

THE MAGAZINE OF
lewisuniversity

WINTER 2018

**Lewis
Welcomes
New Provost**
Dr. Christopher Sindt



ALSO INSIDE:



The President's Annual Report

Lewis in Color



THE MAGAZINE OF Lewis University

WINTER 2018



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At-a-glance

6,500
TOTAL STUDENTS

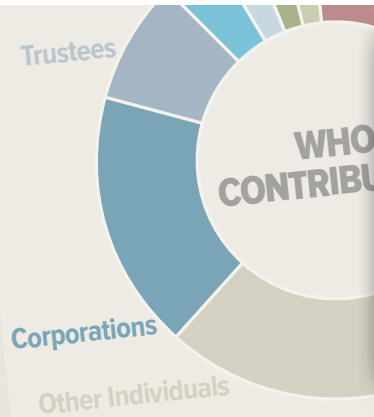
100+
STUDENT CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

41,219
ALUMNI NETWORK

30

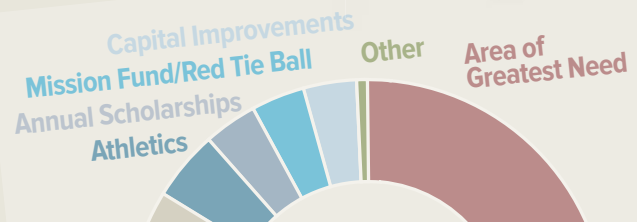
98%

410+
ACRE



ANNUAL REPORT

- 26 Letters
- 28 \$5 Million Gift
- 30 Scholarships
- 33 By the Numbers



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Lewis Welcomes New Provost

Dr. Christopher Sindt

"I'm energized by Lewis's Mission and the charism of the Christian Brothers, which inspires academic excellence, inclusivity, and innovative approaches to achieving social justice."



Dr. Christopher Sindt, former Saint Mary's College of California Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, became the Lewis University Provost on July 1.

"I'm energized by Lewis's Mission and the charism of the Christian Brothers, which inspires academic excellence, inclusivity, and innovative approaches to achieving social justice," Sindt commented. During his 17 years at Saint Mary's, Sindt provided exceptional academic and administrative leadership, serving as program director of the MFA Program in Creative Writing, the associate dean of the School of Liberal Arts, the dean of the Kalmanovitz School of Education, the vice provost for graduate and professional studies, and the vice provost for academic affairs. He has led initiatives in several areas, such as career and professional development, community engagement, educational effectiveness, faculty development, institutional research, international studies, sponsored research, and student success.

In 2011-2012, he was selected as an American Council of Education Fellow, the nation's premier educational program for university administrators.

While Sindt is new to the Chicago area, he is not totally new to the people of Lewis. He was acquainted with Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President Emeritus, and had met several faculty over the years, all of whom left him with a positive impression of the University. When the Provost position opened up, he loved the idea of coming to Lewis,

knowing that it would be a new challenge for him. He always has been impressed with how solid the University is.

"There is a spirit of creativity and entrepreneurship here. Everyone has creative ideas. I feel like I am challenged to channel those in ways that make the most sense for us." While he is still getting to know Lewis, he sees a multitude of opportunities.

Lewis is a larger and more complex University than Saint Mary's. In his opinion, Lewis is more focused on its majors and particular graduate degrees tied to the professions. Saint Mary's has more of a focus on the liberal arts. He also feels that the State of Illinois has a greater role in governing higher education than California.

This year, his priorities are to implement the restructuring of the academic colleges in accord with the Lewis University Strategic Plan. Associated with that will be the hire of three new deans. This is also the year that the Higher Learning Commission will visit Lewis in the spring to renew accreditation.

Long term, he envisions Lewis as a destination campus – recognized with high rankings as well as word of mouth reputation, a vibrant student life experience, and integrated use of technology to guide student interventions in counseling services and tutoring. He said, "This all goes back

to the Lewis educational Mission of supporting each student."

He is excited by the fact that higher education is increasingly valued by American culture. Many of the professions that provide a meaningful life require a degree at some level.

Additionally, he believes the role of higher education is to improve society by making a positive impact in local communities. Lewis students, faculty and staff are actively engaged in community projects, research for industry, partnering with community colleges and student internships and job placements.

Sindt earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of California, Los Angeles and his master's and doctoral degree in English from the University of California, Davis. Sindt has been honored with numerous awards and fellowships for his poetry, including the James D. Phelan award and fellowships at the MacDowell Colony and the Blue Mountain Center. He is the author of two collections of poetry, *The Bodies*, and most recently, *System and Population*.

Sindt is the father of two children, ages 8 and 11. His personal interests include gardening and playing guitar. He loves the city of Chicago and all that it has to offer. He and his family already have been to visit museums and are impressed with a very vibrant and friendly city. He said, "The people of Chicago look at you and smile. They're very helpful. You don't see that everywhere."

University **UPDATES**

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Student Center Opens

A crowd of students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members were on hand to witness the ribbon cutting and dedication of the Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Student Center on September 27.

"This Student Center will serve as the hub of campus activity. We hope our new Student Center generates enthusiasm and energy while also providing good memories of student life to our future alumni," said Joe Falese '78, '84, senior vice president of Student Services.

The 26,000 square-foot building features an expansive new dining hall with a wide variety of food options, a convenience store and café, offices for campus organizations, gaming area and open access space to relax, gather and build community. Offices for Student Activities and Multicultural Student Services, the Cultural Center, meeting rooms for student organizations and the Student Senate are located in the building designed and constructed by Wight & Company.

"It's truly a capstone project in the overall campus master plan that is among the more than 30 new or renewed structures on campus over many years," commented Brother James Gaffney, FSC, president *emeritus* of Lewis University. "For me personally, it is truly an honor to be associated with anything at



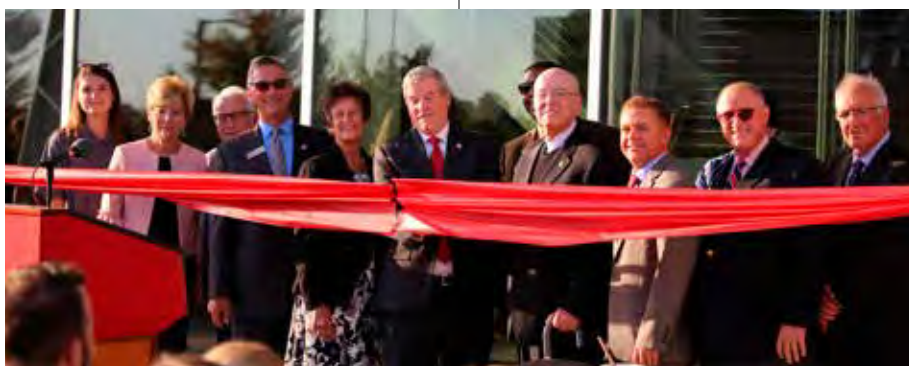
Lewis University that is connected to the students of past, present and future."

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, served the University in many capacities, including as provincial of the Chicago District of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, as chairperson of the Lewis University Board of Trustees, as professor of Religious Studies, and most notably, as president of Lewis University from 1988 - 2016. Throughout his remarkable 28-year tenure as the University's ninth president, he played an extraordinary role in the development of Lewis University through a renewed and revitalized

institutional commitment to Mission; the growth and quality of academic programs; the advancement of student success initiatives; significant growth in enrollment; the physical transformation of the campus and the development of regional sites; and leadership in the surrounding community.

"So much learning happens outside the classroom. We're grateful to all those that made this addition to our campus community possible," said Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University.

To see a time lapse video and photography, visit lewisu.edu/studentcenter.



Lewis University Rises to Top 20 in U.S. News Rankings

Lewis University has achieved its highest ranking in *U.S. News & World Report* moving up three places to become a Top 20 Regional University - Midwest.

"This ranking reflects Lewis University's progress in becoming a leading Catholic university in the Midwest. Our future-focused and innovative academic programs create graduates who are master learners, who are able to adapt and thrive in the ever-changing demands," Dr. David Livingston, president of Lewis University, said.

Higher peer assessment scores and improved graduation rates along with a growing percentage of freshmen in the top 25 percent of their high school class contributed to the increased ranking of Lewis University.

"Our students and their success in getting into graduate school and entering the career field of their dreams is our number one priority. Their success is why Lewis University is becoming

so highly regarded externally," Raymond Kennelly, senior vice president for Enrollment Management, added. In addition to being in the Top 20 of the 2019 *U.S. News* Best Regional University – Midwest, Lewis University is also included on:

- 2019 *U.S. News* Best Value Schools
- 2019 *Military Times* – Best for Vets



- *Wall Street Journal/ Times* Higher Education College Rankings
- The Princeton Review – Best Midwestern Colleges
- Colleges of Distinction – Catholic Colleges of Distinction
- *Washington Monthly* Annual College Guide and Rankings – Master's Universities
- *Money Magazine* – Best Colleges for Your Money 2018

Signum Fidei Lecture Centers on Call to Christian Unity

When Christians from different churches marry, they face many challenges. However, ecumenical marriages can yield crucial insights into Christ's call to all Christians both to build Christian unity and to reform the Church continually, according to William E. T. Hutchison, a former Lutheran pastor in the Metropolitan Chicago Synod for over 30 years, and Cristina L. H. Traina, Ph.D., professor and chair of Northwestern University's Religious Studies Department, who presented Lewis University's 16th Annual *Signum Fidei* ("Sign of Faith") Lecture.

One Eucharist, Two Tables highlighted stories from 35 years of ecumenical marriage.

When they married in 1983, Bill Hutchison and Cristie Traina knew that they were signing on for a life of ecumenism, seeking Christian unity. Bill was heading to the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago to prepare for ordained ministry in the Lutheran Church of America (now part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), and Cristie was on her way to the University of Chicago Divinity School to begin a career teaching Roman Catholic theology and ethics.

They have kept up their conversation for over three decades and deepened their appreciation for each other's traditions through raising three children. They have been

active members of Evanston Reformation 500 and Beyond, a grassroots group uniting Lutherans and Catholics in mutual understanding, community, work, and worship.

The *Signum Fidei* Lecture is organized by Lewis University's Office of Mission and Identity to celebrate the University's Catholic and Lasallian heritage. Men and women of vision and faith are invited to illuminate issues affecting the Church and its people, to reflect on spirituality in the Catholic tradition, and to provide a forum for topics based on Church teaching.

University **UPDATES**



Biology/Pre-Med Major Lands NASA Internship

Hannah Zuercher, a senior student majoring in Biology and currently applying to medical school, spent eight weeks of her summer as part of the NASA Student Airborne Research Program at the University of California, Irvine.

Zuercher applied for her internship as a sophomore. The evaluation committee turned her down at the time and told her that they preferred taking students who were juniors and seniors. Her mentor, Biology professor Dr. Elizabeth Kozak, encouraged her to re-apply as a junior and she was accepted into a group of 28 students.

Hannah said, "The application process was very similar to applying for college. I had to write an essay and submit letters of recommendation."

She said the first two weeks were mostly lectures by NASA engineers and scientists. Following that, the class was split into smaller groups who would go out on DC8 planes to assist in the operation of instruments onboard, sample atmospheric chemicals, and evaluate air quality data.

Hannah's research project centered on her using the data gathered to map changes in ozone rates. She used a software package called Benmap to compare the changes in ozone with mortality rates. She learned

a bit of coding that needed to be done for her project. She said, "I think I learned a lot of skills that will help me in life."

She is hoping that down the road this project might help in her career as a physician. Both of Hannah's parents are in healthcare – her father is a physician and mother a nurse. Originally from Lincoln, Neb., the family currently resides in Florida, so she is applying to med schools in both states. She will graduate in May 2019.

Not content with being bored, Hannah competes on the Lewis swim team, is president of the Student Advisory Committee, tutors fellow students on campus, and is a recipient of the Schmitt Foundation Scholarship.

