

THE MAGAZINE OF lewis university

WINTER 2017

The Br. James Gaffney, FSC
Student Center

ON THE MOVE

Lewis continues to develop innovative strategies to engage our students in preparing for the careers of today and those to come.

Also inside:



The President's Annual Report

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ON THE MOVE

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RESOURCES

Admission
(800) 897-9000
(815) 836-5250

Alumni
(815) 836-5472
Graduate Admission
(800) 897-9000
(815) 836-5610

Athletics
(815) 836-5247
University Advancement
(815) 836-5244

Philip Lynch Theatre Box Office
(815) 836-5500

Letters to the Editor and alumni news submissions are welcome. Send letters, news and address changes to: *The Magazine of Lewis University*, Unit 196, One University Parkway, Romeoville, IL 60446 or e-mail lamontra@lewisu.edu.



United Airlines Donates Ground Power Unit

A delegation of United Airlines Tech Ops employees, some of them alumni of the Lewis University aviation program, returned to campus on Oct. 12 to donate a ground power unit that will help students prepare for careers in aviation.

"Lewis has long been a school that sends us qualified candidates," Craig Linkenhoker, United Airline's tactical planning director, said. He maintains a strong relationship with Lewis University, representing United Airlines during recruitment fairs and other events.

"It benefits us in the long run when students have hands-on experience with the same equipment our technicians use every day," added Linkenhoker, who secured one of United Airline's GPUs scheduled for retirement. It was reconditioned and given to the University.

Joining Linkenhoker for the visit were several Lewis alumni including ORD ground service equipment technician-line Anthony Bonk '91, tactical planner Matthew Copenhaver '10, ORD ground service equipment technician-line John Kennedy '89 and GSE maintenance operations supervisor Doug Sobieski.

"Lewis University is a great partner for United Airlines, not only for sending us so many high-quality applicants, but also for the continuing studies programs it offers for our employees who want to keep working while pursuing a degree," noted United Airlines tech ops hiring programs senior manager Kim Pritchard.

"This is another great example of how Lewis University has collaborated with United Airlines for many years," Eric Jones, co-chair and assistant professor of Aviation and Transportation Studies at Lewis University, said. The University's aviation facilities include a Boeing 737 donated by United in 1999.



Women Share Success at 4th Annual Women in Leadership Conference

Lewis honored Women in Leadership at a conference on Saturday, Oct. 28 at St. Charles Borromeo Center.

The one-day, female-focused conference offered career development opportunities, ways to help attendees achieve personal goals, and a chance for Lewis alumnae to meet and network with fellow graduates.

Participants heard from keynote speakers Mary Lancaster '88, partner at Wermer, Rogers, Doran & Ruzon LLC, and Rep. Natalie Manley MA '15, D-Joliet, hosts of WJOL Radio's "Friday Mornings with Lynne, Mary and Natalie" show as they presented, "Don't Pull Up the Ladder: How Women Can Give Other Women a Hand Up in the Professional World."

Following lunch, breakout sessions were hosted by: Kristie J. Bavaro '81, '82, Tiffany Lacy Clark '08, Joyce Dawkins '11, MA '14, Emily (Pender) Keene '13, Peg (Delaney) Monteagudo '73, Michele McDermott '92, Martha Villegas Miranda '98, Susan Neustrom '06, Debbie Prescott MA '12, Stacia Skinner, Samantha De Legge-Stevenson MBA '12, Ilona V. Surgaile, and Alisa Williams '00, MA '16.



Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient Addresses Latino Heritage

As part of the events for Latino Heritage Month, Lewis University hosted Sylvia Mendez, an American civil rights activist on Sept. 19 in the Student Union.

Mendez played an instrumental role in the Mendez v. Westminster case, the landmark desegregation case. Mendez won the case and helped make California the first state in the nation to end school segregation.

Seven years later, Mendez served as significant precedent for the NAACP in its U.S. Supreme Court school desegregation case *Brown v. Board of Education*. In 2011, President Barack Obama presented Sylvia Mendez with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

American Bar Association Approves Lewis Paralegal Studies Program



The American Bar Association recently approved Lewis University's Bachelor of Arts in Paralegal Studies degree program.

It is the only ABA approved program for a bachelor's degree in paralegal studies in Will and DuPage counties and one of four ABA approved programs for a bachelor's degree in paralegal studies in the Chicago area.

The ABA's stringent evaluation reviews academic standards, student abilities and graduates' competence, prior to granting approval. It must be noted that paralegals may perform functions delegated by an attorney, and under the supervision of an attorney, including but not limited to, conducting interviews with clients and witnesses, conducting legal research, and drafting documents.

"Employers are seeking paralegals with a bachelor's degree" said Huma Zia, program director. Recent Lewis University graduates are taking advantage of

this market demand for paralegals with bachelor's degrees. All recent May 2017 graduates found employment in their field.

"I credit this successful job placement to the way our curriculum is designed for student success," added Zia. She explained that one major component of the curriculum is a required capstone internship that allows students to network and apply the theoretical skills to the practical working environment. "This required internship is very attractive to potential employers and may lead to permanent employment."

In addition to preparing students to find an immediate job as a paralegal or work in the legal community, the degree also prepares traditional students for law school or other graduate degree programs. There is also a cohort option that provides evening classes for adults who are looking for a career change.

New Program Articulation with Parkland College Developed for Dental Hygiene Degree

Lewis University and Parkland College students will now have a unique opportunity to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene.

The Lewis University Dental Hygiene degree program is designed for students looking for a career in the dental industry

that will provide an education and clinical training. Students will take their first two years of coursework at Lewis University and then complete their clinical coursework at Parkland College. Upon successful completion of the coursework at Parkland, students will earn a bachelor's

degree from Lewis University. Lewis University is one of only two universities in the state of Illinois to offer this program.

The program began in response to the growing need for dental hygienists. The U.S. Department of Labor has projected that employment opportunities for dental hygienists is expected to grow much faster than average for all occupations through 2014-2024 with an overall increase of 19 percent. The American Dental Hygiene Association currently recommends a four-year degree for all dental hygiene students.

Students engage in extensive clinical training along with dental hygiene courses devoted to developing clinical skills and preparing students for successful completion of the dental hygiene board exam. Parkland College offers an accredited dental program that has consistently achieved a 100% pass rate on the National and Clinical Boards.

Did you know?

Lewis University is the only university in the Chicagoland area, and one of only two universities in the state of Illinois, to offer a bachelor's degree in Dental Hygiene.



Carolyn H. Head Named Senior Vice President, CFO

Carolyn Head joined the Lewis University administration on Sept. 18. In her role as chief financial officer and senior vice president, Head will serve as the chief administrative and financial officer and is charged with ensuring effective and efficient plant management, dining services, fiscal operations, human resources, purchasing, administration and bookstore operations in accordance with the Mission and strategic plan of Lewis University.

Head comes to Lewis University from Christian Brothers University where she served for the past three years as the CFO and executive vice president of administration and finance.

Prior to that she was with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, where she served as the chief budget officer for the College of Medicine overseeing approximately \$400 million in resources from tuition, research, state funding, contracts, practice plans and endowments. Head previously served in many roles in accounting and operations for the UT Medical Group. She was also the owner of her own public accounting firm, Carolyn Head Management Consulting & Accounting Services, from 2002-2014.

Head received her Master of Business Administration in



accounting from the University of Memphis, as well as her Bachelor of Business Administration. She is a licensed CPA.

Head will replace Robert DeRose, who retired at the end of June as senior vice president and chief financial officer after 32 years of service at Lewis. A 1993 alumnus of Lewis University, DeRose joined the University staff in 1985 as controller/business manager before becoming an associate vice president and then vice president. He holds a bachelor's in accountancy from the University of Illinois and an MBA from Lewis. He obtained his CPA in 1983. A licensed pilot, he managed the University's Aviation and Flight Operations for several years.

"We are very pleased to have Carolyn join Lewis University," said Dr. David Livingston, president. "Her depth of experience in higher education and the non-profit sector makes her an ideal individual to help us chart the course for Lewis University's financial stability and long-term prosperity."



Ryan D. Butt Appointed Dean, College of Business

Ryan D. Butt, J.D. was appointed dean of the College of Business and Graduate School of Management at Lewis University, effective July 10.

Previously, Butt served as dean of the College of Business and Leadership at Lourdes University from 2013-2017. He was instrumental in leading the College through the reaccreditation of six undergraduate business programs and achieving initial accreditation for two graduate business degrees, including the MBA: leading the reorganization of College administrative structures and programs; growing the Business Leadership Advisory Council to strengthen connections for



student success; developing a study abroad program for undergraduate business students in Italy and promoting international collaborative programs with institutions on four continents; and conducting international recruiting initiatives within China.

Butt said, "I am humbled to be a member of the Lewis University community; and am grateful for the opportunity to collaboratively lead the College of Business and the Graduate School of Management. Lewis' standing, as well as our business

programs' reputation throughout the region and afar can be directly attributed as a result of our exceptional faculty members, the recruitment of outstanding students and sharing in the successes of our alumni throughout the world.

"I look forward to continuing the Lasallian tradition of excellence in educating and preparing our students to embrace future leadership experiences, rooted with strong values and a multi-dimensional understanding of today's dynamic global business environment."

Butt received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Notre Dame and his Juris Doctorate from Valparaiso University.

Mass of the Holy Spirit Begins New Tradition

Approximately 400 members of the Lewis University community participated in the inaugural Mass of the Holy Spirit on Sept. 13. It is common at Catholic colleges and universities to begin the academic school year with a Mass of the Holy Spirit as a way to ask God to infuse all of the institution's endeavors with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The celebrant for the Mass was Reverend Ed Foley, OFM Cap from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Father Foley spoke about the relevance of performing rituals such as a Mass of the Holy Spirit and reminded the congregation to continue to evolve our traditions so they are not lost in obscurity. He also talked about the importance of human beings making true connections with each other despite differences and the universality of people looking for forgiveness.

Professor Emeritus John Lamb Visits Campus

Professor *Emeritus* John Lamb visited campus in September to hear a special thank you from students in the Howard and Lois Adelman Regional History Collection, which he created. To see a video of his visit, go to [youtube.com/LewisUAlumni](https://www.youtube.com/LewisUAlumni).

Students Spend Summer Finding STEM Solutions

The Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program is a collaborative effort by students from multiple STEM disciplines to engage in undergraduate research, mentored by Lewis faculty. This 10-week summer program brings students from biology, chemistry, computer science, math, and physics together weekly to discuss topics, such as research ethics, data analysis methods, resumé building and interviewing skills. They also undertake specific discipline-related research.

Students presented their work, including lab experiments and results, at the concluding symposium for the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Undergraduate Research Experience.

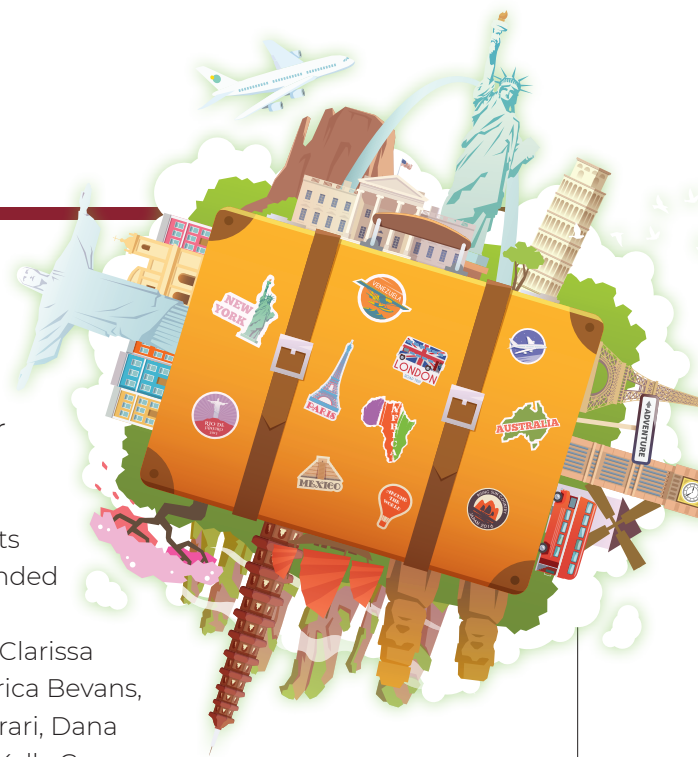
"This intensive summer program serves as a foundation for continued research and subsequent presentations throughout the year," said Dr. Sarah Powers, assistant professor of biology and program director. The program provides the student researchers with a stipend and offers an experiential learning environment that accelerates their research careers. Many results end up being presented at conferences and in publications.

Support for the S.U.R.E. program is provided by the Aileen S. Andrew Foundation.



