

THE MAGAZINE OF
lewisuniversity
SPRING 2023



FEATURES

**Lewis University &
St. Augustine College
Plan Merger / 02**

**McCarthy '99
Receives Honorary
Doctorate / 04**

**Bedcheck Charlie
Receives Thanks for
Years of Service / 25**

Lewis in Color



Correction



Our sincere apologies to Fran Naal-Sczepaniak for an incorrect photo caption of her in the Fall 2022 magazine on page 10. The corrected caption should read:

(Top left, pictured left to right) Provost Dr. Christopher Sindt, Dr. Paige Glotzer, Fran Naal-Sczepaniak, President Dr. David Livingston.

Lewis University & St. Augustine College Plan Merger



02

McCarthy '99 Receives Honorary Doctorate



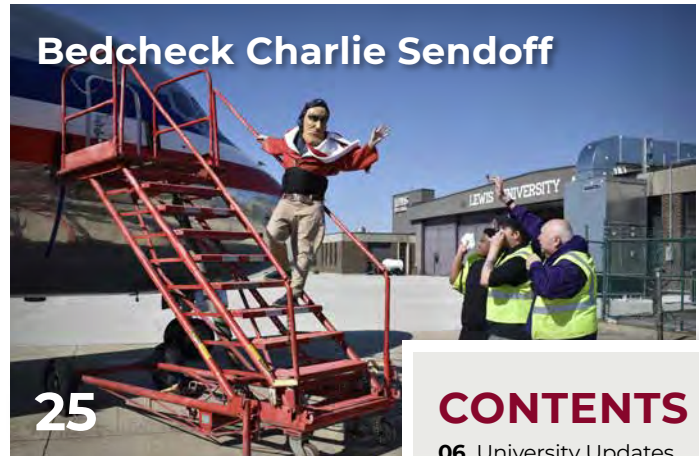
04

Alumnus Max Strus of the Miami Heat



21

Bedcheck Charlie Sendoff



25

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Lewis University & St. Augustine College Plan Merger

The renowned institutions unite
around strengths and shared sense of mission.





(Top left, clockwise) Dr. Reyes Gonzalez, President, St. Augustine College, Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Lewis President Emeritus, Dr. David Livingston, Lewis President, Rev. Dr. Carlos Plazas, President Emeritus and Founder of St. Augustine College. Dr. Blanca de la Torre Plazas, Founder of St. Augustine College. (Top right) Gonzalez with Livingston. (Bottom right) Lewis Board of Trustees Chair Michael Parker with Ms. Karleen Mussman, Chair, St. Augustine College Board of Trustees.

The presidents of Lewis University and St. Augustine College have announced a plan to merge both institutions, with both Boards of Trustees unanimously approving the decision.

The schools will now submit an application to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) to make St. Augustine College a part of Lewis University. The joining of both schools is centered around a shared mission to expand access and opportunity for students who are often underrepresented and underserved in traditional higher education.

“Our two institutions are well-matched in mission and values,” said Dr. David Livingston, Lewis University president. “We fill a unique niche within higher education, serving students from all walks of life with affordable programs that deliver a liberal arts core and an emphasis on career and workforce preparation. Through this merger, we will build upon the legacy and tradition of St. Augustine College, offering an expanded range of bilingual education programs, services and outreach to the growing Hispanic population in Chicago. No student today should face limited educational opportunity because of language. Especially not when the Hispanic community is the fastest growing population in Chicago.”

With this unified future, St. Augustine aligns with the Lasallian global network, one of the largest Catholic education networks in the world and one of the largest Catholic higher education networks in the United States.

The merger builds on the legacies of both institutions – each established to meet the needs of underserved communities – providing education as a life-changing pathway to expanded opportunity. In a unified university,

more degree programs than ever before will be at the forefront of an expanded bilingual educational experience. Students are expected to be able to attend courses in bilingual format at urban or suburban locations.

“We are excited for this once-in-lifetime opportunity. La única,” said Dr. Reyes Gonzalez, St. Augustine College president. “Together, we will realize the dreams held by our founders; dreams of providing education to all, regardless of social class. Our combined strength will allow us to support more students with a life-changing educational experience that equips them for success in the marketplace. We will create a wider bridge to economic prosperity, one that is as expansive as the enterprising spirit of our students. This is the educational experience that will make us a leader for our entire region.”

The merger is subject to the approval of the Higher Learning Commission, Illinois Board of Higher Education and the U.S. Department of Education. Both schools will continue operating as independent institutions with no disruption to students or missions until the merger is complete.

Alumnus Timothy J. McCarthy '99 Receives Honorary Doctorate at Commencement

As part of the Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, December 17, 2022, Lewis presented Tim McCarthy with an Honorary Doctoral degree. His remarks provided students and their families and faculty and guests with an inspirational message to take what they have learned out into the world to make a better place.

The ceremony included graduates from the Colleges of Education and Social Sciences; Humanities, Fine Arts and Communication; and Nursing and Health Sciences.

McCarthy received his master's in 1999 and began by saying, "Twenty-three years ago I walked across the stage here to receive my master's degree in Criminal Social Justice. It was one of the best decisions I ever made."

In describing his education at Lewis he said, "The value of the education here at Lewis University gave me the knowledge required to succeed and to excel in my long career as the Chief of Police...Along with the outstanding education and instructors was the mentoring and networking with instructors and fellow students that has lasted throughout my career and continues today. Like most Lewis degree programs, the graduates have consistently risen to the top of their professions."

Offering words of wisdom to the graduates he said, "Education in one's profession should never end. The world will quickly pass you by if you don't continue to learn."

For nearly fifty years, McCarthy has served, both nationally and regionally, as a distinguished law enforcement and public safety professional. He began his public service in the United States Secret Service, a federal law enforcement agency with field offices across the country and most major cities worldwide, responsible for criminal investigations of financial crimes and protection of the President of the United States and others designated by law. For 14 years, beginning in 1972, McCarthy worked directly on or supervised criminal investigations in the Chicago Field Office. He then served two terms on the Presidential Protective Division of the United States Secret Service, first protecting Presidents

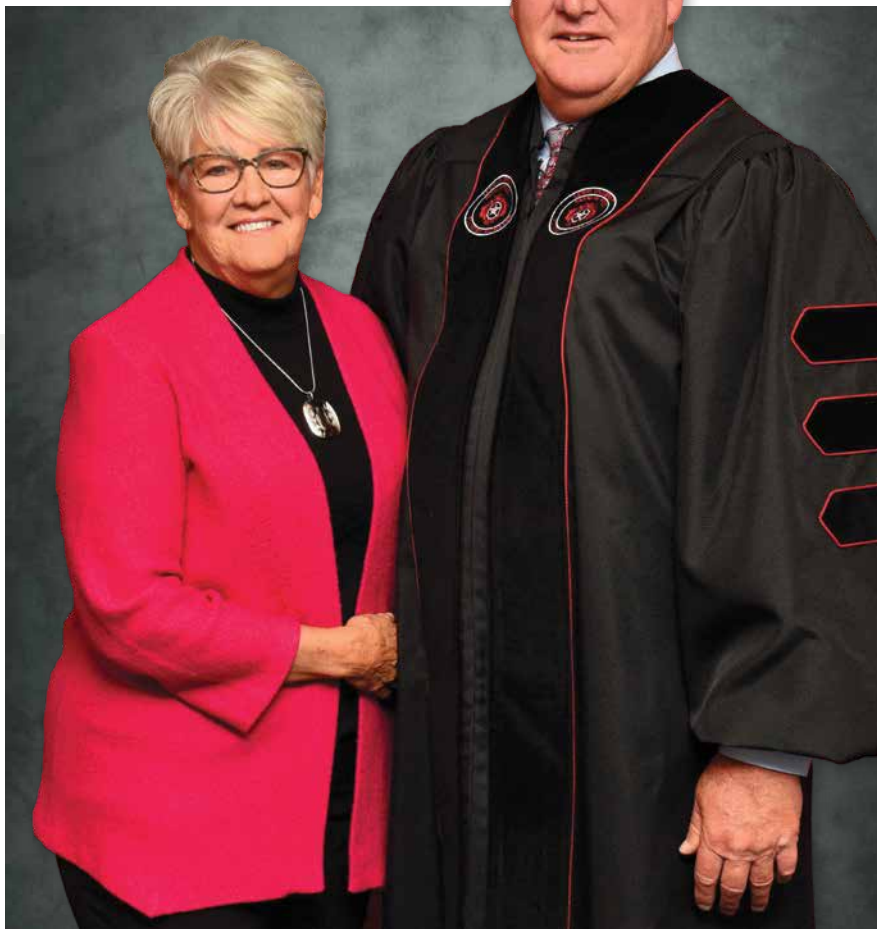
Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, and then, as Assistant Special Agent in Charge, protecting Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

During his first term serving on the Presidential Protective Division, on March 30, 1981, 69 days after Ronald Reagan became president, McCarthy, just 31-years-old at the time, played a vital role in protecting President Reagan—placing himself in front of the president and in the line of fire as would-be assassin John Hinckley, Jr. fired six bullets, one of which hit him in the chest. He recovered from serious injuries, returned to his work in the Secret Service and was promoted to several supervisory positions, including as the Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Field Office. His extraordinary national service has been extensively recognized including with the U.S. Treasury's highest honor – the Exceptional Service Award – and the NCAA Award of Valor.

Following his retirement from the Secret Service in 1993, he served from 1994 to 2020 as the Chief of Police of the Orland Park Police Department, one of the largest and most progressive suburban police departments in the Chicagoland area. Significant department accomplishments during his leadership include establishing comprehensive community policing programs, and a Crisis Intervention Team composed of officers and supervisors with advanced training to identify symptoms of mental illness and partnering with Trinity Services, Inc. to provide any needed mental health support; being the first department in the country to complete the "One Mind Campaign," an initiative of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police (ILACP) for effective interactions between law enforcement and individuals with mental health conditions; constructing a new 66,000 sq. ft. police station, the first LEED gold police station in North America, for



McCarthy was presented his Honorary Doctorate by President Livingston and Board of Trustees Treasurer Bryan Durkin '82 '93.



McCarthy pictured with his wife Carol Jeanne.

Offering words of wisdom to the graduates McCarthy said, “Education in one’s profession should never end. The world will quickly pass you by if you don’t continue to learn.”

which McCarthy served as project manager; creating a leading computer crimes unit; and consistently achieving the lowest crime rate for municipalities with a population of more than 50,000 people.

McCarthy and his department’s exceptional public service received numerous honors including the U.S. Conference of Mayors City Livability Award for Community Policing and the Illinois Bar Association Award for department conduct promoting honor, respect, and integrity in the criminal justice system. He was also named the first “Illinois Police Chief of the Year” by ILACP in 2016 for his innovative leadership in law enforcement, in service to his own department, and to the Association.

Born and raised on the South Side of Chicago, where he attended Catholic

schools, he earned a B.A. in Finance from the University of Illinois, where he also played football. His extensive law enforcement education includes the Federal Law Enforcement and U.S. Secret Service Training Academies; being selected and certified as a member of the Senior Executive Service of the United States Government, reflecting extensive management training for assignment to the highest-level positions in any agency of the U.S. government; the FBI Law Enforcement Education and Development School; and an M.S. in Criminal Social Justice from Lewis University.

Throughout his long tenure as Chief of Police, he served numerous professional associations including the International Association of the Chiefs of Police; the South

Suburban Association of Chiefs of Police; the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force, for which he served as Chair; and the Will County Association of Chiefs of Police. From 2016-17, McCarthy was also called on to serve as Interim Village Manager of Orland Park. And even after retiring from the Orland Park Police Department in 2020, he opted to share his expertise and leadership with the Village of Mokena, serving for one year as Interim Chief of Police, which included successfully coordinating its search for a new Chief of Police.

McCarthy continues to serve on the Executive Board of South Suburban Association of Chiefs of Police and the Board of Directors of the Saint George Corporation, providing grant money—more than \$100 million to date—to improve health care in the Southwest suburbs. He currently serves as the President of Sentinel Security, PLLC, located in Palos Heights, where he leads approximately 200 security officers assigned to protect various Chicagoland sites and events including residences, professional buildings, medical centers, and professional sporting events.

In reflecting on what is most noteworthy over his life and career, he said, “A great 50-year marriage” to his wife Carol Jeanne, raising their three children—Jeannie, Jeff, and Maura—and enjoying their seven grandchildren. “And of course being able to do what I was trained to do and survive during the attempted assassination of President Ronald Wilson Reagan.... Having the responsibility to provide public safety in a community is also one of the most difficult and challenging positions in law enforcement but also one of the most fulfilling.”



Students Get Back to Study in Rome

The Lasallian Universities Center for Education (LUCE) in Rome, Italy served 22 college students this spring, the greatest number of students since the program began five years ago. The majority of students were from Lewis University while three students were from Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York.

The students live in the Generalate while in Rome, the motherhouse of the De La Salle Christian Brothers. Its extensive grounds and facilities provide a safe and ideal place to study and explore the city. Students experienced Rome in addition to travel to Assisi and other sites.

