraced De La Salle’s vision from the very beginning, it could never have been said that the Brothers and their lay partners have been “transforming lives since 1680.” - Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President *Emeritus*

Kay CANNON

Theatre (BA), Education (MA) Writer, Actress, Director, Producer - Cinderella, Pitch Perfect film series, 30 Rock, New Girl

Kay comes from a large family. She chose Lewis for several reasons: she received a 4-year track scholarship to attend Lewis (as a sprinter); she was able to walk-on the women's volleyball team; and the theatre played a large part of her Lewis experience. She auditioned for plays that would work around her track schedule. She remembers her mom driving her to the Drake Relays after her play performance, and then driving her back the same weekend for another performance.

Kay believes that the practical nature of her experience at Lewis has helped in her current career. She thinks of how professional the theatre was at Lewis. It was very hands-on with people painting sets as well as acting – students were involved in the whole production. The practical experience helped her with getting into the theatre in Chicago. Kay started her career performing in comedy. And so, her writing initially was about creating her own material. She enjoys writing and directing. She hopes to write, direct, and act again and is currently working on another script.

Kay and her siblings all knew that they needed to go to school on a scholarship. She believes that no one should be held back from an education because of money. Her message with her current film *Cinderella* is that anyone can achieve their dreams. Even though it



is a fairytale, that's the message she had in mind when writing.

The timing of the film is very special as her daughter is just turning 8 years old. She loved watching her reaction to the movie. She has received many heartfelt messages and videos from all over the world

from parents of children who let her know what a positive inspirational message this was for them.

Kay made lifelong friends at Lewis and provided her with a great network of caring, wonderful people. In giving back to the University she said, "Lewis provided me with opportunities that I don't think I would have had at any other place of learning. I'm extremely grateful to all the professors and staff who made my collegiate experience so rewarding. But the only reason I could afford my LU experience was through athletic and academic scholarships. Without them, I would have missed out on so much -- my life going down a completely different path. It's why I have decided to give back to the University with an annual scholarship. I would hate to think that someone wasn't able to follow their dreams because of finances. I'm proud to give back. Proud to be a Flyer."

Sharon FISHER

Donor and Friend of Lewis University

Growing up in a family surrounded by musical talent, the center of Sharon Fisher's entire world has and continues to be music. At the age of six, she began taking piano lessons from her neighbor, Mrs. Stella Gaines. As she grew, so did her love for music. Sharon taught herself how to play the clarinet in order to participate in both the Kelvin Grove and Lockport Township High School bands.

Although Sharon had planned to attend college and major in music and journalism, she took a job instead due to unforeseen family circumstances. Upon graduation from high school, Sharon was hired at Argonne National Laboratory in the Industrial Hygiene & Safety Division where she was quickly promoted to administrative assistant for the division director.

Sharon worked for about ten years before being struck head on by a driver who was high on drugs. Her 442 Oldsmobile convertible was demolished and her ability to work was gone in the blink of an eye. Her dreams were altered forever.

Sharon was in and out of the hospital, undergoing multiple surgeries and many months of physical therapy. Out of work for nearly two years, Sharon finally returned to learn that her position was no longer available. It was a difficult decision to pursue another career after all she had been through, but a necessary one. Sharon became manager of a retail business owned by the physical therapist who led her rehabilitation team.

Sharon was resilient and didn't let this detour stop her from pursuing her passions. She had a long and successful career before



retiring in 2013. As a gift to herself, Sharon purchased a Steinway piano – the exact piano that has been named in her will to go to Lewis University.

"I want my piano to go to someone who will take care of it and use it well," added

Sharon. "It is a beautiful instrument that deserves to be played and protected – and the All-Steinway program at Lewis is the natural choice. Over the years, I have gotten to know the people who manage the music program and have been highly impressed. I love this piano and am happy to give the students at Lewis one of the finest instruments available on the market."

In recent years, Sharon began taking organ lessons in order to become a church musician. She joined the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and they were invited to perform at the annual "Halloween Organ Spooktacular" program at Lewis University. After building such a strong relationship with students, faculty, and staff in the music department over the last decade, she finds comfort in knowing that her biggest treasure in life will be in good hands.