Students researched a variety of topics:

- **Mikayla Bertrand**, chemistry major, researched "The Effects of Silica Pore Functionalization on Drug Release." Dr. John Parker, assistant professor of physics, served as faculty mentor.
- **Marc Cerda**, computer science major, researched "Discovering the Hubness of Neurons in Connectomes." Dr. Piotr Szczurek, assistant professor of computer and mathematical sciences and director of the data science program, served as faculty mentor.
- **Matthew Dubiel**, physics major, researched "Simulation of an Antimatter Engine for Space Travel." Dr. Ryan Hooper, associate professor of physics, served as his faculty mentor.
- **Madison Hill**, chemistry major, researched "Examining Hydroxyl Radical Formation via Fenton Decomposition through Ligand Coordination Chemistry." Dr. Mallory Havens, assistant professor of biology, served as faculty mentor.
- **Alexander Klouda**, chemistry major, presented "Arsenic Concentrations in Soil." Dr. Teresa Bixby, assistant professor of chemistry, served as his faculty mentor.
- **Carley Maupin**, mathematics and social work double major, researched "Predictive Modeling and Analysis of Softball Using Linear Algebra." Dr. Amanda Harsy Ramsay, assistant professor of computer and mathematical sciences, served as a faculty mentor.
- **Sarah Nelson**, biology and chemistry major, researched "Cyclin D3 Mutations and the Effect on Mammalian Cells." Dr. Sarah Powers served as faculty mentor.
- **Cynthia Saucedo**, chemistry major, researched "Probing the Interaction between Copper Chemical Mechanical Planarization Slurry Chemistry and Polymeric Filtration Media." Dr. Jason Keleher, chair and associate professor of chemistry, served as her faculty mentor.
- **Quinn Stratton**, mathematics major, researched "Implementing a High-Performance Computing Center." Dr. Ray Klump, chair and professor of computer and mathematical sciences, served as his faculty mentor.
- **David Santefort**, physics major, researched "Effect of Indium Tin Oxide Surface Roughness on the Response of Liquid Crystal Cells for the Use of Laser Light Mitigation." Dr. Joseph Kozminski, chair and professor of physics, and Keleher served as faculty mentors.
- **Frank Vukaj**, biochemistry major, researched "Investigating Biofilm Formation on Electrode Surfaces Relevant to Microbial Fuel Cells." Keleher served as faculty mentor.
- **Carolyn Werr**, biology major, researched "Synthesis of an Amino Acid Crosslinked Hydrogel for Improved Skin Cell Viability." Her faculty mentor was Dr. William Chura, associate professor of biology.



Travel Brings Students Enriching Experiences

Learning outside of the classroom has always been a hallmark of the student experience at Lewis. Below our students share their experiences as they traveled across the globe.



Travel Study Group Participates in Course at Forensic Anthropology Center

Students majoring in criminal justice, forensic criminal investigation and biology recently attended a weeklong course at the University of Tennessee's Dr. William Bass Forensic Anthropology Center (FAC) as part of Lewis University's Travel Study program.

"This course is an intensive course offered by FAC to select universities. Lewis is one of only five colleges in the world to offer students this exceptional learning opportunity," commented Dr. Lynn Tovar, associate professor of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies as well as faculty instructor of the trip. Dr. Cynthia Misischia, assistant professor of Biology, also led the trip.

The academic week includes human osteology, bone biology, decomposition, taphonomy, forensic entomology, biological profiling, pathology and trauma analysis. The highlight of the course is the skeletal recovery, in which students excavate and clear the site of debris, photograph various angles, set up a precise grid for measuring, draw each bone recovered at the site accurately, and ensure all remains are accounted for on site.

The final day consists of applying new knowledge of skeletal remains to case studies. Students worked together in teams to determine through science the sex, ancestry, stature, age and cause of death of each case study and presented the findings to University of Tennessee faculty.

Students who attended the trip included Clarissa Acosta, Erica Bevans, Olivia Ferrari, Dana Gambla, Kelly Green, Katelyn Guzan, Arianna Krischler, Alyssa Large, Edmund Leyden, Jeffrey Melinyshyn, Ashleigh Murphy, Jessica Thornton, Lane Winkler, and Haley Sawatzki.

In 2016, the first travel study group of students to the University of Tennessee's Forensic Anthropology Center included students David Wright and Seth Veloz. Both alumni Wright and Veloz are now employed as death investigators for the Will County Coroner's office and point to the travel study at FAC as having a fundamental impact in securing those positions.



Students Take to London

Seven students from courses in history and literature traveled to London May 19-28 as part of the Lewis University Travel Study program.

While in London, the group of students visited Westminster Abbey, the Churchill War Rooms, St. Paul's Cathedral and the Dickens Museum, along with other sites in the area. They attended a performance at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre as well.

Highlights of the trip also included visits to the Museum of London, British Museum, National

Portrait Gallery, Buckingham Palace and Hampton Court Palace. The group took a river cruise boat down the Thames from Westminster Pier to Greenwich, where they visited the National Maritime Museum and the Royal Observatory.

The students who attended the trip included Madison Dewey, Ra'Naa Iqbal, Samantha Kowalczyk, Joseph McDermott, Ziarra Miller, Sita Patel, and Cody Phillips.

The students were enrolled in Culture and Civilization, The British Empire and British Literature: 1800 to the Present. Dr. Eileen McMahon, chair and professor of history and Dr. Jamil Mustafa, chair and professor of English Studies taught the courses and led the trip.



Travel Study Explores History and Spirituality in Italy

Roman history, Lasallian spirituality, church architecture, early Christianity and Medieval Christianity, were among the lessons on the Lewis University Travel Study trip to Italy, May 20-30. For more than a decade, the Italy travel study trip has been a cornerstone of Lewis University Study Abroad program. This year, the 11 students were enrolled in Professor Dr. Dominic Colonna's Christian Faith and the Arts course or in Professor Dr. Dennis H. Cremin's Rome Urban History course.

Students used a place-based learning approach at historic sites and museums that included the Colosseum, St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican Museums.

The program included students Danielle Alicz, Leticia Alvarez, Kristen Brehmer, Carly Cicirale, Amanda Heimdal, Rebecca Hodel, Michelle Malito, Alyssa Marfoe, Haley Renison, Nicholas Varman, and Kyana Vasquez.



Aviation Students Soar to Success in Air Race Classic

Lauren Loomis and Jane Zieba took to the skies June 20-23 in the 41st Air Race Classic (ARC), the oldest airplane race of its kind in the United States.

The Lewis University team joined more than 120 women pilots from around the country flying in this year's race, which began in Frederick, Md. and ended in Santa Fe, N.M. They competed against approximately 50 teams, flying a 2,648-mile course in four days, from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the far northern reaches of the Continental United States, and finishing in the high desert of New Mexico.

Loomis is a junior and Zieba is earning a bachelor's degree this summer with plans to continue graduate studies in August. Both are studying aviation flight management at Lewis University.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to network with fellow women aviators while flying across the country," said Megan Zahos, assistant chief pilot at Lewis University.

The historic contest traces its roots to the 1929 Women's Air Derby, aka the Powder Puff Derby, in which Amelia Earhart and 19 other female pilots raced from Santa Monica, Calif., to Cleveland, Ohio. Today, the ARC is the epicenter of women's air racing, the ultimate test of piloting skill and aviation decision-making for female pilots of all ages and from all walks of life.

Because each plane receives a unique handicap, teams were competing against their own best time, not one another, which created a level playing field. Teams strategized to play the elements, holding out for better weather or seeking more favorable winds to beat their handicap by the greatest margin.

The ARC draws competitors of all ages, from teenagers to veteran pilots in their 80s, and from all walks of life, from college students to professional airline pilots to military veterans to teachers, writers, doctors and businesswomen.

ON THE MOVE

Move in Day

Fall semester got off to a fast start with lots of activities planned during Welcome Week in August for our new freshmen and returning students. Students were assisted by Lewis staff, student volunteers and alumni as they moved their belongings into their new home. Special meals, concerts and excursions were planned, all with the intent of giving our students those opportunities to meet new friends and learn about Lewis.



Penske employees and Lewis alumni returned to campus for move in day in August. **Emily (Keene) Pender '13**, **Kim Stedronsky '15** and **Kellie Yonkers '16** were joined by colleagues Lauren Huber, Alayna Kaim, Tom Helwich, and Paul Jozwik to help move students into the residence halls for the school year. Check out our video highlighting this year's Welcome Week activities: <https://youtu.be/qewY21AhLjs>

New Spaces Created to Enhance Hands-on Learning

While higher education has been experiencing a myriad of changes, Lewis' enrollment has continued to remain stable over the past five years. You might wonder if there's a secret. Actually Lewis is continuing to develop innovative strategies to engage our students in preparing for the careers of today and those to come. New spaces designed to enhance experiential learning were created over the summer, programs continue to recruit and retain a variety of demographic audiences, and the national rankings continue to rise.



Occupational Therapy Lab Space

Lab space for the master's program in Occupational Therapy (scheduled to begin in fall 2018) will allow students to learn to provide OT interventions to many client groups. The lab space includes the following:

- Activities of daily living (ADL) training lab space:
 - working kitchen (refrigerator, oven/range, dishwasher, sink, microwave),
 - working washing machine and a practice dryer
 - bedroom (bed, desk, wardrobe),
 - bathroom (dry toilet, working sink, dry tub with shower)
 - Tran-Sit car simulator for transfers and driver's rehab
- Pediatric lab space
- Murphy bed style mat table for physical rehab
 - Ceiling suspension hooks to hold up to 500 lbs for sensory integrative equipment
- Moveable and folding student tables and chairs for quick lab space configuration

Supercomputer Lab Purchased

Using money raised through the crowd-funding effort surrounding the dedication of the Kaiser Computational Science Lab, a super-computer from ConnectTech, Inc. was purchased. The computer has 24 NVidia TX2 GPUs each capable of performing 1 trillion numerical operations per second. A GPU-based system was chosen instead of a more traditional CPU-based system because (1) it is the far more-green option, giving better computational performance per watt of energy consumption and (2) GPUs have become very popular for deep learning / machine learning / data science, which is a major focus of our graduate and undergraduate computer science curricula at Lewis. Other sciences will use the super-computer to simulate chemical, biological, and physical systems. The supercomputer will also be used to analyze huge quantities of cyber intrusion data to better predict and characterize cyber attacks.





Cadaver Lab

The new cadaver lab has two human bodies for students to use in the classroom. The cadaver lab will provide opportunities to biology, nursing, athletic training, exercise and movement science, forensic criminal investigation and occupational therapy majors to study muscles, nerves, and blood vessels in the human body. The lab will allow students to gain invaluable experience with the knowledge to better visualize the dynamic interactions within the body. The cadavers will also be used to study structures in the abdominal and thoracic (chest) cavity along with the brain and spinal cord. While the students dissect various organs and animals in A&P lab, it is much better for students to see actual human structures.

Center for Academic Success and Enrichment

The new Center for Academic Success and Enrichment (CASE), is a new entity that brings together in one location many of the offices, professional staff, resources, services, and unique spaces that foster student academic success and enrichment at Lewis University, including: Academic Services (Course Tutoring, Disability Services, Success Program, ESL Support, Advising for Undeclared Students, Student-Athlete Academic Support); Office of Community Engaged Learning (formerly Service Learning); the Writing Center (located in the Library) and Graduate Writing Services (located on the 3rd Floor of the LRC); Military Education Resource Center (MERC); Study Abroad Office; Scholars Academy Honors Program; Computer Lab (for standardized testing, workshops, and open use); Speech and Presentation Lab (in collaboration with the Communications Department); Accommodated Testing Center (for

students with documented disabilities); and CASE Commons (gathering space for tutoring, mentoring, and small group projects).

The Center's structure, mission, and philosophy of service also exemplify the efforts of over a dozen professional staff and faculty who are committed to working together to enhance student success, collaboratively developing creative ways to reimagine existing services to students, exploring and implementing new services, approaches, and opportunities to enrich and support the student academic experience.



center for
**academic success
& enrichment**

Br. James Gaffney, FSC Student Center



At Lewis, everything we do centers around student success. Whether our students come to us as commuters or live on campus, we are a community. For a community to flourish, it needs a common space for its members to come together. The new Br. James Gaffney, FSC Student Center will create an important anchor for student life, and will fulfill the need for more places to study, collaborate and offer more dining choices.

This new hub on campus will include offices for student organizations and student government; soft seating and gathering spaces for residential, commuter, undergraduate and graduate students; three meeting/conference rooms; a 24-hour convenience store and café; a gaming area which includes three multimedia areas and arcade; a new dining hall with over 360 seats; and private dining rooms that students can reserve for meetings.

For a link to view the live video feed of the construction site, visit lewisu.edu/StudentCenter.



To make a gift to this initiative, visit us online at alumni.lewisu.edu/studentcenter.

Breaking Stereotypes for Careers in Demand

Boys and girls typically choose a career path based on what they are exposed to as they are growing up. Many times girls are not encouraged to study math and science topics and boys are not encouraged to be teachers or nurses. But Lewis students are studying and finding satisfaction in pursuing careers not typically associated with their demographic.



KELI KNIGHT '03

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, law is one of the least racially diverse professions in the nation. Born and raised in Chicago, Keli Knight '03 has taken great strides to break down barriers for African American women in the legal industry.

Now a founding partner of Knight | Morris | Reddick Law Group (KMR) in Chicago, Keli and her partners have embraced their uniqueness in their field of law and used it to fuel a solid and successful brand.

A young entrepreneur practicing law on her own for about six months, Keli was scrolling through her Twitter feed when she came across a tweet from a friend of hers, Yondi Morris, explaining that she wanted to open her own firm. After responding to that tweet, Keli learned that Yondi had been discussing this business idea with a classmate, Jessica Reddick. The three women decided to set up a meeting and KMR Law Group was born.

"Working with Yondi and Jessica is great, as I knew it would be," says Keli. "We have very similar family backgrounds and morals, but we also have very complementary personalities as well. What one lacks, one of the others will be able to supplement."