Students register for courses that draw on the rich culture and history of Rome. Italian faculty teach Italian, Italy Today, and Art Appreciation. Dr. Dennis Cremin, history professor and director of the Lewis University History Center, served as academic director. Dr. Joanne Kuttner, director of Theology Engaging Stories, served as student services coordinator. Cremin and Kuttner each taught two courses in the program.

David Abrutis (pictured above), a Computer Science major said, "This program changed my view of the world by showing me how diverse, unique, and engaging the Italian people are regarding their culture. It shows me that despite the differences, I can ultimately connect with people on the level that we are simply humans. Sitting here in my room at Casa La Salle I can only say that it has been one of the best decisions I've made."



Barcelona, Spain Agreement Signed

On April 21, Lewis welcomed administrators from Barcelona to campus.



Lewis Welcomes Burgess as Director of Residence Life

Tom Burgess became the Director of Residence Life this fall. With experience as a Lewis professional staff member for more than 20 years, Tom brings much to this role. He consistently demonstrates

a commitment to helping students succeed. His strong background in training will enhance leadership development opportunities for the residence life team and his collaborative style has been evident in his work as a recent member of the Lewis University Police Department. Tom's familiarity with technology and University resources will help lead the continuous improvement of residence life and student conduct procedures with a focus on care and concern for students.

Students Receive De La Salle Medallions for Student Excellence in Mission

Dominick D. Bartels '23 & Alexandria K. Wilson '23
Excellence in Justice Advocacy

Ayesha Khan '23
Excellence in the Promotion of Intentional Faith

Michael David Yerkes '24
Excellence in Service and Community Engagement

FOUNDERS MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

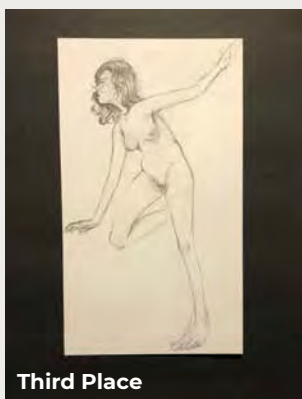
Lasallian Heritage Month, held in April, featured a variety of events, programs, and activities designed to recognize and honor employee and student commitment to Lewis University's Catholic and Lasallian Mission. Photos of some of the award winners are pictured here:



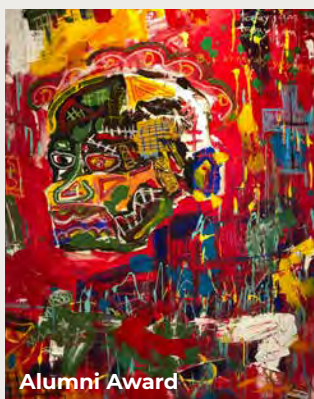
First Place



Second Place



Third Place



Alumni Award

President's 15th Annual Art Competition

- **First Place** - **Morgan Vergo**, *As Above, So Below*, aluminum foil, aluminum wire, mirror (sculpture)
- **Second Place** - **Jasmine Pryor**, *My Brain*, acrylic (painting)
- **Third Place** - **Erika Ornelas**, *Focus*, pencil on paper (drawing)
- **Alumni Award** - **Devin Ingram '18**, *Untitled Self Portrait*, oil and oil pastel on canvas (painting). (*This is a first time award, donated by the Wadsworth Family Gallery*)



De La Salle Medallion for Excellence in Community Engaged Learning

Tracy Hemmingway, assistant professor of Communications

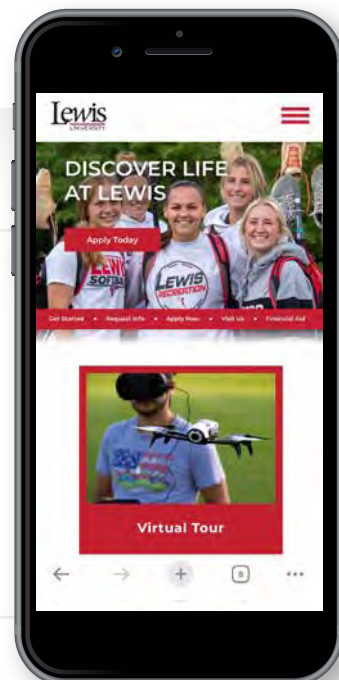


Br. David Delahanty Student Athlete Awards

Meghan Bontrager, the 2023 female recipient, majored in Sports Management with a minor in Digital Marketing. **Angelo Cantelo**, the 2023 male recipient, majored in Finance.

Both athletes were named to the Academic All-Great Lakes Valley Conference team all four years.

Celebration of Scholarship This year more than 100 undergraduate and graduate student entries presented scholarly work through posters, creative works, start-up business ideas and more. The 2023 award winners of each category can be found online at lewisu.edu/cos



New Look for Lewis University Website

The Lewis University website lewisu.edu was recently redesigned as part of our new brand campaign, *For a Better World*. The site has a clean and modern look, expanded functionality, and improved mobile experience using the new design, brand colors and fonts of our campaign, providing a cohesive, recognizable look for Lewis University. The site was launched on December 20.

The brand campaign began more than a year ago after extensive research with student, faculty and staff surveys and focus groups. This new branding direction describes the passion of our students as they are prepared to go out and create a better world.

Spirit Wings Pilot Pathway Program Launches

Aspiring pilots in the Chicago area can soon soar from a college classroom to the flight deck at Spirit Airlines (NYSE: SAVE). The carrier has formed a new partnership to launch the Spirit Wings Pilot Pathway program with the College of Aviation, Science and Technology at Lewis. The program provides graduates with a direct path to a rewarding career flying for Spirit. Lewis students can gain valuable experience and complete the steps needed to become a Spirit First Officer while attending a leading aviation university and finishing their college degree.

"We're on a mission to expand our pilot pipeline with more top-notch talent as we continue to grow, and the Chicago area is a great fit to launch the first Spirit Wings Pilot Pathway program in the Midwest," said Ryan Rodosta, senior director of flight operations and system chief pilot at Spirit Airlines. "We can't wait to welcome the next generation

of pilots from Lewis University, which has exceptional resources and is highly regarded as a leader in aviation training."

Lewis students pursuing an aviation technology degree can apply for the program after obtaining a recommendation from a faculty member in the College of Aviation, Science and Technology and completing their sophomore year. If successful in Spirit's interview process, they will receive a conditional offer of employment, a Spirit Electronic Flight Bag (EFB) and mentorship as they complete their degree and all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements for a Restricted Airline Transport Pilot (R-ATP) certificate. Graduates who meet all program requirements will join the ranks as a Spirit First Officer.

"Lewis University is proud to partner with Spirit Airlines and the Spirit

Wings Pilot Pathway program," said Dr. Ryan Phillips, chair and professor of Aviation and Transportation at Lewis University. "This agreement allows our high-achieving flight students to earn positions at Spirit. The agreement provides mentorship, resources, and training to Lewis University students and gives them the opportunity to secure a position flying for a mainline carrier after graduation."

Spirit's signature yellow planes include some of the newest, most fuel-efficient aircraft in the industry that fly across a network of 90+ destinations. More than two dozen brand-new planes are planned for delivery in 2023, creating opportunities for First Officers to quickly upgrade to Captain. Spirit's Pilots recently approved a contract that provides a significant pay increase and other enhanced benefits. Spirit also offers its Pilots industry-leading training and great quality of life.

Spirit Wings Pilot Pathway expands the carrier's presence in Illinois. Spirit currently offers about two dozen daily departures from Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD), which is also home to one of the airline's ten pilot crew bases.

To learn more about the program and application process, visit lewisu.edu/spirit-airlines/



“Let’s Be Real” Seminar Focuses on Today’s Nursing Environment



Susan Y. Swart, EdD, MS, RN, CAE, Executive Director, ANA-Illinois & Illinois Nurses Foundation presented “Let’s Be Real: Today’s Nurse and the Future of Care Delivery” on April 11 virtually and at the Oak Brook campus. The seminar was designed to connect Lewis nursing alumni, nurse leaders throughout the Chicago region, and prospective students in

an educational and networking setting at the Oak Brook site where graduate nursing coursework is offered. The Oak Brook site features state-of-the-art nursing exam rooms and acute care facilities.

Swart’s presentation delved into the reasons for the nursing shortage and the current state of the nursing workforce and nursing education. She discussed the role RNs and APRNs play in leading collaboration between practice and nursing education. How can nurses leverage their expertise to develop innovative solutions to address healthcare delivery, a safe work environment, health equity, diversity, and inclusion?

Swart is currently serving her second term as the Vice President of ANA and is the chair of the ANA-PAC. She is an accomplished nurse leader with 25 years of nursing and 16 years of nursing regulation experience. She is the CEO of SYS Consulting Solutions, Inc. and has served as the Executive Director for ANA-Illinois, and the Illinois Nurses Foundation since 2008 and for the Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Registered Nursing since 2013.

Swart received her doctorate from Olivet Nazarene University in Ethical Leadership in 2018. She routinely presents and consults on scope of practice issues, ethics, nursing regulation, and public policy development. She is known for her coalition-building skills, innovative leadership approaches and building successful partnerships to advance the nursing profession.

Swart believes that as a licensed registered nurse, she has a professional responsibility to actively engage in and to shape the profession, and improve healthcare for all people. It is her life’s mission to foster nurse empowerment and help ensure that nurses are at the table whenever health policy discussions are occurring.

Thurman and Zia Offer Legal Literacy Program for Valley View Students

Lewis professors Tammy Thurman and Huma Zia are teaching a Legal Literacy program for Valley View Community Unit School District 365 students. The six-week class sessions at the Step Campus of Brooks Middle School in Bolingbrook serve as an alternative to suspension for district students who have committed behavioral infractions that warrant a 10-day school suspension. Classes are designed to expose student participants to legal principles and aspects of the law that are important to and have an impact on the youth population. Lessons and activities teach students about the consequences their actions have on themselves, their victims, and their communities.

Fortune Education Ranks MS in Data Science as a Best Online Program

Fortune Education recently placed Lewis University in the Top 15 Online Data Science Master’s Degree programs best in selectivity, success and demand.

In its inaugural year of submitting data for the *Fortune Education* analysis, Lewis University’s online Master of Science in Data Science was ranked No. 14 in the nation.

Lewis University’s M.S. in Data Science program balances data science concepts and practical application to prepare diverse students to use data science tools in a professional setting. It provides the skills needed to play a significant role in data mining, data visualization, predictive analytics, and data management.

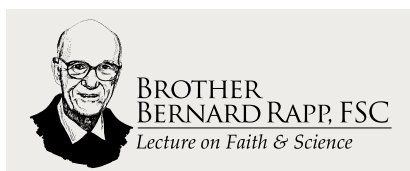


Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC, Lecture Explores Mind and Matter Relationships

“God-World Holism: Science and the Mystery of Matter” was presented by Dr. Iliia Delio on March 24 in the St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall at Lewis University. She is the Josephine C. Connelly Chair in Christian Theology at Villanova University invited to speak at this year’s *Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC Lecture on Faith & Science*.

Delio built on the notion of “implicate order” and drew connections through science about new relationships between the mind and matter. The award-winning author of more than 20 books discussed the implications of ideas surrounding “relational holism” in quantum mechanics for theology and interfaith dialogues.

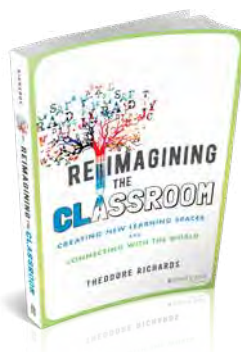
The Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC Lecture on Faith & Science brings to campus scholars who explore the dynamic harmony and tensions of the Catholic faith and the scientific disciplines. Grounded in Lewis University’s Mission values of knowledge, wisdom, and fidelity, the lecture series promotes dialogue, exploration, and discovery while shedding light on the mysteries of the human spirit. The lecture is part of a series of presentations exploring the intersection of faith and science as well as Lewis University’s Cumbee Catholic Scholars Initiative.



Named for the late Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC, (1993-2020), this lecture recognizes Brother Bernard’s distinguished career

as a dedicated teacher, an exemplary scientist, and a person of great faith who was committed to his vocation as a Christian Brother. The professor *emeritus* of chemistry and University archivist retired in 2018 after 45 years of service to Lewis University.

Annual Lasallian Colloquium Centers on Reimagining the Classroom in an Age of Crisis



“Reimagining the Classroom: Teaching, Learning & (Grand)Parenting in the Age of Climate Crisis” featured author, philosopher and educator Theodore Richards at the Eighth Annual Lasallian Colloquium on March 16, virtually and on campus.

Richards’ presentation discussed the importance of shaping ways of learning and teaching to separate inner crises (loneliness, anxiety, depression) from outer crises (climate change, injustice, pandemic). He shared his insights into how a classroom is a metaphor for the world and shapes students’ lives.

Richards is the founder of The Chicago Wisdom Project and the author of eight books. He has received numerous literary awards, including three Independent Publisher Awards and two Nautilus Book Awards.

Retired Air Force Reconnaissance Officer Reflects on Decades of Service

Retired Lt. Col. Alan Glodowski reflected on his decades of serving in the United States Air Force at the Academic Science Center on February 16. Glodowski was commissioned through ROTC at the University of Wisconsin in 1983 with a bachelor’s degree in physics, and later earned a master’s degree in physics from Creighton in 1990.