"Sharon's amazing support of the All-Steinway designation program will benefit our students for years to come. We are incredibly fortunate to have the generous support," added Dr. Mike McFerron, Chair, Professor of Music.

Read more about the All-Steinway program on page 33.

Denise MAJESKI '77 (BSN)

VP Operations/Bernthal Family Chief Nurse Executive,
Northwestern Medicine

With dreams to become a professional female basketball player, Denise Majeski's family had a different plan for her future – nursing. But the combination of a formal education and opportunity to play and coach intercollegiate sports at Lewis University is something that Denise always found extremely valuable and has contributed to her professional growth throughout her 40-plus years in nursing leadership.

In the 1970's, girls' sports were just taking off due to Title IX in 1973, and Denise wanted to do it all – after all, sports were what she loved most. She played basketball, volleyball and ran track and field, all while remaining committed to her studies. Denise recalls being part of the second class of female nursing students at Lewis after having been an all-boys school for many years.

Denise graduated with a BSN from Lewis, married her college sweetheart, Carl Majeski '76, and began her career at St. Francis Hospital in Evanston where she worked in the Oncology Unit. Shortly after, in 1980, she transitioned to what was known at that time as Lake Forest Hospital and served in various leadership roles.

In 1985, Denise decided to take a step back and focus on building a family as she continued working as a part-time floating nurse in oncology, telemetry, ICU, and many other areas for about three years. Shortly after, a position opened up in Utilization Management. Denise shifted gears and sought after this new role, quickly being promoted to manager and then director of case management services. In preparation for Lake Forest Hospital's transition to Northwestern Medicine in 2010, Denise went back to



school and earned her master's degree in nursing administration and certification as a nurse executive. Denise now serves as Chief Nurse Executive at Northwestern Medicine, a role which she has held for the past eight years.

After a long and successful career, Denise was endowed as the first Bernthal Chief Nurse Executive in 2017 – which remains one of the accomplishments of which she is most proud. Her dedicated work in various nursing leadership roles and areas allowed her to form strong bonds with the local community and, ultimately, be the perfect fit for this role.

“It was Lewis University that prepared me for this type of responsibility, always having a huge focus on autonomy and leadership skills, as well as advocating for complete knowledge,” said Denise. “Lewis was not just school for me, it was a place of exploration; somewhere I felt comfortable learning, developing relationships, and taking time to understand humanity.”

This type of endowed position provides Denise with the opportunity to invest in future nurses from communities that are underserved by funding the gap for educational opportunities. She works hard to bring these individuals to their highest potential so that, one day, they can have a successful career in the healthcare field and give back to their own communities.

“I have had the ability to influence the way nurses practice and I am proud of this work. Lewis' values of integrity, honesty, and association are something I incorporate into my work every day,”

Denise added.

Denise's experiences at Lewis helped prepare her to be a strong leader in her career, and now she is excited to be in a position to pay it forward.

“I give back to Lewis because I want to invest in future leaders. Whether it be in healthcare or another field, I want to provide resources for those in need to continue their education and go on to be successful. What I see in my role now is transformative nurses coming out of Lewis; they are high-performing, loyal, and easily grown as leaders. Lewis has grown so much – the programs, the campus, and just the university as a whole – and when I see that kind of commitment to fostering great education, I can't help but want to give back!”



Katherine HELM-LEWIS, Ph.D.

Director of Graduate Programs in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Professor of Psychology

Have your philanthropic efforts been inspired by anything or anyone special?

My parents have definitely been my biggest role models. They worked as Chicago Public School (CPS) teachers/administrators, but also put in a lot of extra time to serve in various capacities at their schools which I always admired. They inspired me to be generous with both my time and money and taught me the importance of giving back.

Why do you choose to give back to Lewis University?

The culture of people and commitment to our Mission and Lasallian values make Lewis what it is. I always believed in our Mission, but it was not until I attended the first formation program in Rome in 2007 that I saw just how powerful it could be. That trip had a huge impact on me, and I was so inspired to see our Mission in action in that way. Every little bit counts so I do what I can to live out our Mission – in and out of the classroom.