The main goal of their firm is to transition to a place where they are able to provide services and funds to those in need. "We strive to provide great legal services," says Keli. "So many people do not have access to an attorney or choose not to hire one because of the assumption that the cost is prohibitive or the experience will be intimidating. We love to prove that stereotype wrong."

The fact that KMR Law Group is owned and operated by three young African American women is unique. However, that is not the only reason this firm stands out among others in Chicago.

"What really sets us apart is our brand," says Keli with a smile. "We wanted to be able to truly connect with our target clients. We wanted to be transparent, approachable and understandable."



LYELA MUTISYA '17

In 2014, Lyela traveled back to Kenya to visit her family after being away from home for 14 years. While there, she learned about the labor that goes into being a coffee farmer. She also learned how poorly her father was compensated, along with other coffee farmers, for all of their hard work. Lyela made a promise to her father that she would find a way, no matter how difficult, to help get his coffee to the United States.

Lyela Mutisya studied Aviation Administration with a minor in Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at Lewis University and graduated in December '17. Aside from school projects and homework, she also works at the Chicago Helicopter Experience as a passenger coordinator.

Shortly after returning, Lyela began her own coffee company in Chicago - Kahawa Yetu, Inc. - which is a Swahili term that translates to "Our Coffee." In her first year, she was able to contract nearly 250 bags of coffee from Kenya. Lyela grew her business as she continued enrolling in classes, one of her favorites being a course in Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). Inspired by a lesson in precision agriculture, Lyela finally knew what she had to do to help her father's coffee business.

Using her knowledge of coffee and drawing from her experiences, she could utilize UAS to improve the efficiency of coffee farming. After some initial research, Lyela realized this idea could also increase production, decrease fertilizer expenses, and improve the quality of both the coffee itself and compensation for coffee farmers in Africa.

Lyela is confident that Lewis University has provided her with the knowledge and experiences necessary to take her ideas to the next level. "I took so many amazing courses and met so many helpful professors, without which, I probably would have never thought of this solution to help my father."

Lyela is eager to begin putting everything she has learned to good use, to improve life for not only her family but the entire continent of Africa. She plans to use a portion of her profit to support the Air Shepherd Initiative, a program of the Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation that is dedicated to using technology, such as UAS, to balance the effects of human development on the environment and protect wildlife in Africa.



WILLIAM SHAKE '16

William Shake always wanted to be a doctor. As a biology major in his freshman year of college, Bill took an EMT clinical that changed his course of direction.

Bill said, "I felt a disconnect in the delivery of healthcare. While in pre-med, in hospital rotation, I saw the work of nurses as face-to-face, hands-on healthcare, and that is when I knew what I wanted to do."

With that in mind, Bill needed to find a school that could make that happen. He said, "I had 3 weeks to find a new school. I applied at several schools but I really didn't know anything about the transfer process. Lewis was the only one who had it all together for me. My transfer counselor, Kerry, made it happen - she was amazing."

Bill co-chaired Males Entering Nursing (MEN). He set up meetings and events and got other male students in nursing involved. At Campus Visit Day Bill said, "We tell high school students what it's like in this program; let them know what to expect."

Men interested in healthcare are being welcomed, encouraged and supported to pursue nursing more than ever. Bill said, "It is no longer a stigma. Of the 10 male nursing

sophomores in my class, not one had nursing on their radar during high school." Bill continued, "There is a demand for male nurses now. We learn to be on our best behavior because men will stand out in a class of nursing students. It is a good opportunity to take on a leadership role."

"Lewis gave me the sense of community I was looking for," Bill explained. "Nursing majors have a different college life than other majors. The course of study is very demanding and has more components but I love it." Bill added, "Nursing students connect with each other; we understand that this program becomes part of your life and we work together."



KATHLEEN GIBLIN '15 '16

From a very young age, Kathleen was mesmerized by the concept of air travel. Her parents had given her multiple opportunities to travel as a young girl, and in her mid-teens, she realized that the aviation industry was where she was destined to be. Now, as a young woman entering the industry for the first time, Kathleen feels prepared and confident for this new chapter in her life.

A triple alumna from Lewis and an avid international traveler, Kathleen Giblin '15 '16 began her professional aviation career with United Airlines headquarters located at the Willis Tower in Chicago.

In her position as a crew scheduler, she is accountable for ensuring that flights are appropriately staffed in accordance to the Federal Aviation Regulations and collective bargaining agreements. Assisting with scheduling issues, planning for reserve coverage, and monitoring legalities are among some of her additional responsibilities.

"I am very confident in the aviation education that I received at Lewis University and am hopeful that my knowledge and experience will help me through any obstacles that might come my way," Kathleen says.

United Airline's mission is rooted in diversity and inclusion, so she feels as though it is an environment in which anyone, regardless of gender, race, age, or ethnicity can thrive, including her. She is eager to continue her journey as a female leader in the aviation industry.



U.S. News & World Report's National Rankings Continue to Rise

An improved graduation rate, a more academically-talented freshman class and an increase in average alumni giving rate were factors that helped the U.S. News & World Report ranking increase one spot from the previous year's rankings. Lewis University's acceptance rate also decreased, noting that the University was more selective in the admission process.

"Our students are the real success story. Their experiences and accomplishments lead to great career and graduate school opportunities, which reflects so positively on Lewis," said Ray Kennelly, senior vice president for Enrollment Management.

Lewis University is also once again in the Top 20 Best Colleges for Veterans Midwest Regional University rankings. It placed No. 19 on the list of top colleges and universities that assist military veterans and active-duty service members by offering an affordable education.

"Our Office for Veterans Affairs and Recruitment works with the Student Veterans of America Chapter to provide unparalleled support that extends beyond the G.I. Bill and Yellow Ribbon Program," commented Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University. "These recognitions honor our dedication to supporting student success."



Named a Green College by the Princeton Review

Lewis University is one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the nation, according to The Princeton Review.

The ranking guide *Princeton Review Guide to 375 Green Colleges*, featured Lewis University in the 2017 list.

The Princeton Review chose the schools for this 7th annual edition of its green guide based on data from its 2016-17 survey of hundreds of four-year colleges concerning the schools' commitment to the environment and sustainability.

"We strongly recommend Lewis University and the other fine colleges in this guide to the many environmentally-minded students who seek to study and live at green colleges," said The Princeton Review's Robert Franek, senior VP and publisher. "We selected the Top Green Colleges based on a combination of school-reported data and student opinion. Lewis University was chosen as an environmentally responsible school that makes exceptional commitments to sustainability, from academics and career prep to campus clubs and initiatives."

Dr. Jerry Kavouras, director and professor of Environmental Science at Lewis University, said, "Our Environmental Science students benefit tremendously by having a green campus as a learning environment. We're able to directly relate sustainability lessons from the classroom to our campus."

For example, Environmental Science majors and the Student Sustainability Club recently restored to a native prairie an area on campus, which will be expanded over the years by students as a hands-on learning experience and serve as an experimental outdoor laboratory.



Recognized as a College of Distinction

Lewis University has been recognized as a 2017-2018 College of Distinction. To be designated a College of Distinction, a school's curriculum must emphasize such core competencies as critical thinking, writing, oral skills, research, and global perspectives, as well as offering out-of-classroom learning and study abroad programs.

Lewis University was chosen as a teaching-centered university that delivered exceptionally well in the four overarching distinctions – Engagement, Teaching, Community and Outcomes.

It is an institution as noted by the AAC&U as dedicated to high-impact practices to ensure students gain the essential skills valued by employers and necessary for democratic participation and a life well-lived.



Awards & Recognition



Lewis University Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award

On June 27, Robert DeRose, MBA '93, was honored for his 32 years of service at Lewis. Following is an excerpt as he was given the Distinguished Lasallian Educator award.

"In his more than 30 years at Lewis, it is fair to say that Rob has accomplished more here at the University than he ever imagined. Why? Ask Rob and he'll tell you that early in his career, he believed he would only be at Lewis a few years and then he saw himself moving on to another position elsewhere. But something happened for him during the late 1980's – something that many of us in this very room have experienced ourselves during our time at Lewis – we found that we were being led – step by step, by a strong sense of calling and purpose, and before we knew it – we found that we'd spent the better part of our careers here. Rob discovered an attraction to the Mission, the people, the students, and the community here that has led to the sense that, 'this is simply where he belongs.'

During the course of those three decades, he has had an immeasurable impact on the University's success, development and smooth functioning. Thanks to Rob, he has helped to ensure the fiscal viability and flourishing of Lewis University during some of the best of times as well as some of our more challenging moments; he has managed the design and cost-effective construction of new buildings as well as the renovation of many others; and he has guided the University through any number of complex pension, insurance, human resource, legal, business, aviation, investment, technology and financial matters. He is known for his creativity, his problem-solving abilities, and for his entrepreneurial spirit....not to mention his shrewd negotiating skills and willingness to tell you exactly what he thinks.

In times of uncertainty and in periods of crisis, Rob has provided strong leadership and reassurance that exemplifies the work of great administrators. Many of us in this room have looked to him during challenging times for that sense of security, of stability and the sense that 'all will be OK.' To his immediate staff, he has been a teacher, a role model and a mentor. Many of the young people who began as student employees or young professionals in the Business Office have gone on to graduate school or participated in Lasallian formation programs, and have flourished in their careers because of the encouragement, attention and support he has provided. Great leaders surround themselves with great people and that is something Rob has done very, very well in all the areas of the University that he oversees.

So, as we celebrate Rob's retirement and his contributions to Lewis University for more than three decades, it's only appropriate that we formally recognize him tonight for what he has done and who he has become - a Distinguished Lasallian Educator. Distinguished Lasallian Educators exemplify what it means to walk in the footsteps of Saint John Baptist de La Salle in the 21st century. In this way, we pay tribute to those whose lives are characterized by what De La Salle called the spirit of faith and zeal – a strong faith in God combined with a commitment and energy focused on student success and the mission of education. "



2017 Lincoln Award Recipient

Lewis is pleased to announce that William Z. Riley is recipient of the prestigious Student Laureate Lincoln Award.

Lewis University is proud to have William represent Lewis University as a Student Laureate of the Lincoln Academy and be recognized for his overall excellence in curricular and co-curricular activities.

William was honored at a ceremony in Springfield hosted by Governor Bruce Rauner on Saturday, November 11, 2017.

Awards & Recognition



Clockwise:

1) Art Beat Live finishes one of the two paintings completed during dinner.

2) WGN Chief Meteorologist Tom Skilling with Brother Larry Schatz, FSC

3) Dr. David and Joan Livingston greet Tom Skilling as they arrive at the Red Tie Ball.

Red Tie Ball The *Signum Fidei* Celebration

On Sept. 9, more than 300 guests joined Lewis University in support of the Mission Fund at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago for this year's Red Tie Ball – The *Signum Fidei* Celebration. Since the Mission Fund's inception in 2009, more than 340 students who were facing potential withdrawal from Lewis University due to severe financial hardship have been able to continue their pursuit of a degree through support from the Mission Fund.

Special guest Tom Skilling, WGN Chief Meteorologist, mingled with guests at the celebration. The wonderful five-course gourmet dinner included entertainment by Art Beat Live artist Elliot From, who painted Chicago and Blackhawks paintings in less than 20 minutes. The paintings were auctioned off later in the evening, along with Bulls and Blackhawks tickets, Cubs tickets in St. Louis (including transportation to and from the game on a Lewis aircraft), Notre Dame football tickets, a night out in Chicago to see *Hamilton*, and a quilt handmade by our very own College of Education Dean, Dr. Pamela Jessee.

For photos of this year's event, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/RedTieBall.



GIFTS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS



WHITE COAT CEREMONY CHAMPIONS COMPASSIONATE CARE

More than 70 junior nursing students were “coated” by their senior peers at the College of Nursing and Health Professions’ White Coat Ceremony, Sept. 29 at St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall.

The event was partially funded by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, a collaborative effort to reach nursing students early in their programs with the message that compassion matters. The Arnold P. Gold Foundation (APGF) and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) selected 50 schools of nursing across the nation to receive funding.

In nursing, a White Coat Ceremony traditionally marks the student’s transition from pre-clinical to professional practice. Students also are given a specially designed pin that serves as a visual reminder of the continuous bond of trust, respect and communication that connects healthcare professionals with their patients.

“Our College’s heritage was built on concern for the individual – those who we teach and those who they will serve as healthcare professionals,” explained Dr. Peggy Rice, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. “Our mission is to provide quality educational opportunities to a diverse student population who will then go out and make a positive impact on the world.”



ROBERT DUDASIK WINS ISACA SCHOLARSHIP

Robert Dudasik, a senior double-majoring in Computer Science and Computer Engineering, won one of two \$3,500 scholarships offered by ISACA-Chicago. ISACA is an international professional organization focused on the security of information systems.

Dudasik, who is founding President of Lewis University’s IEEE Chapter and has been involved in a number of other activities in the Computer and Mathematical Sciences Department at Lewis, was awarded one of the Chicago Chapter’s most prestigious awards based on his academic achievement, involvement in activities, and potential for future impact on the field of cyber security. Robert, who has worked as an intern at Argonne National Laboratory for a number of semesters, has taken full advantage of his time at Lewis, majoring in two of the University’s most challenging and most cutting-edge programs.