He spent most of his career as an electronic warfare officer. In addition to routine patrols along the Soviet, Chinese, and Libyan coastlines, he was deployed to Saudi Arabia and participated in the first Gulf War, taught physics at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, and served as an exchange officer with the Royal Air Force Cranwell Flight Test School in Lincolnshire, England. He was the first USAF officer to graduate with top honors in the 29-year history of the program in England.

He also flew missions with British and American reconnaissance aircraft during the Kosovo War and was stationed at the Pentagon as Undersecretary of the Air Force for Acquisition on September 11, 2001.

In 2002, Col. Glodowski was named to the NATO Expeditionary Air Forces Headquarters in Kalkar, Germany, tasked with providing innovative technology ideas for all aspects of NATO air operations. In 2004, he moved to Naperville to become Commander of the Air Force ROTC program in Chicago until his 2008 retirement from active duty.

Please join us for the Spring 2023 James and Mary Clare Szczepaniak Endowed Lecture Series

100th ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE



Guest Speaker
Dr. Elisabeth Griffith

Author of *Formidable: American Women and the Fight for Equality, 1920-2020*

Dr. Griffith holds a Ph.D. from The American University. She has been a Kennedy Fellow at Harvard's Institute of Politics and a Klingenstein Fellow at Columbia Teachers College, and has been an activist for women's rights.

**THURSDAY
FEB 23, 2023**

6-7:30P • DINNER • \$30

Location: Flight Deck Dining Room SB 106,
Executive Dining Room (Flight Deck) SB 106A

7:30-9P • LECTURE • FREE

Location: Convocation Hall, SB 130

Dinner and Lecture are open to the public.

Saint Charles Borromeo

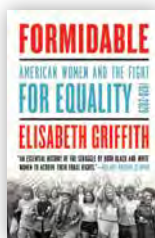
Lewis University • Romeoville, Illinois

For more information, please contact
Sara Pasowicz at spasowicz@lewisu.edu or
(815) 836-5148.



Dr. Elisabeth Griffith will speak on her book *Formidable: American Women and the Fight for Equality, 1920-2020* that integrates the fight by white

and Black women to achieve equality. It "provides a sweeping, century-long perspective, and an expansive cast of change agents. From feminists and civil rights activists to politicians and social justice advocates, from working class women to mothers and homemakers, from radicals and conservatives to those who were offended by feminism, threatened by social change, or convinced of white supremacy, the diversity of the women's movement mirrors America." *Pegasus Books*



To register for the dinner and/or lecture online, please visit:

alumni.lewisu.edu/sczepaniak23

Szczepaniak Lecture Series Addresses Women's Suffrage

Although American women were given the right to vote over a century ago, the women's suffrage movement continues to have its challenges and successes. Author and women's rights activist Dr. Elisabeth Griffith discussed American women and their fight for equality on February 23 at Lewis University.

Griffith highlighted her book *Formidable: American Women and the Fight for Equality, 1920-2020*. It provides a sweeping, century-long perspective and an expansive cast of change agents in the fight by white and Black women to achieve equality.

The legacy of Jim and Mary Clare Szczepaniak lives on through scholarships as well as the James P. '60 and Mary C. Szczepaniak Lecture Series presented by the Lewis University History Department.

Lewis Hosts International Engineering Conference

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers International Electro/Information Technology Conference was hosted by the Lewis Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences Department on May 18-20 this spring. Dr. Gina Martinez, Lewis engineering professor, co-chaired the conference.

IEEE is the largest association of technical professionals in the world and publishes pioneering research and advances in electrical and electronics engineering, telecommunications, computer engineering, computer science, and other similar disciplines.

The IEEE EIT Conference focused on basic/applied research results in electrical and computer engineering as they relate to electrical and computer engineering, information technology, and related applications. The conference provided a forum for researchers and industrial investigators to exchange ideas and discuss developments in these growing fields.

Exhibits showcased the latest electro/information technology tools and products.

The conference also held a student poster contest for students to present their research work and projects, and network with industry professionals.

Visit <https://eit-conference.org/eit2023/index.php> for prize winning papers and information.

STUDENT PROJECTS

HIGHLIGHT A BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTERESTS

JET FUEL REVIEW RATED 'SUPERIOR' BY NCTE

Lewis University's student magazine *Jet Fuel Review* received the designation of "Superior" from the National Council of Teachers of English for its 23rd issue published in Spring 2022.

JFR's high-ranking magazine received praise from poet, teacher, and editor Jami Macarty. "I appreciate their professional and stream-lined editorial production methods, and now that I am taking in Issue No. 23, I am appreciative of their collective, inclusive, expansive editorial vision and artistic direction."

JFR editors for Issue No. 23 included Lewis University students and alumni Cassidy Fontaine, Alexciana Castaneda, Selena Tomas, Samuel Mcferron, Lauren Lotarski, Haley Leon, Alecea Cardillo, Mateusz Czubiński, Brandon Peck, Sylvia Szewczyk, Jason Ludtke, Jo Spangler, Stephanie Karas and Miguel Soto. Dr. Simone Muench, professor of English Studies and director of Creative & Professional Writing, served as the faculty advisor.

The Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines (REALM) program publicly recognizes excellent literary magazines produced by students with the support of their teachers. REALM is designed to encourage all schools to develop literary magazines that celebrate the art and craft of writing. Schools in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, Canada, and American schools abroad are eligible to nominate magazines.

Jet Fuel Review is available online at jetfuelreview.com.



IN MEMORIAM We were deeply saddened by the unexpected death of Carl Roach, an adjunct faculty member in the English Studies Department. This valued educator shared his passion for English with students as he taught First Year Writing courses.

ECAMS STUDENTS AND FACULTY PRESENT IN CANADA

Two Lewis Engineering, Computing, and Mathematical Sciences (ECaMS) students and several faculty presented research December 2-5 at the Canadian Mathematics Society Winter Meeting in Toronto.

In the poster session, Laila Mahrat presented "Lewis University Agent-Based Model of Environmental Transmission of *Clostridioides difficile* in Healthcare Settings" and Dayanna Sanchez presented "Analyzing the Impact of Alternative Assessments and Growth Mindset."

ECaMS faculty Amanda Harsy, Marie Meyer, Michael Smith, and Cara Sulyok presented "Grading with a Growth Mindset" during a concurrent session.

FIRST-YEAR WRITING AUTHORS' WORK AVAILABLE

Each semester, the First-Year Writing program invites program faculty to nominate student writers whose work shines for features like idea development, critical thinking, organization, voice, creativity, language use, and writing and research processes. A faculty panel reviews the nominated works and selects writers to be featured. The pieces reflect a variety of genres, including Narrative, Profile Writing, and Research Argument. The authors and their written work are featured on our website. We hope you enjoy meeting these writers and listening to their voices and ideas through their written work. lewisu.edu/academics/english/first-year-writing/spring-2023/

BROTHER NEIL KIEFFE, FSC, PROVIDES HISTORY ON EARLY AVIATION AT LEWIS

Students enrolled in Dr. Dennis H. Cremin's History of Illinois course participated in a research project during the fall semester related to the Council of Independent Colleges' "Reframing the Institutional Saga Grant." Students focused on themes that emerged from transcribed oral interviews conducted by Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC in his role as University archivist.

Aviation major Taisei Okazaki conducted the interview of Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC. Taisei said, "Meeting Br. Neil was a bit surreal. We have a number of buildings on campus such as the Br. James Gaffney, FSC, Student Center and Sheil Hall. As a student, I know the names of the buildings, but I hadn't thought much about the people behind the names. I had studied in the Neil Kieffe Aviation Building, which is south of the Harold E. White Aviation Center, but I didn't think that I would meet Br. Neil!" He continued, "When I started the research, I was really intrigued by the rich history of Lewis aviation. I was fortunate enough to dig deeper into the history."

The timing of the assignment could not have been better. Just this fall Br. Neil returned to Lewis where he had worked in the 1960s and 70s. He then served as a senior education administrator at Bethlehem University in Palestine, and he now lives at Lewis.

At the end of the semester, Taisei and Dr. Cremin set up a meeting with Br. Neil. He said, "The only way to answer the questions I had was to ask Br. Neil. The oral history was a guide, and I gathered additional information through newspapers and Lewis University's digital collections. In my research, I could not believe the obstacles that Lewis aviation faced over the years. There was a major fire in 1962, and there were even discussions of closing the program. If this had happened, I would not have been able to major in aviation, and it is likely I would not be a student here."

Taisei continued, "In the oral interview, Br Neil said he chose to be an educator because he felt working with people was more valuable than designing a plane that would be obsolete in a few years. He chose to be an educator. He is a great model of how a Lasallian educator should be." He concluded, "I am from a country in which most people are non-Christian. The concept of Catholicism is still new to me. I am glad I got to know the Mission of Lewis University through this research and actually met a great Lasallian educator."

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS SHOWCASE WORK AT LEWIS CONFERENCE

Student scholarly works, information on graduate school, and alumni inspiration were just a few of the highlights from the fall Psychology Student Conference at Lewis.

The conference's keynote addresses focused on substance abuse and the overdose epidemic. John Roberts, co-founder of Heroin Epidemic Relief Organization (HERO) foundation, discussed "Substance use and the overdose epidemic: an overview of the State of Illinois Plan 2022." Dr. Kathleen Burke, director of Substance Use Initiatives for Will County, presented "The science behind substance use: Understanding substance use disorders and how societal stigma negatively impacts treatment and systems of care."

Undergraduate psychology student poster presentations were sponsored by Dr. Philip Blankenship, assistant professor and chair of the conference, and Dr. Spencer Campbell, assistant professor.

Graduate poster presentations were sponsored by Dr. Lisa Brown, clinical coordinator, Dr. Liliana Burciaga, assistant professor, Dr. Kimberly Duris, associate professor and Dr. Edmund Kearney, professor.

JOLIET'S AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY FEATURED

During the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, the African American community in Joliet, Ill. was featured in a program at the Joliet Area Historical Museum on January 14. The program included staff from the museum, Lewis University, and community members from Second Baptist Church, Mount Zion Baptist Church, the National Hook-Up of Black Women Inc. Joliet Chapter, and Warren-Sharpe Community Center.

Dr. Dennis H. Cremin, professor of history, and Morgan Jennings, grant coordinator, from Lewis University gave an overview of their grant funded project "From the Past to the Future: Reclaiming the African American Narrative." Edward Wood, member of Second Baptist Church, took part in the panel discussion that included the members of the four Joliet organizations. The program concluded with a reception and an opportunity to view the museum's core and temporary exhibits.

"The museum and Lewis University featured information on their pop-up exhibits that explored the Great Migration that brought African Americans from the south to northern cities between the period of 1916 to 1970. Those in attendance saw the exhibit 'From the Past to the Future: Reclaiming the Narrative' which explores the community engagement of Joliet's African American organizations," said Morgan Jennings. Jennings was recently awarded the Lockport Woman's Club intern.

The exhibit continued to travel throughout the spring in conjunction with Black History Month and then to the Gaylord Building in Lockport over the summer months.

Awards & Recognition



Lewis University Earns Tree Campus Higher Education Recognition

The Arbor Day Foundation continues to recognize Lewis University's Romeoville campus as a Tree Campus Higher Education honoree. For 13 years, the University leaders have been honored for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation.

Lewis University achieved the honor of being a 2022 Tree Campus Higher Education based on five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, developing a campus tree-care plan, providing dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, scheduling an Arbor Day observance and holding a student service-learning project involving trees.

Arbor Day Foundation created Tree Campus Higher Education in 2008 to honor colleges and universities in environmental conservation. The Arbor Day Foundation is the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to planting trees. Guided by its mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees, the Arbor Day Foundation is committed to unlocking the power of trees to help solve critical issues facing people and the planet.



Dennis Radwanski Receives Alumnus of the Year Award at Adam Smith Event

Dennis Radwanski (pictured above with his wife and children) was honored on March 21 with the Alumnus of the Year Award. In 1998, Radwanski earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. He went on to become the owner of Independence Towing & Recovery, Argonne Animal Hospital, and several other properties.

Dr. Larry Hill, professor and chair of Economics in the College of Business is the founder of Adam Smith Week, a week dedicated to a variety of activities that demonstrate the role of economics and business in our society. It is recognizably named after Adam Smith, the "Father of Economics."



Schulze Honored as Emerging Leader by American College Counseling Association

Lewis University Mental Health Counselor Franky Schulze earned the American College

Counseling Association Emerging Leader Grant to attend either the ACCA or American Counseling Association Annual Conferences in 2023.

The grant is open to graduate students actively enrolled in a master's or doctoral graduate counseling program or new professionals working in college counseling within two years of matriculating from a counseling graduate program, or within two years of transitioning from another counseling profession into college counseling. College counseling includes a variety of professions such as mental health, career, or disability services.

In addition to attending the conference, Schulze will serve on an ACCA committee for one year.



Kevin Otten '91 and King Aerospace Recognized by Department of Energy

King Aerospace was among the proud honorees at the FY 2020 Annual Department of Energy Aviation Awards, held

March 22 in Albuquerque, NM. The event celebrates superior aviation programs and professional management.