PLT Adopts New Online Ticketing System

The Philip Lynch Theatre has partnered with Tix to provide patrons with a convenient, online method of purchasing tickets to any production. Tix is a cloud-based ticketing system that provides a customer-friendly ticket sales page online.

Upon accessing the site at lewisu.edu/PLTtix patrons have access to a seating chart and are able to choose the seats of their choice. All major credit cards are accepted. If you purchase tickets online 3 weeks prior to an event, the tickets will be mailed to you. Or you may pick up your tickets at the box office the day of the event.

Tix can also handle subscriptions and flex passes. Next season a new feature will be offered called "build your own" packages. Additional features will be rolled out over time; for example, a Facebook event link to online ticketing purchases and same-seat season subscription renewals. Tix tools will help create ongoing, meaningful interactions with you, our patrons.



Partnerships Provide New Opportunities for Study and Careers

In an effort to enhance student learning opportunities, new partnerships have been developed for aviation majors and dental hygiene majors.

Dental hygiene partnerships allow students to take advantage of the strengths and resources of both Lewis University and the excellent dental hygiene programs offered by these colleges. The first two years of the program are completed at Lewis University for science courses such as anatomy, physiology, microbiology and more.

The remaining two years are completed at one of the partner colleges, College of DuPage, Parkland College or Fox College, where students take dental hygiene courses and start a clinical rotation.

Aviation is working to foster relationships with several airlines. Each partner is listed below and will provides benefits such as mentoring, visits to headquarters and training facilities, early interviews, tuition reimbursement, travel privileges, referral bonuses, and direct pathways to legacy carriers.

Recent airline partners include: Republic Airline (pictured above), ExpressJet, Air Wisconsin Airlines, Go Jet Airlines, Mesa Airlines, Trans States Airlines, and Delta Tech Ops.

Industry partners include: United Airlines, ForeFlight, Top Hawk, Snap-On, and Pivot.

Equipment donations include: American Airlines, FedEx, and Southwest.



Exchange Program Brings French Students to Lewis

A new exchange program with other Lasallian partner schools around the country began this fall with two students from France studying at Lewis. Alix Madelaine and Felix Thomasson are both studying in the Environmental Science program.

Their university in France (UniLaSalle – Campus de Beauvais) is a four-year school that specializes in agronomy, food science, and geology. Alix plans to become a zookeeper and Felix is going into the food industry. All of the students in their university will spend the first semester of their junior year studying in one of the Lasallian universities across the world. Other students in their class have gone to Lasallian universities in Minnesota, New York, the Philippines and South America.

Both Alix and Felix are enjoying their classes at Lewis, particularly those in their major. They said that even though this is the first semester for the program, it is going well. It was helpful to have people who could answer questions for international students about requirements and the numerous logistical arrangements that need to be made. They also like the opportunity to meet other international students on campus.

Prior to returning to France, as part of their studies, each student is to work on a sustainable development project to bring back to France.



Kole Torres (l), co-curator of the exhibit and Lewis University graduate student, worked closely with her mentor, Dr. Dennis Cremin (r), professor and director of the Lewis University History Center to bring the exhibit to life.

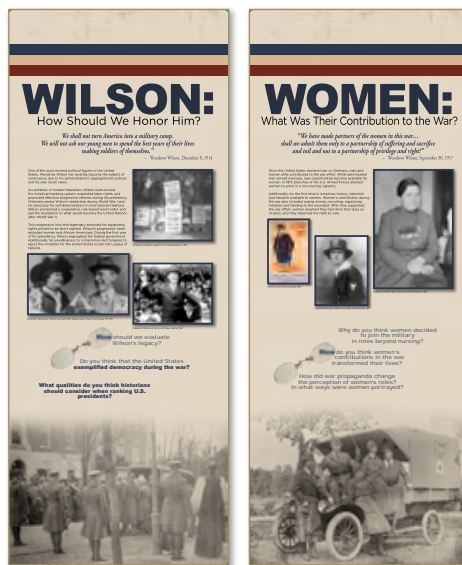
Woodrow Wilson and the Great War Exhibit Travels the Country

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of World War I's conclusion, the Lewis University History Center, Naper Settlement and Give Something Back collaborated on a traveling exhibit, "Woodrow Wilson and the Great War." This exhibit examined the Great War, which was fought from 1914-1918, and the presidency of Woodrow Wilson during this catastrophic global event.

From July 26-December 22, it crossed the country on display in five cities – Naper Settlement in Naperville; the Gaylord Building in Lockport; Lewis University in Romeoville; the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, DC; and the Princeton Historical Society in Princeton, New Jersey.

The approach used in this exhibit illustrated the multitude

of perspectives that can be considered to raise questions about historical events. Several objects from the era were featured, including trench art, a gas mask, and original documents from Woodrow Wilson.



"Viewing a topic through various lenses allows for a broader interpretation of history and previously overlooked narratives to be discovered," said Kole Torres.





FACULTY NEWS

Bixby Co-Facilitated eSeries Workshop

Dr. Teresa Bixby (Chemistry) co-facilitated a Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL) eSeries workshop entitled "Team Formation" on September 24, 2018. POGIL is a structured active learning pedagogy that started as a National Science Foundation-funded project and is now a non-profit organization. The POGIL Project recently introduced an eSeries of workshops on the Zoom digital meeting platform in addition to the in-person workshops that are traditionally offered. Bixby also co-facilitated the third-ever eSeries workshop "Valuing Process Skills in the Classroom" last spring.

Gedzyk-Nieman's DNP Study Selected for International Research Congress

Dr. Stephanie Gedzyk-Nieman (Nursing) was selected to present at the 29th Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Research Congress in Melbourne, Australia on July 20, 2018. Her presentation entitled "Exploring Attitudes of Acceptance of Male Nurses Among Registered Nurses" was the study that Gedzyk-Nieman conducted in order to complete her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in August 2017. This presentation was also one of three finalists for the 2018 Excellence in Educational Research Award, presented by the Sigma Theta Tau International/Chamberlain College of Nursing Center for Excellence in Nursing Education.

OT Faculty Present at the Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Conference

The annual Illinois Occupational Therapy Association Conference took place in Naperville in September 2018, and **Drs. Meghan Suman** and **Susan Cahill** (Occupational Therapy), along with **Katie Petersen '11** and **Alexandra Wasko '18** presented on a travel preparation program. It was developed in collaboration with Professor **Megan Zahos** (Aviation and Transportation Studies). Dr. Suman also presented on academic fieldwork, specialty certifications, and online learning.

Drs. Tovar and Mischia Research and Publish Article About Experiential Learning

Drs. Lynn Atkinson Tovar and **Cynthia Mischia** conducted a mixed-methods research study examining the learning experiences of 44 students who participated in short term travel study programs at Lewis University. Results indicate experiential learning offers students profound learning experiences and can transform career choices while developing social relationships. Their article entitled "Experiential Learning: Transformation and Discovery Through Travel Study Programs" highlights the findings from the qualitative and quantitative data analysis, and it can be found in *Higher Education Journal*, Vol 35.

Business Professors Co-Author Paper Presented at IAM Conference

Dr. Marvin Bates (Marketing) presented a paper at the 21st Annual Irish Academy of Management (IAM) Conference on September 3, 2018 at University College Cork (UCC) in Cork, Ireland. Co-authored by **Dr. George Klemic** (Business Administration), this paper was titled "Increasing Base of the Pyramid (BoP) Market Awareness Among Undergraduate Management Students." Drs. Bates and Klemic's paper has been published in its entirety in the *Book of Proceedings, Irish Academy of Management 2018* as well. Their research suggests that future business and marketing managers can be educated within the context of existing management and marketing business education to recognize the fiscal efficacy of addressing the BoP market segment. Management scholars in business schools can utilize time efficient interventions to prepare their students to fully participate in today's increasingly globalized economy.

Information Systems Professor Published Article on Cybersecurity Curriculum Design

Dr. Mathias (Matt) Plass (Information Systems) published a research paper entitled "Is Today's Information Systems Curriculum Preparing the Next Generation of Cyber Warriors?" in the 2018 *Society for the Advancement of Information Systems (SAIC) Conference Proceedings* and presented the research at the April 2018 MBAA International Conference in Chicago. The research provides educators tasked with curriculum design in the evolving cybersecurity discipline with new techniques for program adoption, course design, certification and accreditation. Dr. Plass also recommended effective strategies for educators in implementing proven solutions, attracting more students, and designing successful business partnerships to address the growing deficiency of professionals in the cybersecurity workforce.

Organizational Leadership Faculty Hosted Workshop at Catholic Cemetery Conference

Drs. Sheila Boysen, Lesley Page, Michael Cherry and **Keith Lavine** (Organizational Leadership) taught at the Catholic Cemetery Conference School of Leadership and Management Excellence hosted at the University of Notre Dame in June 2018. The team hosted the School of Leadership and Management, and the workshop topics included: leadership theories, assessing leadership skills, leading change, conflict management, motivation, team building, integrity and social responsibility. The Catholic Cemetery Conference, whose Executive Director is a Lewis alumnus (**Dave LaBarre '78, '02**), is the pre-eminent resource for all Catholic Cemeteries serving as a Roman Catholic faith network committed to cemetery advocacy and education.



English Department Professors Release Anthology

Drs. Simone Muench and **Jackie White** (English) celebrated the release of their new 550-page anthology *THEY SAID: A Multi-Genre Anthology of Contemporary Collaborative Writing* (Black Lawrence Press, 2018). *THEY SAID* includes poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, as well as hybridized forms that push the boundaries of concepts like "genre" and "author."

Dr. Muench Makes Keynote Presentation at Writers Conference

Dr. Simone Muench (English) gave a keynote presentation for the Northwestern Summer Writers' Conference on August 11, 2018. The title of the presentation was "From Singular to Shared: The Combined Mind of Collaborative Writing."

Mustafa's Work Included in Two New Books and Presented at International Conference

Dr. Jamil Mustafa (English) has written the chapter "Lifting the Veil: Ambivalence, Allegory, and the Scottish Gothic in Walter Scott's Union Fiction" which was published in *Gothic Britain: Dark Places in the Provinces and Margins of the British Isles*. He also wrote the chapter "Haunting 'The Harlot's House'" that was published in *Wilde's Other Worlds*. In August 2018, Mustafa presented "The American Gothic and the Carnavalesque in *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, which describes how Ray Bradbury's 1962 novel engages with the Cold War, at the International Gothic Association Conference in Manchester, England.

Kerth Presented at National Conference

Dr. Scott A. Kerth (Organizational Leadership) presented at the Academy of Management National Conference in Chicago on August 10, 2018. Dr. Kerth presented on strategy and change in academia looking at the evolving university landscape and how the broader environment is causing universities to react. He was on a panel with academics from Benedictine University, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and Bentley University looking at the program prioritization process, punctuated equilibrium, scenario planning, responsibility centered management and principles for responsible management education.

Trainor Participates in International QSEN Conference

Professor Jane Trainor MS, RN (College of Nursing and Health Professions) is a member of the Quality and Safety Education in Nursing (QSEN) National Task Force and participated in the QSEN Academic Task Force poster presentation at the International QSEN conference in May 2018 in Bonita Springs, Fla. The national academic task force focuses on educating and enhancing the understanding and significance of quality and safety in healthcare within nursing programs and also clinical partners.

Kline Invited to Give an Address in England

Dr. Kip Kline (Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Literacy) gave an invited address on September 4, 2018 in Sheffield, England titled, "Turning Right to Go Left: Jean Baudrillard and Education for Counter-intuition." The presentation marked the inauguration of the education and philosophy seminar series at the University of Sheffield's Humanities Research Institute. The event was also sponsored by the Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain.

Arnold Gives Keynote Address Focused on Learning from our Wounds and Having Faith

Professor Linda Arnold, RN, MS, CLM (College of Nursing and Health Professions) presented the keynote message at a gathering of 150 Lutheran women in Richmond, Virginia on September 22, 2018. Her message, entitled "The Wisdom of Scars," focused on the lessons learned from wounds of body, mind, and spirit.