DIocese OF JOLIET NAMES LEWIS ALUMNAE TO OSCAR ROMERO SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This story was reprinted with permission from the Diocese of Joliet Magazine Story by Carlos Briceño

Hispanic Catholics are a fast-growing segment of the population, and recognition of this fact led the Catholic Theological Union (CTU) in Chicago to conceive of the Oscar Romero Scholars Program, which offers Hispanic lay men and women scholarships for a professional graduate degree that prepares them to minister in the Chicagoland area.

The program, until a year ago, was aimed solely for people in the Archdiocese of Chicago, but the Diocese of Joliet now has a partnership with the program. The first Oscar Romero Scholar in the diocese was William Becerra, the associate director of Hispanic Ministry/Ethnic Ministries for the Diocese of Joliet. The second scholar was recently named. She is Karina Da Avila, the immigrant rights coordinator for the diocesan Office for Human Dignity.

The scholars end up with a master's degree from CTU in pastoral or theological studies. In return, they are then required to spend three years in some kind of ministerial service, though not particularly connected to a specific diocese, even if they are already working for a diocese, said Marco Lopez, the program's director.

The goal is to empower Hispanic leaders with professional degrees in ministry so that they can become pastoral ministers in a Hispanic community, because the Hispanic Catholic population is a growing one, Lopez said. But, it's also important for the Church, over all, too, he added, since good leaders, in general, are good for moving the Church forward.

"We can be losing a lot if we are not attentive," he said, "and this is part of trying to respond to that."

Besides the academic component, pastoral formation is also involved outside the classroom. Lopez also emphasized the program's commitment to social justice and commitment to the poor, based on the inspiration of the late Archbishop Oscar Romero, from San Salvador, who was a dedicated advocate of the poor and oppressed in El Salvador. Archbishop Romero was assassinated in 1980. He was beatified by Pope Francis two years ago, and his canonization for sainthood should occur within the next several years.

"Since our scholars are going to do ministry, we hope it is with the charism of Blessed Oscar Romero," Lopez said. "We are trying to create little Romeros for our Church."

If you know any Latino/Hispanic candidate eligible for graduate-level education who is interested in ministry now or in the future, contact William Becerra at (815)221-6247 or at wbecerra@dioceseofjoliet.org For general information on the program, go to ctu.edu/romero



NURSING STUDENTS TO BENEFIT FROM THE SERVICE AND COMPASSION OF MARY LOVE MACDONALD

Mary Love MacDonald would have celebrated her 80th birthday on Oct. 16, 2017. Throughout her life, Mary's dedication to her family and friends, passion for the nursing profession and extraordinary compassion for both her patients and others truly impacted so many lives. In Mary's memory, her husband, Griff MacDonald '57, and his family have generously established the Mary Love MacDonald Endowed Scholarship for Nursing at the Lewis University College of Nursing and Health Professions.

After graduating from the St. Joseph School of Nursing in Chicago, Mary began her nursing career in the obstetrics and gynecology practice at Cook County Hospital (now known as the John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County). Following a sabbatical to care for her children, Mary returned to the nursing profession at Methodist Hospital in Chicago, where she initially worked directly with patients and later assumed an administrative leadership role. As Griff noted, "Mary always sought to provide exemplary service to all of her patients, going above and beyond to deliver quality, compassionate care." While this was emotionally rewarding for Mary, it was clearly her many patients who ultimately benefitted from her wonderful care, passionate dedication and thoughtful counsel.

In light of Mary's wonderful career in nursing and her focus on providing innovative and exceptional patient care, it is a truly fitting tribute by the MacDonald family to create a scholarship that will now allow future nurses the opportunity to follow in Mary's footsteps and fulfill their dreams and aspiration in the nursing profession.

For more information on how you can further support the Mary Love MacDonald Endowed Scholarship for Nursing, please contact Robert Kanonik at (815) 836-5813 or kanoniro@lewisu.edu.

DONOR APPRECIATION DAY

Did you make a gift to Lewis? If so – thank you! Lewis students, faculty, and staff stopped by locations on campus to sign cards and say thank you to our generous donors, who make so much possible across campus. In fact, alumni volunteers returned to campus to hang tags on places and pieces all over campus that let students and visitors know just how much our alumni and friends invest in the University.



Donor Appreciation Day 1) Dr. Ryan Hooper and Dr. Joe Kozminski, Physics, say Thank You. 2) Students want to say a big thank you to our donors! 3) Tags went up around campus to show what has been made possible through the generosity of donors. 4) Students signed cards to be mailed out.

DAY OF GIVING

Lewis University celebrated the second annual Day of Giving on May 18, 2017. More than \$67,000 was raised to support scholarships, educational programs, renovations, student life and so much more! In addition, nearly 200 faculty, students, alumni and friends of the University attended the I Love Lewis - Beer and Bacon kickoff event with musical guests, Maggie Speaks. And of course, support for the Day of Giving was seen around campus and across the country as alumni and friends sent in photos with their Lewis socks, the Day of Giving commemorative gift.

\$67,593
raised in
total gifts &
commitments

80%
of gifts
came from
alumni

78
donors
were first
time donors

191
event kickoff
attendees

Priceless: the future impact of this investment on Lewis.

Missed the Day of Giving but still want to make a gift and get a pair of socks? Visit give.lewisu.edu/DayOfGiving and make your gift today!



I Love Lewis - Beer and Bacon kickoff event. (l to r) Jessica Chavez '16 '17, Richard Wiencek '17, Dr. Chuck Crowder, Amy Mlynarski '15 '17, Dr. Jason Keleher, Erin Thomson, Chris Thomson, Thomas Rickhoff, and Stacey (Popadowski) Keleher '02 '09, get together at the event.



Join us for the next Day of Giving in May, complete with the second Annual Kick-Off events on **Thursday, May 17, 2018**



Br. Pierre St. Raymond, FSC shows off his Lewis socks.



A Lewis Education Transforms Lives Forever.

But this does not happen without the help of people like YOU! *That's why I want you to meet Will Riley and hear his story.*

Will is a double major in Aviation Administration and Public Policy graduating in December 2018. He is an excellent student and a leader on the Student Governing Board. When Will was only six years old, he went on a plane ride with a Tuskegee Airman, and from that day forward he fell in love with aviation. When he found Lewis University, Will knew that his dreams could come true. But Will's path was not certain. Without the help of scholarship support, Will would not have been able to attend Lewis.

"I grew up in a neighborhood where most people don't get college degrees. Because of the generosity of others, I have been able to excel at Lewis. My education has changed my life, and it is my goal to be a mentor to children in my neighborhood and help them follow their dreams."

Will Riley, Class of 2018

Will is confident that he is where he is today because so many people have helped and inspired him along the way – people like YOU! We thank you for being a part of his story and making his bright future possible.

Invest in Lewis and the students today at [**alumni.lewisu.edu/Impact**](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/Impact)



Ministry students are grateful to the donors who generously supported their fundraising initiative to purchase new hymnals for the Sancta Alberta Chapel.

More than 250 hymnals were purchased. You can check out their special thank you video to donors at YouTube.com/LewisUAlumni.



LEWIS UNIVERSITY DELIVERS ADMISSION LETTERS BY DRONE

Lewis University kicked off the College Admission season with a special delivery to eight Romeoville High School students. A Lewis University Unmanned Aircraft Systems program drone delivered a college admissions acceptance letter on November 13 to the students at their high school.

"Being the first delivery of this kind in the nation demonstrates how Lewis University is a leader in aviation education from the first moments of your Lewis University experience," Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University, said.

The students receiving the official acceptance letters by drone delivery were Yamilette Arias, Abbey Brand, Ryan Dabrowski, Abigail Diaz, Daniel Gal, Jeremy Kinsley, Ashley Pitt and Malik Tifah.

"We are excited to be taking part in this unique way of notifying Romeoville High School students of their acceptance to Lewis University," Derek Kinder, principal of Romeoville high school, said. "At all grade levels in Valley View School District, we emphasize college and career readiness. This event reinforces to all of our students the possibilities available to them after high school graduation."

"We're so proud that the first drone delivery of this type happened right here in Romeoville. Innovation leads to progress and Lewis University is a prime example of this," Mayor John Noak said. "What a great experience for these students. They were not only accepted to a leading college, but they were part of a major milestone in the advancement of drones."



Faculty News

Business Dean Travels to China

It is the duty of a business school to cultivate socially conscious business leaders, said **Dr. Ryan D. Butt**, new dean of the College of Business and Graduate School of Management, during his keynote address Sept. 27 at the International Business Dean Forum sponsored by the Shengxiang School of Business at Sanda University in Shanghai, China.

His address was titled “A Business School’s Duty to their Graduates and Society: Developing Business School Graduates in 21st Century Socially Conscious Leaders.” Butt suggested four ways to achieve this goal of successfully developing students: continually revise and strengthen the curriculum in accordance with the needs of industry; provide 21st century skills and resources to the students; cultivate a professional culture and environment in the school; and require immersion experiences in order to realize mastery of a program.

The forum was focused on the topic “Business Trend and Talent Cultivation.” It included discussions on the role of business schools from developing curriculum to faculty engagement, as means to prepare business students for future careers that meet the demands of global businesses.

Suman Publishes in OT Practice Magazine

Dr. Meghan Suman (Occupational Therapy) serves as a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association’s Board for Advanced and Specialty Certification. She recently published an article in *OT Practice Magazine* to provide guidance for advanced occupational therapy practitioners who are interested in seeking board or specialty certification.

Bates’ Papers Accepted at International Conference

Dr. Marvin Bates (Marketing) had two papers accepted at the 7th International Conference on Restructuring the Global Economy (ROGE) – 2017 at the University of Oxford, UK in July 2017. This conference focused on global business, with an emphasis on emerging markets. Both articles were double-blind reviewed, and ultimately accepted for publication in the conference proceedings. The articles are entitled “Prahald’s Market Approach Impacting Brand Loyalty in Base of the Pyramid Philippines” and “An Examination of Market Entry Perspectives in Emerging Markets.”

Education Professor Selected to Speak at National Conference, Student Organization Receives Distinction

Dr. Jennifer Buss (Special Education) was chosen to speak at the National Catholic School Association Conference in Evanston, IL about including all students with disabilities in Catholic schools. Buss was sought out to share her insight with a national audience because of her experience in developing programming for students with intellectual disabilities in five different local Catholic schools. Buss is also the moderator of the Lewis University chapter of Best Buddies, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary on campus. Lewis’ Best Buddies has been awarded Chapter of the Year for the State of Illinois, the first time it has received such an honor.

Education Professor Published Article on Global Learning and the 21st Century

Dr. Seung Kim (Education) published a research article entitled “The Effect of Global Learning Using Web Technologies on 21st Century Skills” in the April 2017 issue of the *INFORMATION-An International Interdisciplinary Journal*. The study provided students with a valuable opportunity to practice 21st century skills in a global learning context to improve their global cultural awareness and promote effective and positive changes throughout the world. Dr. Kim also suggests effective instructional strategies for educators to design and implement global learning in order to enhance 21st century learning skills.

Pruitt Participates in Lilly Endowment-Funded Seminar

Dr. Rebecca Pruitt (Early Childhood Special Education) joined a select group of faculty members from Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE) institutions to participate in a week-long multidisciplinary seminar titled Teaching Vocational Exploration this past summer. Funded by a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., the seminar engaged participants in collaborative examination of the different meanings of “vocation” and their importance for undergraduate education. The primary goal was to establish a network of faculty members committed to supporting the ongoing work of vocational exploration on their campus and throughout the network.

Krejci Receives Service Learning Award

Dr. James Krejci (Business) was recently recognized with the Lewis University De La Salle Medallion for Service Learning Excellence. It was noted that Krejci “consistently goes above and beyond in commitment to Service Learning work” and continually looks to better his service learning courses for the good of his students and community partners.

College of Education Professor's Co-Authored Book is Published

In July 2017, **Dr. Jung Kim's** (Literacy) co-authored book entitled *Graphic Novels in High School and Middle School Classrooms: A Disciplinary Literacies Approach* was published. It is a book geared towards secondary teachers who are interested in teaching with graphic novels. It helps teachers understand the affordances and limitations of using graphic novels to teach disciplinary content and thinking.

Professors Collaborate for DoD Grant

Lewis University was awarded a \$189,000 grant by the Department of Defense (DoD) for the Information Assurance Scholarship Program (IASP). **Dr. Faisal Abdullah** (Management Information Systems), **Dr. Ray Klump** (Computer and Mathematic Sciences), **Dr. Safwan Omari** (Management Information Systems), **Dr. Khaled Alzoubi** (Computer and Mathematic Sciences), **Dr. Jason Perry** (Computer and Mathematic Sciences) and **Dr. Piotr Szczurek** (Computer and Mathematic Sciences) collaborated for the grant. The grant includes a student scholarship for **Lydia Oshunkentan** (M.S. Computer Science), expansion of Computer and Mathematical Sciences Department's High-Performance Computing Center, and capacity building of Management Information Systems Department's CloudLab.

Kline Speaks at Philosophy and Education Colloquium

Dr. Kip Kline (Educational Leadership) was the invited speaker at the Philosophy and Education Colloquium at Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City in October 2017. Kline delivered a talk on his recent book, *Baudrillard, Youth, and American Film* (Lexington Books, 2016).

