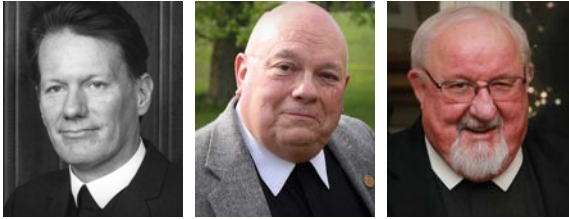


# THE MAGAZINE OF **lewis**university

WINTER 2020



## *Signs of Faith in Our Midst*

**A Reflection on 60 Years of the  
Christian Brothers at Lewis University**



*also inside*  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2020**

We hope you will take the time to catch up on the latest news from Lewis University, and read more from our alumni in this special edition of the combined magazine/annual report.

## ALUMNA *reflection*

In my current position as well as in my volunteer work, I have had the opportunity to operationalize these skills and feel that I am ready to expand on the knowledge gained in my baccalaureate program. As a nurse in the Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, I have been able to work alongside the littlest of warriors, while simultaneously realizing that they are the biggest of warriors. I have the opportunity to see, firsthand, the advances in care delivery that allows these children the chance to lead productive lives. I also see the sadness when all of the advances fail to save one of those warriors and it is at that time when I realize the impact that I have on the parents as they struggle through the difficult time.

In my volunteer work with the Blackfeet Volunteer Medical Corps, I have experienced what it means to work with vulnerable populations. For the past 8 years, my family and I have traveled to Browning, Montana with the Blackfeet Volunteer Medical Corps, to provide medical care and construction services to the Blackfeet Nation. We work on the Blackfeet Reservation, alongside 40 volunteers, painting classrooms in the schools, building ramps on homes and doing yardwork on the grounds of the Museum of the Plains Indians. To see not only the selflessness of the volunteers, but also how our work impacts the lives of the Native American people, is life changing.

**During my time with the Blackfeet, and as a Lewis University alum, I am able to reflect on this time and see how these experiences correlate with several of the Lewis University values.**

During my time with the Blackfeet, and as a Lewis University alum, I am able to reflect on this time and see how these experiences correlate with several of the Lewis University values. In my personal life, I identify with the value of justice, as evidenced by my experience with the Blackfeet Tribe and also, fidelity. These values carry over into my professional life, where I work with and care for diverse populations. It allows me to see how we all come together under the Spirit of God.

Catherine Cooke '18, Advocate Christ Medical Center



## LETTER TO THE *editor*

Dear Editor,

I was so pleased to read your recent article, "American Airlines Donates Aircraft." It almost felt like my Joe had a hand in this; it certainly fulfilled his dream for the aviation program at Lewis.



Joe was an aircraft maintenance mechanic and Lewis graduate '76. He worked for Midway Airlines from the day it opened until the day it closed. He then worked for the American Airlines Aviation Maintenance School (at Midway Airport) as an instructor. Although this school was short-lived, Joe discovered his love of teaching.

The next step in Joe's aviation journey took him to Southwest Airlines Maintenance. He became involved in Lewis University again

through friendship with one of his teaching associates from American, Judy Maddock, who had become an instructor at Lewis. They partnered on a project to repair the Landing Gear on the Boeing 737. Joe made calls to get parts, and recruited mechanics to gather at Lewis one chilly day to affect the repairs. He got Southwest Airlines Ground Maintenance to trailer the landing gear strut out to Lewis.

Judy rounded up students to work with the mechanics and gain hands on experience. She also had her sheet metal students fabricate oil can totes for the Southwest Airlines maintenance department as thank you gifts.

Later, Joe ended up working part-time at Lewis teaching Avionics. Again he made phone calls to acquire parts to repair the nosecone of the Boeing 737 after it was damaged in a wind storm. He knew the 737 needed to be replaced and he made lots of phone calls trying to find a newer model for Lewis. He pestered Southwest Airlines and Boeing until he realized this wasn't going to happen. It was a big disappointment for him.

Unfortunately, complications from diabetes ended his ability to work and eventually took his life (June 3, 2017). I know that Joe was smiling down from heaven when the MD 80 landed at Lewis University. Congratulations to all involved!

Sincerely,  
Debbie (Russell) Lipien '77

### ABOUT THE COVER

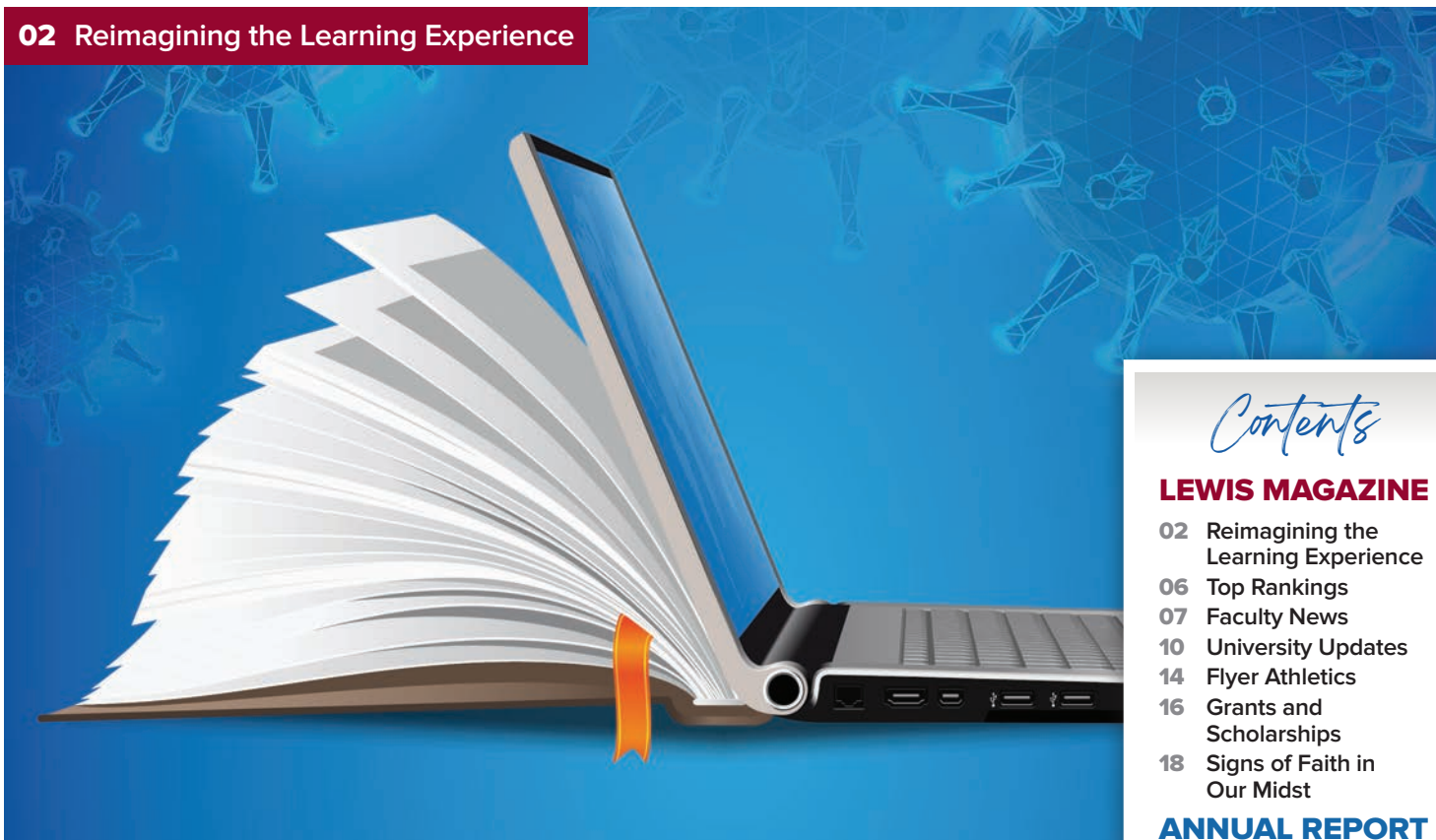
Brother James Cantwell, FSC, who worked in Admissions in the 1960s, greets a carload of students in a photo used in Lewis College recruiting materials.



# THE MAGAZINE OF lewis university

WINTER 2020

## 02 Reimagining the Learning Experience



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*The Magazine of Lewis University* is published by the Office of Marketing and Communications / **STAFF** / Dr. Ramona LaMontagne, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications; Jim Cowan '04, Graphic Design Director/Production Manager / **EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS** / Dr. Kurt Schackmuth '98 '02; Kathrynne Skonicki '12; Claire Tincher '11 '13; Luke Rinne; Colleen Ahearn; Brianne Dougherty '15 '17; Dr. Dennis Cremin / **PHOTOGRAPHY** / Joe Glatz '10, '14, Sylvain Goyette; Eileen Ryan Photography; Steve Voit Photography; Steve Woltmann; Flyers Photography Club / **PRINTING** / Lake County Press

#### RESOURCES

**Admission**  
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**Alumni**  
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**Graduate Admission**  
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**Athletics**  
(815) 836-5247

**University Advancement**  
(815) 836-5244  
**Philip Lynch Theatre Box Office**  
(815) 836-5500

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



*Reimagining*  
**The Learning  
Experience**





**When the COVID-19 pandemic was announced in March 2020, none of us would have imagined that we would still be fighting COVID-19 in 2021.**

How could we continue to provide our students with a meaningful learning experience and keep the health and safety of the entire campus as a top priority? The University faced the issue head-on with our Lasallian approach to education and work. Our goal was to have students in the classroom with their peers and faculty as much as possible, while ramping up their online experience as well.

Consistent with our Lasallian Mission and the belief that our campus is a sacred space – a Sanctified Zone – faculty, staff, and students were asked to pledge responsibility for their own health and well-being and to help keep all members of the Lewis University community safe from the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses. The “Flyers Promise” pledge recognizes the spirit of solidarity inspired by our Mission value of Association, to act with great care, civility, and profound respect for each other.

A plan was developed to create a safe physical environment on campus. Signage was installed across campus to remind everyone of CDC guidelines to work together to promote a healthy community by wearing face coverings, social distancing, hand washing and more. Facilities were reconfigured to allow social distancing and proper traffic flow patterns in buildings and classrooms. Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting procedures were adopted for classroom buildings and residence halls.

Technology was enhanced on the campus as well. Audio reinforcement was built into classrooms for the

amplification of the instructors’ voice and optionally for students through their mobile devices. The campus indoor WiFi network was extended to parking lots, bleachers and surrounding grounds of the University baseball field.

Reimagining the delivery of courses and how best to promote a meaningful learning experience in an online format was a major consideration. Until now, most undergraduate classes have been offered in a face to face physical classroom. But with the need for social distancing, the University needed to shift to a blended format of face to face and online.