How has your philanthropic support evolved over the years?

This will be my 20th year at Lewis. Shortly after I started here, my colleague, Dr. John Greenwood, established a scholarship to support minority students. I chose to donate to that scholarship over the years, in addition to other programs, student organizations, and



support funds that closely aligned. Students of color face unique challenges and I have always been very passionate about doing something to help. My commitment is to all students, but my philanthropic efforts focus on underserved and underrepresented students.

Besides donating to Lewis, what other philanthropic endeavors have you been a part of?

In 2006, I received the Lasallian Volunteer Award for my service as a volunteer in the Big Brother Big Sisters program. I had a little sister, Carlena, that I took under my wing. In that same year, my father, Dr. Luke Helm, Sr., passed away. My family made the decision to start a scholarship fund in his memory that would support students from underrepresented backgrounds in Chicago Public Schools. Carlena received financial assistance from my family's fund and now is enrolled in a master's program. It is truly inspiring to see things come full circle, and that is why I choose to give back to the things that mean the most to me!

What is your advice to others about giving back?

I understand and respect that everyone is in a different spot financially. Having three children, I know firsthand that giving back can be challenging. Lewis has given me a lot of opportunities, which is why I feel it is so important to invest my time and money and I hope others feel the same way. I believe in our Lasallian values and choose to give back to help create a sense of community and caring while supporting students in getting a Lewis education.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Illinois Counselor Educators & Supervisors (ICES) Division of the Illinois Counseling Association (ICA) recently awarded Dr. Katherine Helm-Lewis with the 2021 Clinical Supervisor of the Year Award. This award speaks to her commitment to the Lewis mission and her devoted service to our students. THANK YOU for all you do to support our students!



PLAN AHEAD WITH A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION

As 2021 ends, keep in mind that a charitable distribution (QCD) from an IRA offers a unique opportunity for anyone 70 ½ years old or older to give to Lewis and reduce taxable income—even for donors who are unable to itemize their tax returns or do not intend to claim a charitable deduction.

With a Qualified Charitable Distribution:

- ▶ Transfer up to \$100,000 annually in aggregate to Lewis and your favorite charities free of tax (\$200,000 per couple with separate IRAs)
- ▶ Avoid an increase to your adjusted gross income ensuring that Social Security income is not taxed at a higher level
- ▶ Ensure that gifts made directly from your IRA custodian to Lewis, count toward your annual Required Minimum Distribution

And remember, beneficiary designations through your IRA and/or other retirement plans can be another tax-efficient source of future funding for Lewis University. If you are planning an IRA gift or if you have any questions about smart ways to use your retirement plan assets, contact Brandon Hoeft or visit lewisu.givingplan.net.

The information provided is for illustrative purposes only. Lewis University strongly encourages you to seek professional financial counsel when making charitable contributions. If you have questions, please contact Executive Director of Development, Brandon Hoeft, JD, MBA, CFRE at bhoeft@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5399.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Signum Fidei Gala Celebrates the Lewis Mission Around the Globe

It was inspiring to see our Lewis supporters from around the globe come together in support of the Lewis University Mission Fund. This year's event raised nearly \$300,000 and was attended by over 200 participants – both in person and virtually. All proceeds from this event help to provide critical assistance to students experiencing unprecedented financial hardships. This fund continues to impact our students which, in turn, makes a difference in the lives of those they go on to serve around the world as Lewis Flyers.



"I am so grateful that I received extra support from the Mission Fund. Financially, I experienced a rough time in my life and was unsure if I would be able to continue my education. This funding and constant prayer are what enabled me to continue my education, graduate and pursue my dreams.

I have always held in high regard the Lewis Mission

with God being the center of it all. Lewis University's ethics and moral standards will always be included in my everyday life and working principles. Therefore, justice is of great significance to me because of the work that I do as a clinical counselor and working with the foster care youth. It has always been vital that I promote moral and ethical action which is important not only for the clients that I serve, but for others as well. I am constantly reflecting on ways that can effectively help the individuals that I serve and continue to be the voice and advocate that they need to help with the injustice that they may face in life."