Sturm Presents on the Wage Gap at U.S. Representative's Forum

Dr. Elizabeth Sturm (Special Education) presented "Gender Bias and Wage Gap in Academia" at U.S. Representative Bill Foster's Forum on Women's Issues this past August. Sturm discussed how female faculty encounter bias and discrimination, ranging from wage inequity to perceptions of competence.

Huvaere Addresses Lasallian Colleges in the Philippines

Dr. Dorene Huvaere (Educational Studies) traveled to Manila, Philippines as a visiting scholar in February 2017. During her visit, she spoke with teacher candidates at three of the LaSalle Philippines Universities (Manilla, Dasmariñas, Areneta). Her presentation focused on the universal challenges experienced by low-income K-12 students and the teachers working in these schools.

Kilpatrick and Colleague Honored as Champions of Hope by Smile Network International

In September 2017, **John Kilpatrick** (Broadcast Communications) and Leslie Grisanti from Long Story Short Media presented a video at the Smile Network International's annual fundraiser and were honored as Champions of Hope by the organization for the work they have done on the development of videos to support the organization. The duo traveled to Mexico to interview Kim Valenti, the founder of Smile Network International, and Sergio, one of the organization's first surgical candidates to have cleft lip reconstruction surgery almost 10 years ago. This is the third trip Kilpatrick has taken to document the work of Smile Network International.

Mescioglu's Research Accepted for Presentation by ASTRO

Dr. Ibrahim Mescioglu's (Management Information Systems) research was accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) in September 2017. For the study titled "Verification of a Machine Learning Algorithm That Predict Volume Reduction in Primary and Nodal Tumor Volumes in Head and Neck Cancer During Treatment," Dr. Mescioglu and co-authors from Loyola University School of Medicine present how their proposed novel decision tree algorithm can effectively predict which cancer patients are more likely to benefit from adaptive treatment approaches. They utilize existing medical data to develop an algorithm for use as a decision support system.

Dávila is Published and Speaks at National AERA Meeting

Dr. Erica R. Dávila (Literacy) wrote the chapter "You're Fired" in the 2017 book from Third World Press entitled *Not Our President: New Directions from the Pushed Out, the Others, and the Clear Majority in Trump's Stolen America*. The book is a call-to-action for critical thinking, civic engagement, and progressive movement-building among everyday people. Dávila also participated in a presentation at the 2017 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting that took place at the end of April in San Antonio, TX entitled Women of Color Cultivating Critical Hope through Solidarity Work. This presentation analyzed the work of seven women of color whose personal and professional identities and experiences as educators, community organizers, scholars, cultural practitioners, mothers and community members are central to their leadership of a one-day cross-university conference for aspiring urban educators across three mid-size universities within the Chicago area.



No. 3 Lewis Women's V-Ball Wins GLVC Title With 5-Set Win Over Rockhurst

The No. 3 Lewis University women's volleyball team rallied from a 2-0 deficit to earn its 10th Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship with the 22-25, 25-27, 25-19, 25-19, 15-8 win over Rockhurst University at the EastSide Centre on Sunday (Nov. 19).

The championship is the fifth under Lewis head women's volleyball coach Lorelee Smith and the Flyers' first since 2015.

The win also secures Lewis' 12th-straight NCAA Tournament berth, which is the longest streak for any volleyball team in the Midwest Region and the longest streak of consecutive NCAA berths for any Lewis program in department history.

"This was an amazing match," Smith said. "We had to fight and work so hard for every single point because Rockhurst played relentless defense.

"This year's team has proven to themselves exactly how deep they can dig and we showed that today," Smith continued. "From 1 to 43, I'm so very proud of them."

Lewis senior middle hitter Aly Schneider turned in a season-high in both kills (20) and blocks (1 solo, 7 block assists) against Rockhurst. Schneider hit .432 (20 kills, 4 errors, 37 attacks).

Flyer redshirt seniors Bailey Sparkman, Maddie Seliga and redshirt junior Abby Becker each contributed double-doubles in the Lewis victory.

Sparkman had 13 kills and 16 digs, while Seliga had 12 kills and 13 digs. Becker dished out a match-high 57 assists and had 12 digs.

Lewis junior outside hitter Elizabeth Hyland had 12 kills, eight digs and four block assists, while sophomore libero Ronni Katarzynski pitched in a match-high 27 digs.

Lewis sophomore middle hitter Caroline Stefanon had a match-high 10 blocks (1 solo), as the Flyers had an 18-3 advantage in blocks.

Lewis hit .243 (68-22-189) for the match, while Rockhurst registered a hitting percentage of .165 (61-30-188).

Lewis Women's Volleyball Ranked No. 5 In Final AVCA National Poll

The Lewis University women's volleyball team finished the season ranked No. 5 in the final American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) poll announced Monday (Dec. 11).

It is the highest final ranking in program history. The Flyers earned their first-ever NCAA No. 1 national ranking in program history Oct. 9.

"Our season didn't end where we had hoped, but to be honored with a national ranking of fifth is something we can all be proud of," Lewis head women's volleyball coach Lorelee Smith said. "It shows the full body of work for our entire season.

"I am very proud of this 2017 team, their hard work, positive attitudes and inner drive to always improve."

They finished the season 33-3, which gave them a .917 winning percentage, the highest in program history.

Lewis finished the season first in the Great Lakes Valley Conference in the regular season and won the conference tournament championship in five sets over Rockhurst.

The Flyers qualified for the NCAA Tournament for the 12th straight year and hosted the NCAA Midwest Regional as the region's top seed.

Their season came to an end Dec. 2 with a 3-1 loss to Rockhurst, which advanced to the NCAA semifinals, before falling to eventual champion Concordia-St. Paul.



Lewis Men's Cross Country Ends Season With 13th Place Finish At Nationals

On Nov. 18, Lewis University men's cross country finished the NCAA Championship in thirteenth place with 397 points.

Lewis finished second among conference opponents coming in behind Southern Indiana who placed 12th.

Finishing as the top runner for the Flyers was Sergio Miranda who ran the 10K in 32:18.7 earning 58th place.

Michael Leet came in at 66th with 32:24.4.

James Frederickson finished in 32:33.6 placing 82nd.

Placing 125th was Shawn Milhauser who finished the race in 33:19.2.

In 140th was Jackson Waters who had a time of 33:31.8.

Mauricio Galvan (Chicago, Ill./Kennedy) finished in 164th with 33:55.9.

Rounding out for the efforts for the Flyers was Dan Laskero who finished in 34:38.4 placing 208th.

"It was a solid day, we ran tough in a very deep field," Lewis head coach James Kearney said. "I'm very proud of what these young men have built, especially our seniors who sacrificed and worked immensely to push our program here, I will miss them greatly. I also want to thank their families who have been the best group of fans we could ever ask for."



Lewis' Fuller Named CoSIDA Women's Soccer Third Team Academic All-American

The College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) announced on Wednesday (Dec. 6) that Lewis University senior Mackenzie Fuller has been named to the CoSIDA Academic All-America NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Third Team.

Fuller maintained a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA in economics following the Spring '17 semester.

She finished the season with one goal and two assists this year and was also a Third Team Academic All-America selection last year.

"I'm really happy for Mac to be recognized for her efforts on and off the field," head Lewis women's soccer coach Chris Koenig said. "It is difficult to excel as a student while being a college athlete.

"She has been as consistent a performer in the classroom as you could ever ask for. For her to be recognized again this year is a testament to her hard work and consistency. I am really proud of her and appreciate how well she has represented our program and Lewis University."

Three Named to AVCA Division II All-America Team

The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) announced on Dec. 5 that Lewis University women's volleyball players Abby Becker, Aly Schneider and Elizabeth Hyland have been named to the AVCA Division II All-America Team.

Becker and Schneider were First Team All-America selections, while Hyland was a Second Team All-America pick. The last AVCA First Team All-American from Lewis was Cathy Spender in 1982.

"I couldn't be more proud of a team and these three individuals," Lewis head women's volleyball coach Lorelee Smith said. "Coaches dream of having players like Hyland, Schneider, and Becker. They work hard, have a passion for volleyball and have an even bigger love for their team. I think in their own way they have changed and improved Lewis volleyball. The honor of being named All-American is very special and as their coach I believe they are very deserving."

Becker finished the year with 1,224 assists, 253 digs, 84 kills and a .330 hitting percentage. She was a First Team All-Great Lakes Valley Conference pick and Division II Conference Commissioner's Association All-Region selection.

Schneider, who was a Second Team All-American last year and Third Team All-American in 2015, became the first Flyer to be a three-time AVCA All-American.

She finished the year with a .354 hitting percentage, while tallying 382 kills, 23 blocks and 113 block assists. She was also a Second Team D2CCA All-American, a First Team All-GLVC selection and twice earned Baden/GLVC Offensive Player of the Week honors.

Hyland totaled 418 kills, 387 digs, 11 blocks, 55 block assists and 27 aces. She was a D2CCA All-Region choice, an All-GLVC selection and was Baden/GLVC Offensive Player of the Week recipient three times this year.

The trio helped the Flyers finish the year with a 33-3 record and with a .917 winning percentage, the best mark in program history.



Lewis Athletics Announces Kirk Lamitie As First Women's Lacrosse Coach

Lewis University Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek announced on Monday (Oct. 2) that Kirk Lamitie will be the first women's lacrosse coach

in Flyer history. The inaugural Flyer women's lacrosse season will take place in the spring of 2019.

"We looked for someone who had experience in starting a program and someone who could help strengthen our recruiting ties in the Chicago area while at the same time increase our recruiting base," Planek said. "Kirk Lamitie has that experience and will be able to help us forge a successful lacrosse program at Lewis."

Lamitie, who coached the Chico State women's club lacrosse team as an undergrad (2001-03), is eager to begin his tenure in Romeoville.

"I'm extremely excited for this opportunity to start (the women's lacrosse) program at Lewis University," Lamitie said. "The dedication to the student-athlete both on and off the field is a testament to the University and how they promote respect and leadership through focusing on the person as a whole rings true to the success of (the athletics department).

"I look forward to ushering in a new group of student-athletes to the Lewis University family."

Lamitie is no stranger to brand new programs as he was the head women's lacrosse coach at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago for the past four seasons (2014-17), including its inaugural campaign in 2014.

During his tenure, Lamitie took a winless squad in 2014 and parlayed that into a mark of 15-2 in 2017, including a share of the Midwest Women's Lacrosse Conference (MWLC) Regular Season Championship. In 2016, the Scarlet Hawks finished with a record of 13-4, earning Lamitie MWLC Coach of the Year accolades.

In all, Lamitie has mentored 11 All-MWLC performers, including 2017 Midfielder of the Year Madison Meredith and 2017 Co-Attacker of the Year Alyssa DeLuca.



Lewis Athletics Tabs Scott Taylor As Director of Bowling/ Assistant SID

Lewis University Director of Athletics, Dr. John Planek, announced Wednesday (Oct. 4) the hiring of Scott Taylor as the Director of bowling and athletic communication assistant.

"Scott Taylor will add to our inter-collegiate athletic department," Planek said. "His deep knowledge of high school bowling and his relationships with numerous coaches and prospects will help our recruitment of new students along with his Lewis undergraduate experience.

"He will be a great ambassador for our newest sport. His award winning journalistic skills will aid in our athletic communications department."

Taylor, a 2007 graduate of Lewis University, graduated with a degree in journalism and a minor in coaching. During his time at Lewis he was the Sports Editor for *The Flyer*, Lewis' student

newspaper, men's basketball manager and participated in numerous intramural sports, including bowling. After graduating he was the athletic facilities maintenance & game management graduate assistant.

"I have loved everything about Lewis, especially the athletic department, since the first time I went to a basketball game when I was a senior in high school," Taylor said. "Lewis athletics has a great tradition and I am honored to be a part of it.

"I am excited to be back at Lewis and am looking forward to the opportunity ahead in the different roles. I feel my experience and knowledge of the university will help me succeed in both positions."

Taylor has spent the past 11 years covering high school sports in the Chicagoland area, including four as the sports editor for Voyager Media Publications, and won 12 awards from the Illinois Press Association.

Because of his love and knowledge of the sport, Taylor created a website dedicated to high school and collegiate bowling throughout the state of Illinois. The website features state rankings and results from across the state, as well as interviews with bowlers and player profiles. His years covering bowling has helped him develop strong relationships with parents, bowlers and coaches throughout the state.

"I am grateful for the opportunity Lewis and Dr. Planek have given to me to achieve a dream of mine," Taylor said. "I also want to thank my friends and family for their support throughout the entire process.

"I am looking forward to promoting the bowling program as well as all of the athletic teams to the best of my ability. I'm eager to help the future student athletes be successful both on the lanes and off."

He lives in Joliet, Ill. with his wife Amanda (Copley) '12, a Lewis graduate, and son Knox.



Men's Volleyball Ranked 6th In AVCA Preseason Poll

For the second year in a row, the Lewis University men's volleyball team is the preseason sixth ranked team in the country, according to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) preseason poll. The Flyers open their regular season schedule in Provo, Utah for matches against No. 7 UC Irvine and No. 3 BYU. Their opening home game is Jan. 12 against No. 2 Long Beach State.