Kloster Awarded Jonas Scholarship Grant

Professor Mary Eileen (Meg) Kloster, MSN, RN (College of Nursing and Health Professions) was awarded a Jonas Scholarship Grant as a Ph.D. student at Villanova University for 2018-2020 through the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). Kloster's topic of study is the effect of air pollution on cardiac health. Her proposed study is to teach patients who have experienced a cardiac event how to interpret and act on air quality alerts in an effort to reduce exposure to toxins in air pollution and to decrease the chance of an additional cardiac event.

Faculty and Students Partner with Neighboring Fairmont

A partnership is growing between Lewis University and community organizations in Fairmont, a neighborhood located between Lockport and Joliet in unincorporated Will County. During the Spring 2018 semester, **Dr. Christie Billups'** (Theology) Peace Studies Capstone students assisted in creating a community garden that contributed to the Fairmont Food Pantry, set up an after-school homework club at the local school, and worked on county-level projects related to tracking abandoned housing. During the Fall 2018 semester, the partnership with Fairmont has continued, with **Drs. Jennifer Buntin** (Sociology), **Laura Quaynor** (Education), and **Jennifer Buss** (Education) collaborating with the Fairmont School District 89 to support or augment after-school programming for K-8 youth and providing a safe and educational space for kids to go between school dismissal and 7:00 p.m. every evening.

Professor and Alumnae Publish Article in International Journal

Dr. Daisy Sherry (Nursing and Health Professions) and **Valerie Perona '12** collaborated on a journal article entitled "Evaluation of Motivational Interview in Nursing: A Literature Review," which was published in the *International Journal of Nursing Research and Health Care* in September 2018.



GIFTS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS



Dr. Stephany Schlachter Excellence in Undergraduate Scholarship Award Established

In honor of the conclusion of Dr. Stephany Schlachter's remarkable 18-year tenure as Provost this past June and in recognition of the significant role she played in advancing undergraduate research and scholarship, Dr. David Livingston, president, announced the establishment of

the Dr. Stephany Schlachter Excellence in Scholarship Award. A tuition award in the amount of \$2,000 will be presented annually to an undergraduate student for outstanding scholarship as part of the University's Celebration of Scholarship, a daylong symposium held each April that celebrates the research, scholarly work and creative endeavors of Lewis University students and faculty.

The Celebration of Scholarship Committee established procedures and guidelines for the Dr. Stephany Schlachter Excellence in Scholarship Award, and is in the process of establishing criteria for eligibility, selection rubrics and judging procedures. Creative works presentations, poster presentations, and concurrent session presentations are eligible for this award.

Finalists will be recognized at the Celebration of Scholarship Awards Ceremony. The winning presentation will later be announced to the University community, and will include a dinner with family members, hosted by the president, provost and Dr. Schlachter, along with selected members of the Celebration of Scholarship Committee.

The University's goal is to raise \$50,000 to fully endow this scholarship fund. Those interested in contributing should contact Luigi Amendola, vice president for University Advancement at (815) 836-5875.

Girls Create with Technology: An Introduction to STEM

"Throughout life, you carry a toolbox," explains Teresa Dorey. "I tell my kids that every time you learn a new skill or enhance your education, you are adding a tool to that toolbox. If you want a fun and limitless future, you need to be able to adapt and cope with anything life throws at you. So when you're presented with an opportunity to add a unique tool to that toolbox, take it!"

And that's exactly what her daughter, Hannah Dorey, has done. When she was just 12, Teresa enrolled Hannah in the Girls Create with Technology program at Lewis, a unique camp that introduces young girls to STEM. She had been seeking out STEM programs for her daughter because of the potential the field offers for future careers.

"I wasn't sure at first," Hannah said. She was extremely anxious for her first day of camp. "I've loved science since I was little. I even had a science-themed birthday at one point. But coding? I wasn't sure that was something I could do. It only took one day for me to realize how exciting the field was – and how capable girls are to do this."

Hannah, now 15, has participated in camps at Lewis for three years. She's created LED Christmas cards, robots, and even developed her own video game.

"I was able to build a game app, download it to my phone, and have my friends download it, too. It was pretty amazing to take something that we all have access to, like apps, that seems like only other people can do, and then create it ourselves. This isn't just something someone else does; it's something I can do. It's rewarding to know that we have that potential."

The Girls Create with Technology program is now in its fifth year at Lewis University and is supported by PPG

Foundation, who recently donated \$10,000 to the expansion of Lewis University's Girls Create with Technology program. This expansion entails the addition of a co-educational STEM program aimed to expose middle and high school students to technology concepts.

The initiative, and partnership with local businesses, has proven successful. This past summer, opportunities were offered in the newly established program in cryptography and how it relates to many careers in math and computer science. This program was funded through the continued partnership with Ingredient, Inc., who is no stranger to Lewis' mission to introduce more girls to STEM, as they have sponsored many initiatives in the Girls Create program over the years.

"There are several keys to success in these programs," adds Dr. Cindy Howard, associate professor of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, and leader of the program. "It's an equal mixture of talented faculty, exceptional students, eager young minds, and the availability of the programs thanks to support from these companies that have a philanthropic interest in supporting science education. Together, we are building a future workforce that is diverse, and ready and able to adapt."

Did you know?

- Caterpillar and Ecolab also support Girls Create with Technology
- Univar and HB Fuller have supported a Chemistry camp at Lewis in the past
- Many alumni are key in building these partnerships, including Elaine Harris at Ingredient; Tim Radigan at Baxter; Shayla Smith at Caterpillar; and Alisa Williams at Ecolab.



Red Tie Ball

The Signum Fidei Celebration

This year's Red Tie Ball: A Night Out in the Roaring 20s was a hit! From those decked out in 1920s garb to the photo booth to the paddle raise, the event was a "roaring" success and raised over \$320,000! Thank you to all of our attendees and sponsors for supporting the **MISSION FUND** for students who are financially at-risk. To see photos from the photo booth, candid, entertainment and more, visit us online at lewisu.edu/RedTieBall.



Will Riley

President Student Senate

"Through the Mission Fund I was able to find the support I needed. My dream to graduate from college didn't seem so out of reach. Each person I encountered at Lewis was on my side, wanting to see me succeed."

Tom Skilling

Emcee and WGNTV Meteorologist

"It is fantastic to be here as a special guest of Lewis University in support of an important cause in the Mission Fund. Today's students, whether they are grade school or high school or community college, have dreams just like I did of working in their dream field. For a few of them, the path will be easy. However, for many students, the path will be paved with obstacles preventing them from finishing their education, such as a sick parent, the need to work two jobs while going to school, or raising a family of their own. Each of you is a piece of the puzzle in forming a solution for those students through the Mission Fund."





David Livingston

President Lewis University

"At Lewis, over 98% of our students receive financial aid, including more than \$42 million in institutional aid that Lewis awards to students pursuing their education. The ability for us to support those in need with the opportunity to pursue their dreams; the opportunity to take part in research and real-world learning from the moment they begin classes through their graduation, is something we should all be very proud of. This is in large part thanks to you, our donors."



LEWIS BROTHERS

A Rich History of Mission



“THE BROTHER”

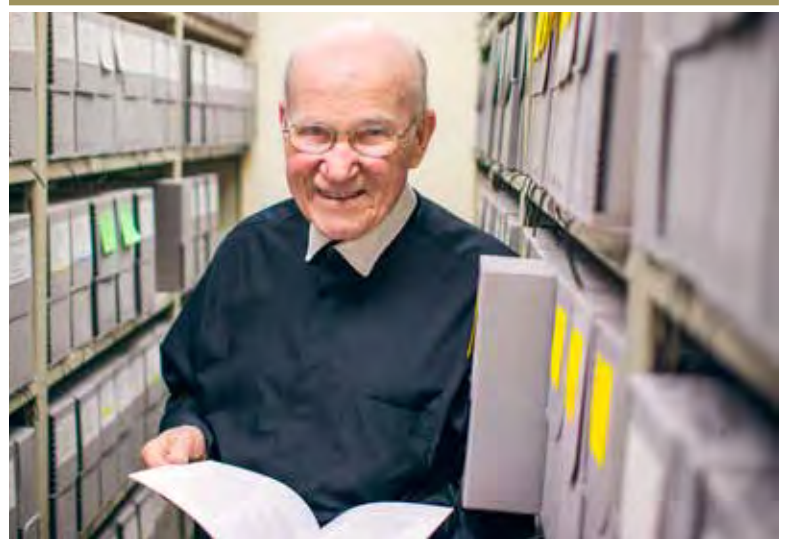
A bronze, life-sized sculpture of a Christian Brother with a book in his hand inscribed with the Lasallian star is seated on a gently curved limestone bench in front of the Academic Building. The bench features an inscribed quotation from Saint John Baptist de La Salle: **“To touch the hearts of your students is the greatest miracle you can perform.”** A plaque honors more than 100 Christian Brothers who have served at Lewis University since 1960.

“To touch the hearts of your students is the greatest miracle you can perform.”
Saint John Baptist de La Salle



BROTHER LARRY ON WHAT GETS HIM OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING

"After a few prayers asking for the grace to make it through the day mindful of my obligations, I begin to plan the day. There are so many things to get done and so few hours to accomplish all of them. The education of youth and community life keep me young at heart."



BROTHER BERNARD ON HOW LEWIS STUDENTS HAVE IMPACTED HIM

"There are a few lines from one of the tunes in the musical The King and I that go something like this: 'Tis a wise and ancient saying/A true and honest thought/That if you become a teacher/By your pupils you'll be taught."



BROTHER RAYMOND ON THE BEST PART OF BEING A BROTHER

"Each Brother has a unique and different relationship with God. Each one of us approaches God differently, and I feel myself blessed having spent my life surrounded by generous people walking in their faith."



BROTHER TOM ON HIS LIFE AS A BROTHER

"Looking back, I wouldn't say that it's been an easy life. At one time, I had thoughts of leaving. But it's been a good life, and I don't know that I would want my overall path to be very different from what it's been. I've been able to be a teacher of young people, to work with some exceptional men and women, to live with some extraordinary Brothers... I'm grateful for what I have."



Lewis Athletics to Add Men's Lacrosse; Perruzzi Named Head Coach

Lewis University Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek announced that Joe Perruzzi has been hired as the first men's lacrosse coach in Flyer history.

"Our intercollegiate athletic program will welcome our 23rd sport offering with the addition of men's lacrosse starting competition in the 2019-2020 season," Planek said. "I am glad to announce that Joe Perruzzi will be our inaugural head coach. His successful experience at the Division II level along with his energy level will serve us well as we begin to establish our lacrosse program at Lewis University."

Perruzzi comes to Lewis after spending the past three seasons as the defensive coordinator at Belmont Abbey College in Belmont, N.C. During his tenure with the Crusaders he helped guide them to a 38-13 record and back-to-back appearances in the Conference Carolinas Tournament Championship game. Perruzzi helped mentor 17 Conference Carolinas All-Conference selections, 10 United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) All-Americans and two USILA Scholar All-Americans.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to join the Flyer family at Lewis University," Perruzzi said. "I would like to thank Dr. Livingston and Dr. Planek for this exciting opportunity to begin the lacrosse program at Lewis University."

"From the moment I stepped on campus, I was blown away by the strength of the academics, the department's commitment to athletics and integrity of the college community. I look forward to building this program from the ground up and competing at the highest level in the GLVC."

Perruzzi is a 2011 graduate of Belmont Abbey, where he was a three-year starter at defensive midfielder. During his time at the Abbey, Perruzzi played in two Conference Carolinas Championship games, winning the first one in program history in 2008. He graduated with a B.A. in Sports Management and was a member of the Dean's List and the President's List. Perruzzi earned his Master's Degree from Ohio University in Recreation and Sport Sciences in 2012.