To prepare faculty and assist them in the transition to online, professional development workshops took place throughout the summer. Nearly 100 faculty tried the new Blackboard Learn Ultra experience in the Blackboard Learn Ultra Pilot Project. Fall 2020 instructors were enrolled in a self-paced support course for maintaining and preparing online courses.





This fall, we have learned that we can successfully partake in a Lasallian experience, regardless of the delivery modality. **Our student and faculty relationships have strengthened as we have worked together to adjust to a hybrid or online experience.**

*Dr. David Livingston*



Since many students depend on campus resources for computers and Internet access, a laptop and Wi-Fi hotspot loan program called the Student Technology Academic Resources (STAR) Program was initiated. Additional academic support services were initiated and offered via online chat, phone and video conferencing.

Recognizing that some students have more difficulty learning in an online environment, students were given the option to choose a Pass/Fail option instead of taking a letter grade for certain courses. This takes some of the stress off of adapting to the online format.

As part of our Mission to educate the mind, body and spirit, many of our student activities were moved into online Zoom sessions. Intramurals and Club Sports continued to take place outdoors in socially distant ways. Exercise programs were held outdoors until November when many activities were made available online. NCAA Division II athletic teams followed the guidance of the NCAA and the GLVC in terms of practice, while many sports were postponed.

Dr. David Livingston, University President said, “This fall, we have learned that we can successfully partake in a Lasallian experience, regardless of the delivery modality. Our student and faculty relationships have strengthened as we have worked together to adjust to a hybrid or online experience. Our students continue to conduct research, engage in experiential learning opportunities, and serve our community in numerous ways. Our University services continue to support our students as they encounter the various challenges of earning their degrees. Our degree recipients are connecting with employers and alumni are making a positive impact in their own communities. We have learned from these experiences and continue to innovate in order to provide the best educational experience during this pandemic.”

As the fall semester rapidly comes to a close, Dr. Christopher Sindt, Provost stated, “I’m so grateful that for the most part we are able to focus on academics, and we are not in the midst of major disruption due to COVID-19. The pandemic has changed our lives in myriad ways since March, yet our community has risen to the challenges.”





## Opening Day Enrollment Fall 2020

As we began classes this fall, the number of students enrolled on opening day, August 31, 2020, was as follows:

- **Full-Time Undergraduate – 3,182**
- **Part-Time Undergraduate – 1,053**
- **Graduate – 2,117**

These numbers met or exceeded projections across the board.

What can we attribute the strong enrollment to? Vice President for Enrollment Management, Ray Kennelly indicated a variety of factors that contributed to our fall success.

### ► National Recognitions & Rankings

Lewis continues to be recognized nationally by numerous external agencies who continue to rank Lewis highly in terms of academic quality, career placement, affordability, student support and more. In addition, individual majors are achieving accreditations which validate a curriculum that meets national quality standards, such as Social Work and Computer Engineering. Read more under Top Rankings on page 6.

### ► Program Offerings

During the year several programs were revised including the suite of offerings in Computer Science to include undergraduate and graduate programs in Cybersecurity. The new master's in Speech-Language Pathology launched in the summer. New health professions programs such as Dental Health and Clinical Nutrition were added. Business Analytics was added to the College of Business programs. Kennelly says, "Because of academic innovation, we continue to attract new students. Add to that our beautiful green campus with close proximity to Chicago employers. We offer a great value."

### ► Personal Attention

Many initiatives were developed to keep prospective students and families' interest in Lewis as people were asked to stay at home. For example, as part of the University response to the pandemic, admission and financial aid counselors also went online with a commitment to meet with students virtually via chat. With the ability to answer questions through chat or virtual meetings, prospective students could really get any questions answered. As soon as the state was able to relax restrictions that allowed families to come on campus, they were able to tour the campus from their car with a Driving Tour podcast.

## International Student Mobility During a Global Crisis: A Success Story

The COVID-19 pandemic affected international students particularly hard due to travel restrictions, country lockdowns, visa regulations, and health concerns, resulting in fewer international students enrolling at colleges and universities across the United States. Many institutions experienced drastic declines in newly enrolled students in the fall. However, despite a global pandemic, Lewis University enrolled only a few less international students compared to the previous fall.

The ability to attract new international students during the pandemic was featured as a "success story" in a virtual panel discussion hosted by Education USA (a U.S. Dept. of State advising network for international students), and broadcast to their global network at U.S. Embassies and Consulates around the world. Four other institutions were also featured, each offering their own presentation on how the pandemic effected international student mobility.

Kiara Barnes, a new international student from South Africa, had her visa appointments repeatedly canceled over six months. But, she said, "the International Admission office continued providing guidance and updated documents until I finally received my visa." After being exhausted from 34 hours of travel between Cape Town and O'Hare International Airport, she was "grateful to have my arrival organized and everything went smoothly."

"The International Admission office continued providing guidance and updated documents until I finally received my visa." After being exhausted from 34 hours of travel between Cape Town and O'Hare International Airport, she was "grateful to have my arrival organized and everything went smoothly."

*Kiara Barnes, student from South Africa*

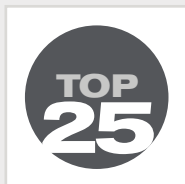
Duyen Doan, from Vietnam, said she knew Lewis was the right choice for her, and overcame "all of the problems... to get here, because of the assistance I received before arriving on campus."

These are only a few of the examples that will be shared during the Education USA event to demonstrate the service and leadership that Lewis University is known for, and how this had a positive impact on bringing international students to our campus during the pandemic.

# TOP RANKINGS



## U.S. News & World Report Ranks Lewis University in Top 25



In a year that has been so transformative for higher education, U.S. News & World Report continues to rank Lewis University as a Top 25 Regional University in the Midwest.

Lewis University saw score improvements across multiple areas including predicted graduation rate, actual graduation rate, and percent of classes under 20 students. Also, Lewis University has no classes with 50 or more students. This builds upon gains made in recent years in graduation rates and successful job placement of graduates.

In addition to the Top 25 ranking, Lewis was also recognized on the following lists: A+ Schools for B Students, Top Performers on Social Mobility, Best Value Schools and Best Colleges for Veterans.

## Money.com Best Value College in 2020



The annual *Money.com* “Best Colleges for Your Money” ranking includes Lewis University on its 2020 list. The personal financial strategy website analyzed more than 700 four-year colleges by evaluating data on quality, affordability, and student outcomes. Lewis is ranked as the seventh-best medium-sized, private university in the Midwest.

Colleges were ranked on 27 factors in three main categories: quality of education, affordability and outcomes. The ranking includes both traditional universities with distance learning programs as well as primarily online institutions. Data from the rankings came from U.S. Department of Education, Peterson’s, *PayScale.com*, and Money/American Institutes for Research calculations.

## The Princeton Review Names Lewis University a “Best in the Midwest”



Lewis University is included among *The Princeton Review* “Best in the Midwest” recommended schools in the 2021 Best Colleges: Region by Region rankings.

“We chose Lewis University and the other outstanding institutions on this list primarily for their excellent academics,” said Robert Franek, *The Princeton Review*’s Editor-in-Chief. *The Princeton Review* editors made their selections based on data the company collected from its survey of administrators at several hundred colleges in each region, as well as its staff visits to schools over the years, and the perspectives of college counselors and advisers whose opinions the company solicits.

*The Princeton Review* scores the schools on its “Best Colleges: Region by Region” lists in six categories – academics, admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety, quality of life and green.

## Lewis Ranks One of Best BSN Degree in Midwest



Lewis’ Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has been ranked among the top in the Midwest according to Nursing

Process, an independent guide to nursing and healthcare education.

Lewis ranked eight out of 660 accredited BSN Programs in the Midwest Region.

The rankings were based on four important factors - NCLEX-RN pass rates, academic quality, the nursing school’s reputation, and affordability. Job placements and personal instruction by experienced professors were highlighted as well in Lewis’ ranking.

## 2020-2021 Military Support Recognition



Lewis University has earned the 2020-2021 Military Support Colleges of Distinction recognition. Colleges

of Distinction selected institutions for the Military Support recognition that are aware of the unique challenges that military students face on college campuses. These institutions are proud to support and cultivate the skills that military and veteran students bring to the classroom, all while helping them achieve their personal and professional goals.

The methodology used to evaluate institutions by Colleges of Distinction included the following criteria: comprehensive educational benefits, military and veterans affairs team, flexible and accessible options, faculty training, and campus activities and community support. The initial cohort is comprised of those institutions that demonstrated best practices in creating a supportive environment.



# Faculty News

## Markovic Participates in International Training and Conference Opportunities

Dr. Vesna Markovic (Chair and Associate Professor, Justice, Law, and Public Safety Studies) was selected to attend SE4U online training “Stakeholder Engagement for the Implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime” from July 21-24, 2020 hosted in Vienna, Austria by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The event was cosponsored by the US Department of State and the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime and was aimed at strengthening participants’ capacity to contribute to the Review Mechanism and Toolkit for fighting human trafficking, migrant smuggling, firearms trafficking, and emerging crimes. Dr. Markovic was one of 40 people selected from hundreds of applications from the Americas.

On the 19th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Dr. Markovic was invited to be a speaker on a virtual panel with the Global Counter Terrorism Council (GCTC) during its virtual conference titled “Changes and Evolution of Counter Terrorism Strategies since 9/11 till the COVID-19 Era.” The virtual conference was hosted in Uttar Pradesh, India with the focus to look back and scrutinize the issues brought to light by this terror attack and to discuss the lessons learned from 9/11.

## Tapia Co-Authors Article with Lewis Graduate Student

Dr. Natalia Tapia (Associate Professor, Justice, Law, and Public Safety Studies) co-authored an article with Wendi Pollock from Texas A&M University and Christopher Kelly, a Lewis University graduate student, entitled “Sensitivity to status-based rejection: Implications for female and minority Criminal Justice majors” in the international publication *Race and Justice: An International Journal*.

The trio surveyed college students in the field of criminal justice regarding their anxieties and beliefs about how others’ perceptions of their status (gender, race, and/or ethnicity) might affect their professional careers. Their results suggested that while females of all races and African American students of any gender are significantly more likely to be concerned about the potential for status-based rejection when employed, or trying to become employed, in the field of criminal justice, female Hispanic students are concerned about the combined effects of their race and gender on their future careers.

## Duris Appointed as Illinois Counseling Association Board Member

Dr. Kimberly Duris (Associate Professor, Psychology) has been appointed as a board member of the Illinois Counselor Educators and Supervisors (ICES) division of the Illinois Counseling Association for a 3-year term. She has recently completed the role of the immediate past-president of this division in June 2020.