Date	Opponent		Date	Opponent	H/A/N
1/5/18	UCI	Neutral	2/24/18	McKendree	Home
1/6/18	BYU	Away	2/28/18	Loyola	Away
1/12/18	Long Beach	Home	3/2/18	Lincoln	Home
1/13/18	George Mason	Home	3/3/18	King	Home
1/19/18	St Francis	Home	3/8/18	Hawaii	Away
1/20/18	Penn St	Home	3/9/18	BYU	Neutral
1/26/18	UCSB	Home	3/10/18	Penn St.	Neutral
1/27/18	Cal St Northridge	Home	3/17/18	Loyola	Home
2/2/18	USC	Home	3/22/18	IPFW	Home
2/3/18	Alumni	Home	3/24/18	Ball St	Home
2/9/18	Lindenwood	Home	3/29/18	McKendree	Away
2/10/18	Quincy	Home	31-Mar	Ohio St	Away
2/16/18	Ball St	Away	4/5/18	Quincy	Away
2/18/18	IPFW	Away	4/7/18	Lindenwood	Away
2/22/18	Ohio St	Home			



FLYER ATHLETICS FUND GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE
JUNE 8, 2018

COG HILL GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB



Lewis' Amoo-Mensah Named To USC Men's Soccer Scholar All-America Team

The United Soccer Coaches Announced on Friday (Dec. 8) that Lewis University men's soccer player Devon Amoo-Mensah (Naperville, Ill./Naperville Central) was named to the United Soccer Coaches NCAA Division

II Men's Soccer Scholar All-America Team.

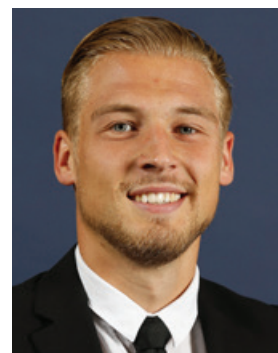
Amoo-Mensah becomes the third player in Flyer history to make the team, joining Anthony Szymel (2008) and Alec Pickett (2013). He also is the only member of the team from the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Amoo-Mensah is a Finance major with a cumulative grade point average of 3.67. On the field he had two goals and two assists, while anchoring a defense that had five shutouts and a 0.99 goals against average.

He was a First Team USC All-Midwest Region selection and was Second Team All-GLVC.

"This is a great honor," Lewis head men's soccer coach Evan Fiffles said. "I am so proud of Devon and his commitment on and off the field. He is truly deserving."

To be eligible for the Scholar All-America Team, a student-athlete must have at least a 3.30 cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) throughout career, start more than 50 percent of all games and significantly contribute to their team, be nominated by head coach of current College Services member institution and be a junior or above in academic standing.



Lewis' Mueller Earns CoSIDA Men's Soccer Academic All-America Honors

The College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) announced on Wednesday (Dec. 6) that Lewis University senior Nico Mueller (Braunschweig, Germany/Raabeschule

Braunschweig) has been named to the CoSIDA NCAA Division II Academic All-America Men's Soccer Third Team.

Mueller totaled a 3.76 GPA in psychology following the Spring '17 semester.

He finished the season with 13 goals, including six game-winners, to go along with two assists.

He was twice named GLVC Offensive Player of the Week and was the United Soccer Coaches Division II Player of the Week on Oct. 24 after scoring five goals in two games.

Mueller recorded a hat trick in a 3-2 win over Quincy (Oct. 20) and was named to the United Soccer Coaches All-Midwest Region First Team.

"I am happy for Nico," Lewis head men's soccer coach Evan Fiffles said. "He has worked hard in the classroom and on the field."

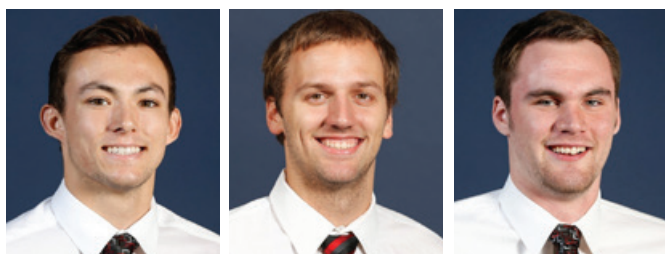


Where Are They Now?



Schmiegelt

Weiskircher



Fifer

Petty

Walsh

Former Men's Volleyball Players are Playing Professionally Abroad

Lewis University head men's volleyball coach Dan Friend announced on September 19 that former Flyers **Jacob Schmiegelt** (Lombard, Ill./Willowbrook) and **Trevor Weiskircher** (Loves Park, Ill./Boylan Catholic) have both signed professional contracts to play volleyball overseas.

Schmiegelt, a 2016 Honorable Mention All-America selection, is playing for Jarvamaa Volleyball Club in Estonia, while Weiskircher, a 2016 Honorable Mention All-Mid-western Intercollegiate Volleyball Association selection, is suiting up for Pamvohaikos Volleyball Club in Greece.

"It's great that Jacob and Trevor are starting their professional careers," Friend said. "They're both talented individuals and I believe they each have an opportunity to make an impact for their teams."

Schmiegelt and Weiskircher are among five former Flyers that are currently playing professionally, including:

Scott Fifer (Orland Park, Ill./Sandburg) (2013-16) Raison Loimu Volleyball Club, Finland

Greg Petty (Downers Grove, Ill. / Downers Grove North) (2012-15) Rennes Volley 35, France

Bobby Walsh (Chicago, Ill./Mount Carmel) (2013-16) Lakkapaa Volleyball Team, Finland



TKE Reunion

In July, Tau Kappa Epsilon hosted a 50th reunion. Many members returned to campus for a celebration of 50 years since the establishment of the Lambda Beta Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon at Lewis University, and began where it all started – Sheil Hall. Participants joined in a memorial Mass, bocce and bags tournaments, reception, meals, campus tours, an overnight stay in the recently renovated Sheil Hall, and hours and hours of laughs!

Class Notes

MARRIAGES / ENGAGEMENTS



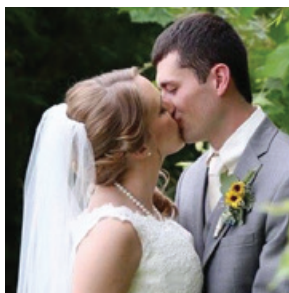
Mark Melka '10 (Environmental Science), and **Norah Flynn '10, MA' 13** (Psychology/School Counseling) were married on July 7, 2017.



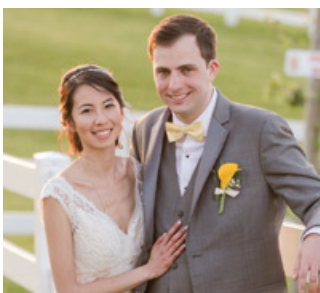
Bridget Folliard '12 (Radio-TV Broadcasting) was married to James Terrones on March 13, 2017 in Antigua.



Matthew Laiter '10 (Air Traffic Control Management) and **Mallory (Markert) Laiter '11, M.Ed. '16** (Education/ESL) were married on September 10, 2016.



Ben Aichele '14 (Air Traffic Control Management) and **Maggie (Plese) Aichele '14** (Elementary Education) were married on July 2, 2016.



Christopher Linker '12, MBA '13 (Marketing/Business Administration) and **Rebecca Yu '14** (Biology) were married in May 2017.

Erika Navarro '17 (Dental Hygiene) was recently engaged to fellow alumnus, **Raul Armenta Jr. '15** (Aviation Maintenance Management). Raul is currently working towards earning his pilot wings. Erika works as a full-time Hygienist in Elgin. The couple were engaged on May 27, 2017 and will be wed in August 2019.

BIRTHS



Edward Anthony Aievoli was born on March 24, 2017 to **Stefanie (Jalloway) Aievoli '08, MSN '13** (Nursing) and her husband Frank Aievoli.



Winslow Anne Thurlby was born on March 28, 2017 to **Christopher Thurlby '12** (Air Traffic Control Management) and **Hollyn (Holsinger) Thurlby '15** (Nursing).

CAREERS

Raymond R. Soliman '79 (Sociology) was successfully re-elected to a third four-year term as the Mayor of the City of Crest Hill on April 4, 2017. Prior to his first term as Mayor, Ray served the city as Alderman of Ward I from 1993 to 2009. Ray's proud family includes wife Vicky and daughters, Stephanie Waters and Emily Morris.



Tom Hernandez '88 (Journalism) recently published his third book, *The Edge of Middle: Thoughts from the Top of the Hill*. These 25 poems, essays and fiction stories explore the path to, and through, middle age.



Karen Hackett, MBA '87 retired from her position as chief executive officer of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), after 14 years at the organization's helm.

CAREERS



John Quinn '90

(Management Information Systems) owner of IT services company Merrimac Solutions, Inc., announced that his company was recently named to the 2017 Inc. 5000 list, which ranks the fastest-growing companies in the United States. This is the first time the Aurora, Ill. firm has made the annual list, ranking 4,770 with \$2.2 million in revenue in 2016 and a three-year growth rate of 47%.



Michael McClain '91

(Management Information Systems) was promoted to managing director and general manager of Equity Clearing at the Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation. DTCC is the premier post-trade market infrastructure for the global financial services industry. In this role, he will be responsible for leading day-to-day equity clearing business operations and strategic initiatives. Previously, Michael was the

Chief Operating Officer at the Options Clearing Corporation (OCC). He has also held positions at Accenture and IBM.

Melissa Y. (Voss)

Washington '91 (Finance) has been elected to the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC)—a nonprofit that helps governments, businesses and communities develop solutions to meet metropolitan Chicago's pressing needs. Currently, she serves as the Vice President of External Affairs and Large Customer Services, ComEd. Previously, she was the vice president of corporate affairs for Exelon Corporation. She is a board member for Connections for Abused Women and their Children as well as the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center.



Stephanie Newman Healy, MA '05

(Graduate Education) was appointed principal of Matteson District 162's Blue Ribbon School, Arcadia Elementary in Olympia Fields, IL. In 2009, Arcadia was named as a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Office of Education in recognition of its ranking among the top 10 percent of schools in the state of Illinois. Stephanie

served as assistant principal of Matteson District 162's O.W. Huth Middle School since 2015. She joined the Matteson District 162 in 2002 as a middle school teacher. She served on the faculty of the District's Illinois School in Park Forest as a teacher for gifted students from 2008 to 2015.



Tracy Theard '06 (Applied Sociology/Political Science) was appointed as president of the Illinois Association for Multicultural Counseling, a division of the Illinois Counseling Association on July 1, 2017.

Scott Campbell, MA '11

(Aviation & Transportation) has been promoted to director of airport operations. An airport employee since February 2014, his new position oversees both airport finance and field operations at Chicago Executive Airport.

Michael V. Indelli '14

(Aviation) is now a FAA air traffic controller in Aurora, Ill., in a level 12 facility.

AWARDS

Bridget (Folliard) Terrones

'12 (Radio-TV Broadcasting) received two Golden Trumpet awards (2015, 2016) from the Publicity Club of Chicago for *Periospectives Magazine* and a crisis communications plan for the American Academy of Periodontology.

Julio Cesar Lara, Jr. '17

(International Relations) branched in Field Artillery and will serve as cadre for Cadet Summer Training in Fort Knox, Ky. He will report to Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Sill, Okla. He is assigned to report to the I-30th Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Sill, Okla.

Emily Elizabeth Mehlbrech

'17 (Aviation Administration) will commission as a second lieutenant following Advanced Camp this summer and will serve with the National Guard.

Luke A. Smith '17

(Marketing) will attend to Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Lee, Va. and will then report to the 204th Military Police Company at Fort Polk, La. Luke was awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars Wheaton Chapter Award for excelling in ROTC activities and functions. He also was designated a Distinguished Military Student for passing camp, ranking in the top fifth of his Military Science class and the top half of his academic class.

IN MEMORIAM

MIS Professor Tomsic Killed in Car Accident



Joseph Tomsic, a long-time instructor of Management Information Systems, died in a car accident on September 6, 2017.

Tomsic touched the lives of many students over his 17 years of service at Lewis University. He served as a mentor to his fellow faculty members and an inspirational educator to his students. He assisted the University in many ways beyond the classroom, including serving on a committee addressing the University's technology.

Robert L. Schnellbacher '55
August 28, 2017

Jerome L. Tokars '55
April 16, 2017

Richard P. Ganzer '57
February 13, 2017

Russell E. Brandt '59
August 4, 2017

Thomas P. Kinsella '59
August 13, 2017

Ronald J. Pasquinelli '59
June 20, 2017

Barbara Duerwachter '62
August 16, 2017

Kenneth H. Mularski '63
July 10, 2017

Martin J. Pregenzer '65
October 3, 2017

Kevin J. Kane '66
May 2, 2017

Edward F. Russell '66
July 9, 2017

Thomas J. Nee '73
May 5, 2017

Dr. James D. Izzo '75
March 27, 2017.

Joseph L. Lipien '76
June 3, 2017

Timothy M. O'Neil '76
August 14, 2017

Mary Beth Leahy '77
September 28, 2017

George J. Marcin '78
May 22, 2017

Thomas E. Byron '79
April 8, 2017

Marja Riccio '79
July 3, 2017

James E. Lee '81
May 24, 2017

Brian T. Brozovich '89
April 18, 2017

Gerald S. Bersano '93
August 28, 2017

Michelle E. Crockett '00
September 24, 2017

Ivens Soto '15
September 20, 2017

Faculty:

Dr. Salim M. Diab
October 3, 2017

Glenn A. Sauter
June 12, 2017

Joseph R. Tomsic
September 6, 2017

How Can My Gift To Lewis University Last Forever?