Lewis Athletics Names Tim McBride as Associate Athletics Director

Lewis University Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek announced that he has named Tim McBride as the Flyers' new Associate Athletics Director for External Relations.

"Tim McBride's experience in the NHL, NBA, and at the NCAA Division I level give him a wealth of insights that will serve us well at Lewis," Dr. Planek said.

McBride will oversee all athletic fundraising, alumni outreach, marketing and promotions for the Flyers athletic department.

"I would like to thank Dr. Planek and the university leadership for this great opportunity," McBride said. "I look forward to working with the entire Lewis community, especially the student-athletes, coaches and staff, in continuing to build upon the strong tradition of Flyer Athletics."

McBride served as the Chief Marketing and Entertainment Officer for the Chicago Dogs Baseball team since July of 2017. He was responsible for the start-up and brand launch of the American Association of Independent Professional Baseball expansion franchise which began play in Rosemont in May of 2018. McBride oversaw the day-to-day business operations and was responsible for the team's marketing and communications efforts.

McBride spent two seasons with the Denver Nuggets, 1993-95, and a season with the Colorado Avalanche, 1995-96, working as their Director of Game Operations. He then moved on to become the Director of Marketing for the Phoenix Coyotes from 1996-2002. McBride was a part of the inaugural seasons for the Avalanche in 95-96 and the Coyotes in 96-97.

He is no stranger to college athletics having served as an assistant men's soccer coach at Loyola University Chicago for over a decade. His major responsibilities included development and implementation of the program's year-round athletic training program, coordinating prospective student-athlete recruitment, monitoring student-athlete academic progress, assuring compliance with NCAA Division I regulations, scheduling, budgeting and general team operations.

McBride assisted in guiding the Ramblers to Horizon League Conference Championships and NCAA Tournament appearances in 2006, 2008 and 2011. He also served as the Director of Marketing and Promotions for the Ramblers from 2002 through 2004. He was responsible for on-campus and external marketing of Loyola's thirteen NCAA Division I sports programs and also managed their corporate sponsor relationships.

McBride received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Loyola in 1993 and his master's degree in business administration with an emphasis in finance from Loyola in 2007.



Flyers Earn First Hardware In Program History At Crusader Classic

The Lewis University women's bowling team concluded play in the Crusader Classic Sunday (Nov. 4), bringing home the first hardware in program history after taking second place at Lynwood Bowl. The Flyers fell in the championship match to Kentucky Wesleyan 4-2.

Lewis (16-9) opened the day defeating Valparaiso 4-1. After losing the first game 187-167, the Flyers came back to win by scores of 227-155, 195-159, 176-136 and 170-165.

The Flyers then took down No. 21 Wisconsin Whitewater 4-1, defeating the Warhawks for the second time on the week. They won 188-178, 179-163, 187-172, lost 160-149 and won 176-143.

In the championship match against the Panthers the Flyers lost 166-165 and 210-164 before winning 208-203. They then lost 216-178 before coming back to win 204-157. Wesleyan closed out the match 204-148.

Kristine Countryman (Plainfield, Ill./Plainfield Central) and Kylie Johnson (Belvidere, Ill./Belvidere North) were named to the All-Tournament Team for their top five finishes on Saturday.

"I am so proud of the team," Lewis Director of Bowling Scott Taylor said. "The past two days we bowled very well, going 6-1, and the energy and teamwork were big reasons for that. To get a trophy three tournaments into our program's history is an incredible accomplishment. Now we need to get ready for one of the top tournaments in the country next weekend."



Trio Of Flyer Juniors Earn All-GLVC Women's Soccer Accolades

Lewis University juniors Kailey Parnello (Rockford, Ill./Boylan Central Catholic), Mallory Richardson (Bartlett, Ill./Westminister Christian) and Allie Mikos (Geneva, Ill./Geneva) were named to the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Women's Soccer Teams, the conference announced on Thursday (Nov. 1).

Parnello was a unanimous first team selection while Richardson earned second team accolades and Mikos picked up third team honors and is the team's James R. Spaulding Sportsmanship Award nominee.

"I'm really happy for these three to be recognized by the GLVC coaches for the seasons they had," Lewis women's soccer coach Chris Koenig said.

Parnello led the GLVC in shots with 83, shots per game (4.61) and was tied for the league lead with four game-winning goals. She was tied for second in goals (8), in points (18) and points per game (1.00) and was third in goals per game with 0.44. Parnello was named the GLVC Offensive Player of the Week for the week ending October 7.

"Kailey had a fantastic year and was consistently one of the top forwards in the conference," Koenig said. "For her to be a unanimous first team choice is a huge compliment and shows the quality of her year."

Richardson led the GLVC in assists with 10 and assists per game with 0.56. She recorded a season-high in assists with two against Cedarville on Sept. 1 and also had two assists in the win at Truman State in the conference opener. Richardson recorded an assist in eight games.

"Mal really settled into the holding mid(field) role this year," Koenig said. "She has great vision and with the offensive numbers in the conference, for her to lead the league in assists is a huge accomplishment. I'm thrilled she earned all-conference."

Mikos started every game this year and was part of a defense that allowed just 1.28 goals per contest and posted four shutouts. She played at least 90 minutes in 16 of 18 contests including a season-high 110 minutes played in the regular season finale against Southern Indiana. Mikos had the assist on Parnello's game-winner against Drury on Oct. 7.

"Allie showed to be one of the best two-way outside backs in the league," Koenig said. "She put a huge effort into this season and I'm happy she was recognized for her efforts."

The Flyers finished the season with a record of 9-7-2, 8-5 GLVC and advanced to the GLVC Tournament.



Lewis' Amoo-Mensah Earns Second Team All-GLVC Honors

Lewis University's Devon Amoo-Mensah (Naperville, Ill./Naperville Central) was named to the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Men's Soccer Second Team, the conference announced on Thursday (Nov. 1). It's the second straight year that Amoo-Mensah has garnered all-conference accolades.

Amoo-Mensah started all 17 games scoring four goals for a total of eight points. He scored a pair of goals, including the game-winner, in the win at Missouri-St. Louis on Sept. 30. Amoo-Mensah also recorded goals against Quincy and William Jewell. He also was named the team's nominee for the James R. Spaulding Sportsmanship Award.

"What can one say, Devon has been the consummate student-athlete here since arriving on campus," Lewis men's soccer coach Evan Fiffles said. "He is very deserving of this recognition and I'm happy for him."

The Flyers ended the season with a record of 4-10-3, 3-9-1 in the GLVC.



Kelliher Sets Lewis Women's Basketball Scoring Record

Lewis University senior women's basketball player set the program career scoring record in the Flyers win over Northwood on Nov. 18. Kelliher surpassed former teammate Jamie Johnson (2011-17) who held the previous record with 2,059 points.

Kelliher also holds the program's single season scoring record, set last year, with 789 and she also set the career record for field goals made in the win against Grand Valley. She has made 839 field goals career breaking the record of Mariyah

Brawner-Henley (2012-16) who made 809 field goals.

Her .644 field goal percentage is currently tops in school history and she is second all-time in free throws made with 444.

Kelliher also holds the single season records for scoring average (24.7 points per game), field goals made (313) and has three of the top four single season shooting performances in school history.

She is a two-time All-American and last year was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-American team.

Lewis Athletics Nets 99 D2 ADA Academic Achievement Awards

The Division 2 Athletics Directors Association (D2 ADA) announced on Thursday (August 16) that the Lewis University Athletics Department received 99 D2 ADA Achievement Awards.

"D2 ADA's recognition of our athletes on a national level once again reflects our commitment to academic success," Lewis Director of Athletics Dr. John Planek said. "Our coaching staff in concert with our faculty and academic support enable us to attain this level of achievement consistently."

In order for a student-athlete to receive an Academic Achievement Award, the athletics director of the Division II institution MUST BE a CURRENT dues paying member of the D2 ADA.

Also, the student-athlete must:

- have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- have attended a minimum of two years (four semesters) of college level work
- have been an active member of an intercollegiate team during his/her last academic year



Women's Volleyball Advances To Division II Final Four For Second Time In Three Years

The Lewis women's volleyball team advanced to the NCAA Division II Final Four for the second time in three years. The Flyers traveled to Pittsburgh, Pa. where they defeated the second seeded Wheeling Jesuit Cardinals in straight sets before falling to eventual runners-up Western Washington 3-1 in the semifinal round.

Lewis advanced to the Division II Volleyball Championships, which was part of the Division II Fall Sports Festival, by winning the Midwest Regional Championship hosted by Drury University. The Flyers entered the tournament as the number four seed and knocked off the fifth seeded Michigan Tech Huskies in the opening round, then defeated the top seed and host Drury Panthers in the semifinals before defeating the third seeded Rockhurst Hawks in the finals.

Abby Becker set the school's career record for assists (4,691) in the rally scoring era with her 51 assists in the championship match against Rockhurst. She surpassed her former teammate Leigh Barea who held the record with 4,685. She finished her career with 4,733 set assists.

Elizabeth Hyland was named the Great Lakes Valley Conference's Offensive Player of the Year and was a First Team All-GLVC selection. Becker was also named to the All-GLVC First Team while Alexandra Preuss and Caroline Stefanon were named All-GLVC Second Team.

Hyland set the record for kills in a career with her 14 kills against Wheeling Jesuit in the quarterfinals passing Stephanie Sagat's record of 1,676. Hyland finished her career with 1,687 kills.

Hyland and Becker were named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-Region First Team and head coach Lorelee Smith was named the Midwest Region Coach of the Year. Hyland was named to the AVCA All-American Second Team while Becker received All-American Honorable Mention honors.

Hyland was also named to the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association Midwest All-Region and All-American Teams.

Hyland and Preuss were also named to the Google Cloud Academic All-District team and are eligible for Academic All-American honors.

Becker and Colleen Wilhelm were both named to the Division II Championship All-Tournament team.



Former Lewis Baseball Coach Henry "Irish" O'Reilly Passes Away

Former Lewis University Baseball Coach Henry "Irish" O'Reilly passed away at the age of 74 on October 15. O'Reilly retired in 2007 but remained closely connected with Lewis University. In January 2018, O'Reilly – a 2016 inductee into the Lewis Athletics Hall of Fame – was honored by the American Baseball Coaches Association with the ABCA/Wilson Lefty Gomez Award.

"I had the honor and privilege of knowing Coach Irish O'Reilly since he arrived at Lewis University in 1979," said Joseph Falese '78 '84, senior vice president of student services. "He served the University with distinguished service for over three decades. In addition to serving as an outstanding baseball coach, he also was our director of admissions. In the later years of his tenure, he served in University Advancement, where he spearheaded multiple, highly successful fundraising campaigns in support of the Athletics programs, assisting in bringing in funding for scholarships, equipment, travel and more.

"I know from firsthand experience how much he loved coaching baseball at Lewis," Falese continued. "I served as his assistant coach from 1982-1985 and his passion for coaching baseball was remarkable. Equally impressive was his care and concern for each and every player on every roster of the teams he coached. He taught them baseball skills but also was a terrific mentor that taught important life skills to these young men."

O'Reilly was known for his leadership within amateur baseball as a longtime member of the ABCA Board of Directors, longtime chair of the ABCA NCAA Division II All-America Committee and a nine-year term on the NCAA Division II Baseball Championship Committee.

O'Reilly finished his career with a 1246-916-8 (.574) record over 38 seasons of high school and collegiate coaching. His record of 982-771-8 in 29 seasons at Lewis ranks eighth in victories among all baseball coaches in NCAA Division II history.

He coached 41 All-Americans and saw 51 of his former players sign professional contracts, with four making it to the majors and one earning a gold medal at the 2000 Olympics. Additionally, more than 50 of Irish's former players have gone on to coach at various levels of baseball.

During his time at Lewis, his teams reached NAIA or NCAA Division II postseason play 14 times. In 2014, Lewis honored O'Reilly by retiring his No. 14 jersey.