The U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Office of Secure Transportation (DOE/NNSA/OST) team – consisting of the OST Aviation Operations Division and King Aerospace – was recognized as the best aviation organization within the Department of Energy for FY 2020.

Kevin Otten '91, DOE/OST program manager, graduated from Lewis with a degree in Aviation Management. He supervises a team of 19 providing maintenance and logistics support with King Aerospace for three Boeing 737s for the Department of Energy/Office of Secure Transportation. The 737s, based in Albuquerque, NM, transport nuclear materials and personnel. The team has won top DOE aviation honors for three consecutive years.

Kevin's career started as a reporter for the *Peoria Journal Star* before he decided to attend Lewis. He flew to and from the Lewis campus for classes and the aviation maintenance students kept his plane in top shape. They enjoyed having the opportunity. He became a commercial pilot and has inspected pipelines, flown for Zantop International Airlines, Kalitta Airways and USA Jet Airlines, and led training for USA Jet, among other aviation roles. He and his wife Wendy have four children and seven grandchildren.

NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, and effectiveness of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear explosive testing; works to reduce the global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad. The DOE/NNSA's fleet transports nuclear weapons components, nuclear limited-life components and federal-agent taskforces.



Chelsea Young Receives Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching

The Golden Apple Foundation, the leading Illinois-based nonprofit committed to preparing, mentoring, and honoring educators who advance educational opportunities for students, honored Lewis alumna Chelsea Young (Elementary Education '17, ESL Endorsement '18 and Principal Prep candidate), a 5th grade teacher at Woodland Elementary School in Joliet, with the prestigious Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. Young is one of 10 teacher award recipients in Illinois.

Following a highly competitive process, the 2023 teaching award recipients were selected from more than 570 nominations of 4th-8th grade teachers.

"These remarkable teachers have shown their dedication, creativity and impact on their students and schools. They have also contributed to their professional communities by sharing their best practices, collaborating with their peers and mentoring new teachers," said Alan Mather, president of The Golden Apple Foundation. "They are not only exemplary teachers, but also influential leaders. The 2023 award recipients will join our mission to impact the lives of even more students by supporting the next generation of great teachers through our teacher preparation programs."

The Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching honor outstanding teachers for having lasting, positive effects on students' lives and school communities. Teacher recipients demonstrate – in their teaching and results – significant, positive impact on their students' growth and learning.

"These outstanding educators have demonstrated their commitment, passion and impact consistently with their students and in their communities," said Alicia Winckler, CEO of The Golden Apple Foundation. "They are not only making a difference in teaching, but are also inspiring community leaders and lifelong learners. We are honored to recognize them and support them as they advance their learning and continue to evolve as educational influencers."

FACULTY NEWS



Cozzi Presents at Annual Symposium for Cardiovascular Nurses

Dr. Rebecca Cozzi (Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation and Health Sciences) presented a poster at the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association Annual Symposium in New Orleans on April 13, 2023. The title of her research was “The Effectiveness of Utilizing Graded Exercise Tests in Cardiac Rehabilitation.”

Klappa Presents Award-Winning Poster at APTA Combined Sections Meeting

Dr. Susan Klappa (Professor and Chair, Doctor of Physical Therapy) presented a research poster that won an award at the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Combined Sections Meeting in San Diego from February 23-25, 2023. Her research was entitled “Individuals with Neurological Diagnoses Fighting for Inclusivity: Social-Emotional Aspects of Grit & QOL” and was awarded APTA Academy of Leadership & Innovation Global Health SIG Award for the promotion of social responsibility in physical therapy.

Sartell Presents at Two International Conferences in November 2022

Dr. Elizabeth Sartell (Assistant Professor, Theology) presented papers at two international conferences this academic year. The first conference, “Des lettres isolées à la science des lettres,” hosted by Institut français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo), was held in Erbil, Iraq from November 5-6, 2022. It brought together scholars working in the field of the “science of letters” in Islam from around the world, with presentations in French, Arabic, and English. The second conference on Medieval Islamic and Jewish Philosophy, hosted at the University of Illinois at Chicago from November 13-15, 2022, brought together international religious studies, history, and philosophy scholars who work at the intersections of Islamic and Jewish philosophy. Sartell’s presentations offered comparative readings of philosophical and mystical treatises by two medieval thinkers: Ibn Masarra (from the Islamic tradition) and Saadya Gaon (from the Jewish tradition).

Normand Takes Top Panel Award at CSCA Convention

Dr. Emily Normand (Associate Professor, Communications) presented her research entitled “Navigating Change With the People Around Us: How Times of Transition and Upheaval Affect Personal Relationships” at the Central States Communication Association Convention in Saint Louis from March 29 – April 2, 2023. Her presentation was awarded the Top Panel Award for the Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group.

Trimble Alliaume Presents on Theology and Fiction at National Conferences

Dr. Karen Trimble Alliaume (Professor, Theology) presented at the American Academy of Religion in Denver on November 22, 2022. Her paper, entitled “Proximity Alert: Science Fiction as Public Theology for Nones,” performs a close reading of Octavia Butler’s 1987 science fiction novel *Dawn* through a feminist theological anthropological lens, focusing on the pedagogical effectiveness of offering students opportunities to feel and analyze their emotional responses to the unfamiliar and feared.

Trimble Alliaume also presented at the Popular Culture Association Conference in San Antonio on April 7, 2023. Her paper, “Shock/Value: Blurring the Boundaries of Belief in Ted Chiang’s ‘Hell is the Absence of God,’” examined seeming oppositions between reason and faith and between meaningful and meaningless suffering, charged pairings that collect their energy from the encounter of the text’s own implicit theologies with the cultural and religious assumptions that readers and commentators bring to it.

Psychology Professors Publish Article in College Student Journal

On December 15, 2022, Dr. Keith Lavine (Associate Professor, Psychology) and Dr. Philip Blankenship (Assistant Professor, Psychology) published a research article in the *College Student Journal*. The article is entitled “Exploring the role of work orientation and parental influence on the presence of a calling in college students: Implications for academic motivation and satisfaction.”

Reyes Presents Four Sessions in One Conference and Co-Presents at Another

Dr. Juana Reyes (Associate Professor, Early Childhood) presented four different sessions at the International Research on Early Childhood Education (IRECE) Conference in Tromsø, Norway from November 21-22, 2022. Those sessions were: “Co-researching with young children: The up close and underneath;” “The radical pursuit of pedagogical documentation with linguistically minoritized young children;” “Sustaining practices: Past, present, and future relational pedagogies;” and “The graphic languages, Translanguaging and metaphoric language with young children in multilingual contexts.”

She also co-presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Conference in Chicago from April 13-16, 2023. The research, in collaboration with Dr. Yin Lam Lee-Johnson of Webster University and Dr. Nahid Hashemi, was entitled “Counter-stories for Multigenerational Resilience: ‘Let the Truth Be Told’ by Women of Color Educational Researchers.”

Biology Faculty Collaborate with Students to Install a Campus Apiary

Biology transfer students in the National Science Foundation funded Biology Transitions Program are continuing efforts to make Lewis University a bee-friendly campus. With faculty mentorship, previous Biology Transitions Program students organized fundraising through Lewis’ Day of Giving to purchase and install an apiary, which is a collection of beehives. Students this year have worked alongside Dr. Marne Bailey (Professor, Biology) and Jeannette Pifer (Instructor, Biology) to build, place, and populate five beehives with bees during the Spring 2023 semester, culminating in a dedication ceremony which took place on Friday, April 21, 2023.

Kavouras, Lewis Alumnae, and Lasallian Educator from France Publish Book Chapter

In December 2023, Dr. Jerry Kavouras (Chair and Professor, Biology), Environmental Science alumnae, Erin Bachmeier ’22 and Stephanie Lingenfelter ’22, and Dr. Marie Ben Othmen (Uni-Lasalle-France) published a chapter, “Paradigm Shift in Food Security at American Universities and Colleges: Post-COVID-19,” in the book *Sustainable Development Goals in the Americas and Caribbean Region*. The book is part of the Implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals – Regional Perspectives series, and the project was a collaboration between two Lasallian institutions of higher learning.

Honnold Participates in Conferences as a Presenter and Programming Committee Member

Dr. Adrienne Honnold (Assistant Professor, Music) presented the paper, “Historical Representations of the Saxophone” at the American Musicological Society’s (AMS) national conference in New Orleans from November 10-13, 2022. It was a joint conference between the AMS, the Society for Music Theory, and the Society for Ethnomusicology.

Additionally, Honnold was on the programming committee for the North American Saxophone Alliance’s Biennial Conference at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg from March 30-April 2, 2023. She led a panel discussion at the conference that presented research from a book she is co-editing, *Contemporary Perspectives on the Legacy of Elise Hall (1853-1924)*.

Muench Receives Scholarship Award and Fellowship

Dr. Simone Muench (Professor, English Studies) received the 2023 Lewis University Career Scholarship Award, which is granted “to a faculty member for their lifetime achievement in scholarly activity.” She is also the recipient of an Illinois Arts Council Artist Fellowship - Literature - 2023.

Powers and Student Present Poster of their Collaborative Research

Dr. Sarah E. Powers (Associate Professor, Biology) attended the Autumn Immunology Conference from November 18-21, 2022 in Chicago with senior biology student Kylie G. Horvath, where their collaborative research project, “Investigating the Role of Cyclin D3 in Transcriptional Regulation Using a Neutrophil Differentiation Model,” was shared as a poster presentation. This research was made possible by funding from the Colonel Stephen S. and Lyla Doherty Center for Aviation and Health Research.

Gifts, Grants & Scholarships

Grants bring recognition to Lewis academic programs and provide funding for opportunities for students to create solutions for real life issues.

Joliet Township, Lewis University Partnership Receives \$2 Million Five-Year Grant from Department of Education

The Joliet-Lewis Partnership for Student Mental Health (JoLE) was awarded a five-year grant for over \$2 million by the U.S. Department of Education's Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Demonstration Grant Program.

The partnership between Lewis University and Joliet Township High School District 204, focused on mental health, is among the coalitions awarded more than \$46 million in competitive MHSP grants to 67 states, school districts, and institutions of higher education to support and demonstrate innovative partnerships to train school-based mental health services providers for employment in schools and local educational agencies (LEAs). The goal of this program is to increase the number and diversity of high-quality, trained providers available to address the shortages of mental health services professionals in schools and high-needs LEAs.

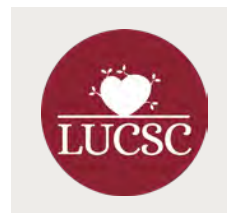
Lewis University will partner with three high-need schools in JTHS to train 43 graduate students as school-based mental health professionals. Graduate students enrolled in the Master of Arts in School Counseling or pursuing school social work licensure within the Master of Social Work program will be placed as school counseling or school social work interns within JTHS 204 and assigned to work with their respective JTHS school-based mental health clinicians.

Lewis University will provide continuing education and training to the relevant workforce at JTHS in best practices to address critical issues such as trauma responsiveness and restorative practices.

JoLE will collaborate with national and state associations as well as community organizations to provide new resources for capacity building and infrastructure development within and around the JTHS community. The partnership will collaborate with elementary and middle schools that feed into JTHS and other high-need LEAs across the region to employ trainees upon their graduation.

\$2.5 Million Grant Funds Lewis, Community Partnership

The U.S. Department of Education recently awarded a five-year grant of \$2,495,985 to the Lewis University Community School Consortium. This Full-Service Community Schools grant will bring together Lewis University, partnering school districts, and over 20 community partner agencies to provide holistic wraparound services to local students and families in trauma-responsive and culturally relevant ways.



LUCSC is a collaborative project with Lewis University in Romeoville, Valley View School District 365U in Bolingbrook and Romeoville, and Fairmont School District 89 by Lockport, along with numerous

local community entities. The project uses a holistic, university-assisted approach to expand and strengthen trauma-responsive and restorative culture and climate within partner schools to work toward educational, social, health, and economic equity for students and their families.

The project is expected to transform all aspects of the educational environment—from teacher and staff training to meaningful engagement with students and families, to enhanced procedures and policies. LUCSC partners will form a cohesive and systemic network that will work toward building trauma-responsive and restorative practices and culture within three targeted community schools: Brooks Middle School (grades 6-8), Bolingbrook High School (grades 9-12), and Fairmont School (grades PreK-8). It's estimated that close to 4,300 students, 90 percent of students at these three schools will be impacted within the five years of this program.

Dr. Emily Shayman, LUCSC director, and co-directors Dr. Joanna Maravilla and Laura Wilmarth Tyna, will lead faculty and staff from numerous departments including the Office of Community Engaged Learning, Gros Institute, Center for Community Research and Education (CCRE), College of Education and Social Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and the College of Aviation, Science and Technology.

Will County Launches \$10 Million Grant Program for Teaching and Nursing Majors

Will County officially launched the “Will County Heroes” scholarship program to support students seeking careers in teaching and nursing. The County is investing \$10 million in American Rescue Plan (ARPA) dollars to increase recruitment in these high-demand fields and incentivize future graduates to work in Will County.

“Will County is proud to be empowering the next generation of heroes within our schools and hospitals,” said County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant. “By working with partners throughout the county, we are supporting both quality education and long-term career success for students. I urge students to consider this scholarship opportunity as they plan for their future.”