#LewisUAlumni Chandace Campbell '13 '17, Clinical Therapist

Thank you to all who joined us, in person and virtually, as well as our generous donors and sponsors. A special thank you to Russ and Dawn Smyth whose generosity allowed all gifts to the Mission Fund to be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$25,000. To see a full list of sponsors, videos, and photos, please visit alumni.lewisu.edu/signumfidei.



Lewis alumni, faculty, staff, students, and community members gathered at The Westin to celebrate the Lewis University Mission Fund. Since its inception in 2009, the Mission Fund has helped hundreds of students who were facing unprecedented hardships continue their education as a Flyer.

Thomas “Fly Guy” Likens Virtual Reality Lab Open House

On September 9, 2021, Lewis held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house to celebrate a new way of learning with the Thomas “Fly Guy” Likens Virtual Reality Lab. Lewis Computer Science alumnus and Emerging Technology Leader at PwC, Scott Likens '96, funded this project with the goal of preparing students for how the world is changing and providing an opportunity for our students to gain hands-on experience.



“Let’s take learning to the next level. This lab is about supporting Lewis students to do something brilliant,” said Scott. “Students (and teachers) need to learn differently, and a virtual reality lab is how we can prepare Lewis students for how the world is changing.”

The “Fly Guy” Virtual Reality Lab is intended to be interdisciplinary, according to Dr. Ray Klump, associate dean and professor in the College of Aviation, Science and Technology. “Computer Science students will learn how to make VR games and simulations, but many of these will be driven by what other departments’ researchers and teachers need to enhance their craft. I think it will become a major hub of scholarship, as so much scholarly work today either starts from or in some way incorporates computer modeling.”

This unique space on the Romeoville campus is in memory of Scott’s father, Thomas Likens, who passed away in October of 2018. Thomas loved to fly, and he loved computers. Make sure to check out this new space next time you’re on campus!



Lewis community members exploring the new Virtual Reality Lab during open house this Fall.

Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Symposium

The Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Program is a collaborative experience for Lewis University students from multiple STEM disciplines to engage in undergraduate research over the summer. Thanks to the support of Dr. James Girard, Russ and Dawn Smyth, Ed and Jody Sanchez, and other generous donors, 17 students participated this past summer. Please read the feature article on page 2 to learn how valuable this program is in developing our students problem solving and critical thinking skills. You can find more information on all research projects at lewisu.edu/sure.

SURE STUDENT FEATURES



ANTHONY BAUDINO

is a biology major researching photodynamic therapy, a cancer treatment that has less side effects than chemotherapy. The Coal City, Ill. native’s project was titled “Developing a Metal Organic Framework and Phthalocyanine Delivery System for use in Photodynamic Therapy”. Anthony

is pursuing a career as a pathologist and hopes that his project can help create a drug delivery system to be used in photodynamic therapy.

CAROLINE NOWAK is a biology major who studied the water flea, *Daphnia*, to look into why some hosts are more susceptible to disease than others. The Palos Park student researched alongside her faculty mentor Dr. Jerry Kavouras to create “Examination of *Daphnia* Microbiomes in a Planktonic Disease System using a Molecular Approach.”



This is a collaboration with Dr. Carla Caceres at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign that was supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF). This research will help Caroline on her journey to become a pediatrician.



NICHOLAS ROHMANN

is a physics major who presented his research “Using Mathematical Models to Simulate Disease Transmission and Identify Optimal Prevention Strategies”. The Lindenhurst, Ill. native spent the last ten weeks developing his research alongside Dr. Brittany Stephenson, and he aspires to one day be a pilot or physicist in the Air Force.

Kathleen Springer Community Space Ribbon Cutting

The Kathleen Springer Community Space is named in honor of Kathleen Springer, whose estate gifted more than \$315,000 to Lewis to provide space and scholarships for housing in St. Charles Borromeo South for more than 400 ROTC, military, and veteran students. The gift was designed to create a sense of community and help foster Association, one of the University's core Mission values.

“The opportunity that student veterans can live among a group of their peers here, made possible by the generous gift from Kathleen, will help us entice even more students to come here to call Lewis University home and not just where they take their classes,” said Scott Inskip, assistant director of Lewis University Veterans Affairs and Recruitment.