O'Reilly came to Lewis in 1979 and in his first two seasons he coached the Flyers to back-to-back NAIA Tournament appearances. They finished the 1980 season as national runner-up and won a school-record 61 games and O'Reilly was named NAIA Area Coach of the Year.

Lewis placed among the top five at the NCAA Division II Championship five times, capturing third place finishes in 1988, 1990 and 1994 under O'Reilly's direction. The Flyers also won six Great Lakes Valley Conference titles, including a stretch of three straight from 1985-87.

O'Reilly earned six GLVC Coach of the Year honors (1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1992 and 1994) and was named North Central Region Coach of the Year five times. He was inducted into the ABCA Hall of Fame in 2008, the Illinois State University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1983 and the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1988.

DARIAN BLANKS '17 ONE STEP AT A TIME, WE'LL CREATE A STRONGER FUTURE

In the seven days leading up to his retirement from the United States Air Force, what should have been a time characterized by optimism and excitement for the future, Darian Blanks '17 woke up in a hospital bed, having suffered a terrible crash that would eventually lead to him being told that he would never walk again.

Darian was on his motorcycle in 2010 when he was hit by a 19 year-old drunk driver. The traumatic accident left his spine severely injured. Eight months later, he went in for a major surgery, but due to an issue during the procedure, was told he would never regain the use of his legs. Despite the diagnosis, Darian refused to believe the doctor's words. In fact, he flat out rejected them.

"I knew I was going to find a way to walk again," Darian recalls. "I grew up in a military and police family who taught me to fight through it. And I wanted to teach my son that no matter how much you struggle, you can fight through the difficulties and come out stronger."

Because of his relentless optimism, through a total of 16 spinal surgeries and over two years of treatment, Darian did exactly what he said he would: he walked. He walked for his son. He walked for his fellow brothers in arms. He walked because he knew he still had important work left to do. After losing a veteran brother to suicide, Darian realized that he would never be content sitting behind a computer while his brothers were struggling. So he began studying social work at Lewis University.

Over the course of his two years, he would often go to classes in a wheelchair or on crutches, still working through treatment for his spinal injury. And as a single father in the middle of a custody battle for his son, Darian would drive halfway across the state every other weekend – all while working full-time trying to provide for his family. Through it all, he continuously received support from his social work professors at Lewis, who spent hours with him in their offices. He would often receive calls from his professors in the evening, checking to see how he was doing.



"My professors made me believe in my own potential," Darian says. "They were like family to me, and they even told me I could go on to an Ivy League school."

But when Darian realized that he had run out of his veteran Post-9/11 benefits, while still working to pay for his medical

bills and providing for his son, he was unsure as to how he would be able to continue his studies. That's when Lewis awarded him the Trailblazer Scholarship. The scholarship allowed Darian to not only finish his degree, but make an impact at Lewis – and show his son anything is possible.

While at Lewis, Darian became the President of Student Veterans of America as well as the Social Work Association, which he grew from 6 members to more than 75 members. He got students exposed to different areas of social work, fundraised for a variety of causes, was active in community outreach, and took students to Springfield for advocacy days.

Darian's optimism, and the support of his Lewis family, made it possible to fight through the difficulties and come out stronger, just as he was taught by his family. It also paved the way for him to make an impact for fellow veterans and countless individuals struggling with mental health issues.

Darian is now completing his master's degree in social work at Columbia University in New York, focusing on substance abuse issues, mental health, and policy – which will allow him to have an impact on veterans on a macro scale. He works as a research intern, studying to what degree mental health and substance abuse affect homelessness in previously incarcerated African American women. Darian is also in the process of applying to a number of Ph.D. programs.

Darian's story and many more can be found at lewisualumni.blogspot.com.

#LewisUAlumniWhoCare

ERIN (CLEMMONS) REICHERT '05 WHEN TEACHERS TRANSFORM LIVES

When Bluffton High School students in South Carolina were asked which teacher they would most likely refer to as “mom,” there was little debate that it would be Mrs. Reichert. It comes as no surprise when you learn about the unique and personal ways in which Erin (Clemmons) Reichert ('05) connects with her students and inspires a passion for learning. In fact, Reichert's teaching philosophy has not only won the affection of her students, but has also earned her the 2018 Milken Educator Award – referred to by many as the “Oscar” of teaching.

Reichert grew up in Illinois and attended Lewis University for her master's degree in school counseling. It was there that she learned what it means to provide a Lasallian education, an experience that would forever change her approach to teaching. Reichert discovered the hallmark of St. John Baptist de La Salle's mission – to meet students where they are.

“What I learned at Lewis makes me think of my students in a different way, using counseling skills to incorporate ease into their minds,” Reichert explains. “It led to the person I am in the school – not just a content teacher, but someone who can relate to them differently and talk to them about college, goals, and life. They know that I am going to focus on them as a person and that I care more about their character and living up to their potential than their specific grades.”

While Reichert's own Lasallian education prepared her for a purpose-filled teaching career, from her first day of teaching on September 11, 2001, to her career at Bluffton High in South Carolina, it also helped her on a personal level. When Reichert married and moved with her husband to South Carolina, she felt out of place in her new home. She struggled – until she realized that her own “transplant” helped her to better relate to her students, many of whom had moved from other states themselves or, in some way, felt out of place in their lives. What at first appeared to be a personal roadblock, became an opportunity to live out the Lasallian mission in a very real way.



Through life's twists and turns, Reichert ultimately held on to what she learned at Lewis. She takes the time to instill in her students a confidence in themselves. Sometimes they don't see their own potential, so she helps them to see it. In her history classes, and the Youth and Government program she spearheads, she gets her students genuinely excited to learn and actively engaged – not only in the classroom, but also in the community. Many of her students have gone on to work in government or become active community members and citizens. Many students have come back to her to tell her that she is the reason they are who they are. For Reichert, that's what teaching is all about. While she boasts an impressive list of learning opportunities and programs for her students, at the end of the day, her approach towards her students as unique individuals is what makes her the “mom” of Bluffton High.

In 2018, she received the Milken Educator Award during a surprise assembly in her honor. The prestigious award, which includes a gift of \$25,000, is given to early-to-mid career education professionals who display excellence in education and promise for the future. The award will enable Reichert to continue her important work educating students following De La Salle's example.

Erin's story and many more can be found at lewisualumni.blogspot.com

#LewisUAlumniWhoCare

CLASS NOTES



CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Kirsten Perry (top photo) and **Karla Hoinkes**, ISCA 2018 Counselor Advocate of the Year and an alumna of Lewis University School Counseling Program, were keynote presenters at “Challenges and Solutions for the 21st Century School Counselor” program.

They discussed ways to improve student attendance, implement restorative justice and provide college and career readiness.

Attendees were encouraged to bring donations of school supplies for Lawndale Community Academy in Chicago, where Perry served when being honored with the American School Counselor Association 2018 School Counselor of the Year.

Graduate programs in School Counseling at Lewis University provide academic and social guidance to tomorrow’s leaders. The programs have been designed for both licensed teachers and non-licensed professionals. Both program options have been developed according to State of Illinois guidelines to meet the need for qualified counselors in K-12 settings.

Patrick Sullivan '65 (English), former Lewis basketball and baseball student-athlete, was named the recipient of the 2018 Dr. Charles Bertram Alumni Award of Distinction by the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) on May 22, 2018. The Bertram Alumni Award of Distinction is presented to an individual who displays academic excellence, athletic ability and achievement, character and leadership, while serving their institutions with personal distinction since their graduation, and making postgraduate public or community service contributions to athletics at any level.

Tim Osmulski '85 (MBA), a supply chain executive with Raymond Corp., was recently recognized as a Certified Warehouse Logistics Professional (CWLP). This CWLP designation recognizes Osmulski’s professional accomplishments and dedication to the warehouse logistics industry.

Colleen Robbins '03 (English) recently published her first book, *Daraga’s Quest (Volume 1)*. Her stories, poems, essays, and articles have appeared under a variety of names in everything from small regional magazines to widely distributed RPG-gaming magazines. She writes both mainstream (literary) fiction, and genre (science fiction, fantasy, and horror).

Steven Hoffman '07 (Finance) '08 (M.S. in Finance) recently achieved status as a CFP (Certified Financial Planner). The CFP board granted him the initials after extensive study and time. He is currently employed with Commonwealth Financial Group which is located in Boston, Mass.



Thomas Hernandez '88 (Journalism), director of community relations for District 202, was named Distinguished Communicator by the Illinois chapter of the National School Public Relations Association (INSPRA) at its annual Distinguished Service Awards luncheon on May 11, 2018.

Keith Kaiser '13 (Public Safety Administration), director of training for the Lake County Sheriff’s Office, was named a 2018 International Association of Chiefs of Police “40 Under 40” award winner. The award recognizes 40 law enforcement professionals, ages 18-39, throughout the world who demonstrate leadership and exemplify commitment to their profession.

Rudi Balich '15 (M.A. in Reading and Literacy), assistant women’s volleyball coach at Lewis University, is the recipient of the Thirty Under 30 Award from the American Volleyball Coaches Association, which honors up-and-coming coaching talent at all levels of the sport.

Samantha Gennett '18 (English) had her first chapbook (a brief version of a book) published by Dancing Girl Press. The chapbook is titled *Schadenfreude*. Gennett also read for an event that was listed as one of Newcity’s top 5 Chicago literary events of August.

Erin Patrick '18 (Public Relations/Advertising) received the Trumpet Award from the Publicity Club of Chicago (PCC) for her public relations campaign on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Will and Grundy Counties. Patrick was the only student recognized by the PCC.

BIRTHS



Alysia (Eberly) Daun '10 (Elementary Education) '17 (M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction) and **Brandon Daun '10** (Elementary Education) '17 (M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction) welcomed their first child, Siena, on December 6, 2017.



Christopher Thurlby '12 (Air Traffic Control Management) and **Hollyn (Holsinger) Thurlby '15** (Nursing) celebrate the birth of their son, Bennett Ace Thurlby. Bennett was born on July 1, 2018 and was welcomed home by his sister, Winslow Thurlby, 15 months.



Katie McCulley '04 (Marketing) welcomed Maren McCulley to the family on April 16, 2018. Maren joins older brothers Callum (6) and Cylas (5).

ENGAGEMENTS AND WEDDINGS



Natalie (Garcia) Plaszewski '13 (Chemistry) '15 (MBA) and **Tom Plaszewski '13** (Business Administration) were married September 15, 2018. The two met at Lewis in 2009 and Tom proposed in front of the chapel on campus in December of 2015.

Katarzyna (Luberda) Ramotowski '13 (Human Resource Management) and **Justin Ramotowski '15** (Biology) were happily married on July 21, 2018. The two high school sweethearts were planning their special day since Justin proposed on Christmas Day 2016.



Lauren (Pirc) Kriz '13 (Journalism) and **Brandon Kriz '12** (Communication Technology) were married on June 9, 2018 at the Brent and Jean Wadsworth Family Gallery on Lewis University's campus. Lauren and Brandon met at Lewis in a multimedia journalism class.

Elena (Falese) Ceci '11 (Counseling Psychology) and Brad Ceci were married on September 30, 2017 in Oswego, Ill.

CAMPUS SPEAKERS

Lewis is always proud to welcome alumni back to campus as speakers throughout the year. A special thank you to all our alumni who return to campus to share their experience with students. **#LewisUAlumniWhoCare**



Scott Likens '96 presented to students on "The New Tech Future is Here: How 8 Technologies Will Revolutionize What's Next."

Send us your awards, accomplishments, marriages, moves, publications, promotions, and birth announcements, and we'd love to share your news! Visit alumni.lewisu.edu/newsclassnotes

NEW POSITIONS & RETIREMENT

David Schumann '79 (Fire Service Administration) retired as longtime Schaumburg fire chief on August 25, 2018. Schumann began working in the Schaumburg Fire Department in 1979 and is credited with steering the department through capital building projects such as two new fire stations, major reconstruction and expansion of two others and construction of an emergency operations center.