## Chen Published in American Journal of Health Promotion

Dr. Wei Chen (Associate Professor, Economics) published an article titled “The effect of boarding on obesity among middle school students: Evidence from China” in the *American Journal of Health Promotion (AJHP)*, one of the most influential journals specialized in Health Behavior, Health Promotion, Health Economics, and Public Health. The study finds that boarding has a significant negative effect on obesity for middle school boys but a smaller negative effect on obesity for middle school girls. It suggests that boarding at school can be a positive factor in preventing and controlling obesity among middle school students.

## Business Professors Present Paper at Academy of Management Meeting

Dr. Elizabeth Belgio (Assistant Professor, Business Administration) and Dr. Lesley Page (Chair and Associate Professor, Organizational Leadership) presented a paper entitled “Skills Gap Challenge: How Apprenticeship Programs Address Skill Building and Educational Advancement” at the 80th annual meeting of the Academy of Management. The paper focused on how organizations and educational institutions can support increased organizational commitment, job performance and employee engagement through development and implementation of apprenticeship programs.

# Faculty News

## Schultz's Book Mentioned in *NY Times* List of Recommended Readings on Race

On June 30, 2020, Dr. Mark Schultz's (Professor, History) 2005 book, *The Rural Face of White Supremacy: Beyond Jim Crow*, was mentioned in the *New York Times* on a list of recommended readings on race in America called "Every Work of American Literature Is About Race: Writers on How We Got Here." Schultz's book examines the daily experience of life in Jim Crow Georgia, drawing on hundreds of oral interviews, court house records, newspapers, and archival sources. In rural Hancock County, Georgia, the racial hierarchy was maintained by interpersonal violence, patronage, and rituals of deference instead of the more impersonal, bureaucratic systems of policing and segregation that marked white supremacy in northern and southern cities.

## Muench, White, and Alumna Featured in Poetry Review

Drs. Simone Muench (Professor, English) and Jackie K. White (Retired Professor, English) are the featured poets in the Summer 2020 issue of *Spoon River Poetry Review*. The issue features a collection of their poems as well as an interview with both Muench and White. Two poems by Lewis alumna Zakiya Cowan '19 entitled *Self Portrait as a Palm Tree* and *Pastor Dunks Me in the River* also appear in the issue.

## Muench is Selected to Hall of Fame in Summer 2020

Dr. Simone Muench (Professor, English) served as a guest editor for the second issue of the Baltic Writing Residency journal *Action, Spectacle*, Summer 2020. Her poem "Self-Portrait Lined by Adam Zagajewski," which was co-written with Jackie K. White, appeared in the June 2020 issue of *NewCity Magazine*, and Muench was also selected for NewCity's "Who Really Books in Chicago" Hall of Fame, 2020.

## Chemistry Teachers Publish in ACS Environmental Research Literacy book

Amy Mlynarski (Instructor, Chemistry) and Dr. Jason Keleher (Chair and Professor, Chemistry) recently published a book chapter titled "Development of a Student-Centered Environmental Design Competition Focusing on Water Desalination and Purification" in the American Chemical Society Environmental Research Literacy book entitled *Environmental Research Literacy: Classroom, Laboratory, and Beyond*. This work discussed our implementation of the "Shipwrecked" Water Filtration and Purification Competition. In this competition, teams of high school students from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds were given the scenario that they had been shipwrecked on an island which contaminated their drinkable water that's not from a fresh water source. They were asked to design and construct a water purification/desalination apparatus from a box of supplies that could be found on a boat and an island.

## Kozminski Publishes with Alumna and Collaborates on National QuarkNet Project

Dr. Joseph Kozminski (Chair and Professor, Physics) and Lewis alumna Michael Zwartz '18 published a paper entitled "Examining student growth in laboratory notebook practices in introductory physics courses" in the 2020 Physics Education Research Conference Proceedings from July 22-23, 2020. Dr. Kozminski also gave an invited talk at the conference entitled "Skill Development in Physics Labs Beyond the First Year." Zwartz, a Noyce Teaching Scholar, worked on this project with Dr. Kozminski as an undergraduate research student, and currently works as a Physics teacher at Joliet Central High School.

Kozminski has begun a collaboration with the QuarkNet Project, which engages high school teachers and students in high energy physics research experiences. He and his undergraduate research students are working with physicists at the University of Notre Dame, the University of Central Florida, and CERN to develop simulations and analysis tools that QuarkNet participants can use to learn about high energy physics phenomena and analyze publicly available data from the CMS detector at CERN.



## Buss and Best Buddies Make an Impact During COVID-19 Pandemic

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the students in the Lewis University Chapter of Best Buddies, moderated by Dr. Jennifer Buss (Associate Professor, Special Education), exceeded their usual fundraising goal and ranked in the Top 15 among the schools in the State of Illinois. For the individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who participate in the Best Buddies program, the isolation due to the coronavirus was difficult, and the students at Lewis reached out to the group homes where their Buddies live to deliver activity baskets.

## Sherry Published as Wolny Writing Resident

On July 20, 2020, Dr. Daisy Sherry (Associate Professor, Graduate Nursing) published an article entitled "Why clinicians should consider the power of prayer" on MedPage Today's KevinMD.com. Sherry achieved this publication as a result of being awarded a faculty recipient of the Wolny Writing Residency.

## Desmond Completes Post-Doc Studies and Helps to Create Mary Garden

In July 2020, Dr. Mary E. Desmond (Assistant Professor, Graduate Nursing) completed her year-long post-doctoral personal study with nurse theorist Dr. Jean Watson through Watson Caring Science Institute. Desmond's post-doctoral scholarship, "Caring Science as a Sacred Science: A Catholic Scholarship of Divinity", included living exemplars of scholarly service to the Divine integrating Caritas-Veritas in research, teaching, new programs, and human service in community. As a Senior Scholar in Caring Science, to honor the Blessed Mother and create a caring, healing environment for prayer and meditation, Desmond is co-creating a Mary Garden in association with Dr. Kurt Schackmuth, Brother Rob Veselsky, FSC, Margaret Martinez (Mission and Identity) and Dwight DeVries (Facilities) next to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

## Kilpatrick and Hemmingway Produce National Documentary

John Kilpatrick (Associate Professor, Director of Television Operations) and Tracy Hemmingway (Assistant Professor, Communication) recently completed a two-year documentary, along with others, on a rare disease, cystinosis, hoping to give this community the voice they are looking for. View the full-length documentary here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHnoBbbg4Ao>

## Burciaga Awarded Counselor Education & Supervision (CE&S) Editorial Fellowship

Dr. Lili Burciaga (Assistant Professor, Psychology) was awarded the 2020-2021 Counselor Education & Supervision (CE&S) editorial fellowship. *CE&S Journal* is the national peer reviewed journal of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES). This is one of 14 fellowships awarded nationally by CE&S, with a 25 percent acceptance rate.

Dr. Burciaga also co-authored three reentry guides with the Education Justice Project at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign titled: "Mapping Your Future: A Guide to Successful Reentry;" "Returning Home: A Guide to the Challenges and Opportunities after Deportation;" and "Release During COVID-19: What You Need to Know."

She presented a workshop entitled "Mentoring Counselors in Training for Social Justice Advocacy" at the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development 2020 Virtual Summit on June 24-25, 2020, and later at the California Counseling Association 2020 Virtual Conference on October 8-10, 2020.



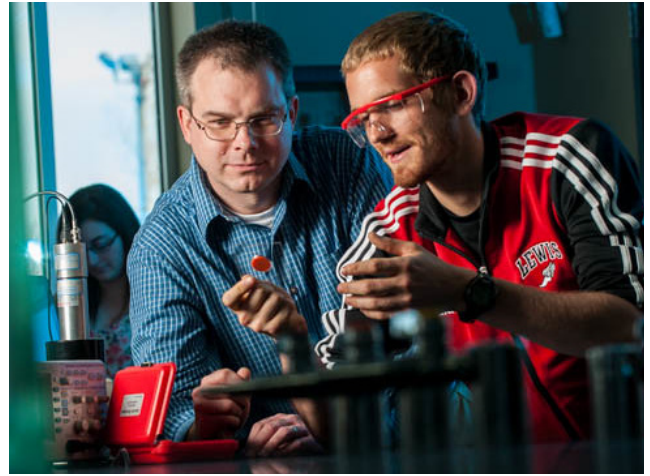
### Computer Engineering Receives Accreditation

Lewis University has received notification that the Bachelor of Science program in Computer Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, [www.abet.org](http://www.abet.org).

**ABET** “Lewis University’s Computer Engineering program can offer students a high-quality education while maintaining a low faculty-student ratio, which gives students a high level of personal attention and support,” commented Dr. Gina Martinez, director and assistant professor of Computer Engineering.

Only seven other universities in Illinois have achieved this ABET accreditation. Only two other private universities in Illinois have earned the accreditation.

Not only does ABET accreditation signify the quality of the Computer Engineering program, but it’s also beneficial to students as they have learned the global standards in the profession. It increases employment opportunities and enhances financial aid opportunities for many federal student loans, grants, and scholarships.



### Recipient of the 2021 Award for Improving Undergraduate Physics Education

Lewis University has been recognized with the 2021 Award for Improving Undergraduate Physics Education by the American Physical Society’s (APS) Committee on Education (COE).

The APS website describes the innovations in the Lewis curriculum: “The department modernized its curriculum moving from the theory-heavy curriculum with only one lab beyond the first year to a curriculum that incorporates active learning, additional laboratory experiences beyond the first year, inquiry and design-based labs that emphasize skill development throughout the curriculum, an independent Capstone project, and computational skill development throughout the curriculum.”

The APS award is posted at [www.aps.org/programs/education/undergrad/faculty/awardees.cfm](http://www.aps.org/programs/education/undergrad/faculty/awardees.cfm)



### Annual Peace Teach-In Focuses on Building Bridges

On October 12, 14 and 15, the Lewis community delved into important and relevant issues of justice through engaging sessions at the Annual Peace Teach-In entitled: “Sustaining and Building Bridges: Practicing Just Peace in the 2020s.” Presenters explored a variety of issues including community organizing, interfaith dialogue, and the theatre of the oppressed.

The Gros Memorial Event, “Creating a Better Future” was sponsored by the Catholic Theological Union and the Brother Jeffrey Gros, FSC Institute for Dialogue, Justice & Social Action. Five women scholars of different faiths gathered virtually for the second time to discuss how the pandemic and racial inequalities have been changing academic scholarship, religious life, and women’s leadership. Along with participants at the event, panelists considered new opportunities for interfaith healing and dialogue.



Moderator for the presentation and discussion was Dr. Malka Simkovich, Crown-Ryan Chair of Jewish Studies and the director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies program at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Joining her were: Dr. Mehnaz Afridi, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Education Center at Manhattan College; Rev. Dr. Nicole Martin, Vice President of Church Engagement and the Executive Director of Trauma Healing for American Bible Society; Maharat Rori Picker Neiss, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of St Louis; and Dr. C. Vanessa White, Associate Professor of Spirituality and Ministry at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.