Will County allocated \$2.5 million to each higher education partner to implement the scholarship grant: Governors State University, Joliet Junior College, Lewis University, and University of St. Francis. Eligible students at each institution can receive \$2,500 per semester or \$5,000 an academic year to support their pursuit of a teaching or nursing degree.

A key goal of the program is to incentivize teaching and nursing graduates to grow their careers in Will County. The program will aim to create an active pipeline to employers throughout the county after they graduate. The pipeline partners will support students as they grow their careers after graduation, connecting them with a working environment that will foster positive career development.

Ascension St. Joseph and Silver Cross Hospital will act as the inaugural pipeline partners for nursing students. The Will County Center for Economic Development and Workforce Center of Will County will also support the development of career pipelines.

Will County Heroes aims to address shortages in the teaching and nursing profession, which were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible students include those pursuing teacher certification for elementary education, special education, and secondary education, along with students interested in becoming a Registered Nurse, either through a Bachelor of Science in Nursing or an Associate's Degree in Nursing.

“Will County has made a bold and innovative investment in the future of the county through the Teaching and Nursing Grant program,” said Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University. “The shortage of nurses and teachers in the region is a genuine challenge to our county and our state.”

The Will County Board approved the \$10 million investment in scholarships as part of a \$23.5 million allocation into countywide economic development. All ARPA funding must be spent by Fall 2026.

Students can apply for the Will County Grant at lewisu.edu/ARPA.

\$350,000 IBHE Grant Received to Diversify Early Childhood Education Workforce

The Illinois Board of Higher Education awarded Lewis University a \$352,994 grant to develop a pipeline of new, diverse and highly-qualified early childhood educators.

Lewis University will use the funds to offer, mentor, and support current career and technical educators enrolled in Early Childhood Education master's degree program cohorts.

After earning an endorsement or full master's degree in Early Childhood Education, the career and technical educators will be qualified to facilitate classes in child development and early childhood education for high school students in a dual-credit course with community colleges and universities.



Univar Solutions, Chemical Educational Foundation

Lewis University recently hosted dozens of young scientists participating in the ‘You Be the Chemist Challenge’ sponsored by Univar Solutions and Chemical Education Foundation on March 4. Dr. Dan Kissel, associate professor of Chemistry, moderated the event. Provost, Dr. Christopher Sindt, was also in attendance and spoke with the students.

Gifts, Grants & Scholarships

International Environmental Project Awarded Grant From 100K Strong in the Americas

The 100,000 Strong in the Americas (100K Strong) Innovation Fund team at Partners of the Americas and the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs (WHA) of the U.S. Department of State (DOS) recently awarded a \$34,208 grant to a collaborative team from Lewis University, Universidad de La Salle and the University of Delaware.

“SoPEF 4 Life: Soil, People, the Environment, and Food for Life” is a project to develop solutions for addressing climate change and soil degradation in rural areas of Colombia. Undergraduate students from Lewis University and graduate students from the University of Delaware will travel to Universidad de La Salle in Colombia, where they will learn about soil degradation in rural areas due to climate change and its detrimental effects on family farmers.

The international research team of three faculty and eight undergraduate and graduate students will explore plant-based biochar as a solution to soil degradation on family farms in Colombia. The students will study the benefits of biochar on soils using laboratory and field techniques to evaluate soil chemistry and soil microbial communities.

This experience will enhance the students’ scientific inquiry, technical skills and cultural competencies as they collaborate in diverse settings to address this real-world problem for family farmers. Also, the students will design a public awareness campaign for rural communities about the importance of soil as a source of food, a regulator of climate, and a support for life on the planet. The campaign will share how plant-based biochar supports the recovery of degraded soils.

In addition to environmental awareness, this project is set to empower family farmers with a viable option to sustainably manage their soils by producing biochar with materials readily available to them.

Project directors include Dr. Jerry Kavouras, chair and professor of biology at Lewis University, Dr. Rosalina Gonzalez, professor of engineering at Universidad de La Salle, Libardo Gutierrez, director of International Affairs and dean of Law School at Universidad de La Salle, and Dr. Pei Chiu, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Delaware.

The 100K Strong Innovation Fund award is part of the 2022 U.S.-Andean Innovation Fund Grant Competition, supported by CAF—Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and Colombia’s Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Minciencias) in partnership with the U.S. Department of State (WHA/DOS).

Wintrust Financial Corporation

Wintrust Financial Corporation is investing in opportunities for women in banking by funding two annual scholarships for undergraduates majoring in finance and accounting. Students who receive the scholarship are also invited to apply to Wintrust’s competitive internship program which offers them valuable experience interacting with senior bank leadership.



Wintrust’s involvement at Lewis also extends to serving on the College of Business Advisory Board.

Tim Lovell '01 '10, CEO of Wintrust’s Old Plank Trail Community Bank is joining the board to help the College align itself with the finance community and engage with students. “As a double-alumnus of the University’s finance program, I’ve witnessed firsthand the grit and hustle that Lewis Flyers bring to the table. I couldn’t be more excited to recruit those same types of students to Wintrust for the internships that will equip them with the knowledge and experience they need to successfully transition to a career in banking.”

Marcheshi, Plankis & Pogore, LLP

Ron Plankis '73 (Accounting) alumnus and MPP partner is giving back to the next generation of accounting leaders through his philanthropic support of Lewis’ Accounting Club. Accounting Club students have gained access to valuable career-building activities such as attending professional conferences through Ron’s



generosity. For students who want to take their education a bit further and be CPA-ready as

they begin their job searches, his gift also helps to cover a portion of CPA examination preparation and testing fees. “I feel as though my Lewis education prepared me well for my first job out of college. To help pay it forward to the next generation of Lewis accounting graduates, I’ve been fortunate to be able to give back in a way that helps students take the initiative to grow professionally even before applying for their first job. I’ve hired Lewis students in the past, and based on those experiences I couldn’t be more confident in the direction the program is heading under Dr. Iyad Rock and the Dean of the College of Business, Ryan Butt.”



Alumnus Max Strus of the Miami Heat and Former Flyer Featured in *Forbes*

Tim Casey, Senior Contributor to *Forbes SportsMoney*, recently wrote about the fact that Miami Heat starter Max Strus was an overlooked player at Amos Alonzo Stagg High School in Palos Hills, Ill., who came to Lewis (DII) where his brother Marty, was a 6-foot-10 center and four-year starter at the school.

Coach Trost and his assistants had scouted Strus. “We knew he would step in and be an immediate impact player for us,” Trost said. “You don’t see kids at this level do

what he does, be 6-6 and shoot it as well as he does. We knew right away that we had a really special player.”

Strus started all 31 games in 2014, averaged 13.3 points per game and was named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Freshman of the Year. During his sophomore year he led Lewis to the GLVC tournament title and an Elite Eight appearance in the NCAA tournament.

Strus ended up transferring to DePaul where finished his

collegiate career. Debra Strus, his mother, played basketball and volleyball at DePaul and was inducted into the University’s athletics Hall of Fame in 2000.. He has since played for the Celtics, the Bulls, and now the Miami Heat.

Coach Trost uses Strus as an example of someone who just kept working and getting better. “He was great to coach,” Trost said. “He was an extremely hard worker and put a lot of time in the gym on his own. He worked really hard to get to where he’s at. He’s very deserving of everything he’s got.”



Lewis Athletics Honors the Memory of Neil P. Carey '54

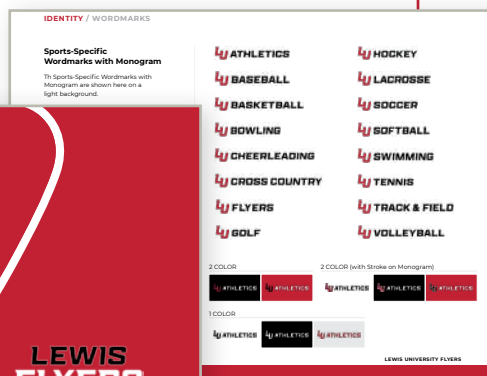
On Saturday, February 4, the memory of Lewis alumnus, Neil P. Carey, '54 was honored before the start of the Flyers Men’s Basketball game against University of Illinois Springfield at Lewis’ Neil Carey Arena. Carey, a member of the first Flyers basketball team, passed away in January of 2022 at the age of 89. After graduating from Lewis in 1954, Neil Carey went on with his wife Annamae, to raise 3 children and enjoy a tremendously successful career in marketing. In 1995 he established the Carey-Gillespie Endowed Scholarship

Fund to both honor his legendary Lewis Basketball coach, Gordie Gillespie, and to assist deserving Lewis student-athletes. In 1997 Neil was honored with a Lewis Alumni Achievement Award for his generosity and unwavering commitment to his alma mater. Before the game began on February 4, Lewis Athletic Director, Dr. John Planek presented Neil Carey’s daughter, Kathleen Tapia, accompanied by her husband, Jeff, with an engraved piece of crystal to honor the memory of her father.

Lewis Athletics Reveals New Look

The Lewis University Athletic Department revealed its rebranding of Lewis Athletics at the June 9 Lewis Flyer Golf Outing at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club. The new, cleaner, and more innovative look will be seen on Lewis Athletics uniforms, fan gear, facilities, and more this fall.

Lewis University collaborated with Enliven Agency on developing a new Lewis Athletics identity, including logos and wordmarks. Several months of discussions and collaboration with students, student-athletes, coaches,



faculty, staff, alumni and other key brand stakeholders led to the creation of brand differentials and visuals.

Lewis University fans can purchase their own Lewis Gear this Fall at shopLewisFlyers.com.

Lewis Mourns the Passing of Tony Delgado

The Lewis University Athletic Department mourns the loss of former two-sport athlete and hall of famer Tony Delgado, who passed away at the age of 80 Wednesday.

"Tony Delgado was arguably one of the greatest athletes in Lewis history, excelling in basketball and baseball," Lewis Director of Athletics John Planek said. "His legacy was the impact he had as a coach and member of the Lewis athletic community. He was a Flyer for over 60 years and his spirit lives on."

Delgado played both basketball and baseball at Lewis from 1961-65.

During that time, Delgado was a shortstop on two World Series qualifiers (1962, 1963) for the Flyers and was the point guard for Gordie Gillespie's only NAIA national tournament team in

the 1964-65 season. In the 1965 season, Delgado was named a second-team NAIA All-American in men's basketball after averaging 17 points per game.

Delgado recorded 1,186 career points on the hardwood. He was also twice selected to the NAIA All-District 20 Team in baseball.

Delgado succeeded Paul Ruddy as men's basketball coach at Lewis in 1972 and coached the team for six seasons where he was also the assistant baseball coach under Gillespie.

Delgado was inducted into Lewis' Hall of Fame in 1982 for his contributions to Lewis University Athletics. Delgado was also part of the inaugural class of the Lewis Academy of Coaches in 2019.

Delgado was the 2019 recipient of the Robert E. Smith Achievement Award,



which is given annually to a coach or administrator who has given oneself in an unselfish manner to the promotion of NAIA Baseball.

Lewis Becomes First Team to Capture Triple Crown of GLVC Women's Championships

Lewis University became the first school in Great Lakes Valley Conference history to achieve the Triple Crown in GLVC Championships for women's sports as the Flyers won the conference crown in cross country, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field.

The Lewis women's cross country team won the GLVC Title on November 5 after finishing with 44 team points and had seven runners finish in the top 16 and receive all-conference honors.

"It was something we set out to do after seeing where our groups were developing last spring," James Kearney, Lewis cross country coach said. "We

thought that this group was well rounded enough to not only win in the Fall but then carry that momentum through indoor to outdoor. To watch all four groups (distance, sprints, jumps and throws) grow and develop all year was incredibly inspiring and impressive. We are excited to give it a chase again in 2023-2024!"

The Lewis women's track and field team won the GLVC Indoor Track and Field Championship on February 27 where the team finished with 195 points, which helped it win its fourth straight title. The Flyers recorded six NCAA

qualifying marks and six first place finishes to lead the way.

The Lewis women's track and field team won its seventh straight GLVC Outdoor Track and Field Championship on May 6 after recording 249 team points. The team recorded seven NCAA Provisional Marks while achieving six first place finishes.

"The coaches started looking at historical results going back as far as we could see and we didn't notice a year that we could see any team winning all three," said Lewis track and field coach Dana Schwarting. "We knew the hardest part would be that first cross country title so James planted the seed with that group and the rest is history!"



Softball Captures 11th GLVC Championship

The Lewis softball team won its league best 11th Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament Championship after defeating Maryville in the semifinals and then Indianapolis in the championship game on Sunday, May 7.

Indianapolis broke through with a two-run single which gave the Greyhounds a early 2-0 lead.

Lewis got one back in the bottom of the third after Anna Frafjord hit a solo home run to right.

The Flyers had a big fifth inning as Lewis scored four times.

Gabi Nilles ripped a two-run single up the middle which scored Frafjord and Meghan Bontrager to give the Flyers a 3-2 lead.

Delaney Garden made it 4-2 after hitting a RBI double down the left field line scoring Nilles from first.

Kristen Graham extended the lead out to 5-2 after driving home Garden on a RBI groundout.