Joseph Shega '92 (Biology) was recently named chief medical officer of VITAS Healthcare, leading the nation's largest hospice company's medical division.

Susan Padilla '94 (Elementary Education) '95 (Special Education) was named assistant principal at Jamie McGee Elementary School in Bolingbrook, Ill.

Theresa O'Carroll '96 (Business Administration) '00 (MBA) was named the new vice president of financial and business services at Moraine Valley Community College.

Benjamin Bachmann '98 (Business Administration) was voted to become the new athletic director at New Prairie High School in New Carlisle. He began the new position in July 2018.

John Franklin '02 (Criminal Justice), who formerly served as a Chicago police commander, was chosen to be the new police chief of the Jacksonville, Arkansas Police Department. He began his position on June 4, 2018.

William Murphy '06 (M.S. in Public Safety Administration) was sworn in as Wheaton's 12th police chief on July 2, 2018, after working for the department since 1990.

Luke Gomoll '07 (Elected Studies) was hired by Southeast Aerospace to be its new aircraft modifications sales representative.

Kremena Matzelle '07 (MBA) was named regional director of revenue management by Vision Hospitality. Matzelle joins Vision with over 10 years of revenue management experience in the hospitality industry.

Eric Lenardt '13 (Public Safety Administration) retired from the Macomb Police Department after 23 years, with the rank of deputy chief. Mayor Mike Inman proclaimed March 16th as Eric Lenardt Day in Macomb, in honor of Lenardt's impressive service to the community.

Nicole Nellen '15 (Computer Graphic Design and Painting) was hired by Catholic Memorial High School as the girls basketball coach, after having worked as the coordinator of recruiting operations for Marquette University women's basketball team. Nellen still holds the record for all-time assists leader at Lewis University.

Kirsten Rothenbacher '16 (Environmental Science) gained employment at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge through the Student Conservation Association.

Cheryl Rogers '17 (Nurse Practitioner Certificate) began working as a nurse practitioner at Riverside Medical Group.

Erica Smolinski '17 (Ed. D. in Educational Leadership) was named the principal of Culver School by the Niles Elementary School District 71. She comes to the position after 10 years as assistant principal at Crone Middle School in Naperville.

Hagen Lepard '18 (Business Administration), former Lewis golfer, was hired as District Leader by a Fortune 500 company. He will be responsible for growing the market in Louisiana.

IN MEMORIAM

John A. Battistella '90 '93
(January 30, 2018)

George L. Bruckert III '07
(March 1, 2018)

Anthony Easley '81
(June 2, 2018)

Timothy J. Fahey '78
(July 15, 2018)

John "Mike" Ford '68
(August 4, 2018)

Michelle C. Fregoso '11
(May 19, 2018)

Raymond H. Hallstein '54
(January 7, 2018)

Richard S. Incandela '59
(July 14, 2018)

Daniel G. Lage '13
(March 23, 2018)

**John T. "Jack"
Lewandowski '75**
(March 21, 2018)

Ronald J. Loker '71
(February 22, 2018)

Randall L. Meader '73
(March 7, 2018)

Henry Irish O'Reilly
(October 15, 2018)

Stanley F. Patek '77
(May 21, 2018)

Joseph A. Perrino '75
(July 19, 2018)

Timothy T. Philbin '82
(May 13, 2018)

William G. Pileggi '72
(May 16, 2018)

Lawrence E. "Larry" Slouf '68
(April 22, 2018)

HONORING BR. JOEL DAMIAN, FSC

Celebrating the fruits of his vision and dedication, Christian Brothers Services (CBS) is honoring its founder, Br. Joel Damian, FSC, with an endowment to Lewis University. This gift will recognize his contributions that will serve well into the future with the “Brother Joel Damian, FSC, Business Plan Competition.”

The endowment will help offer a platform that fosters entrepreneurial thinking and transforms thoughts into reality, better preparing students to compete in today's global world. In addition, it will instill the entrepreneurial spirit in future students reminiscent of the visionary thinking of Damian, who orchestrated the concept of pooling resources to help define insurance and financial needs and requirements, making the Christian Brothers one of the first religious orders to do so.

The Business Plan Competition, which began in 2013, is the marquee event hosted by Lewis University's Lowell Stahl Center for Entrepreneurship and Real Estate. The ongoing program is designed to help student entrepreneurs launch new business ideas.

“Brother Damian was an entrepreneurial genius and we believe this endowment will foster the kind of spirit and leadership that we hope can match his vision for generations to come,” said Brother Michael Quirk, FSC, E.D., president and CEO, Christian Brothers Services.

Open to all Lewis University students, the program provides feedback and guidance from faculty, Lewis alumni and industry professionals. The top teams compete in the finals, where they present their ideas live in front of a judging panel. Funds are awarded to top performers to assist in startup costs for their business model.

“We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the board of directors of Christian Brothers Services to support and grow the Brother Joel Damian, FSC Business Plan Competition into a regionally recognized and socially responsible entrepreneurial event, infused with the Lasallian spirit,” said Ryan D. Butt, J.D., M.S.A., Dean, College of Business and Graduate School of Management at Lewis University. “We are pleased that it will honor and recognize Br. Damian for years to come, sharing his story that continues to have a profound impact for religious communities and congregations nationwide. We are sure the narrative of his success will help to guide our students into successful careers, reflecting the tradition of the Christian Brothers in offering excellence in education.”



Damian was a pioneer in his time and was instrumental in creating Christian Brothers Services and lauded for his work throughout his lifetime; his accomplishments were numerous along his path as a Christian Brother.

In 1966, Damian came to Lewis University to establish the national headquarters of the Christian Brothers and also to erect a Novitiate and Scholasticate. He was on the first board of directors at then Lewis College and helped move Lewis to University status as a trustee. He was named executive secretary of the Christian Brothers Conference and it was then that he established on employee benefit programs for Christian Brothers' lay associates and was consulted by numerous dioceses in establishing retirement plans for their priests and employees. Damian died in 1991 at age 73, having been a De La Salle Christian Brother for 58 years.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR COMMENTS ON LEWIS UNIVERSITY TO HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

Lewis University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency, the Higher Learning Commission. Lewis University has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission since 1962.



A peer review team will review the institution's ongoing fulfillment of HLC's Criteria for Accreditation during a visit to Lewis University's main campus in Romeoville, Illinois on March 18-20, 2019. The public is invited to submit comments regarding Lewis directly to the HLC. Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by February 18, 2019.

Comments should be submitted to:
Public Comment on Lewis University
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on HLC's website at hlcommission.org/comment.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EVENTS!



For times and details, visit us at

alumni.lewisu.edu/Events

JANUARY 2019

ART SHOW - ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL SHOW (ON VIEW JANUARY 10-17)

Reception and Awards Ceremony
Thursday, January 10
6:30-7:30 p.m.

MEN AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ALUMNI DAY

January 26
1 & 3 p.m., Neil Carey vs. Rockhurst

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP

Thursday, January 31
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Romeoville campus

FEBRUARY 2019

PHILIP LYNCH THEATRE - BROADWAY BOUND

February 15-17 & February 21-24
Directed by Keith White

ALUMNI FLORIDA EVENTS - NAPLES, SARASOTA, FT. LAUDERDALE

February 19-22

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - GOVERNMENT AND LAW LEADERSHIP

Thursday, February 21
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Lewis University at Oak Brook

MARCH 2019

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - STEM AND IT LEADERSHIP

Thursday, March 14
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Romeoville Campus

ARIZONA SPRING TRAINING EVENT

Details coming soon!

FLYER RED DINNER

March 28
Drury Lane Theatre

APRIL 2019

CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

Thursday, April 11
Romeoville campus

PHILIP LYNCH THEATRE - PETER AND THE STARCATCHER

April 12-14 & April 25-28
Directed by Jo Slowik

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - NON-PROFIT AND SOCIAL WORK LEADERSHIP

Thursday, April 18
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Lewis University at Oak Brook

FUTURE FLYERS CELEBRATION

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT

April 25
Beverly Arts Center, Chicago

MAY 2019

ALUMNI DAY AND THE ANNUAL BEER AND BACON EVENT (AND WINE, TOO!)

May 4
Details coming soon!

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - MEDICAL FIELD LEADERSHIP

Thursday, May 16
6:30-8:30p.m.
Lewis University at Oak Brook

JUNE 2019

39TH ANNUAL FLYER ATHLETICS FUND GOLF OUTING

June 14
1 p.m., Cog Hill

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP - EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Thursday, June 20
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Romeoville campus

BLACK STUDENT UNION OUTING

Details coming soon!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Interested? Contact Colleen Ahearn at (815) 836-5475 or cahearn@lewisu.edu.

Host an alumni event

Classroom speaker

Career Day participant

Letter Campaign



The President's Annual Report



Dear Friends of Lewis University,

As we move forward, we owe our current strength and our promising future to the many alumni, friends, faculty, parents, staff, students, and community members who have trusted and invested in Lewis over the years. The pages of this magazine and annual report – the website, social media, and so on – are filled with examples of success both inside the classroom and outside of our campus.

Lewis is home to a knowledgeable community with a history rich in creating the best possible education for our students. The success of the University is woven by the values: knowledge, fidelity, wisdom, justice and association. Our work encompasses many disciplines and consistently embodies the values upon which Lewis was founded.

This magazine outlines just a small sampling of the many achievements of the University community, and just as importantly, the philanthropic support that provides the opportunities for further growth.

As we embark upon the new year, it is my privilege to say thank you for the continued commitment and enthusiasm of our entire community. We are grateful for your support of Lewis.

Sincerely,

Dr. David J. Livingston
President



To our Alumni and Friends,

I have the opportunity to see, firsthand, how your support has made a difference for our students. As a former scholarship recipient of Lewis, it is my pleasure to continue working with you on efforts to advance the Mission of Lewis University.

We have some exciting results to share:

- Just over 4,100 generous individuals and organizations gave just over \$6 million to Lewis last year.
- The number of individuals contributing at the President's Circle level increased to 431, up from 356 last year (learn more at alumni.lewisu.edu/PresidentsCircle).
- In addition to the support of our alumni and friends, our employees generously give back to the University. One of the most impressive numbers of the year is that 87% of Lewis employees gave to Lewis through the We Believe Campaign.
- The Class of 2018 raised over \$17,171.43 as a way to give back to Lewis through the Senior Challenge
- We've had so many alumni return to campus to speak to students in the classroom, network at events, share their expertise with potential students, and so much more.

More importantly than the numbers, however, is the faith behind them. Our alumni, friends, students, faculty and staff, and community believe in Lewis. You believe in the Mission, you believe in the values. The numbers continue to climb and we're proud of that—but we're more pleased to be building a strong support base with the many groups of people who will propel Lewis into the future.

Your investments—whether time, funding, or life experience—will enhance scholarship support to students, academic and athletic programs, and grow our endowment.

Thank you for all that you do for Lewis University. We look forward to another incredible year.

Sincerely

Luigi B. Amendola '01
Vice President for
University Advancement

When Scholarships Come Full Circle

Before he graduated from Lewis University in 2001, Luigi Amendola was a student at Lewis on a scholarship. Due to health issues in his family there was concern about meeting the financial requirements to continue his education. Luigi went to the President at the time and explained his situation, and the University found funding to assist him with continuing on his educational path.

“Essentially, I was a Mission Fund student before there was a Mission Fund,” explains Luigi.

He was also a student worker on campus to help pay for his tuition. In fact, he worked in University Advancement and it was through that position that he learned the importance of philanthropy.

After graduation, he ventured into a career in fundraising, and after 12 years of fundraising for other organizations, a position opened up at Lewis – in the University Advancement office. He knew that this was an opportunity to go back to his alma mater and help fundraise to benefit students who were just like him—going to school, working, and trying to pay tuition.

“We know that for many students, every moment of our day will impact someone's life,” says Luigi. “It may seem like a tremendous task, but it is an incredible opportunity. We enjoy connecting with alumni and building relationships with scholarship students; we look forward to developing opportunities with donors and connecting them with the community.”