## 'Women's Vote 100' Celebrates Historical Milestone of Women's Suffrage

Commemorating the passing of the 19th amendment, Lewis University's History Center partnered with Naper Settlement on presenting "Women's Vote 100" a virtual series of public programs and events throughout the month of October.

"This series underlines the efforts of so many to increase voting rights," said Dr. Dennis H. Cremin, chair of the History Department and director of the Lewis University History Center. "The live public programs provide an opportunity to look to the past, but also look toward the future."



The Naper Settlement exhibit "Women: Waves of Change" shared the story of women, past and present, who were and are foundational in the formation and development of Naperville and beyond.

The weekly seminar series focused on women's suffrage from a variety of perspectives and provides a historical overview. Topics and speakers included: "Casting a Historic Vote: Suffrage in Illinois" by Jeanne Schultz Angel, director

of Learning Experiences and Historical Resources at Naper Settlement; "Alice Paul and the Suffrage Movement's Use of Nonviolent Strategies" by Dr. Laurette Liesen, chair of Political Science and professor at Lewis University; and "Bridging Voting Rights: Amelia Boynton Robinson to John Lewis, and Beyond" by Dr. Cremin, Donna K. Sack, vice president & chief program officer at Naper Settlement, and Dr. Tara Y. White, department chair and history instructor at Wallace Community College in Selma Alabama.



## Bishop Kaffer Outstanding Principal Award Presented to Principal of St. Dennis Catholic School

Lewis University's Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education formally presented the Bishop Roger L. Kaffer Outstanding Principal Award to Lisa Smith, principal of St. Dennis Catholic Grade School in Lockport, during a Mass of Celebration on Friday, October 9 at St. Dennis Church. The announcement and presentation was presented on the feast day of St. Denis.

Smith was presented her award by Dr. Jennifer Buss, co-director of the Institute for the Advancement of Catholic and Lasallian Education. "Lisa Smith, devoted, innovative, and compassionate Catholic Leader that encapsulates the values of the Bishop Roger L. Kaffer Outstanding Principal Award," Dr. Buss said as she presented the award.

Dr. Michael Boyle, superintendent of Joliet Diocesan Catholic Schools, congratulated Smith on behalf of the Diocese of Joliet.

Nominators, including St. Dennis faculty member Samantha Barry, St. Dennis School Board President Will Estrada, and the Lockport Chief of Police Terry Lemming, all spoke on Smith's behalf during the presentation. The event included video presentations from Lewis University, the Diocese of Joliet, and community members.

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

## Students Display Their Knowledge in the Field

### Student Laureates Honored by The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

The top students representing Illinois' colleges and universities were honored via a pre-recorded Zoom production by The Lincoln Academy of Illinois this fall. Grace Ann Crumbaugh, a double major in Philosophy of Law and Public Policy, as well as minors in Peace Studies and Spanish was honored as the Lewis University student in the Class of 2020.

Honorees are recognized for excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities. Grace has been a Resident Assistant (RA) in a freshman hall for two years. She is also active in numerous groups on campus, including as a Community Engaged Learning Facilitator, as a participant and a leader for two LUMINATE (Lewis University Ministry Alternative Trip Experiences) service trips in Wisconsin and Nebraska, and in the Faith Behind Bars Program through her Peace Studies minor.

She continued her education regarding justice by participating in a Civil Rights Pilgrimage, touring significant museums and historical locations of the Civil Rights movement. Grace has also been a participant of the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice, for which she is now a student organizer collaborating with various leaders from Lasallian colleges and universities who are working to create additional sessions and workshops for Lasallian participants.

Grace's love of music is expressed by her involvement in music ministry, leading and coordinating music at weekly Mass on campus. Her faith has led her to spend the past two summers as a Totus Tuus teacher, traveling to various churches throughout Illinois to deepen participants' (grades 1-12) love and understanding of their Catholic faith.



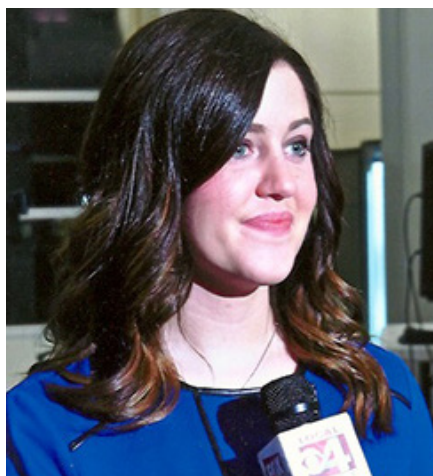
Grace has received honors throughout her college experience, such as achieving the Dean's List each semester, and receiving memberships to the Theta Alpha Kappa Honors Society and Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society. Upon graduation from Lewis University, her goal is to attend law school and pursue a concentration in educational law and policy, in hopes of eventually achieving nationwide educational reform.

### Jelinek Creates Curriculum on the Great Debates for Museum

Education graduate student and History Center intern Gretchen Jelinek is working in partnership with Chicago's Museum of Broadcast Communications (MBC) to create a series of lesson plans for the newly unveiled website [www.greatdebates.org](http://www.greatdebates.org).

"I used to be a news reporter. It was great to use my journalism background, my educator training, and my love of history to design this curriculum," Jelinek said of the opportunity.

The online content fosters critical thinking and media literacy in students, with the goal of creating informed citizens. Jelinek crafted the plans for 9-12 grade students and focuses on content that can be taught alongside the Presidential debates or other election-centered media coverage.



"Jelinek is already applying her skills acquired from her studies in Lewis University's History and Education programs. She worked closely with Suzy Schultz, Executive Director of the MBC, and Carol Summerfield, Executive Director of

the History Center of Lake Forest-Lake Bluff. Together they crafted a history centered curriculum that encourages analysis of broadcast and digital media," said Dr. Dennis H. Cremin, History Professor at Lewis University.

The Museum of Broadcast Communications has been focused on leadership, the COVID-19 crisis, and the media's effect on politics. They address topics related to politics, history, and current events. Each lesson plan presents many narratives with students using multiple perspectives and drawing their own conclusions.

The curriculum can be found at [www.greatdebates.org/curriculum](http://www.greatdebates.org/curriculum).

Jelinek plans to continue drafting lesson plans for The Great Debates.



## Lewis Student Finishes in First Place at Apps 4 Digital Peace Competition

Team FSociety recently won first place in Apps 4 Digital Peace competition. Team FSociety, established just for this competition, was comprised of Lewis University student Puneet Singh and four students from Tufts University. Singh is an information security graduate student from India.

Teams presented new and innovative ideas to promote peace in cyberspace, limit the use of the internet as a domain of conflict, and increase the stability of the online environment. Their project "ALL SAFE" garnered

a \$15,000 cash prize and an invitation to RSA Conference in San Francisco in 2021.

Apps 4 Digital Peace competition was made possible by The Cybersecurity Tech Accord, in partnership with the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), and Office of the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth.

Visit <https://cybertechaccord.org/meet-the-young-innovators-of-first-ever-apps-4-digital-peace-competition/> to learn more about the competition.



## Newspaper Wins First-Place Award by ASPA

*The Flyer* student newspaper received a first-place honor by the American Scholastic Press Association for its October 7, 2019 issue. The sports section of *The Flyer* also received special recognition for excellence in sports coverage. Tori Foster '19, sports editor, Matt Vogrin '19, assistant sports editor and Dani Navarrete, reporter, contributed to the award-winning coverage.

ASPA judges stated, "You have an excellent school newspaper, which shows the creativity and journalistic knowledge of your editors, reporters, writers, designers, photographers, advertising manager and advisor."

"*The Flyer* staff prides themselves on hard work and quality journalism," said Hayley Miller, assistant professor and adviser to the print edition and assistant professor of Communication. Its 2019-20 editorial staff consisted of 30 students from a variety of academic majors: Editor-in-Chief Jake Volk; Webmaster, Sam Sabalboro; Assistant Webmaster/Layout Editor, Arianna Tamayo; Online Editor, Kyle Latronica; Social Media Coordinator, Tereza Pilzova; News Editor/Copy Editor, Emily Krivograd; Assistant News Editor, Jada Hoffman; Opinions Editor, Katelyn Leano; Tempo Editor, Stephanie

Lingenfelter; Assistant Tempo Editor, Bekka Dvorak; Campus Life Editor, Jenny Fahey; Sports Editor, Daniela Navarrete; Assistant Sports Editor, Stephanie Palczynski; Copy Editor/Reporter, Caeley O'Connor; Reporter, Tiffany Carlino; Layout Editors Destiny Alexander, Howard Guyton, and Rhys Taylor; Advertising Manager, Alexandria Wilson; Graphic Designer, Anthony Beimal; Photographer, Joseph Weber; Reporters Chris Patiño, Henrietta Eghan, and Sammi Mika; Contributors Eric Myers, Brian Beushausen, and Jillian Guzzi.

## Jet Fuel Review Receives Three CMA Pinnacle Awards

In addition to receiving a College Media Association Pinnacle Award for "Four-Year Literary Magazine of the Year" Lewis University's *Jet Fuel Review Magazine* also placed second for Best Magazine Cover and second for Best Arts and Entertainment Story.

The Writing Pinnacle - Best Arts and Entertainment Story was awarded to Lewis University alumna Patricia Damocles'20 for

her book review of Justin Phillip Reed's "Indecency."

This was the second consecutive year that *Jet Fuel Review Magazine* won the top award as the Four-Year Literary Magazine of the Year. The journal features work by Lewis University students and faculty as well as international artists, and includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, interviews, book reviews, art and eBooks.

The managing editor is

Stephanie Karas, assistant managing editor is Jo Spangler, and the chief faculty advisor is Dr. Simone Muench, professor of English Studies. Additional editors include Christian Mietus, Andrea Yvette Rodriguez, Chris Patino, Madeline Brzeczek, Brittany Crosse, Cassidy Fontaine-Warunek, Sal Martinez, and Sean Darke.

Visit [www.jetfuelreview.com](http://www.jetfuelreview.com) to read the latest issue and submission guidelines.



## Lewis Men's Cross Country Wins First Great Lakes Valley Conference Title Since 2004

Lewis University's men's cross country team won the **2020 Great Lakes Valley Conference Cross Country Championship** as it rallied to defeat Southern Indiana in the final kilometer to win its first GLVC Championship since 2004 on Saturday (Oct. 24) at Principia College in Elsah, Ill. *The Flyers* finished with a score of 51 points to 57 for Southern Indiana.

The championship is the 14th in program history and snapped Southern Indiana's run of 15 consecutive conference championships.

Freshman Anthony Farmer, senior Dustin Macuiba, redshirt freshman Patrick Hennessey and sophomore Daniel Arimi all finished in the top 15 to earn All-GLVC honors. Farmer was named the GLVC's Freshman of the Year and head coach James Kearney was named the GLVC Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year.