If you would like to create a lasting legacy here at Lewis, an endowment may be the ideal gift for you. Here are some common questions and answers about this type of gift:



What is an endowment? An endowment is a permanent fund set aside to provide income for a specific program. Gifts to this fund are never spent but are invested, with a portion of the earnings used each year for the benefited program. Since the principal is never touched, the fund can last forever and touch many lives as the principal grows over time.

How will my endowment be used? When you establish an endowment, you select the area you wish to support, such as scholarships, professorships, lectureships or programmatic activities. Alternatively, you may choose to provide the University with unrestricted funds, which means our Board of Trustees can direct the annual portion to meet our most pressing needs.

Why is supporting Lewis with an endowment gift so important? Universities with larger endowments have a greater chance of attracting top faculty and students with endowed professorship and scholarship offers, as well as a wide variety of innovative teaching and research programs. The exceptional research and scholarly contributions of these talented people will surely expand upon our well-earned reputation for academic excellence.

What is the best way to fund an endowment? An endowment can be created through an outright gift, through a bequest in a will or living trust, through beneficiary designations in retirement plans, financial accounts or insurance policies, or through a life income gift such as a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.

Do you need more information? Please call Robert Kanonik, JD, Director of Planned Giving, or e-mail him at kanoniro@lewisu.edu.

IN MEMORIUM

A Loss of Two Lewis Legends

Transforming Lewis Athletics

Former Lewis University Director of Athletics and Coach **Paul Ruddy** passed away on Tuesday, August 1, at the age of 79 after a long battle with cancer. This past March, Ruddy - a 2008 inductee into the Lewis Athletics Hall of Fame - was announced as Lewis' Lasallian of the Year at the inaugural Flyer Red Dinner.

Ruddy spent 42 years at Lewis, including 25 as Director of Athletics, guiding the Flyer Athletics Department through the most prolific transformation in its history. By the end of his tenure, Lewis had emerged from a program of relative obscurity into a nationally recognized athletics program.

The Department of Athletics's path to national recognition began almost as soon as Ruddy acquired the title of athletics director (AD) in 1978.

In 1980, Ruddy guided Lewis' historic move from the NAIA to NCAA Division II and the University's entry into the prestigious Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC).

During his time as AD, Lewis was a model of success. The Flyers captured the GLVC All-Sports Trophy 12 of a possible 21 times, winning the award for the first time in 1983-84, just three years after entering the conference. Lewis held on to the trophy each of the next seven years, a streak which no other league school has equaled since.

After relinquishing the All-Sports Trophy to Bellarmine in 1990-91, Lewis won it back four times over the next six years. To date, no other school in the conference has won the All-Sports Trophy more than Lewis.

On the field of play, Lewis teams won 69 GLVC titles and made more than 100 NCAA postseason appearances during Ruddy's years as athletics director. The Flyers had at least one team qualify for NCAA postseason play in 23 of Ruddy's 25 years as athletics director.

Ruddy founded the Lewis University Athletics Hall of Fame in 1979. He was instrumental in the formation of the Lewis University Varsity Club, the department's fundraising arm, in 1993. In 1981, Ruddy and Chuck Schwarz, who then was Lewis' head men's basketball coach, initiated the annual Lewis Alumni Golf Outing that serves as a main fundraiser for the athletics department.

Ruddy began his Lewis career in 1961 as a physical education instructor, assistant men's basketball coach and assistant baseball coach.

He became head men's basketball coach in 1965 and posted a 111-75 record in seven seasons, which today ranks fifth all-time on the program's head coaching wins list.

Ruddy was chair of the physical education department from 1972 until his appointment as athletics director in 1978. He also served as men's golf coach.

A 1960 DePaul University graduate, Ruddy was a three-year starter for legendary basketball coach Ray Meyer and helped lead the Blue Demons to consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances in 1959 and 1960.



When we shared the news of Coach Ruddy's passing on Facebook, several alumni and friends shared their memories:

"Coach was a great storyteller. He told a story about playing at DePaul; he was once kicked out of a nationally-televised game against Purdue for a dust-up (for which he needed stitches)... yet somehow earned DePaul's Sportsmanship Award. Loved talking about the Cubs with Coach. Glad he got to see them win a World Series... and to try on a World Series ring!" Ed Hartig '87, Chicago Cubs historian

"Paul Ruddy was Athletic Director while my dad was President. He was a fun guy to be around. Prayers going out for him tonight." Patrick Whelan '82

"I had the opportunity to know Paul when I was a student at Lewis in the 70s. What a huge loss for his family and Lewis athletics. Rest in peace." Pat Villasor '82

"He cared for every one of us." Keith Heron '72

To make a gift to a scholarship in honor of Paul Ruddy, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/give

A Lifetime Performance

Chet Kondratowicz brought the performing arts to Lewis University and the surrounding community through his work as an educator, theatre director and committed patron of the arts. He joined the faculty at Lewis University in 1965. At that time, the study of theatre was limited to just a few course offerings. Within the following two years, he spearheaded the conversion of two classrooms into a small theatre. He was appointed chair of the newly formed theatre department in the early 1970s, while also holding the position of theatre director.

In 1975, construction began on a new theatre which was named in memory of Brother Philip Lynch, FSC, a Lewis speech and theatre professor. Kondratowicz was a significant contributor to the project, overseeing the design and reconstruction of an airplane hangar into a facility modeled after the famed Guthrie Theatre, featuring a thrust stage, audience seating, backstage, lobby, office space, and costume, paint and scenery shops.

During his tenure at Lewis, Kondratowicz and Brother Paul French, FSC, President *Emeritus* who was then teaching English, established the Arts & Ideas Series in 1986. The program still exists today. For their efforts with Arts & Ideas, both Kondratowicz and Brother Paul were honored in 2001 with the St. Genesius Award, named for the patron saint of actors and the arts, at the annual Arts Gala.

Kondratowicz retired from teaching at Lewis in 1995 and was named Faculty *Emeritus* of Theatre at that time. He remained at the University for an additional four years continuing his work on the Arts & Ideas programming. After his formal retirement from Lewis in 1999, he moved to Chicago to accept the position of theatre

director at Saint Patrick High School. Kondratowicz received a bachelor's degree from DePaul University. He holds a master's degree in English from Loyola University and a master's degree in theatre from the University of Minnesota.

Words for Chet:

"The Saint Patrick community sadly mourns the death of Chester 'Chet' Kondratowicz, the school's former Director of Fine Arts Programming. Through the years, Kondratowicz was a mentor and friend to the Theatre Department. His work with the Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee in Chicago and extensive relationships with professional theatre artists allowed for many connections to the Chicago theatre industry for Saint Patrick students. Kondratowicz was also the key organizer of the Lasallian Lounge concert series. He will be dearly missed for his humor, his critical eye and his strong leadership."

St. Patrick High School, Chicago

"Chet gave me my first role in college in Blithe Spirit. He along with Keith White inspired me and as a result I now teach and emulate both of them. My deepest sympathies."

John Klonowski '98

"Chet was such a wonderful person; I was honored to have had him as a teacher."

Jim Blakemore

"Thank you for being a great teacher and director by whom I was honored to be taught. I went to Lewis University because of you and I am a better man for it."

Tim Nessel '98

"There would be no Philip Lynch Theatre as we know it today, no Theatre program at Lewis University as we know it today, no me as I know myself today, without Chet Kondratowicz. He directed me in my first undergraduate production (My Fair Lady, Servants Chorus, Summer of '95) and he immediately helped to teach and mentor me on a personal level about all things ranging from how to respect the art and joy of theatre, to treat it with the respect that it deserves and consequently



raise your own self-respect for your craft. Chet let you find your way and if you strayed, he put you back – sometimes with a hand on the shoulder and other times with a swift kick. But it was never done with malice, it was never done to tear down, only to build up. Chet's door was always open and he was always there to listen. And by God, when Chet talked, how could you not listen?"
Steve Pozgay '99

"My dear friend, professor and mentor, Chet Kondratowicz has passed away. He believed in me far beyond how I ever believed in myself. He cast me in roles that I would have never even tried for and then guided me through the rehearsal process. He taught me that on time is late, how to make eye contact while lighting someone's cigarette and how to chew a martini. Now that I read this I think Chet taught me how to be an adult without having to grow old. He was constantly working, learning and growing. I will miss you, Chet!"
Kayce Alltop '98

"Chet Kondratowicz was my theatre teacher at Lewis. He was the person who developed my love of theatre, teaching, and community theatre! He was there when my dad died and he celebrated at my wedding. He used to smile when he saw me and gave me the title of Queen of the Concession at the Tangerine Tent. He enjoyed a meal like no one else I know and when we were out to dinner, he would oooh and ahhh over every bite. He enjoyed life and I am sure his quick exit was the way he would have wanted to go!"
Patricia Haynes '72

To make a gift to the scholarship established by Chet Kondratowicz, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/give



The President's Annual Report



\$38 MILLION That's the remarkable financial impact made by more than 12,000 alumni, employees, parents corporations, foundations and other friends of the university over the past 5 years as part of the "Achieve More, Together" Campaign. \$38 million in funding for capital projects, endowment, scholarships, programs, and the annual fund. This investment is much more, though. It is an investment in the educational and real-world opportunities that Lewis will provide to students today and in the coming years.

Together through the past five years of this campaign, Lewis University has continued to evolve and transform. In fact, Lewis was recognized in September by *U.S. News and World Reports* rankings as a Top 25 Midwest Regional University – moving up to no. 23 this year – citing an improved graduation rate, a more academically-talented freshman class and an increase in average alumni giving rate. Combined with incredible new academic buildings, campus expansion, innovative academic programs, and scholarships for our talented students, the generosity of our donors reminds us time and again of the bright future and endless possibilities that we will be able to provide for students.

Capital Projects	\$6,512,057
Endowment	\$16,822,872
Annual Scholarships	\$3,447,791
Annual Fund	\$2,623,440
Programmatic Support	\$8,851,028
TOTAL	\$38,257,190

As you will see in the pages of this annual report, none of these significant achievements would have been possible without the forward thinking of our visionary donors.

Your thoughtfulness in giving back provides new pathways for students, new opportunities for experiential learning, and new dreams for their future. Your gifts guide us in developing new ways to educate and in turn builds master learners who will grow and adapt in a fast-paced and ever-changing job market.

Today, we are grateful for the alumni who made a gift in support of their alma mater, to provide new pathways for students just as they were assisted in their educational goals throughout the last 85 years. We thank the deans, administrators, faculty, and staff for their steadfast support of the University by achieving record numbers in employee giving, and for leading the fascinating programs and innovative research that inspired others to make a gift. We are grateful to the corporations that made substantial contributions in addition to partnering with the University to provide programming, research, mentoring, and job opportunities for our students. We are thankful to the members of our Board of Trustees who

not only made significant contributions to the campaign, but paved a path for the University to follow today and into the future. And, as always, we are grateful to the Christian Brothers who not only generously give to Lewis, but also lead the University with dignity and respect.

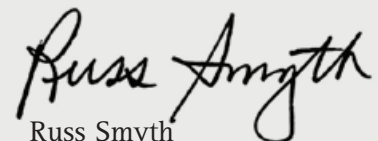
Finally, we sincerely thank each member of the campaign team. These dedicated men and women inspire our donors and champion the University. Their work is invaluable and we could not have exceeded our goal without them.

With so many friends and supporters of the University invested in this campaign, there is no question as to the upward trajectory of Lewis. The vital role our donors have played in the success not just of this campaign, but of the University, will leave a lasting legacy on Lewis. For more on the campaign and to read more about the impact you have had on Lewis University, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/together.