\$5 Million Gift Strengthens Opportunities for New College

In a brightly lit laboratory filled with whirring machines and colorful vials, Lewis student Jordan Shanahan monitors his test strips carefully. He and other students in chemistry are working together on a research project that can be put into real-life use: solar water splitting.

“Essentially what we’re trying to do is harness the energy of the sun to split water into hydrogen gas in a photoelectrical chemical cell. Basically, we want to make storable energy for society,” explains Jordan.

Their professor, Dr. Daniel Kissel, is carefully overseeing their research, one of many research projects underway for Lewis students. “Solar panels only collect energy from the sun; if you want to use it at night, you need to store it. Here in the lab, we’re taking energy from sun and converting water into hydrogen gas to create an environmentally friendly energy option.”

For the average person, there’s a big need to get away from carbon economy. Hydrogen gas contains no hydro-carbons that create chemical byproducts damaging to the environment.

“When you use hydrogen as fuel, the byproduct is water,” explains Jordan. “This is attractive for the world because we’re not putting greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere – gasses which cause global warming and climate change. It’s a green energy solution.”

The students are hard at work on electrode materials to enhance the energy efficiency of this process using functionalized metal-organic frameworks.

“Right now we’re testing the conductivity. The biggest problem with solar energy is storage capacity,” adds Dr. Kissel. “People use lithium ion batteries, but they’re not nearly as good at storing energy in chemical bonds. It’s

our hope that down the road, people could put these type of hydrogen gas storage systems on buildings. It would be like having a battery at your house that can deliver energy 24 hours a day.”

Projects like this—as well as other opportunities in aviation, computer science, physics, and more—are essential to taking what is in a textbook and applying it to real life, allowing students to actively create and implement solutions to real-world problems. While Lewis has many of these opportunities available, there will be many more arriving in the future.

Why?

In 2004, a successful businessman stepped onto the Lewis campus. He wasn’t an alumnus, he wasn’t a professor, he wasn’t a student, and he wasn’t an employee. What he was, however, was a catalyst for the future of Lewis. Who he was, was Russ Smyth.

No one, not even Russ, knew that fourteen years after he stepped foot onto this campus, he and his family would make the largest gift - \$5 million - by a living individual in Lewis' history. And perhaps therein lies the question: How does someone go from no affinity to Lewis to leading its Board of Trustees, founding scholarships, and making such a significant investment in the University?

"We've seen the University grow," explains Russ and his wife, Dawn. "Buildings are constructed, new labs are built, courses are updated, academic programs are added. Those happen at all universities. What our family wanted to do is look beyond the core activities, and provide additional resources for faculty, students and staff to further enhance these programs and differentiate the new College of Aviation, Science and Technology as one of the nation's best."

This newly formed College is part of the *University Strategic Plan* that the University developed to restructure and better align academic opportunities for the future.

The Smyth family gift will assist in hiring an inaugural dean for the College of Aviation, Science, and Technology, as well as provide resources for that Dean to build upon the programs and offerings that currently exist – whether it is through endowed faculty, research, or programming.

"We really focused on how we could best create interdisciplinary opportunities within each college, and structured them accordingly," explains Ray Kennelly, senior vice president for enrollment management, marketing and planning. "Our goal at Lewis is all about the student experience and the opportunities available for their education. When students choose Lewis, we want them from the start of their fresh-

man year to have access to laboratories, research projects and experiential learning opportunities; working alongside their professors instead of simply writing notes in a lecture hall. Gifts such as the Smyth family have made will enable us to strengthen and build upon the opportunities in place and prepare students for their careers."

Russ and Dawn believe in the power of education. Both college graduates, they believe that learning extends beyond books and whiteboards and delves straight into experiential learning.

"Today's students do not learn the same way we did ten or twenty years ago," explains Kennelly. "The job market has shifted and a person needs multiple skills to thrive. With the advances being made in artificial intelligence and technology the jobs of the future will be very different. The restructure and financial support offer Lewis the chance to adapt our programs to fit the needs we see coming in the future and pass on that learning to our students."

When choosing what to invest their gift in, the newly formed College of Aviation, Science, and Technology seemed like a perfect fit for the Smyth

family. Two of their four children, sons Scott '14 and Sean '18, had earned degrees in Computer Information Systems, Info Security and Risk Management, and Physics, respectively.

We come back to the question of how does someone with no previous Lewis affinity end up making the largest living individual gift in Lewis' history? Is it the Lasallian Mission? Lewis' focus on academics? The University's increasingly higher rankings in *U.S. News & World Report*?

"It's a little bit of all of that, but much more, too," explains Russ. "Lewis already has excellent and rapidly growing aviation, science and technology programs. The goal of our gift is to provide further opportunities to educate skilled professionals that will impact tomorrow's workforce. And," he adds, "I've seen Lewis grow exponentially over the last twenty years. We believe in the Mission, in the people, and in the students we've met on campus. It's a privilege to be a part of the evolution of Lewis, and to help propel us into the future."



The Smyth family belongs to the President's Circle at Lewis, a prestigious society for our donors investing \$1,000 or more in the future of the University. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our growing membership. To learn more or to become a member of the President's Circle, visit alumni.lewisu.edu/PresidentsCircle.

Your Gifts Empower Research and Shape Tomorrow's World

When Courtney Dial '17 started her master's research at Loyola University, she quickly noticed that she was the only female in the entire lab. It was not long before she also discovered that she was one of the only students who entered the program with undergraduate research experience.

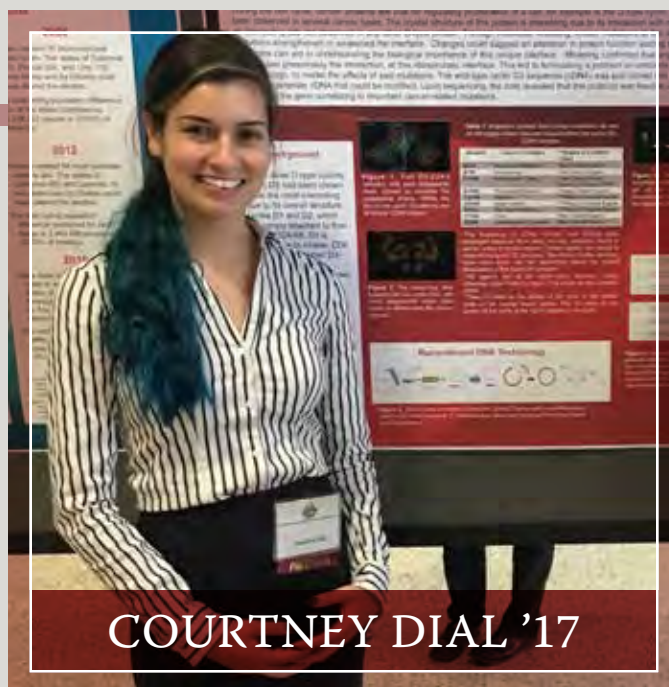
As a female pursuing a career in immunology and infectious diseases, a primarily male-dominated field, Dial has had to face people who have discouraged her from her path. She credits her mentors at Lewis, and the research opportunities she had, for empowering her to ultimately reach her lifelong goal.

“The opportunities at Lewis were immense,” Dial says. “My professors not only helped me become a better scientist, but helped me become who I am today.”

According to the Council on Undergraduate Research, it is estimated that 20 percent or less of undergraduate students nationwide participate in some kind of research - typically during their senior year. Dial's experience at Lewis, however, went far beyond the average college student's. As a participant in Lewis University's SURE (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience) program, Dial received hands-on experience in three separate summer research projects, starting in her sophomore year.

The biochemistry major and lover of all-things-learning was one of a handful of students in the SURE program at Lewis. Her first research project focused on a photocatalytic nano water filtration system, a clean water filter that could be used to help third world countries. During her junior year, Dial was introduced to Dr. Sarah Powers, assistant professor of biology at Lewis. In Powers, Dial found not only a professor who challenged her academically, but also a strong female role model who proved it was possible to make a mark in a male-dominated field.

“Dr. Powers inspired me to be a woman scientist,” Dial recalls. “I remember going to a conference shortly after I



decided I would pursue my master's degree and a male microbiologist told me that what I was doing was dumb.

So I went to Dr. Powers and vented to her. She told me that I need to do this for myself. She said some people are set in their ways, but I should pursue the route that's best for me.”

Under Dr. Powers, she worked on two research projects involving Cyclin D3 which, in its mutated form, is often correlated with cancer. Throughout the research, she continued to gain confidence in her abilities and her future.

After graduating from Lewis, Dial started her master's program in infectious disease and immunology at Loyola University, this time studying viruses that currently have no vaccine or treatment. The goal of the research is to discover new antiviral medications that can be used to treat a large variety of viruses. It is a long and arduous process that often requires resilience in the face of numerous failed attempts.

But Dial mirrors the same determination as her mentor, Powers. “The end result isn't necessarily what qualifies as success in my eyes,” she says. “It has to do with the effort, and the small victories that you make along the way.”

For Dial, research is about making a difference for others. It's about making new discoveries that will ultimately shape the future for the better. And it's about inspiring future generations to pursue any field they want.

“There's a pride in being a female scientist,” Dial remarks. “It makes me really proud knowing that I am able to stand my ground and encourage others to strive for something that makes them happy and that they can be proud of.”

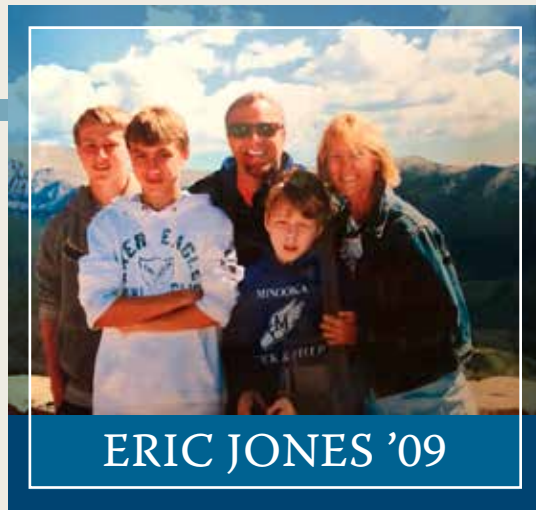
When We Work Together

“What I’ve realized in life is that people just can’t do it all by themselves. We all need others to help us through different chapters of our lives.”

Eric Jones has an incredible son, Will, who is living with autism. Their journey to get where they are today has involved innumerable educators, specialists, and a school specifically designed to help Will thrive into adulthood – all of which were provided through privately funded programs. It was witnessing the vast amount of support for his son that led Eric to become more philanthropically aware.

For Eric, he encounters the impact of philanthropy every day in his career at Lewis University as an assistant professor and co-chair of the Aviation and Transportation Studies Department.

“Lewis played an integral role in my professional development, and molded me professionally and personally while nurturing my intellectual curiosity. Now, I teach aviation students filled with the same excitement I have for aviation. And when they can learn without additional obstacles thrown in their path, they are able to pursue a dream they’ve been chasing since they were young.”



After serving in the Navy, Eric attended Emery Aviation College and earned his pilot and aviation maintenance ratings before going to work for the airlines. He wanted more, and found it at Lewis as an adult undergrad student. It wasn’t long before he finished and headed to graduate school, before being asked to come back to Lewis as faculty.

“Teaching gave me the confidence and the arena to speak to some incredibly bright students about what their future in aviation is going to entail. We have the unique opportunity to pave a stronger path with these students and forge the future of aviation and technology together. There are so many incredible students, and one of the most difficult aspects of teaching is seeing one of them struggle because of finances. As an educator, part of my job is to ensure that these students have what they need to complete their education, both inside and out of the classroom. That’s when I began talking to Bob Kanonik about planned giving.”

Planned giving isn’t something most people think about early in life but for Eric, it just made sense.