Farmer was the top finisher for the Flyers completing the 8-kilometer course in a time of 24:51.43 to finish second overall behind Illinois Springfield's Blake Jones. Macuiba crossed the finish line four seconds behind Farmer to finish third. Hennessey was the next runner to cross the line for Lewis finishing 13th in a time of 25:48.01. Arimi came in 14th finishing at 25:49.63.

Junior Ricardo Del Toro rounded out the scoring for Lewis finishing 19th overall with a time of 25:59.34, Freshman Sean Ryan came in 28th in a time of 26:18.52, Freshman Casey Quintana crossed the finish line in 31st with a time of 26:23.69, Junior Josh Segura was 34th at 26:28.76, Sophomore AJ Pulido finished 42nd in a time of 26:49.23 while senior Dan Laskero was 57th with a time of 27:26.06.

*The Flyers* finished the season ranked eighth in the 2020 Division II Men's Cross Country National Coaches rankings.





## NCAA Division II



## Lewis Athletics Earns NCAA Division II Presidents' Award For Academic Excellence

**The NCAA announced on December 3 that Lewis University was one of 42 schools to receive the Presidents' Award For Academic Excellence. This award is presented to Division II member schools earning an Academic Success Rate (ASR) 90 percent or higher.**

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

"The Presidents' Award for Academic Excellence recognizes Division II member schools for their commitment to a balanced college experience that supports the academic success of college athletes," said Sandra Jordan, chancellor of the University of South Carolina Aiken and chair of the Division II Presidents Council. "Ten more institutions earned this award than last year, setting an all-time high for this program, but most importantly, this means

college athletes at these schools are achieving academic success that will benefit them for the rest of their lives."

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

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

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



# GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS



## Sport Management Major Awarded Delta Mu Delta Scholarship

Daniela Navarrete of Panama City, Fla. has been awarded the Delta Mu Delta Board Award scholarship of \$2,000. The national award recognizes her outstanding academic achievements as she studies sport management and minors in marketing.



Delta Mu Delta is a business honor society that recognizes and encourages academic excellence of students at qualifying colleges and universities to create a DMD community that fosters the well-being of its individual members and the business community through life-time membership.



## Illinois School Nurses Foundation Honors Lewis University Students

The Illinois Association of School Nurses Foundation recognized its 2020 scholarship and award winners October 2-3 during Virtual Illinois Association of School Nurses Annual Convention. The year's honorees included two Lewis University students and a Lewis University alumna.

Each year, the IASN Foundation offers multiple scholarships and awards to promote the advancement of school nursing practice.

Alexandra Sontag (pictured above, left) was awarded a School Nurse Certification Grant, which provides financial assistance to IASN members obtaining their Illinois School Nurse Certification. Sontag is nurse practitioner for the Chicago Public Schools attending the Lewis University Certification Program.

"I believe that School Nursing serves the unique interaction between school and health. It is an intersection that often gets overlooked," Sontag commented.

Jessica Zilinsky Conterras '20 (not pictured) earned an Achievement Award, which recognizes professional achievements that impact school nursing or the health of children/youth. The Master of Science in Nursing alumna did a Quality Improvement project for her district that involved developing "Best Practice Guidelines for Administration of Medical Cannabis in the School Setting." The professional educator licensed school nurse for the Indian Prairie School District in Aurora surveyed staff nurses about their comfort level with administering cannabis in the schools, and provided related staff education.

Dena Hinkle (pictured above, right) earned the Margaret Winters Graduate Scholarship, which provides financial assistance to a professional educator licensed school nurse and IASN member pursuing a school nursing related graduate degree. Hinkle is currently a Doctor of Nursing Practice student at Lewis University. Her DNP project is a research project that explored "Factors That Inhibit or Promote Submission of Data to Inform School Nursing Practice." Her objective is to encourage nurses to submit data to the National Association of School Nurses Every Student Counts national data set.

The professional educator licensed school nurse for the Aptakisic-Tripp District 102 in Buffalo Grove commented "Several years ago, I chose Lewis University for my Master of Science in Nursing degree to become certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner due to its reputation, flexibility, and proximity. After that experience, it was an easy decision to continue my education there and pursue my Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. I have been privileged to be taught by some amazing professors at Lewis University and was afforded invaluable opportunities during my MSN practicum and DNP residency hours. Many of my classes have been online, with a few in-person and blended classes. The variety of class options has worked well for me as I have worked full-time and raised five boys throughout this process."





## Students Earn ISTAT Scholarship

Four Lewis University Aviation students were awarded ISTAT Foundation Scholarships for 2020. The Scholarship Program is dedicated to helping young people develop careers in aviation by offering scholarships to college-level students who are academically qualified and in need of financial support.

The International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading Foundation (ISTAT Foundation) was founded in 1994 to support individuals and institutions that promote the advancement of commercial aviation and humanitarianism.

The four Lewis University students received scholarships ranging from \$5,000-\$16,000.

*Honored students included (clockwise from top left photo):*

- Olibia Guzman, current graduate student in Aviation and Transportation and 2016 alumnus in Aviation Security
- Patrycja Krzystyniak, senior in Aviation Administration
- Anthony Molina, senior in Aviation Administration, minor in Aviation Dispatch
- Michael Martinez, senior in Aviation Maintenance Management

Funding for the program is provided by annual grants from ISTAT and contributions from individuals and companies.

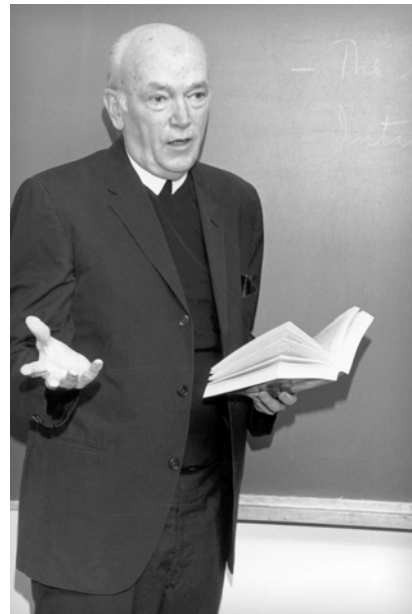


## McCormick Foundation Supports PAVE Veteran Peer-to-Peer Program

The McCormick Foundation has awarded a grant to Lewis University for a highly impactful student veteran peer-to-peer mentor program, Peer Advisors for Veteran Education. It assists veterans as they face challenging transitioning from the military to civilian life to academia.

PAVE is a peer-to-peer program that connects incoming student veterans attending college on the Post-9/11 GI Bill with successful student veteran peers on their campuses to provide support, help them navigate college life, identify any challenges they are encountering, and refer them to the appropriate resources on or off campus.

In partnership with Student Veterans of America, PAVE is currently implemented on 26 campuses nationwide. A newly launched web-based platform includes online training modules for new Peer Advisors; an app that allows Peer Advisors to track the work that is being done; and a Management Console for each PAVE partner campus that allows schools to match student veterans with Peer Advisors, monitor trends, including types of concerns identified, and identify gaps in services. The PAVE National team continues to share best practices from the field, provide support to each school, and facilitate communication among partner campuses.



# Signs of Faith in Our Midst

## A Reflection on 60 Years of the Christian Brothers at Lewis University

**This year marks the 60th anniversary of the sponsorship of Lewis University by the De La Salle Christian Brothers. In this piece, Vice President for Mission Dr. Kurt Schackmuth '98,'02, takes a look back at this historic moment and highlights a few of the contributions of the Christian Brothers during this significant period of the University's institutional saga.**

Lewis University began in 1932 as an aviation technical high school founded by the Archdiocese of Chicago. As time passed, the focus of the school evolved to meet the changing educational needs of students, the Church's response to those needs, and the growth of the emerging Aviation industry. By 1947, the fledgling aeronautics school had become Lewis College of Science and Technology to better reflect the institution's curriculum and mission.

In 1949, the Diocese of Joliet was formed and the College, which had been part of the Archdiocese of Chicago, was now a prominent element of the new Diocese. Ten years later, Bishop Martin McNamara, D.D., the first Bishop of Joliet, announced that the De La Salle Christian Brothers would assume direction of Lewis College of Science and Technology beginning with the 1960-61 school year. The Brothers were already very well known in the Chicago area and elsewhere in the country. At the time, they were teaching

approximately 8,000 high school boys at six institutions in the Chicago area alone. The Brothers were noted for their outstanding teaching and administrative capabilities and, for years, had been considering starting a college in the Chicago area.

**Seven Christian Brothers arrived during the summer of 1960 to prepare for the arrival of students that Fall:**

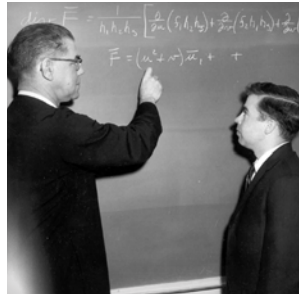
- Brother Henry Ernest Archambeault, FSC
- Brother Arthur Bertling, FSC
- Brother Justus Philip Lynch, FSC
- Brother Leander Paul McGinnis, FSC
- Brother Luke Raymond McManaman, FSC
- Brother Louis de La Salle Seiler, FSC
- Brother Lambert Robert Shannon, FSC

The Christian Brothers were heartily welcomed by both the students and the faculty, who admired the willingness of the Brothers to cooperate and respect the traditions of the College. Together, the Brothers and lay faculty implemented a series of campus and curricular improvements that had lasting impact.

Professor of Theology *Emeritus* Brother Raymond McManaman, FSC, retired this past Spring after more than 50 years of service to Lewis and was recently designated an "Honorary Founder" of the University. In a 2003 interview, Brother Raymond reminisced about his first impressions of the campus: "It was not much of a campus when we got here. There were a lot of trees...very beautiful American Elm trees. The existing







buildings were hanging together. The classrooms were located in what is now the Oremus Fine Arts Center and an airplane hangar still occupied what is now the theatre. What is now the Dining Hall was the Administration Building. The Library actually occupied the old gymnasium...[in the Lewis Memorial building].”

Despite the initial state of the campus, by the end of the first year of the Brothers’ sponsorship the headcount at Lewis College had risen to 700 students. A reflection by the student staff of the Lewis yearbook, *The Beacon*, proclaimed at the end of the first academic year: “The administration of the college is now in the capable hands of the Christian Brothers, who are finishing the foundation laid down by the previous administration. In their first year at Lewis the Brothers have influenced the life of every member of the Student Body.”

This impact on the students was evidenced by the great respect they had for the Brothers. Tom Kennedy, who studied English at Lewis from 1958-1962, remembers well the transition that took place when the Christian Brothers first arrived. “In a very short amount of time, we students felt like we had a lot of class. The Brothers brought to Lewis an added level of credibility. These guys really knew what they were doing.”