Lewis held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 9, 2021 for this space that features a remodeled kitchen with an island and seating. Bill Kovacic, financial planner and family friend, shared how Springer remembered fondly her mornings with ROTC students in the cafeteria after their workouts. As a Sodexo employee, she would provide the famished students a hearty meal and enjoy some lively conversation. She appreciated the sacrifices the students made for their country and loved to provide them a space to relax and refresh as they formed a community in the cafeteria.

Years later, Springer was diagnosed with a terminal illness which is when she decided to leave a lasting impact through an estate gift to the university.

To carry Springer's legacy further in support of the University's "On the Rise" endowment campaign, the Kathleen Springer Foundation has committed to matching every additional dollar contributed to either the Kathleen Springer Community Space Endowment or the Kathleen Springer ROTC and Veteran Student Housing Endowment.



Bill Kovacic, financial planner and family friend of Kathleen Springer, joined the Lewis community for this special ribbon cutting ceremony.

It will match others' donations dollar for dollar up to \$25,000 until the campaign concludes on June 30, 2024.

Visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Give for more information.

The vibrant veteran community at Lewis of more than 400 military veterans is consistently recognized as one of the best in the nation by various organizations, including Military Times. Lewis student veterans have a retention rate of 79 percent, which is 10 percent higher than the national average. Support from external partners, such as the McCormick Foundation and the American Council of Education, help offer unique programs, like the Military Emergency Relief Fund and the Military Education Resource Center for Student Veterans to come to get questions answered in a one-stop-shop format.

For information on any of the programs and services Lewis provides military, veterans and their families visit our website at lewisu.edu/veterans.



Dominique Wood Scholarship Event

This past spring, the Lewis community gathered to honor the life of sophomore Dominique Wood who passed away in a car accident on July 22, 2020 at the age of 19. Dominique was from Merrillville, Indiana and was a student-athlete on the Lewis Men's Track & Field team. The Wood family established a \$5,000 scholarship in Dominique's memory and presented the check to the first-ever recipient, Jacoby Jones.

Jacoby Jones, 2021-22 recipient of Dominique Wood Annual Scholarship



Lewis student, Adan Martinez, playing one of Lewis University's Steinway pianos.

Steinway Celebration

The Lewis University Music Department has embarked on a journey to become an "All Steinway" school. All-Steinway schools demonstrate a commitment to excellence and a unique educational experience by providing students with the rich, unrivaled sound and pristine touch of Steinway and Steinway-designed Boston pianos.

On November 3, 2021, the University celebrated the kick-off of this initiative with a concert in St. Charles Borromeo, featuring a special performance by Matthew McCright, Professor at Carleton College on a Steinway Piano Model D Concert Grand.

This is just the beginning! You can leave a lasting impact on the hearts and minds of our Lewis students through music by visiting alumni.lewisu.edu/SteinwayGive to make a gift.

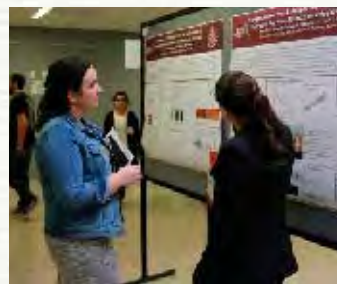
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Interested in giving back your time or talent to make your mark at Lewis University? From classroom speakers and career advisors to social media ambassadors and event hosts, there is something for everyone. Fill out our online form and we will find the perfect match for you. Check out all opportunities and access the form at alumni.lewisu.edu/VolunteerOpportunities.



If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Executive Director of Alumni Engagement, Dennisa Walker, at walkerde@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5882.



Meet our Lewis alumni reps



KRISTIE BAVARO '81 '82
(B.A. Business Administration, MBA)
Executive Leadership and Career Development Coach, Leading Visions Inc.

Lewis Interests: Resident Assistant and Resident Hall Director

Kristie created two Lewis workshops, “DISCOVER your Direction” and “Thriving through Changing Times” which help students learn about themselves, their calling and work cultures they can thrive in. The workshops focus on how students can live and work with greater purpose and meaning.