Garden (16-7) picked up the win in the circle after going all seven innings, allowing six hits, giving up two runs and striking out six.



Farm Named to NCAA Golf Championships

Sophomore Kendall Farm was selected to compete in the NCAA Division II Championships after winning her playoff to earn the second qualifier spot in the NCAA Division II East Regional.

Farm shot a 76 (+3) during day one on Monday. The sophomore then recorded a 73 (+1) during the second and third rounds on Tuesday and

Wednesday which gave her a total score of 222.

She then went onto the tiebreaker playoff due to being tied for 11th place and was able to advance and win the playoff.

The NCAA DII Championships took place Tuesday, May 16-Saturday, May 20 at Fox Run Golf Course in Eureka, Mo.



Women's Bowling Ends Season No. 9

The Lewis University women's bowling team finished the season ranked No. 9 in the National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) Division II/III Poll released May 2.

The Flyers ended the season with a 55-53 record overall, finishing No. 29 in the RPI. They also finished No. 25 in the Team Composite Performance Index and No. 25 in average (184.5).

DeAlani Fishbeck led the team with a 188.5 average, while Erica Lohr had a 188.1 average. Lewis had the 20th best single pin spare percentage in the country at 85.5 percent.

Three Great Lakes Valley Conference teams took the top three spots as McKendree was No. 1, Maryville was second and Newman finished third.

Lewis was also ranked just outside the top 25 in the All Division Poll, finishing in the 26th spot. National Champion Vanderbilt took home the top spot with Arkansas State second and McKendree third.



Karaba Named GLVC Pitcher of the Year

The Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) announced that Jake Karaba is the GLVC Pitcher of the Year and First Team All-GLVC member.

Karaba becomes the first pitcher in school history to earn the GLVC Pitcher of the Year award. In GLVC play he went 6-1 with a league-best 1.84 ERA, striking out 72 with an opponents

batting average of .123, also league bests. He had four complete games with two shutouts in 44 innings pitched.

Overall on the year Karaba had a 7-1 record with a 1.61 ERA and 109 strikeouts, allowing just 28 hits and a .134 opponents batting average in 10 starts and 61.2 innings pitched. He was named GLVC Pitcher of the Week on four different occasions throughout the year and has earned his second All-GLVC First Team selection.

Rathe Named GLVC Goalkeeper of Year

Riah Rathe was named GLVC Men's Lacrosse Goalkeeper of the Year.

Riathe played and started in 13 matches for Lewis while recording 169 total saves at the net. The goalie led the GLVC and ranked No. 6 in NCAA DII with a .587 save percentage while picking up 32 groundballs. During the season, Riathe won GLVC Defensive Player of the Week twice on March 6 and 13, 2023.



Bowen Named GLVC Midfielder of the Year

Meltonique Bowen was named GLVC Women's Lacrosse Midfielder of the Year.

Bowen won the first-ever Midfielder of the Year honor for Lewis after starting in all 13 contests for the Flyers this season.

The junior recorded 16 goals (2.7/game), 10 assists (1.7/game), 12 ground balls (2.0/game), six caused turnovers

(1.0/game), and 29 draw controls (4.8/game) in GLVC contests.

Overall, Bowen tallied 34 goals (2.6/game), 12 assists (0.9/game), 24 ground balls (1.9/game), 11 caused turnovers (0.9/game), and 61 draw controls (4.7/game) overall.

Dan Friend Named Head Coach of USA Volleyball Beach Collegiate National Team



The USA Volleyball Beach Collegiate National Team announced that Lewis men's volleyball head coach Dan Friend will serve as the head coach of the men's team.

The team will train June 11-17 at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center in California.

This will be Friend's second time working with the USA Volleyball Beach Collegiate National Team as he was an assistant coach for the team last season. Friend has also worked in various other coaching roles for USA Volleyball including head coaching positions for the Men's Junior National Team (2014 & 2015) and the Boy's Youth National Team (2012). He also has been an Assistant Coach for multiple USA Volleyball Teams across different levels.

"It is always an honor to represent and work with our USA volleyball pipeline," Friend said. "I am excited to be back in the sand this summer and work with a great group of young men."

After the team training, a maximum of four athletes could be selected from the group for the U23 Beach National Team where the two pairs will compete in the 2023 NORCECA U23 Beach Tour Championships in Grand Cayman on July 7-9.

Track and Field Gets 10 Selections for NCAA DII Outdoor Championships

Lewis athletes competed in the NCAA DII Championships hosted by Colorado State-Pueblo on May 25 – 27. Students and their event follow:

- Women's Long Jump: Denise Hernandez
- Women's 4 X 100m Relay: Khristel Martindale, Rose Ogbuli, Faith Wyman, Alexandra Martinez
- Men's Long Jump: Zach Olenek
- Women's 100M: Martindale and Ogbuli
- Men's Triple Jump: Keegan Zack
- Women's Javelin: Aliza Van Den Elzen
- Women's Triple Jump: Alecea Cardillo and Jaden Christian

GLVC Awards 35 Brother James Gaffney Distinguished Scholar Winners

The Great Lakes Valley Conference announced on Wednesday, June 28, that 35 Lewis University student-athletes have earned the Brother James Gaffney, FSC Distinguished Scholar Award.

The award is named after Gaffney, who served as Lewis' President for 27 years and was a two-term Chair of the GLVC Council of Presidents. The award is given to student-athletes who achieved a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average during the course of the academic year.

For a complete list of student-athletes and their sport visit the athletics website at lewisflyers.com

299 Student-Athletes Earn Academic All-GLVC Honors

A total of 299 Lewis University student-athletes were selected to the 2022-23 Academic All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Team on Tuesday, June 27. The 299 selections are the most in school history.

The Academic All-GLVC honor is awarded to student-athletes who meet a cumulative GPA of 3.30 for the academic year.

Lewis had 36 student-athletes with perfect 4.00 GPA's for 2022-23 which is also the most in school history.

41 Receive GLVC Council of Presidents Academic Award

The Great Lakes Valley Conference announced Thursday, June 29, that Lewis University had 41 GLVC Council of Presidents' Academic Excellence Awards.

The recipients of the GLVC Council of Presidents' Academic Excellence Award exemplify the outstanding student-athletes in the GLVC. Each honoree has exhausted his or her eligibility in the intercollegiate sport in which they participated and maintained at least a 3.5 grade point average throughout their entire academic career.

To be eligible for this award, the student-athletes must have competed in the GLVC for a minimum of two years and completed 96 credit hours. A student-athlete can only earn the distinguished honor one time in his or her career.

For a complete list of student-athletes and their sport visit the athletics website at lewisflyers.com

Lewis Wins GLVC Commissioner's Cup; Finishes Second in All-Sports Trophy

The Lewis University Athletic Department has won the Great Lakes Valley Conference Commissioner's Cup for the second time in school history as announced by the league office on Tuesday, May 16. The Flyers earned the award for the 2022-23 campaign by posting the highest finish in the league's seven core sports with a total of 69 points. Lewis finished runner-up for the GLVC All-Sports Trophy with 153 points.

"The Lewis University athletic department strives for excellence and winning the GLVC Commissioner's Cup is a benchmark of excellence," Lewis director of athletics Dr. John Planek said.

Points for the Commissioner's Cup are allocated based on the athletic department's finish in the GLVC's postseason tournaments and league standings in men's soccer, women's soccer, volleyball, men's basketball, women's basketball, softball and baseball. All conference members sponsor these sports at the intercollegiate level.

Lewis qualified for GLVC Tournaments in six of the seven core sports this past year, highlighted by winning the GLVC Tournament Championship in women's volleyball and softball. Women's basketball and men's soccer were runners-up.

The GLVC All-Sports Trophy is presented to the institution that demonstrates the best all-around performance in the league's 24 sponsored sports. Points are allocated based on overall finish in the respective sport's conference tournament and league standings. It is the third straight runner-up finish for the Flyers and sixth consecutive top-five performance.

Indianapolis was the winner of the GLVC All-Sports Trophy with 190 points.

Women's cross country, women's volleyball and softball all won the conference championship, receiving 13 points each. Women's track and field also won the league crown for indoor and outdoor, adding 12 points to the total, while men's cross country, men's soccer and women's basketball were runners-up and were awarded 12 points each to Lewis. Men's track and field picked up 11 points for their runner-up finishes in indoor and outdoor, while women's soccer, women's tennis and baseball all earned nine points apiece.

Bedcheck Charlie Receives Thanks for His Years of Service

In the fall of '63, some Lewis students were sitting in Sheil Hall one weekend discussing the need for a mascot. Steve Moskal, a freshman history major, and his proctor, Roger Mills, were discussing the fact that the students needed a symbol with which to identify. Moskal was a fan of a cartoonist by the name of Milton Caniff, who illustrated

a cartoon strip called *Steve Canyon*. One of Steve Canyon's adventures took him to a flight school, at which he learned of the existence of Bedcheck Charlie. Moskal remembered reading about Bedcheck Charlie in the *Chicago Tribune*. He and Mills decided to write Caniff, asking for permission to use Charlie as the school symbol. Caniff wrote back

and gave permission to use Charlie. Almost immediately, the college adopted Charlie as its own. The students quickly related to the symbol and Charlie began appearing all over campus. He was welcomed at pep rallies and home games.

For 60 years Charlie has served as the proud Lewis mascot. This spring, after announcing his retirement,

Charlie appeared at numerous events to show the fans his continued love and support for Lewis athletics and the spirit of the Flyers.



CLASSnotes



Karen Calloway '90 '99 '13 (Psychology, Counseling Psychology, General Administration) was nominated for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Leadership.



Chelsea Young '17 (Elementary Education) won the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching.



Sean M. Gilhooley '95 '19 (Criminal Justice, Public Safety Administration) was appointed as Western Spring's Director of Law Enforcement Services and Police Chief.

Elizabet Oliveros '22 (Aviation Administration) attended The Women in Aviation Conference to receive the Opportunity Elevated Scholarship Award. She thanks Republic Airways for the honor and for flying her to Long Beach, Calif. to accept the Scholarship.



Robert Smith '15 (Athletic Training) won the National Championship at the University of Chicago. Robert has been the Athletic Trainer for the last 6 seasons working with men's soccer, women's basketball, and softball.

Cierra L. Pulliam '19 (Exercise and Movement Science) finished 3rd place at the USATF Indoor National Championships in Albuquerque, NM. Last summer she qualified for the finals at the US Olympic Trials in Eugene, Oregon, finishing 7th. The top 3 finishers were selected for the US Olympic Team.

Steven Zeko '20 (Secondary Education, Biology) was nominated AND selected to be a recipient of the Joliet Area Chamber of Commerce Great Teacher Award this year! Zeko is a science teacher at Joliet Central High School.

Dr. Faith Cole '03 (Special/Elementary Education) was honored as a "light in education" at the 2022 *The Educationis Lumen Award*.



Brandon Uribe '16 (B.S. Computer Science) and **Kelly Stremme '16** (B.S. Nursing) got engaged on September 3, 2022 in Mexico. The wedding is scheduled for October 2023.



Mark Melka '10 (Environmental Science) and wife **Norah Flynn '10 & '13** (Psychology, School Counseling) welcomed their first baby, Molly Flynn Melka on November 29, 2022.

Bridget Terrones '12 (Radio-TV Broadcasting) and James Terrones welcomed their son, Emmett, born November 2022.

Derek Thomas '13 (Criminal Justice) made his MLB debut as a 1B umpire on Sunday Night Baseball. Derek played baseball at Lewis University and got into umpiring after his career concluded.



Tiffany Lacy Clark '08 (Organizational Leadership) became the president and CEO of Behavioral Health Response (BHR).



José Luis Javato Leo '21 (International Business) was named International Trade and Investment Adviser at the Economic & Commercial Office of the Embassy of Spain in El Salvador.

Awards, accomplishments, marriages, moves, publications, promotions, birth announcements – we want to celebrate with you and share your story! If you wish to send in an alumni class note for the Lewis magazine and/or social media, please email alumni@lewisu.edu.



Governor JB Pritzker announced **James Rivera '11 '13** (Fire Service Administration, Public Safety Administration) has been appointed to serve as Illinois State Fire Marshal.



Marissa Mangala '16 '18 (Mass Communications, Project Management) and **Anthony Lyen '14 '19** (Elementary Education/Journalism, Educational Leadership: Principal Endorsement) got married on July 16, 2022, at St. Daniel the Prophet Church. They had more than 40 Lewis alumni and staff at their wedding!

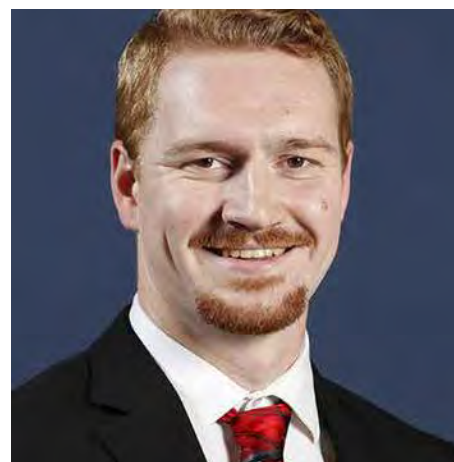


Karl Perman '10 (Public Safety Administration) joins GigNet, a Digital Transformation company, senior leadership team as the Chief Security Officer.