*The Beacon* yearbook reflection continued: “The Brothers have already mapped out the future of the College. An extensive building program is underway, which will increase the facilities of the college.” Indeed, the Brothers wasted no time upgrading the campus and enhancing it in numerous ways. During the first several years, they oversaw the construction of new classroom facilities, residence halls and other spaces that would directly impact student teaching and learning. In fact, they delayed the construction of a permanent residence for themselves, living in cramped quarters for over thirty years, so that funds could be invested in other facilities instead.

The dramatic improvements were not restricted to the campus buildings and grounds.

Peter Seiler recalled, back in 2005, the important academic role his uncle Brother Louis de La Salle

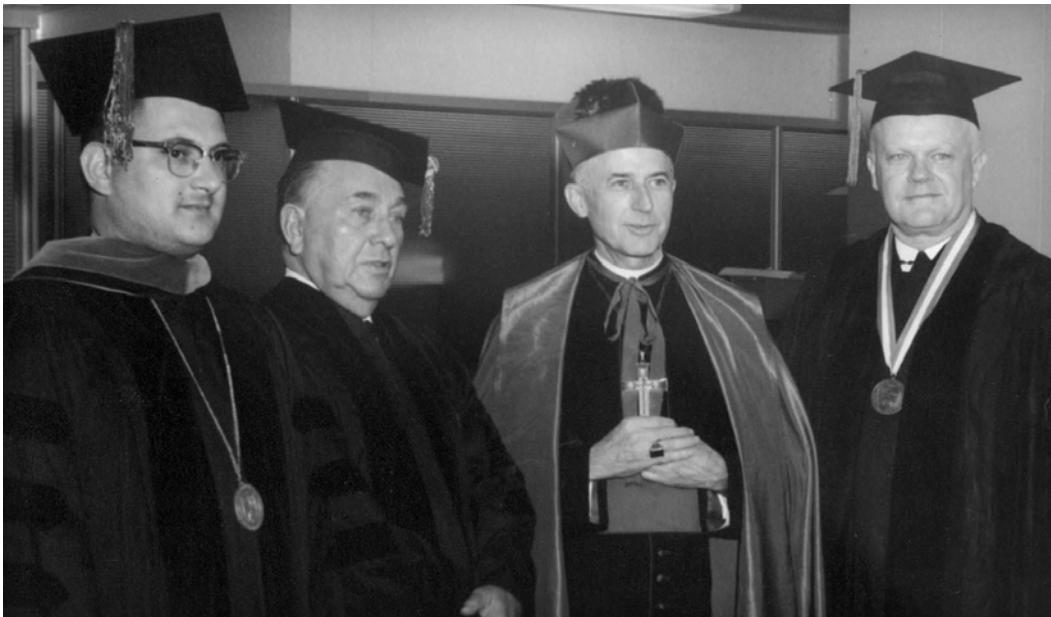
Seiler, FSC (1910-1972) had as the first Dean of Lewis College during this crucial time. “When Brother Louis de La Salle came to Lewis, he was asked to review the curriculum that the college was offering. He also had to quickly learn about aeronautics... Brother Louis set out to review all the curricular offerings and to find new ways to improve the program majors to make Lewis a viable and attractive Christian choice for high school graduates.”

Perhaps Brother Louis de La Salle Seiler’s greatest achievement during the early years of the Christian Brothers’ leadership was his work to achieve North Central Association (now Higher Learning Commission) accreditation for Lewis College in 1963. His self-study report was so outstanding that the accreditation body designated it a model for other colleges and universities to emulate. His colleague, Brother Philip Lynch, FSC (1915-1975) recalled, “His mind was

***“His self-study report was so outstanding that the accreditation body designated it a model for other colleges and universities to emulate.”***

deep, logical, and imaginative. Not only did he know mathematics and science thoroughly, but he was aware of the best in the humanities. Brother Louis was a liberally educated man, a blessing to his school and to his community.” It was no wonder that Brother Louis returned to the classroom to teach once his role in administration was complete.

Brother Philip Lynch himself has been remembered as a favorite communications professor by students of the early 1960s. Tom Kennedy recalls being “mesmerized” by Brother Philip’s lectures, specifically on the literary giant James Joyce. “He was one of the most enthusiastic, articulate people I have ever seen in the classroom,” recalled Tom. Robert Sullivan, a longtime professor who taught in Lewis Theatre Department, once said of Brother Philip, “He was... an excellent classical orator and oral interpreter who could quote from the Roman speakers in either Latin or English. He became a model to those in the speech



field.” Brother Philip was named the second Dean of the College in 1967 when Brother Louis returned to the classroom to teach mathematics. Today, the Philip Lynch Theatre is named in honor of Brother Philip, a fitting tribute to one who so valued the humanities and the arts.

Kennedy also recalls his impression of Brother Leander Paul McGinnis, FSC (1915-2000), the first Brother President of Lewis College. “He was stern, tall and looked the part. He epitomized college leadership.” In his crucial role as President, Brother Leander Paul was charged with overseeing the transformation of the college during its first pivotal years under the leadership of the Christian Brothers. Known as “the builder,” Brother Leander Paul focused his efforts on instituting a five-year expansion plan for the campus. During his seven-year term, he oversaw the construction of the John F. Kennedy gymnasium (home today to the Neil Carey Arena and Ruddy Athletic Annex), the Academic/Science building, Fitzpatrick Hall, the remodeling and expansion of dining facilities, and the construction of the massive South Campus (De La Salle Hall, Benilde Hall, and South Hall).

By the time Brother Leander Paul’s term as President came to an end, enrollment stood at approximately 1,600 students. The 1966-1967 annual report of the college, published at the end of his term, proclaimed, “A ‘college in transition’ is perhaps the best description of Lewis College in 1967. An extremely significant period of the college’s thirty-seven-year history was reached when Brother Paul French, FSC was inaugurated as president of the college. Brother Paul French is following in the footsteps of a giant. Brother Leander Paul, FSC, past president served with distinction in his seven-year term of office, laid a solid foundation upon which to build a truly great institution.”

We know now that Brother Paul French, FSC (1932-2005), himself, was a giant in his own right. Age 33 at the time he assumed the presidency, Brother Paul was one of the youngest college presidents in the country. Under the leadership of Brother Paul, Lewis prospered.

By 1970, enrollment had skyrocketed to over 2,700 students. He advanced the plans for construction of the Learning Resource Center (LRC) which opened in 1970. The imposing structure was later named in honor of Brother Paul when he was designated President *Emeritus* in recognition of his extraordinary service as President, Academic Vice President, and especially as an outstanding faculty member dedicated to the liberal arts. One of Brother Paul’s signature programs, Arts&Ideas, still thrives under the stewardship of talented and creative faculty.

During the early 1970s, Lewis College became Lewis University and the founding academic program, Aviation, flourished under the leadership of Brother Vincent Neil Kieffe, FSC. Brother Neil arrived at Lewis in August of 1962 and taught in the Aviation Department. He also served as the department’s Chair and held the position of Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for a brief period of time. In addition to his teaching duties and other scholarly work, he also oversaw construction of a new aviation-related classroom building and hangar facility in 1975. He held various leadership roles outside of the academic arena as well, serving both as Acting Vice President and Acting President of Lewis for a brief time. After leaving Lewis, he served at St. Patrick’s High School in Chicago,

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**“Over 110 Christian Brothers have served here in dozens of capacities.”**

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and since 1991, he has served in various capacities at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land. In 2016, the Aviation building on campus was formally named in his honor. Brother Neil still visits the Lewis University campus regularly.

Brothers Raymond, Louis de La Salle, Philip Lynch, Leander Paul, Paul, and Neil are just a handful of the Brothers who have made meaningful contributions to the University over these 60 years. In fact, over 110 Christian Brothers have served here in dozens of capacities.





## Christian Brothers and Their Impact

Let's take a look back at a few more of those Brothers – all no longer with us – whose presence, stories, and accomplishments have made an indelible impact on this institution and the students they selflessly served.



**Brother James Cantwell, FSC**  
(1918–1986)

Peter “Bongo” Longo ’73, a Sociology and Education major who attended Lewis from 1969-1973, recalled in an interview in the early 2000s the particular Christian Brother who recruited him to attend Lewis. “Brother James Cantwell

came out to LaSalle Academy on the east coast where I attended high school. He was a very effervescent man. In his efforts to encourage me to attend Lewis, he mentioned that the College was only three stoplights from Chicago. He hadn’t misrepresented anything; he just failed to mention that there were 30 miles between Lewis and the city limits!” Brother James’ recruiting techniques were legendary. Many graduates of this era often recall being told by Brother James that a train ran through campus on a regular basis. What he didn’t mention was that the train was not a passenger train, but actually a small series of freight cars filled with gravel from the nearby Material Service facility that quarried property on the other side of the Lewis campus!



**Brother David Delahanty, FSC**  
(1935–1987)

Many Lewis graduates recall the 1970s and early 1980s as a somewhat tumultuous time in the history of Lewis. There were both periods of great pride and excitement as well as numerous challenges and setbacks. On July 1, 1973, Lewis College became Lewis University,

reflecting growth in enrollment and a new organizational structure of colleges. In 1974, the Lewis Flyers won the first of three NAIA National Championships in baseball. During that same time period, enrollment at Lewis topped 4,000 students. These landmark events were tempered in the late 1970s and early 1980s by a sense that the University lacked vision and focus, a feeling that was brought on by two non-Christian Brother presidents who had lost sight of the Mission of the University.

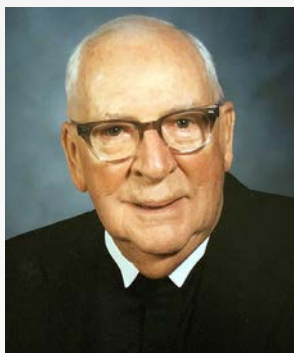
This malaise was diminished greatly when Brother David Delahanty, FSC was named Lewis University President in 1982 at the age of 46. Brother David guided the University through substantial growth during his presidency and is most remembered for effectively establishing and maintaining high faculty morale, for stabilizing finances, and for his strong sense of organization.

Joseph Falese, who graduated in 1978 and returned in 1979 as Director of Student Life and Housing, served as the University’s Vice President for Student Affairs during Brother David’s administration and recalled, “By the late 1970s and 1980s the presence of the Christian Brothers on campus was still very evident, but not in major leadership positions. This institution really lacked a sense of self-confidence prior to the time that Brother David first arrived on campus. I remember him quite well. He was kind, scholarly, had an engaging personality, and was a visionary.”



In collaboration with Brother Eugene Lappin, FSC (1935-2005), Vice President for Academic Affairs, Brother David rebuilt the morale of Lewis University. “Brother David and Brother Eugene were a great team,” Falese recalled. “Brother David was especially student-focused. He was calming, had great confidence and vision for the future of Lewis University and worked very closely with other administrators on campus to restore sound fiscal management. He and Brother Eugene also worked very closely with the faculty.”