SAMANTHA BLUEMER '16 '18
(B.S. Business Administration, MBA)
Senior Solutions Manager, McKinstry Essention, LLC

Lewis Interests: Delta Sigma Pi, Delta Mu Delta, Delta Epsilon Sigma, College of Business Student Advisory Council, Intern for the

Will County Resource, Recovery, and Energy Department, and Graduate Assistant to Office of Community Engaged Learning

This past year, Samantha supported the promotion of Lewis' MBA program because she knows first-hand the benefits that it brings and wants to encourage others to take their education to the next level.



KAELAN EVON '18
(B.A. Organizational Communication)]
Senior Admission Counselor, Illinois Institute of Technology

Lewis Interests: Women's Club Volleyball team, Resident Assistant, Student Senate, Orientation Leader, Navigator for the Office of Admission, and

First-Year Interaction retreat attendee and leader

As a new Alumni Rep, Kaelen is looking forward to giving back to Lewis. Lewis provided her with a plethora of opportunities that have helped her and she is looking forward to hearing what our future flyers accomplish.



CHRISTOPHER HUEG '11, '16
(B.A. Theology/Theater, M.A. Secondary Education, English/Language Arts)

Junior High Religion, Reading, and Language Arts Teacher, Campus Minister and Drama Director, St. Mary Immaculate Parish School

Lewis Interests: Philip Lynch Theater, Student Navigator, University Ministry

Habitat for Humanity Leader/Director, Peer Ministry, Koinonia Leader, First Year Interaction Leader/Director, Student Advisory Council Member, Intramurals, Theta Alpha Kappa Theology Honors Society, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, Writing Center Tutor

Christopher continues to support Lewis University's Chet Kondratowicz Endowed Scholarship Fund for future theater students and educators providing meaningful live performance experiences in the hopes of sharing that with young performers. He also supports the Department of Education and their Future Catholic Educators organization helping to promote the Lasallian zeal for service and justice in the education field today. Both of these organizations are important to Christopher because of what they were able to provide to him when he was an undergraduate and graduate student.



DAVID KELNHOFER '09 '10
(B.S. Finance, MBA)

Financial Advisor, Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc.

Lewis Interest: Men's Volleyball

David serves as both a Lewis Alumni Representative and Committee Member for our Men's Volleyball Legacy Endowment Fund – two things he believes very strongly in. He wants to give back to business students and members of our Men's Volleyball team because both programs gave him so much while he was at Lewis.



ANTHONY LYEN '14 '19
(B.A. Elementary Education/Print Journalism, M.Ed. Educational Leadership)

Assistant Principal and 8th Grade Social Studies/Religion Teacher, St. Daniel the Prophet School

Lewis Interests: Orientation Group Leader, Orientation Assistant, Navigator, Koinonia Leader/Director, Editor-

in-Chief & Tempo Editor of The Flyer, President's Student Advisory Council Member, Student Food Committee Member, Resident Assistant

Anthony connected with the Education Department over the summer and helped to recruit new graduates for potential teaching positions. He also continues to reach out to alumni about connecting with Lewis for alumni engagement or volunteer opportunities.



ANTHONY SAM '07 '08

(Accounting, Business Administration, Economics, MBA)

Attorney, Cunningham Meyer and Vedrine, PC.

Lewis Interests: Peer Ministry, Scholars' Academy, Mock Trial, and many more!

Anthony assisted with The Dr. James W. Houlihan Mock Trial Endowed Scholarship to support students who have a passion to pursue careers in the legal and law enforcement fields. The Lewis University Mock Trial Program changed his life, so his only hope is to see this endowed scholarship change lives for generations to come!



BRIDGET TERRONES '12

(B.A. in Radio/TV Broadcasting)

Senior Manager of Integrated Marketing, Institute of Real Estate Management

Lewis Interests: Intramural bowling, On-Air Personality for WLRA, LUTN Senior Producer, Health & Counseling Center Student

Worker, and Andrew Center for Electronic Media Student Worker
Bridget believes in providing students with the experiences they need to go out into the world and be successful. That's why she spent time this past year talking with our Deans on ways we can enhance these opportunities for students. She also supported various scholarships and funds to assist students in need, especially during the pandemic to ensure their educational journey can persist and they can continue pursuing their dreams.