“It’s important that whatever I’m able to give back goes to promote Lewis University’s values to the next generation of learners,” he says. “My gift is designated to the general fund, because my intellectual curiosity does not stop at aviation. I like history. I appreciate all of the things that chemistry and biology and the sciences do for society. And of course, we need strong teachers to mold the next generation. I wasn’t aware of how important it is to have opportunities available to make the educational process as beneficial as possible for students, as we experienced with my son’s education. We want to be a part of providing opportunity for Lewis students to excel far beyond their expectations.”

For more on planned giving and how it can be beneficial to you, please contact Bob Kanonik at (815) 836-5813 or kanoniro@lewisu.edu.

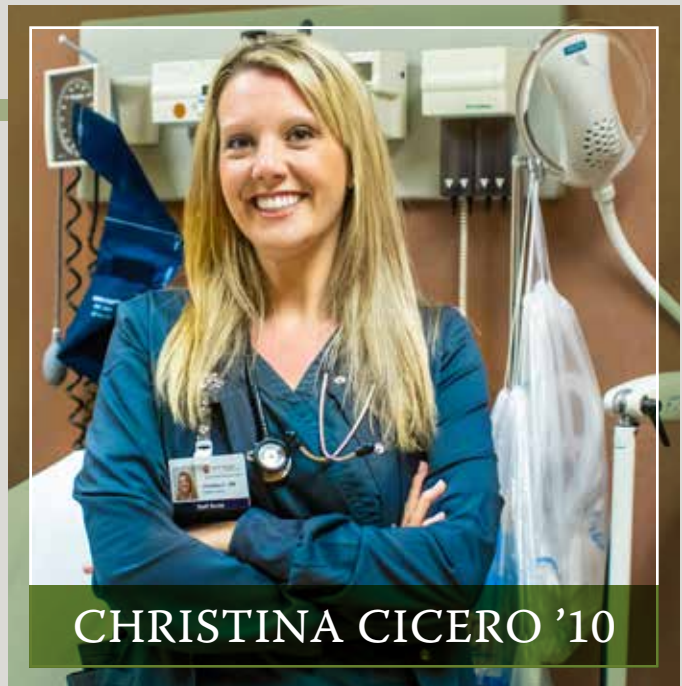


Achieving Your Dream

“There I was, facing the very real possibility that my dream of helping children would be out of reach. Then, Lewis said yes. Lewis said, ‘We’re going to offer you a scholarship, we’re going to take you in.’ I felt like, for the first time in a long time, I was looked at for my potential and not for one bad test score. Lewis believed in me, and they made me believe in myself.”

When Lewis alumna Christina Cicero '10 had spinal surgery in her junior year of high school, she missed out on a great deal - including her ACT prep. As a result, she didn't do well on the ACT, even though she still maintained a 4.0 GPA.

When she applied to colleges to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse, many turned her down, telling her she'd never make it - until Lewis University. Lewis offered Christina a scholarship and the support she was searching for.

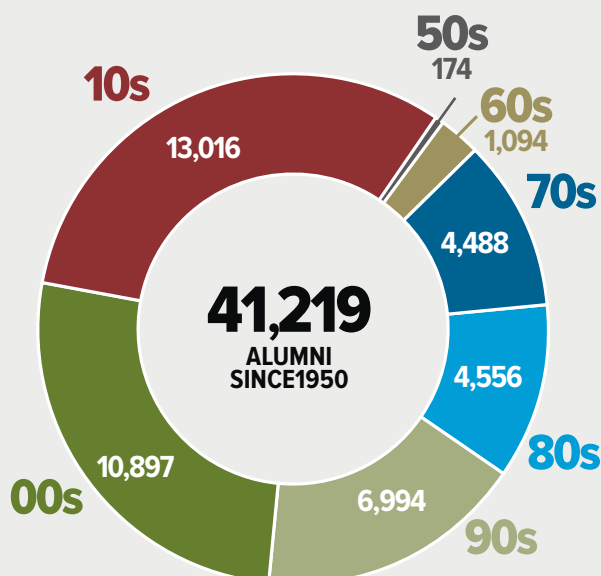


Because of the financial and emotional support, Christina flourished at Lewis. She was president of the Student Nurse Association and student chair of Change for Children. She became a nurse, finished her master's degree, and began teaching courses at Northshore College.

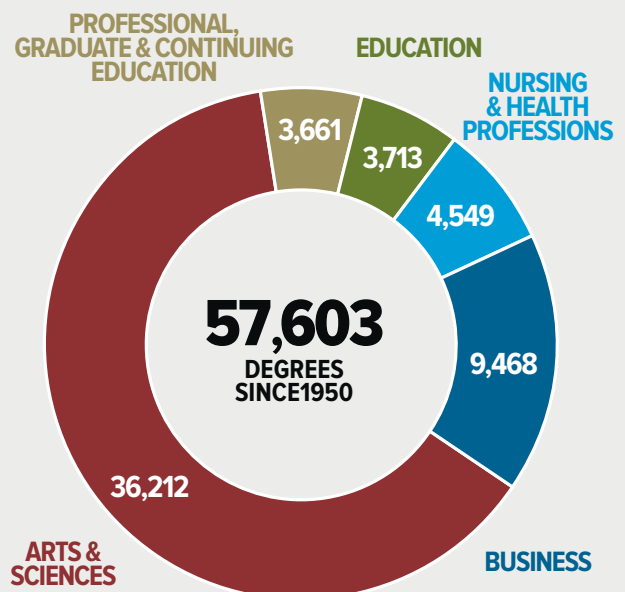
She achieved her dream because of our generous donors.

The numbers we share here are just a few of the reasons Lewis students are successful.

Who are our alumni?



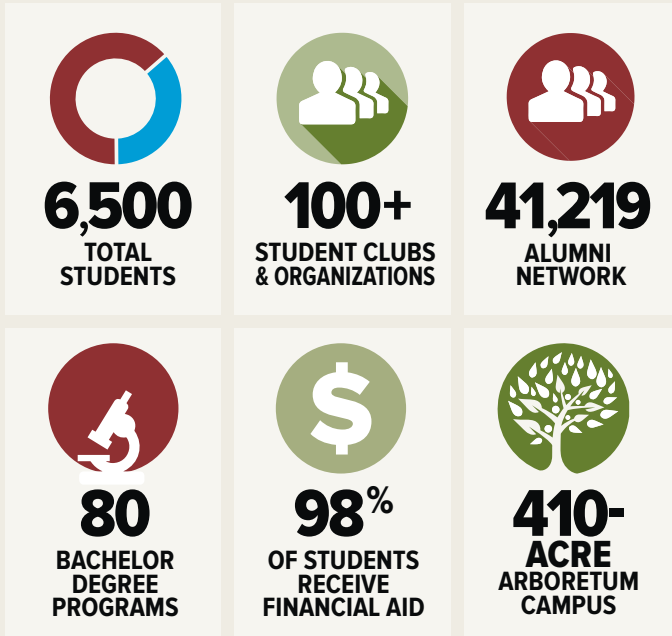
BY DECADE



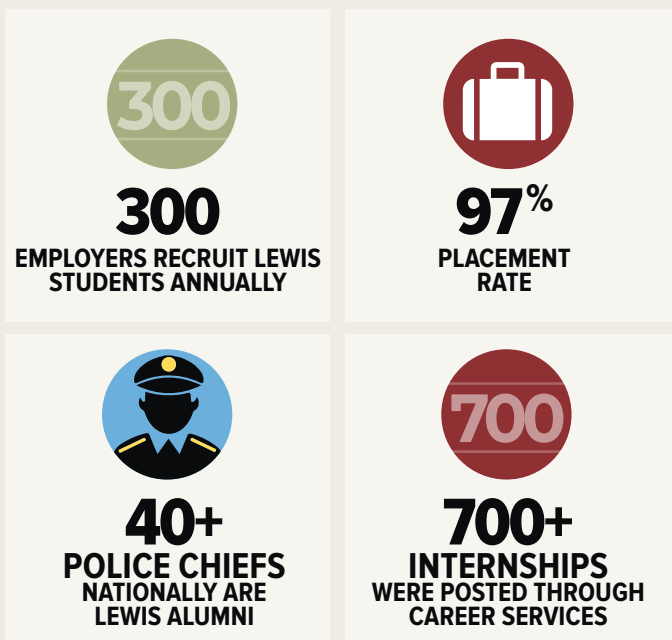
BY COLLEGE/SCHOOL

By the Numbers

At-a-glance

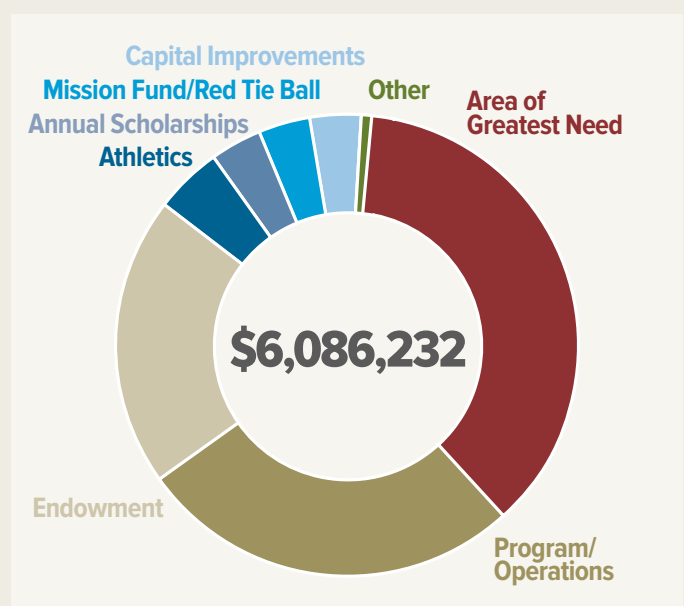
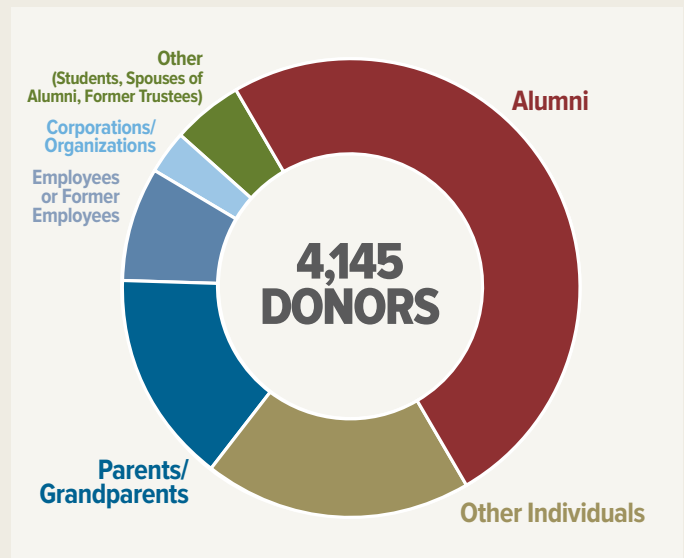


Careers

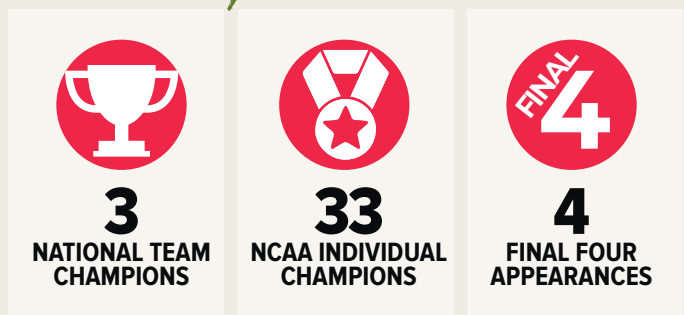


Your investment

Take a look at our donors and where they chose to give last fiscal year.



Athletics





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Christmas Blessings



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