Brother David’s vision for Lewis University was cut short by his tragic and untimely death from cancer on October 13, 1987. There was an overwhelming sense of grief expressed by faculty, staff, and students when Brother David passed away. “People were concerned that our momentum as a fine university would be interrupted,” Falese explained. But that didn’t happen. In fact, faculty, staff and administrators were encouraged by the increased sense of morale, the renewed sense of mission, and the overall atmosphere of trust that Brother David instilled during his brief tenure as President. We remember Brother David today through the Brother David Delahanty, FSC Student Athlete Awards and the Delahanty Memorial Plaza on the Romeoville campus.



**Brother Ambrose Groble, FSC**  
(1905–1999)

George Black, who attended Lewis College in the late 1960s, recalled most fondly Brother Ambrose Groble, FSC. Brother Ambrose first came to Lewis College in 1964, after serving several years as President of Saint Mary’s College in Winona, Minnesota. According to Black,

“Like all Christian Brothers, Brother Ambrose was a teacher at heart. He taught rhetoric, among several subjects, and was a master teacher. He always promoted a vigorous

discussion in class... and that experience really paid off for me in life.” Black graduated in 1968 and later practiced law.

Like many Christian Brothers, Brother Ambrose contributed to Lewis in numerous ways outside the classroom. Among his hobbies, which included campus landscaping projects, Brother Ambrose also founded the Lewis University Archives in 1982. “He was a perfectionist and he pursued details with great energy. He was tailor-made for the job,” recalls Black. Brother Ambrose’s role as the founder of the archives and as Archivist from 1982 until June of 1993 is one of the most significant developments in the history of Lewis University. Brother Ambrose, who was later named Director *Emeritus* of the Archives in 1993 when he retired, was responsible for collecting, organizing, protecting and making available thousands of photos, historical documents, small collections of memorabilia and other objects that are housed in the University Archives.

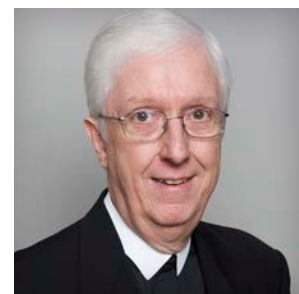


**Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC**  
(1933–2020)

The Lewis Community was saddened by the passing of Brother Bernard Rapp this past August. A Chemistry professor for more than 27 years, Brother Bernard was known for his expertise, precision, rigor, and attention to detail as well as his discipline in the classroom:

traits that he put to exceptional use as Archivist for 18 years after retiring from teaching. Thanks to Brother Bernard, the Archives established by Brother Ambrose were greatly expanded and refined. Hundreds of employees, students, and visitors were given access to materials and stories that helped deepen their knowledge and love of Lewis history. Humble and quiet, Brother Bernard was committed to his faith and his vocation as a Christian Brother and served Lewis with great dignity and grace for nearly 50 years.





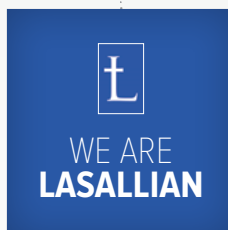
## A Reflection on Today and Tomorrow

Over the years, the Brothers have contributed to Lewis University in extraordinary ways. Their talent, creativity, inspiration, accompaniment, hard work, financial support, and financial sacrifice have been invaluable. Their commitment to the University and its Mission has propelled the University forward, sustained it in difficult times, and provided the inspiration that has motivated those who work alongside the Brothers, “together and by association.”

**“Over the years, the Brothers have contributed to Lewis University in extraordinary ways. Their talent, creativity, inspiration, accompaniment, hard work, financial support, and financial sacrifice have been invaluable.”**

Today, just under 20 Christian Brothers contribute to the life of the University. Some are still teaching or working in various roles at Lewis, others are enjoying retirement, but all are active in meaningful and inspiring ways.

When employees, students, or others ask me, “What will happen when the Brothers are no longer with us here at Lewis?” I explain that my hope is for there to continue to be Brothers among us, but that we have to make the most of our time with them now by learning from them, allowing ourselves to be regaled by their stories, impacted by their wisdom, and to simply spend time in their presence. Most importantly, however, we must allow ourselves to be inspired by their commitment to their vocation and their faith

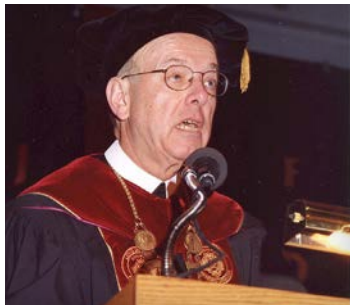


so that we might continue to take up the responsibility for and ownership of this gift of the Lasallian charism – to nurture it, advance it, and live it. We must make Saint John Baptist de La Salle “our” Founder. We must make the Brothers’ commitment to transformative, relational education, “our” philosophy. And we must become “*Signum Fidei*” – “Signs of Faith” to the students entrusted to our care – just like we have learned from the Brothers.

Elizabeth Johnson, SSJ, noted Theologian, author, and speaker, wrote about the communion of saints in the Catholic tradition and about ways we can think about all the faithful who have left this earth but serve as inspiration to all of us remaining. In an excerpt from her book *Abounding in Kindness* (2015), she says:

“Biblical scholars point out that the image here [of the communion of saints] is of a stadium packed with a crowd up in the stands, each of whom had once run in the race, now cheering for those on the tarmac. Here the faithful dead are proposed not as the objects of a cult, nor even as exemplars to be imitated, but as a compact throng of faithful people whose journey encourages those running the race today.”

Often times, as I reflect on my time at Lewis and all the Christian Brothers (living and deceased) who have had an impact on me and my vocation, especially when I’m exhausted and struggling, I am quietly encouraged by a packed stadium of towering figures in the stands: Brothers who have been with us, are with us, and will always be with us, cheering for us from the stands as we continue to run the race.



## Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President Emeritus

No account of the contributions of the Christian Brothers to Lewis University is complete without mention of Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis University for nearly three decades (1988–2016). He was named President *Emeritus* by the Board of Trustees in 2016.

Brother James transformed the Lewis campus and curriculum by strengthening and expanding academic programs, successfully developing recruitment of both undergraduate and graduate students, ensuring a distinguished faculty and staff, and revitalizing facilities with a dynamic program of renovations and new construction.

Brother James took office as the University's ninth President on October 2, 1988 and almost immediately launched a campus improvement program. This ambitious and successful endeavor started with renovations to what is now the Oremus Fine Arts Center, the oldest University structure, and continued throughout the next twenty-eight years. He oversaw the establishment of the College of Education, the first doctoral programs, new nursing programs, campus sites, and more. Fundraising campaigns were launched successfully to fund renovations and new construction as well as educational program expansion and the addition of new majors and scholarships. The Mission Statement was renewed and enriched, focusing on the Catholic and Lasallian heritage of the University.

During his presidency, Brother James was noted for his emphasis on students and student life. He established ties of communication with hundreds of students each year, nurtured many friendships that have lasted far beyond graduation, and championed various student ideas for University programs, improvement of campus facilities, and expansion of activities. In the Fall of 2018, the Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Student Center was formally dedicated in grateful appreciation for his more than 40 years of

***“Brother James transformed the Lewis campus and curriculum by strengthening and expanding academic programs, successfully developing recruitment of both undergraduate and graduate students, ensuring a distinguished faculty and staff, and revitalizing facilities with a dynamic program of renovations and new construction.”***

unparalleled service to the University. The Student Center is an enduring tribute to Brother James, whose vision, spirit, and concern enabled him to enrich the lives of so many students.

### Celebrates 60 Years as a Christian Brother in 2020



During the summer of 2020, Brother James celebrated 60 years as a De La Salle Christian Brother, commemorating that day in 1960 when he accepted the habit of the Brothers in a special ceremony at the age of 18.

### 2021 Recipient of the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh Award

In February 2021, Brother James will be honored by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) with the 2021 Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for outstanding contributions to Catholic higher education. Named after the legendary president of the University of Notre Dame, this prestigious award will recognize Brother James for his extensive record of service and significant contributions to Lasallian education both in the United States and around the world, as well as his strong and consistent voice on the distinctive value of Catholic higher education.





## Christian Brothers of Midwest District Donate to Support Students During Pandemic

The Christian Brothers of the Midwest District have provided a one-time financial gift of \$250,000 for Lewis University students.

“As we begin a new academic year, we hope and pray your community, your students and their families, and all staff remain well in mind as well in body and spirit,” Brother Michael Fehrenbach, FSC, Visitor of the Christian Brothers of the Midwest District, wrote in a letter to Dr. David Livingston, Lewis University president. The Provincials/Visitors of the United States along with their leadership teams and Christian Brothers Services were able to acquire the unrestricted grant from a generous donor.

Brother Michael continued, “This year has been incredibly difficult for all of our ministries. We have had to deal with so many unexpected new challenges

ranging from how to do virtual and remote education, cancellation of fundraisers, concern about COVID-19, racial injustice and civil unrest.”

Dr. Kurt Schackmuth, Vice President for Mission and Associate Provost for Student Success said, “This gift from the Brothers reflects their ongoing commitment to supporting students through difficult times and ensuring that they have access to high quality educational opportunities. We are so grateful for their generosity.”

*With generous support from the Christian Brothers of the Midwest, as well as alumni and friends, Lewis University has been able to reduce the financial impact of the pandemic on our students and families.*



## ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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Alumni, friends, and loyal supporters:

We want to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to each of you for all you have done to assist the university and our students during these very trying circumstances.


This fall, we have learned that we can successfully, with the help of alumni and friends, partake in a Lasallian experience, regardless of the delivery modality. Our student and faculty relationships have strengthened as we have worked together to adjust to a hybrid or online experience. Our alumni volunteerism has increased using new methods of engagement. Our students continue to conduct research, engage in experiential learning opportunities, and serve our community in numerous ways. Our university services continue to support our students as they encounter the various challenges of earning their degrees. Our degree recipients are connecting with employers. And there are countless alumni making a positive impact in their own communities which can be seen in the stories on the following pages.

We are inspired by your response and desire to help our students, staff, and faculty during this crisis. In this support for each other, we can see so clearly what it means to work together and in association as a Lasallian community.


The following pages highlight the impact of your generosity in Fiscal Year 2020. We'd like to specifically emphasize the incredible generosity designated to our Annual Fund - Area of Greatest Need. Your gifts directed to the Annual Fund allow us to make thoughtful financial decisions that are in the best interest of our students without being restricted. This year in particular, your generosity towards the Annual Fund provided the much-needed flexibility to navigate the early stages of the pandemic.

For your generosity, volunteerism, and ability to come together in the spirit of association... THANK YOU!

Thank you again, and many blessings to you and your families.