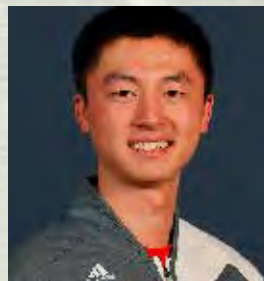
LAURA TROCHE '18

(B.A. Organizational Leadership)

Realty Specialist, United States Department of Energy

Lewis Interests: Adult accelerated program, full-time worker

After graduating from Lewis, Laura decided she wanted to give back to Lewis and got involved in the Flyers Rise program and also became an Alumni Rep. This gives her the opportunity to stay connected as well as be of service to others.



YIWEI ZHOU '14 '16

(B.S. Aviation Administration, MBA)

Business Analyst, JMI Sales Group

Lewis Interests: Men's Volleyball, International Student Association, Delta Sigma Pi

Yiwei has helped with the fundraising efforts for the Men's Volleyball Legacy Endowment Fund. Yiwei feels that it is a great program that has benefited him and his fellow teammates, which is why it is such an honor to have the opportunity to give back and watch current student athletes thrive. He also donated some PPE to the Christian Brothers on campus to stay protected throughout the pandemic.

ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES consider Lewis University as one of their charities of choice; a place where they give back their time, treasure, and talent. This special group volunteers at events, sits on advisory boards and committees, provides feedback for decision making about the future of the university, and chooses to donate to impact today's Flyers. To learn more, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/AlumniRep.

CLASS NOTES



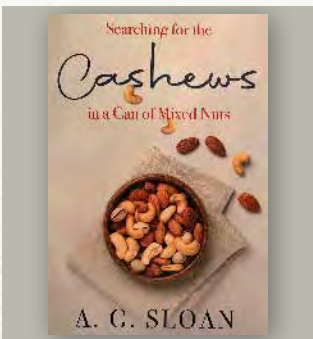
Alicia Grangent '19 [*M.S. Criminal Justice*] worked on the rediscovery of the first known elected Black Sheriff and Chief of Police, Sheriff Stephen Bates. Alicia's contributions to this process included pushing for this Historic Marker to be completed, obtaining a Congressional Record, and Proclamation from the State of Vermont for October 3 to be recognized as Stephen Bates Day. *Alicia pictured with family of Stephen Bates, Larry Schuyler (L) and Nick Schuyler (R).*



Jeromy Rech '16 [*B.S. Chemical Physics*] received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina in August 2021 and is off to Stanford University to complete his postdoc.



On May 25, **Stefan Bjes '10** [*M.S. Criminal Justice*], Sergeant with the Addison Police Department, was awarded the 2021 Missing Children's Day Law Enforcement Award by the Department of Justice. Stefan developed several programs that have enhanced the safety of children with special needs. He has also trained officers at 15 police departments across the Midwest and frequently presents at police conferences nationwide.



Albert (Barney) Sloan '71 [*B.A. English*] recently published his third humor book entitled *Searching for the Cashews in a Can of Mixed Nuts*.

Don Korta '11 [*M.S. Information Security*] is now President & Owner of Destinations with Character Travel Services, LLC, a family owned and operated, award winning, Disney earmarked travel agency. They specialize in cruises, inclusive resorts, tours worldwide, hotel room stays, and theme parks such as Walt Disney World, Disneyland, Paris Disneyland, Universal Orlando, and all SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Theme Parks.

Jazmine (Williams) Summerville '10 [*B.A. English*] celebrated her first publication of Poetry, as of June 25, 2021. Her book, *Summer Breeze*, is a collection of poetry and photographs that she has taken. "Publishing this work has been an amazing journey, culminating in such a tangible way!"



Anne Koleff '96 [*B.A. Fine Art*] was featured rock climbing with her partner, Randy at the Mississippi Palisades State Park in Savanna, Illinois as part of the WTTW TV special, "Beyond Chicago from the Air" which debuted December 1, 2021. Anne started rock climbing in 2005 on a date and developed a passion for the sport. Anne met Randy in 2009 and together they have rock climbed in 14 states throughout the country.