Kayla Feigl '20 (Marketing) and **Israel Ramos '19** (Computer Science) recently got engaged.

Brother Michael Phipps '13 (School Counseling) who is in formation as a novice, is serving as spirituality project manager effective January 1, 2023. Brother Michael will focus on spiritual formation and more related to the understanding and promulgation of Lasallian spirituality. In addition to this role, Brother Michael will continue as a member of the De La Salle Community in Minneapolis, Minn., and a counselor at Cretin-Derham Hall in St. Paul, Minn.

Jeremy Rech Ph.D. '16 (Chemical Physics) was recognized by *Forbes* in their 30 Under 30 list for his work related to scientific inventions.



The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) announced that Lewis men's volleyball assistant coach and alum **Jacob Kerschner '20** (Mathematics) was recognized as a member of the 30 Under 30 coaches.

IN memoriam

Patrick J. Callahan (3/30/23)
Frank T. Costello (11/14/22)
William K. Delany (11/30/22)
Richard P. Doria (10/28/22)
Tony Delgado (6/14/23)
Timothy T. Ferrara (1/6/23)
Scott D. Florez (1/12/23)
Charles F. Ford (1/20/23)
Dolores R. Gallo (10/28/22)

Frank A. Glowaty (11/9/22)
Max Grupenhagen (10/28/22)
Jennie G. Howard (12/14/22)
Jason K. Jesunas (11/14/22)
Carol A. Keeler (12/19/22)
Donald A. Kuhl (12/8/22)
Alan L. Lindahl (12/20/22)
John J. Lucenta (2/9/23)
Sal B. Marchionna (10/27/21)

Shelia Massey (11/30/22)
Frank L. Meyer (4/24/23)
Thomas J. O'Brien (12/19/22)
James J. O'Connell (1/18/23)
Ann Ellen Quirk (12/12/22)
James P. Redmond (11/28/22)
Carl Roach (3/10/23)
John P. Rohan (11/18/22)
Rita R. Ruddy (12/2/22)

Norma I. Rupp (1/25/23)
Stephen J. Slattery (2/10/23)
Lowell I. Stahl (1/26/23)
Thomas M. Wagner (4/25/23)
Michele L. Waszak (2/7/23)
Patrick J. Windle (1/17/23)
Mary K. Woods (11/21/22)
Cheryl M. Zdziarski (4/4/23)

IN memoriam



(Left to right): Dr. Keith F Killacky with Professor Charles Ford, Chair, Department of Criminal Social Justice.



(Left to right): Professor Charles Ford, Dr. Edward Shannon, former Chair Criminal Social Justice; and Chief Tim McCarthy, Orland Park Police Department (retired) & U.S. Secret Service (retired) and a recent recipient (2022) of an honorary doctorate from Lewis University.

Remembering Charles F. Ford, Criminal Justice

Retired chair and professor *emeritus* Charles “Charlie” Ford (Criminal/Social Justice) passed away on January 20 at the age of 88.

Ford received a Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award in 2009, from the Midwest District of the De La Salle Christian Brothers. He was honored for nearly 20 years as a Lasallian educator and administrator as well as for his continuing support of the Lewis University community. An alumnus, he held a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Criminal/Social Justice from Lewis. He also attended the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia; the National Crime Prevention Institute at the University of Louisville; and the Harvard University Senior Management Institute—Police Executive Research Forum.

After joining the Chicago Police Department in 1962, Ford rose through the ranks to become First Deputy Superintendent, the second highest ranking position in the Chicago Police Department, a post he held until his retirement. He began teaching as an adjunct professor at Lewis in 1986, became full-time following his retirement from CPD, and chaired the Criminal/Social Justice program from 1993 to 2000 when he retired. He returned to Lewis in 2003 to assist as Interim Director of the Criminal/Social Justice Program for a year.

Professor Ford was a leading educator and police administrator in advocacy for “community policing” integrating officers into the community, building trust, creating relationships with the people, and increasing safety by having the officers become familiar to citizens and businesses. A knowledgeable and experienced teacher, Ford was very popular with students and well-respected by his colleagues.

He received the Distinguished Alumni Award at Lewis in 1989 and the prestigious Brother Louis Seiler Ministry of Teaching Award in 2000.

Ford and his wife, Helen, established an endowed scholarship at Lewis University to provide tuition assistance in undergraduate programs for children of sworn law enforcement officers.

FACULTY COMMENTS

Dr. Barbara Nichols, professor, Social Work, said that Charlie believed so much in community that he brought people together through his parties, especially Christmas and St. Patrick’s Day. She described him as tough and compassionate – a police officer and social worker all in one. He was very empathetic to students and faculty and staff. Charlie and Barb planned an Emergency Response Plan for Y2K, long before it became the norm to do emergency planning.

Dr. Keith Francis Killacky, CSJ Tenured Faculty (1998-2018), said that Charlie Ford recruited an assortment of criminal justice professionals during his years at Lewis University. Ford earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Lewis. As a former First Deputy Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department he developed many retired and active police officers to become adjunct faculty and several to be full time faculty. Among the full time faculty were Dr. Dean Angelo, Dr. John Roberts, Dr. Edward Shannon, Dr. Mario Gianonni, Professor George Marcin, all from the Chicago Police Department, and Dr. James Houlihan (US Treasury) and Dr. Keith Killacky (FBI).

Charlie enjoyed his naval military service and his FBI National Academy program at Quantico, VA. Two of his sons are retired police officers who earned degrees from Lewis University. Charlie always invited Lewis faculty and support personnel to the annual St. Patrick’s Day Party in the basement of McNamara Hall. Charlie treasured his adorable loving wife Helen. He was a grandfather who spent hours with the little ones and also attended many suburban and CPD functions. He was a supporter of the Lewis mission and assisted many of us to pursue our careers as tenured faculty. He loved the CSJ students and established the Helen & Charles Ford Lewis Criminal Justice Scholarship program. If issues arose among faculty and the administration Charlie would support our position. He successfully guided me through the tenure process. In order to recruit students to Lewis’ criminal justice program he assigned faculty to various high schools to contact student prospects and also had us contacting commanders in the CPD districts about Lewis’ CSJ programs.

Dr. James Houlihan, long-time professor of Criminal Justice and head of the Mock Trial Team and Pre-Law program remembers going out with Charlie to recruit students at the Academy and various police departments. He said they actually had to work harder because everyone knew of Charlie’s reputation for demanding excellence. “But in the end,” he said, “we developed a very robust program with students who held leadership positions throughout the Chicago region. Graduating from Lewis was a big deal for Charlie. It was his alma mater. He believed in the mission and treated Lewis like it was his home.”

EVENTS & opportunities



Arizona Baseball Trip

The Lewis Alumni Office's annual tradition of hosting a Flyer alumni gathering at the Cubs/Sox Spring Training brought alumni and friends together once again in Arizona this year. Beautiful weather and great company were enjoyed by all on March 10 in Mesa!



Flyers & Friends Come Together to Support Mental Health Awareness with Laughter

On Saturday, February 25, Lewis University Advancement once again hosted what has become an annual event, "Laugh to Create Awareness." The evening, sponsored by hosted by the Laugh to Create Awareness Committee and sponsored by numerous individuals and organizations, was a night of stand-up comedy at the Beverly Arts Center with the purpose of raising awareness for depression and mental health and raising funds for mental health services. Approximately 200 Flyers, friends, and supporters enjoyed cocktails and comedy, all to support mental health services and education at Lewis University. Begun in 2019 by a group of Lewis alumni including Ken Houbolt, a member of the Class of 1988, the event's proceeds benefit the Lewis University Health and Counseling Center and an endowed scholarship to support students obtaining a degree in clinical counseling. The program opened with guest speaker, Leslie Weirich, a youth mental health advocate who lost her son to suicide in 2016. She talked about her own family's experience, contributing factors toward depression such as social media, signs and risk factors to recognize with regard to suicide, and how to talk to a young person about suicide. Afterward, the laughter kicked off with Sean Flannery, followed by comedians, Jeanie Doogan and Joe Kilgallon and it didn't stop until the show was over.

WLRA Las Vegas Trip

On April 16, Lewis University Alumni gathered for the National Association of Broadcasters Show Conference in Las Vegas. After the show, alumni from the College of Humanities, Fine Arts and Communications and from Lewis' WLRA Radio Station gathered at Beerhaus to catch up. WLRA will celebrate its 50th Anniversary this fall. More details are forthcoming!

Seated (l to r): Colin McCarthy, CJ Darchiewski, Louis Smiegowski, Simara Martinez, Allie Lankowicz, and John Kilpatrick. Standing: Tom Drez, Nick Hoepfner, Laura Franklin, John Carey, Kevin Schillinger, Brett Lyons, and Josh Bowen



President's Circle Members Gather to Celebrate the Christmas Season

On Friday, December 2, 2022, members of Lewis University's President's Circle gathered at the Bolingbrook Golf Club to celebrate the Christmas season together. The evening began with cocktails as more than 200 Flyer alumni, spouses, friends, and Lewis leadership happily reconnected. As guests settled into the dining room, vice president of University Advancement,

Colleen Ahearn introduced president, Dr. David Livingston.

Dr. Livingston welcomed everyone to the celebration and extended his warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season. Afterward,

Lewis senior and Student Senate Vice President, Dominick Bartels '23 beautifully led everyone in a blessing. Dominick will attend School of Law at Creighton University next year.

During the course of the evening, President's Circle members heard from Lewis alumna, Deborah Farmer, a Radio/TV Broadcasting major from the Class of 1995. Ms. Farmer, a new member of the President's Circle and

President of Brown Farmer Media Group Inc., a communications firm, briefly spoke of her gratitude for the support of her own family and her Lewis family, her extensive extracurricular involvement at Lewis, and how she acutely recognizes her responsibility to mentor and provide opportunity, particularly for young women.



Megan Goetz '23 spoke to guests about being a young mother pursuing her M.Ed. in Educational Leadership. Megan, a scholarship recipient, expressed her gratitude for not only the financial assistance she needed to complete her degree, but the encouragement she needed as she was juggling the responsibilities of teaching, raising young children with her husband, and pursuing her master's.



The evening was capped off with a visit by Christmas carolers who began with a sing-a-long and then strolled from table to table, taking requests. The evening was a perfect kick-off to the Christmas season.

Through your annual gift of \$1,000 or more, you can become a member of the President's Circle. President's Circle members invest annually in areas of their choosing, and together, fuel the foundation for serving our students through the mission of St. John Baptist de La Salle. As a result, they are invited to exclusive events such as the annual President's Circle Dinner. For more information about how you can become a member of the President's Circle, please contact Krysten McGee, Executive Director of Alumni Engagement at (815)836-5966 or by emailing kmcgee2@lewisu.edu.

2023 Day of Giving

On March 29, the Lewis University community came together for their annual Day of Giving to raise funds for 17 projects that directly impact the educational experience of students.

The theme for this year's Day of Giving was ONE VISION | ONE MISSION | ONE LEWIS and the Flyer family did not disappoint! This year, several of the DOG projects were nominated by faculty and students who worked to champion those causes on campus and on social media. 525 donors supported 17 projects including the purchase of a new Cessna airplane for Aviation, increased funding for additional programming at the Wadsworth Family Gallery, funds for the Department of Education's, "Visiting Authors" program, and the Department of Music's All-Steinway School initiative. And if alumni wanted to support a different Lewis project, they could. By day's end, more than \$124,000 was raised. THANK YOU! A very special thank you to Ed and Jody Sanchez who matched



gifts, dollar-for-dollar up to \$25,000. Additional thanks to Pepsico for their generous \$5,000 matching gift, and to Dr. Kim Scheffel for her \$1,000 match toward the Lewis University CONHS Neuroscience Interprofessional Education and Collaborate Practice Program.

Throughout the day, faculty and staff stopped by Stritch Hall to enjoy donuts and coffee and make Day of Giving donations. Students also visited throughout the day to grab some treats from a self-serve candy bar and write thank you cards to the alumni and friends who supported the DOG projects. The specially designed DOG socks (commemorating the retirement of Bedcheck Charlie) were a big hit too!

Due to the generosity of the Flyer family, Lewis students will enjoy expanded opportunities to learn, compete, and explore as they become the innovators and leaders of tomorrow. As a result, they will create a better world for all.

A vision that inspires, a mission that impacts, and one family of Flyers that comes together to make a difference...that's ONE LEWIS!



ALUMNIstories

Suzette Mahneke (Lenich), MS '82

"I was a diploma graduate from South Chicago Community Hospital, and I wanted a BSN because I wanted to teach nursing at an organization. I was working as a OR Nurse at the Little Company of Mary Hospital. I was in the very first class and cohort that Lewis brought out to a community setting for BSN completion. If it had not been for Dr. Hardigan and the Dean of Lewis, I would not have been able to obtain a BSN. I was able to work my shifts in surgery and do my classes at night at the Little Company of Mary Hospital because the professors came out there.