Sincerely,



Dr. David J. Livingston
President



Russ Smyth
Chair, Board of Trustees

Lewis Snapshot

RANKED #23

U.S. News and World Reports

**7TH LARGEST
IN ILLINOIS**

*among private,
not-for-profit universities*

**41,366
ALUMNI**

Call Lewis Home

International Students Represent
-32 COUNTRIES-
(undergraduate and graduate)



100+
*student
clubs and
organi-
zations*



80
*Undergrad
Majors*

35
*Graduate
Programs*

2
*Doctoral
Programs*

249 STUDENTS
Received Privately-Funded
SCHOLARSHIPS

97%
*Undergrad
Receive
Financial
Aid*

300+ EMPLOYERS
*Recruit Lewis University
Students Each Year*

- 20 -
*NCAA
Division
II Athletic
Teams*



30+ MILLION
Institutional Dollars
Awarded Annually in
Scholarships and Financial Aid

500+
MILITARY
*Students and
Family Members
at Lewis*



Nationally Recognized

U.S. News &
World Report
TOP TIER



Princeton Review
**BEST
MIDWESTERN
COLLEGE**



Best for Vets
**#1 - PRIVATE
COLLEGE IN
ILLINOIS**

Capital Campaign WRAP-UP

Growth over 10 years

\$38,257,190

CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$35 MILLION

CAPITAL PROJECTS

\$6,512,057

ENDOWMENT

\$16,822,872

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

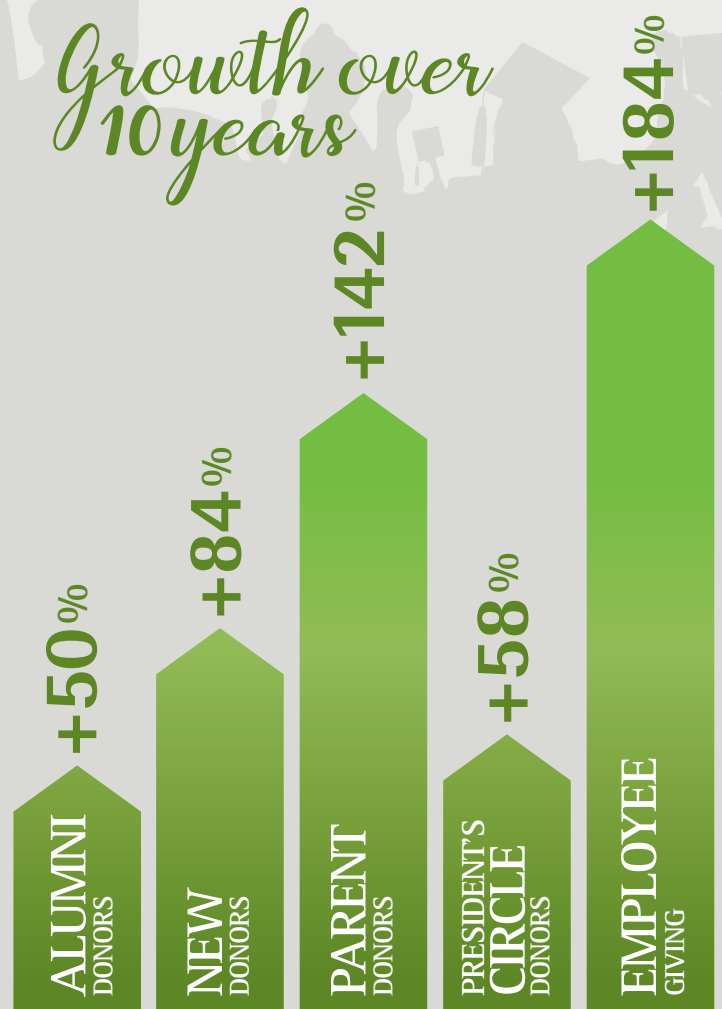
\$3,447,791

UNRESTRICTED

\$2,623,440

PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT

\$8,851,028



SINCE 2001, THE LEWIS UNIVERSITY SENIOR CHALLENGE HAS RAISED
\$52,836



WHY DO I GIVE?

"I am just amazed at the scope of the future plans for Lewis, whether it be the facility development or the future opportunities and experiences that were being created for students and the Lewis community. Investing in Lewis is both a way of giving back and giving forward. You give back in recognition of what you got from Lewis - education, experiences, friendships. And you give forward by helping create those opportunities for others and making Lewis a better place than when you were there."

Pat McKune '85



NOYCE SCHOLAR: EMILY PEARSON

Attending a conference at Kennedy Space Center in Florida... Presenting in Washington, D.C. on women, minorities, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields... Student teaching in Rio de Janeiro...

All are opportunities available to students in the College of Education – opportunities that enhance the experiential learning of Lewis students, including Middle Level Education major Emily Pearson.

“Social justice was new to me coming to Lewis. The idea is important to me. I want to advocate for those who can’t advocate for themselves, which is part of why I chose to pursue a teaching career,” says Emily. “When I came to Lewis, I didn’t know that I would be able to expand my learning outside of the classroom, but there have been so many ways to grow my skills and potential. If you’d told me three years ago I’d be student teaching in Brazil, I would have laughed. But now, that experience is going to help shape how I teach my students for the rest of my life. I am so excited, and I cannot get over how grateful I am for the doors Lewis has opened for me.”

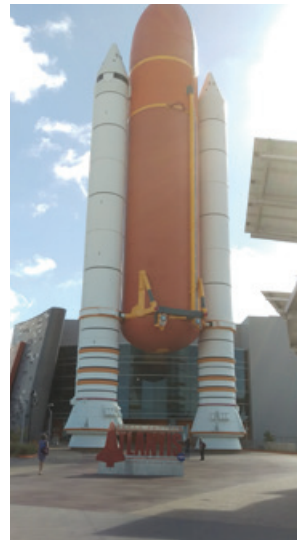
In Brazil, Emily will teach middle school math to students who speak both English and Brazilian Portuguese. While she’s there, she’s excited to learn about the country and fully immerse herself in a new culture and language, and notes that the diversity she’ll experience will aide her as a high-needs educator when she returns. She also credits her time as a Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship recipient – another opportunity available to education majors – with shaping her path to teaching. While the scholarship funds a portion of her tuition, it also unlocks experiences for the students; experiences available because of the investment made in Lewis and its students by alumni, donors, corporations,

and friends of the University.

“I’ve attended conferences at the Kennedy Space Center, worked with NASA on different projects for teachers, and spoken to astronauts. This past summer, I attended the Noyce Summit in Washington D.C. and presented my research on the attitudes of middle and high school students regarding STEM. I think there is a big discrepancy in the encouragement of women and minorities into STEM fields, which has so many career paths. STEM extends into other fields as well. If you’re a stylist, you’re using math – angles, cost, volume. If you’re an astronaut, you’re using math – trajectories, speed, velocity. Encouraging women and minorities to embrace these fields will shape a more diverse workforce in all areas.”

For Emily, one of the most influential aspects of her Kennedy Space Center experience was seeing firsthand how important teachers are in those early years of education. “The astronauts, technicians, and tour guides all spoke of one common idea: they wouldn’t be where they are if not for the math and science educations they received. They spoke highly of the teachers that encouraged them and it inspired me. What I really like about math is that it’s a universal language. No matter where you go, numbers have the same value and sense. I think that’s really interesting. I’ve always really enjoyed doing math, and you have to really like and love your content area to successfully teach it to other people. It was incredible to see how encouraging they are of being a woman in a STEM field.”

As part of the scholarship program, Emily also interned at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and served as an instructional assistant to a professor on campus. This experience has given her the chance to think beyond the classroom



and see how to implement so much more into her teaching.

“With the Noyce scholarship, I don’t have to worry about fees and tuition. My focus can go elsewhere – student teaching, homework, developing lessons for future classrooms. I can focus on how to inspire the next generation of students to pursue what makes them excited. And it definitely has me thinking about how I can be the one opening doors for students to enhance their education, or how we can take their learning to the next level like I was able to.”

Once Emily returns from teaching in Brazil this spring, she will begin her teaching career in a high-needs school – also part of the scholarship agreement.

“People underestimate how many high-needs areas there are. Joliet, Crest Hill, Chicago – or I can go anywhere in the U.S. and begin working with young minds. I feel like this scholarship is not limiting where I can teach, but instead

opening the doors to a better future.”

Emily, the oldest of five younger siblings, has always assumed the leadership role in her family. From a young age, they’d play school and she’d be up front as the teacher. Teaching was just something she felt naturally inclined to pursue.

“I’ve dabbled in different career paths for education, but it’s always been education. Lewis has been a home to me; a family. The professors here care. Dr. Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio has really pushed me to go outside my comfort zone and see what else is out there to strengthen my education. Now, I want to do that for my students.”

GIVING SOMETHING BACK

In today's competitive and global environment, it is not enough to just earn a degree. One of the biggest pieces of a well-rounded college education is experiential learning, which is why we partner with organizations like Caterpillar, PPG, HB Fuller,

and Ingredion, who provide learning opportunities to strengthen the skills and education of Lewis students.

Before we can give students those opportunities, however, they have to get to college – which is why this past May, Lewis again partnered with Give Something Back, an organization that provides scholarships and mentoring to low-income students in seven states. On May 4, Give Something Back presented Lewis University and Dr. David Livingston with a \$1.5 million gift for scholarship support.

This generous gift follows a \$1 million gift given by Give Back in 2013 as part of its innovative partnership program, which provides mentors and scholarships to help Pell Grant eligible students go to college and graduate in four years, with little or no debt. Under the program, eligible students are selected in the ninth grade and mentored through high school. After high school graduation, Give Something Back scholars attend one of its partner universities and colleges in Illinois, Delaware, California, Kansas, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. (Visit www.giveback.ngo for more information.)

These scholarship funds, combined with funding from Lewis University as well as state and federal grants, will make it possible for more than 100 students to attend Lewis over the coming decade, including 22 students who began classes this fall.

“Lewis University is incredibly proud and grateful to



be part of the life-changing journey that Give Something Back offers to students. We look forward to continuing our partnership and relationship with current students who are at Lewis and the students who will be coming over the next decade,” com-

mented Livingston.

The gift was presented by Give Back founder Robert Carr, an entrepreneur, philanthropist and author who grew up in a financially strapped household in Homer Township. As a high school senior, Carr received a \$250 scholarship from the Lockport Women's Club. Their gift inspired him decades later to establish Give Back and help other working-class students.

“These are students who could use a break,” said Carr. “I am very proud that this partnership with Lewis University is making it possible for so many deserving students to go to college and pursue career goals that would otherwise be out of their reach.”

Thanks to this partnership, these students have the opportunity to attend Lewis without the worry of tuition. Instead, they can focus on their studies, research, internships, and campus activities. When they do graduate, they will have experienced an education that not only prepared them for their first job, but for the career they will have at 30, 40 and 50. And, perhaps they will find themselves working with one of our top 10 employers, including: Advocate Health Care, Chicago Police Department, Advocate Christ Medical Center, United Airlines, Chicago Public Schools, Argonne National Laboratory, United States Air Force, Presence Health, University of Chicago Medicine, and American Airlines.

Lewis proudly partners with these organizations to provide opportunities for college students to learn beyond the classroom, as well as introduce grade school students – especially young women – to STEM fields and career opportunities.

CATERPILLAR
PPG
HB FULLER

INGREDION
UNIVAR
VULCAN

PENSKE
ENTERPRISE
ECOLAB

ELKAY
AT&T
FEDEX

BAXTER INTERNATIONAL
FERRO CORPORATION
PALL CORPORATION

CROWDFUNDING PROVIDES MUCH-NEEDED SUPPORT

Supercomputers. A Men's Volleyball trip to Rome. Students presenting at a national conference.

When it comes to opportunities to form a better college experience for today's students, Lewis has plenty. Now, the University is turning towards crowdfunding to aide in funding some of these exceptional and unique learning experiences for students.



"Since Kickstarter launched in 2009, crowdfunding has become a popular way to give – especially with young alumni," says Dr. Jason Keleher, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry. "Younger alumni like to know where their donations are going; they like to see an immediate, tangible result from their giving. This year, chemistry students were able to launch a crowdfunding campaign which sent 20 students to a conference in Fargo, North Dakota. They were able to present their research, and we were able to show the campaign supporters that their gift made an immediate impact on the education of the students. That's pretty incredible."

Following Lewis' Catholic and Lasallian mission, College of Nursing and Health Professions students look forward to contributing to the health of their own communities and assisting the most vulnerable through health screenings. The program recently launched a crowdfunding campaign in hopes of raising funds to purchase materials and machinery that can be utilized at screenings and health fairs. The ability to purchase these items will enable Lewis to provide more comprehensive screenings at sites that don't have the resources to otherwise provide them, such as churches and community centers – which not only impacts the health of the community now, but will have a ripple effect in the future as patients learn to be proactive about their health.

"Being a part of this nursing program has greatly changed my life and outlook on the impact that I personally can make in health care," accelerated nursing student, Leah Manning said. "I have learned that nursing care does not only pertain to a hospital setting. Conducting these community screenings and health fairs gives us the chance to detect health problems sooner and empowers the patients to get

more involved with their own health."

Just this past year, crowdfunding has raised more than \$100,000 for projects at Lewis University. From the Supercomputer now housed in Computer Science to the Day of Giving; the Men's Volleyball trip to Rome, to a scholarship in honor of an aviation alumnus gone far too soon, crowdfunding is giving alumni and friends a way to give

back to something that resonates with them at Lewis.

"People connect with crowdfunding campaigns if the need is something they feel connected to," says Dr. Ray Klump, Professor and Chair of Computer Science and Mathematics. "The supercomputer will provide unique learning opportunities for students not just in Computer Science, but across the University. It will allow students to build partnerships with projects and research among departments. Alumni and friends who were involved in computer science at Lewis understand how important these high-tech devices are to providing real-world experience. Maybe they wish they had this technology to learn on while they were here, or maybe they hope to see students graduate with one foot in front of the competition. Whatever their reason, people embraced this campaign and supported the students and raised more than \$25,000. It may seem like something small, but it will impact students for years to come."

Now with a year's worth of crowdfunding experience, the Office of Advancement hopes to open the doors to even more initiatives across the colleges, in addition to showcasing the University.

"One of the best aspects of crowdfunding is the ability for students and faculty to share these campaigns with family and friends who may not be familiar with Lewis University," explains Kathy Risor-Heise, Executive Director of Alumni Engagement. "It's an opportunity to showcase the exceptional learning opportunities, programs, research, and more that our students are a part of every day. And our donors know that those funds are immediately impacting the students."

To learn more about the current crowdfunding opportunities at Lewis, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/Crowdfunding.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



2018 Save the Dates

Alumni Day

Saturday, January 20

Florida Alumni Gatherings

Weekend of Feb. 15-18

Cubs Game in Arizona

Saturday, March 10

Flyer Red Dinner

Thursday, March 15

Day of Giving Kickoff Event

Thursday, May 17

Flyers Athletics Fund Golf Outing

Friday, June 8

For more information
or to register, visit
alumni.lewisu.edu/Events