Sharon Baranoski MSN, RN, APN, CWCN, FAAN '83 '86 [*BSN, MSN*] has published her fifth edition of *Wound Care Essentials: Practice Principles*, a clinical textbook for nurses and healthcare professionals involved in the care and management of patients with wounds. It has been awarded the 2020 "Book of the Year" from the *American Journal of Nursing*. Sharon is also a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.



James Belmont '94 [*B.S. Aviation Administration*] was recently promoted to Captain in the U.S. Navy and is currently serving as the Executive Officer at Fleet Readiness Center East (Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, NC) in charge of 4000+ military, civilians and contractors generating one billion in annual revenue.



Donald Borowski '89 [*MBA*] was hired by North State Bank as a commercial loan portfolio manager for the company's Wake Forest office. In this role, he will work closely with borrowers and commercial bankers to support lending needs.



Brianne (Dougherty) Meyer '15 '17 [B.A. Mass Communications, M.S. Project Management] and Andrew Meyer were married on September 17, 2021 at Warehouse 109 in Plainfield, Ill.



Nikki (O'Keefe) Hartigan '15 [B.A. Criminal Justice] and **Ryan Hartigan '12 '20** [B.A. Music, M.S. Business Analytics] were married on October 2, 2021 at Cottonwood Farm in Lockport, IL.



Lewis alumni Allie Piatt '20 [B.A. Psychology] and **Blake Marks '19** [B.A. Sport Management] and recently got engaged on Friday, August 27 in Nashville, Tenn. The two met as student athletes on the Baseball and Softball teams at Lewis.



Julianna (Szamlewski) O'Brien '12 [B.A. Graphic Design] and **Joseph O'Brien '13 '17** [B.A. History/Secondary Education, M.Ed. Curriculum Instruction and Instructional Technology] got married on September 17, 2021 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. They met on Lewis University's 2011 Italy Travel Study and have been together ever since.



Katie (Markham) Arthurs '12 [B.A. Forensic Criminal Investigation] and **Michael Arthurs '12** [B.S. Aviation Maintenance] were married on July 10, 2021 in Bartlett, Ill. They both attended Lewis University beginning in fall of 2008 and graduated in 2012.

Sheila (Scherr) Levins '97 [BSN] earned her Doctorate of Nursing Practice (Transformative Leadership: Systems) from Rush University in August 2021. She is currently the Unit Director of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Rush University Medical Center. Under her leadership, the Rush PICU was awarded a Silver Beacon Award for exceptional care through improved outcomes and greater overall patient and staff satisfaction. Her unit is currently the only PICU to achieve Beacon status in the State of Illinois.



Michael Berta '69

Anthony W. Borbely '78

Eugene C. Gerretse '66

Mike Glennan '79

Anthony J. Janc '57

Robert E. Jones '76

Steven D. Kaiser '80

Kenneth A. Kapelinski '73

Michael T. Maloney '70

Barry L. Maynard '00

Lawrence R. Nonnie '60

Lawrence H. Ostrowski '78

Mary F. Pasiewicz '82

Kathryn L. Pastorelle '55

Brian D. Purcell '83

Richard F. Savoie '70

**Marie-Josée N. St. Preux
Limage '84**

Mark F. Stiegel '81

John C. Wall '70

Wambura N. Wasira '19

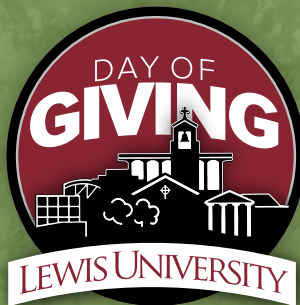
Professor Emeritus John Lamb

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATES 2022



**LAUGH TO
CREATE
AWARENESS
COMEDY
NIGHT
FEB 19**



APRIL 8

**ALUMNI
DAY
MAY 14**



**OSHKOSH
EAA
AIRVENTURE
ALUMNI
EVENT
JULY 30**



**SIGNUM
FIDEI
SEPT 24
HOUSE
OF BLUES
CHICAGO**