After I completed my BSN, I went on to get my master's degree at Loyola working the same way and attending the classes during the evening. I was able to practice nursing for more than 50 years - 24 of those as a Chief Nursing Officer in six different organizations. I practiced clinical nursing for 26 years in MS units, critical care units, and the operating room. I also taught student nurses at Little Company of Mary Hospital's School of Nursing. If it had not been for Lewis, I would not have been able to accomplish all that. I completed my degrees in 1988, and I am so grateful to Lewis.

I am currently providing scholarships through my trust for nursing scholars. There have been four or five awarded, and I will continue to do that because I believe in Lewis. I am so proud I was able to be a part of that program. Lewis took me to the next level of understanding and additional experiences, and each instructor was great. The things I learned about music and culture were life-changing."

Aseneth Romero-Ruiz '05

"Lewis was close to home and was the only school in the area that offered a major in psychology. I could also do a teaching endorsement. I always wanted to be a school counselor, and the State of Illinois required you to have a teaching degree. I moved to the United States in 2005. I've always enjoyed psychology and working with people. Moving to the United States as a 15-year-old was a huge change for me and my family. There were a lot of other students in the same boat and feeling somewhat lost with the process of school and applying to college. I took a lot of history classes and Dr. Mark Schultz was influential. He was open, and I remember fondly that at the end of the summer, he would have a get-together for students and former students.

I was part of LASO. Martha Villegas Miranda is another person who was, and is now, incredibly influential in my role as a school counselor. She was the advisor for LASO at the

Dr. Clifton "Cliff" Underwood '01, '02

"I was employed at a police department, and one of the lieutenants there recommended that I go to Lewis University. He was an adjunct professor at Lewis, and that ultimately led to me becoming an adjunct at Lewis for a while. I was a criminal social justice major, and I was surprised that they had so much knowledge about juvenile justice. I spent almost 15 years in management and managed new entities for the Chicago Police Department.

One of my biggest accomplishments was implementing restorative justice for the Chicago Police Department; I started the first juvenile court. I brought that up to my students as an adjunct, and I gave them the assignment to help me find the data needed to do it, which was pretty nice. I explained in all of my teachings that we have to correct the problem, not just penalize people. Ultimately, when I received my doctorate, I produced the first restorative justice dissertation for that school, and they gave me an award for it. I retired in 2011, and by that time, the Chicago Police Department had the largest youth court in the United States. I've encouraged a lot of the kids I was involved with to attend Lewis, and I'm sure that at least 40 or 50 people have attended on my recommendation. Even after my retirement, I go back to make sure that the program is running right and that all of my concepts are in what they're teaching. I spent eight years as a civilian and was a sworn police officer for 32 years."

time. She was the first Latina I ever saw in higher education. Seeing her and what she was doing with the group gave us a place where we could be proud of our culture and feel supported. We stayed in contact and we were able to collaborate on projects even after I graduated. I still consider her a personal friend. Those connections were incredibly helpful to me. Being a recent immigrant to the United States, I had to work harder at developing connections. In my second year as a teacher, I was able to bring students on campus to do conferences. I want our students to see themselves on a college campus. It's always been a passion of mine to help students who feel like going to college is unattainable. Students should be open to new experiences and follow their passions. I ended up going back to school and getting a M.A. in School Counseling. Those relationships will impact you and how you move forward."



Thomas "Tom" Hernandez '88

"I'm the oldest child in my family and the first one from either side of the family to go to college. I had other offers, but Lewis was offering me more money. It was also local, and I was born and raised Catholic. That was important to my mother. I always tell people about how some schools require students to take two math courses. We were required to take three theology courses, and it turned my life around. It changed me into a better human being. Colleges should be about making you into a better person, and that's what Lewis did. I got involved with campus ministry and all kinds of things that fed my soul and my spirit, and journalism went with that. I got to be very good friends with a gentleman by the name of Brother Mark. Brother Mark was a critical figure, and Dr. Marilyn Nissim-Sabat was a philosophy teacher who was influential.

Outside of the classroom, the sweetest little old lady was Mrs. Betty Bird. Every single time I needed more money, Mrs. Bird would find me a couple of hundred here and a couple hundred there. I worked two or three jobs to put myself through school, and that's something I'm very proud of. Brother David was one of those human beings who knew who you were, and Brother James Gaffney raised tens of millions of dollars to build and make the university look like a university. Brother James and I crossed paths many times through our work in the community. Father Phil was the campus priest who ended up actually marrying my wife and I on campus.

I am incredibly proud of my association with Lewis. I do what I can to help when I can because it truly helped form me. It's important that we try to be better people and better humans, and Lewis helped me do that. I'm still doing my writing and publishing books, and I was a newspaper reporter for about ten years before I moved over to public education. We make sure that kids have every possible opportunity to grow, succeed, and become the best they can. That's what it's supposed to be about."



Garret A. Eisin MSN, RN '68 '93 with a stained-glass panel he designed, created, and donated in honor of our country's veterans. The stained-glass panel is on display in the Winter Garden at Hines VA Hospital.

Flyers for a Better World

Fostering community through service has been part of Lewis University's Mission since its inception. Lewis alum, Garret A. Eisin MSN, RN '68 '93, exemplifies these values through his vocation as a registered nurse whose passion is to help our nation's heroes.

Garret's story began in 1968 when he graduated from Lewis University with his Sociology degree. By 1969, Garret had enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a medic at Letterman Army Medical Center, San Francisco. After serving as a medic, he enrolled at Saint Xavier University School of Nursing and graduated with a BSN in 1974. Eisin then began his nursing career as a registered nurse at Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital, where he impacted the lives of his patients through his dedicated service.

He later returned to Lewis and graduated in 1993 with a Master of Science in Nursing. Eisin acknowledged the important role Lewis played in his life in better preparing him to live out his calling as a nurse. Garret stated, "My education at Lewis University has positively impacted my life, professional and military career in so many ways. My master's degree provided me with the advanced leadership skills that I utilized as a nurse case manager at Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital, as well as when I served as a nurse officer in the U.S. Army."

Garret was recently awarded the 50-Year Federal Service Award for his career accomplishments from the Department of Veterans Affairs and received a congratulatory letter from President Joe Biden.

Throughout his lengthy career at Hines VA Hospital, he worked in Spinal Injury Service, Hematology-Oncology, Diabetes Endocrinology, Podiatry, and Diabetic Clinics. Garret felt especially privileged to be the first registered nurse at Hines VA Blind Center where he established a comprehensive diabetic education program for blind and visually impaired diabetics. The program's goal was for participants to achieve independence with their insulin administration and diabetic self-management.

Presently, Garret serves veterans in the home-based primary care program at Hines VA Hospital. Additionally, he has given a number of educational presentations and has even been published in a major medical journal.

Serving the community Garret was a part of for 24 years has greatly impacted him. Eisin stated, "In my nursing career I feel I have made a difference in the lives of the veterans I serve. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve our nation's hero!"

Garret Eisin beautifully exemplifies Lewis University's Mission and values of serving others in association. We thank him for his own service to our country and his patients and for being a Flyer who continues to create a better world.



Illinois Special Olympics Plane Pull at Lewis University

On Saturday, April 29, teams of Illinois Special Olympics supporters gathered at Lewis University to take their turn competing at pulling a United Airlines airplane twelve feet as fast as possible. Sponsored by Lewis University, United Airlines, Sodexo, the Village of Romeoville, the Romeoville Police Department, and Republic Airways, the event raised nearly \$28,000. Along with Lewis University President, Dr. David Livingston and Romeoville Mayor, John Noak, Illinois State Senator Meg Cappel, '17, accompanied by her District Manager, Michelle Westerhoff, '01 (who each earned degrees in Organizational Leadership at Lewis), greeted plane pullers and spectators at the Opening Ceremony. A new Republic Airways Embraer 175 was flown in especially for the event by alumni, Andres Paz-Colon, '19 and Raymond Sanchez, '18, both pilots. The Lewis University Advancement team even had their own team compete!

**BUILD A LEGACY TODAY,
THAT WILL LAST FOREVER
AND PROTECT THE
PEOPLE AND CAUSES YOU
CARE ABOUT MOST.**

Flyers who Found their Forever



Left: Louis and Mary Servin on April 22, 1973, at their wedding. Right: 50 years later, Louis and Mary returned to campus to renew their vows. The photo was attributed to Jennyfer Alicea Photography.

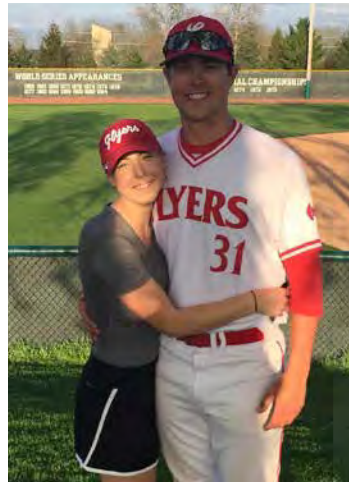
Louis and Mary Servin

Louis Servin '74 and Mary Kramer Servin '72 recently celebrated 50 years of marriage and it all began at Lewis. The couple met while taking accounting and business management classes. Louis came to Lewis to pursue a degree in accounting with a minor in mathematics. Mary, one of the first women to attend Lewis, came to earn her degree in economics with a minor in mathematics and business administration. In November of 1972, after just five short months of dating, Louis worked up the courage to ask for Mary's hand in marriage. On April 22, 1973, the couple was married at Lewis in the Sancta Alberta Chapel.

After they graduated, began their respective careers, and settled into married life, Louis earned his CPA license and was a successful accountant for nearly 50 years. Mary began her professional life in accounting and then made the move to special education. Later on, she found her calling as a registered nurse and, for the past 25-plus years has worked with patients who suffer from dementia and traumatic brain injuries. "This diverse career path would not have been possible without the strong educational foundation I received at Lewis," credits Mary.

Fifty years later to the exact day, April 22, 2023, Louis and Mary Servin returned to Lewis University to celebrate 50 years of marriage and renew their vows. "Our lives together these past 50 years have been filled with an abundance of blessings. We wanted to return to the Sancta Alberta Chapel to give thanks for many blessings, renew our marriage vows before family and friends, and have the Mass celebrated by a very close family friend, Father Edward Ward, O.Carm.," shared Louis. "Our life together began at Lewis with strong Christian values, values that emphasize the importance of others, and making the most of each new day. We are so very grateful to Lewis University!"

Here at Lewis, we ask for God's blessing upon the Servins and congratulate them on 50 years of love and happiness. We are so thankful they decided to return to campus to celebrate their "happily ever after!"



Left: Hannah and Ryan at the first Lewis home game in which he pitched. She came straight from golf practice to support him. Right: Hannah and Ryan at their December wedding.



Hannah and Ryan Ward

"Hey, where are the keys?" These five simple words sparked a forever. Hannah Cross '19 yelled those words down from an airplane to fellow Lewis Flyer, Ryan Ward '20. The two aviation students were introduced by a mutual friend, Sara Durkee, and the rest is history.

Both Hannah and Ryan decided to attend Lewis because they were aspiring pilots and student-athletes. Ryan was a pitcher on the Flyers baseball team and Hannah competed on the golf team all four years. She also played one year of tennis in 2016 when the team won the conference championship. Hannah describes Lewis as being, "the best place to foster those dreams." For the six years they attended Lewis, it became "home." Both enjoyed the feeling of community Lewis offered to them as they began their education in the world of aviation.

On December 16, 2022, Hannah and Ryan Ward wed, surrounded by many of their fellow Flyer friends who attended their wedding. Megan Zahos, the Assistant Chief Pilot during the couple's time at Lewis, was the flower girl for their wedding. Zahos would always joke with the two in class about them getting married. Like so many other Flyers, Hannah and Ryan found their forever at Lewis. Hannah told us, "We will forever be Flyers and love Lewis!"

Congratulations and God bless Ryan and Hannah Ward!

Lewis University has partnered with FreeWill, an online tool that guides you through the process of creating a legally valid will.

It's easy to use, free of charge, and can be completed in 20 minutes or less on a secure website. In addition to taking care of your loved ones and their future, you can use this tool to start your legacy with Lewis University.

Ensure peace of mind, create a lasting legacy that reflects your values and interests and consider a bequest to Lewis University that will continue to support student enrichment, groundbreaking research and innovative ideas for years to come!



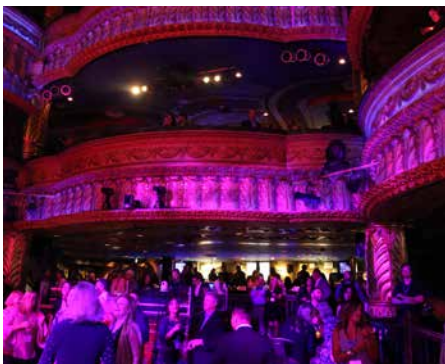
Scan the QR Code to start your FREE will!

Generous contributions have helped Lewis University open doors for students to pursue their dreams!

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



LEWIS FEST
SEPTEMBER 23, 2023
Romeoville Campus



SIGNUM FIDEI
OCTOBER 21, 2023
House of Blues, Chicago

SAVE THE DATES
 For a complete list of events, visit
alumni.lewisu.edu/events



WLRA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
NOVEMBER 4, 2023
Romeoville Campus



DAY OF GIVING
MARCH 21, 2024



2024 GOLDEN FLYERS REUNION
MAY 18, 2024
Romeoville Campus