Dr. David J. Livingston



Luigi B. Amendola '01



# You ignited the **FUTURE**

**600+** students received financial assistance from the COVID-19 Relief Fund

**\$300K** raised to provide critical assistance through the Mission Fund

**296** privately funded scholarships were awarded to our students in need

**\$100K** raised to support student-athletes through the Flyer Athletics Fund

Because of you, we prepared over **1,700 graduates** this past spring to begin living out their true calling in a world that needs our Flyers. Your gift is continuously at work through their service to others as alumni.

**\$2 MILLION RAISED THROUGH THE ANNUAL FUND**

This support was critical for Lewis to continue our work to provide a quality, affordable education.

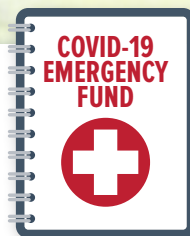


## ASPIRING NEWS ANCHOR

“I am a senior in the communications department here at Lewis. My Lewis experience has been filled with unique opportunities and unforgettable memories already. You have made this part of my life possible and allowed me to continue my education. I hope to one day pass on the knowledge I have obtained to the next generation of leaders!”

*Caitlin, Class of 2021*

Your generous support of the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund allowed over 600 Lewis students to continue their education, despite the obstacles they faced. Because of you, they are able to continue following their dreams.



“The COVID-19 Relief Fund really helped me since me and my family were unable to work during the pandemic. I work at O’Hare International Airport and was left without a job from mid-March until June. These funds helped me pay for the rest of my semester and allowed me to see that Lewis University did truly help during the tough times. I am now moving forward in becoming an air traffic controller!”

*Ewelina, senior aviation major*

*Received support from the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund*

*Together, we can build a brighter future.*

## YOUR SUPPORT PROVIDED...



**RESOURCES** that encouraged innovative learning and provided unique hands-on experiences.



**EXPERIENCES** that brought the Lasallian mission to life and allowed students to learn, explore and grow.



**OPPORTUNITIES** that provided a path to success and turned Lewis students’ dreams into reality.

“With many challenges this past school year, your support was even more critical. De La Salle has taught us to walk side-by-side with our students and guide them along their journey. **With your help, we continued to fulfill our commitment to an excellent educational experience at Lewis University.**”

*Dr. David J. Livingston*

# Gifts of IMPACT

## PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

Members invest in Lewis University with a generous annual gift of \$1,000+.

Their support fuels the transformational experience a Lewis education provides to our students. THANK YOU to all of our generous President's Circle donors!



### Kevin Davenport '11

**Compared to every major city in America, Chicago has the highest out of school, out of work percentage for black and brown youth, ages 16 to 24. Kevin Davenport '11 and his team at The Ideal Candidate have devoted themselves to changing that narrative.**

At its launch, Kevin and his team at The Ideal Candidate focused only on soft skill development. Since inception, they have added onto the existing curriculum and grown more than 35% year after year. The Ideal Candidate is now an award-winning non-profit organization that certifies students with:

financial literacy, soft skills, etiquette, corporate integration, sales and communication, etc. As of January 2020, The Ideal Candidate has added to its operations to start placing students in positions and act as a diversity and inclusion pipeline for corporations and small businesses.

"The Ideal Candidate equips youth with skills they can use forever," says Kevin. "I designed the curriculum to address all the skills needed to excel and thrive in the workplace that are not taught directly in a traditional high school curriculum; many of which are typically taught in the household. And when it is not being taught in the household, and they are not teaching it in school, some students enter adulthood with zero exposure to these skills. We address these issues head on. The Ideal Candidate program prepares an individual for getting the job, keeping the job, and knowing what to do with your new stream of income. We've impacted 600+ students to date."

This organization serves black and brown youth from all over the Chicago region, and many of these youth are dealing with major issues. For Kevin, it is important that each "Ideal Candidate" graduates with a new sense of confidence and truly believes that they are equal, and that they add value to any room they walk into, and that their value will continue to compound over time.

Lewis' Mission statement was a guiding star for how Kevin chose to design his life after graduation. He created a non-profit [The Ideal Candidate] to provide resources to a diverse student population and provide education. He then created a for-profit company [The Ideal Training Academy] to help with the diversity and inclusion issues corporations have when hiring new diverse talent.

"Every day, I wake up fulfilled, humbled, grateful that I can live and work in my purpose. I feel like I am doing the work I was put on earth to do. Very challenging work, but simultaneously very rewarding work. And I'm just getting started," says Kevin.



Kevin recently became a special part of the President's Circle by establishing an annual scholarship at Lewis University that will directly benefit all current and previous participants in The Ideal Candidate program who wish to earn an advanced degree.

## PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE DONORS

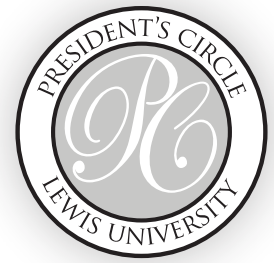
(As of October 1, 2020)

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Mr. Chris & Mrs. Loretta Adler  
Ms. Colleen Ahearn  
Mr. Luigi '01 & Mrs. Kristin Amendola  
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Mr. Larry & Mrs. Marge Attig  
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Mr. Jeff & Mrs. Patricia Baeder  
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Mr. Steven & Mrs. Mary Sue Pullara  
Mrs. Samantha M. Quigley-Smith  
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Brother Michael Quirk, FSC, Ed.D. '75, '79  
Mr. Timothy J. Rahe '81, '90  
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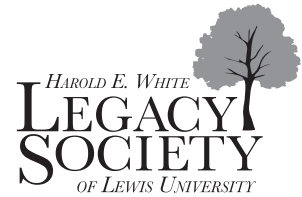
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To learn more about the President's Circle, visit [alumni.lewisu.edu/Circle](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/Circle).



# HAROLD E. WHITE LEGACY SOCIETY

Members include those who have included Lewis in their estate plans, will or bequests.



## LaVerne & Dorothy Brown

**LaVerne and Dorothy Brown (more commonly known as Bitz and Dottie) grew up in modest working-class homes on the west side of Joliet in the 1930's and 1940's; they never forgot their roots.**

According to Dorothy's nephew, Mike Bily, three common threads ran through much of the Browns' philanthropy: 1) giving back to the community in which they were both raised (Joliet and Will County); 2) investing in the young people who would be the future of that community; 3) supporting Catholic institutions in that community. Lewis was one of four local Catholic educational institutions that benefited from their philanthropy.

"They loved young people and always enjoyed being around them," Mike added. "Having never been blessed with children of their own, they expressed that love through their involvement with Lewis and other institutions. Nothing gave them more satisfaction than seeing the success of local students, in part because of their efforts to help the University thrive."

Over the last few decades, LaVerne and Dorothy worked closely with President Emeritus of Lewis University Brother James Gaffney, FSC and other

members of the Lewis community to build a brighter future for Lewis students. The Browns watched Lewis grow from an ordinary college to a University authentic in its Mission and committed to its students, as well as willing to serve the greater community. The Browns believed in Lewis and its Mission – and never stopped showing it. They regularly provided generous annual gifts to Lewis and supported all of the University's major fundraising events, in addition to establishing endowed scholarship funds for students in need.

Sadly, in 2013, LaVerne passed away. Dorothy continued the work they started together to support young people in the community, which included helping to fund the Brother James Gaffney, FSC Student Center. This new space on campus has a dining hall dedicated to the both of them. In 2019, at the age of 96, Dorothy passed away leaving behind a generous gift in her estate plans.

The Browns would want to be remembered as a couple that demonstrated steadfast love for each other and for their community, every day of their lives. They would want to be examples for Lewis students who find



future success in life, according to Mike.

"To have individuals like LaVerne and Dorothy in our Lewis community is an inspiration in and of itself!" said Brother James Gaffney, FSC. "I am honored to have had the privilege of calling them my friends. They were very loyal and invested in seeing Lewis and its students thrive. Their continued support was encouraging and helped provide resources to enable Lewis to grow and reach its potential! We have definitely come into our own and shown what we can accomplish as a University, and I think that would make them very proud."

## LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Anonymous (57)

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Mr. Jerry W. Adelmann

Mr. Jack & Dr. Cathy Ayers

Mr. Andrew B.\* & Mrs. JoAnn M. Barber

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Dr. Mary A. Bednar '59\*

Mr. Anthony J. '53\* & Mrs. Gail Benacka

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Mr. William '73 & Mrs. Jane Rybak

Mr. Eduardo & Mrs. Jody Sanchez

Mr. David G. '68 & Mrs. Marcille Sandahl

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Mr. Joel R. '78 & Mrs. Debra Baron Stava '78

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Mr. Harold E.\* & Mrs. Eva White\*

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Mr. Thomas J. Yocis '78

Mr. Lawrence C. Zlogar '69\*

If you are interested in learning more about this society, contact Brandon Hoeft at [bhoeft@lewisu.edu](mailto:bhoeft@lewisu.edu) or (815) 836-5399.

# CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIVING/ IMPACT OF PARTNERSHIPS



The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Lab has been newly outfitted with organizational equipment donated from Quality Craft.

## Lewis Benefits from Corporate Partnerships

**QUALITY CRAFT** donated equipment for the **Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) lab** in the Department of Aviation and Transportation Studies at Lewis. Quality Craft recently relocated their U.S. Support Center to Romeoville and offer a line of tool and garage storage solutions.

**G&W ELECTRIC** is growing its partnership with Lewis University's **Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences Department**. Building on its past support of computer science student capstone projects, the corporation will be offering an internship program to engineering students that will give them the chance to work at G&W Electric over multiple semesters, rotating through different departments each semester.



Recipients of the Westlake Scholarships: (top row, l-r) Lindsey Chandler, Rafael Chavez-Zamudio, Madison Collard, (middle) Caitlyn Elder, Tamia Ingram, Carli Johnson, (bottom) Alexis Lukowski, Samantha Malik, Danielle Pehr

## Westlake Health Foundation

The Westlake Health Foundation made a gift of **\$50,000 in scholarships** to support nursing students at Lewis as they complete their clinicals. These scholarships are awarded to students for their outstanding academic performance and clinical service in west suburban Cook county.

## The Hearst Foundation

The Hearst Foundation established a **two-year scholarship in support of first-generation students at Lewis**. The \$50,000 scholarship allows students to connect with Lewis mentors and continue their educational journey with the support they need to become the next generation of leaders.

This group of scholars has already started putting their leadership skills to work, serving as mentors to the inaugural group of First Gen Flyers – a new program at Lewis for first-generation students.

“In my dissertation research, I found that students perceive support from peers, especially those who have already experienced the same things; it is a great resource. This type of peer mentoring supports students’ academic success, engagement, and persistence. We already have this type of peer mentoring happening in other areas on campus, so it is



exciting and inspiring to have it in place now, with the Hearst Scholars supporting our inaugural group of First Gen Flyers.” - Dr. Melissa M. Cavazos-Eichelberger





High school students from around the world gather at Lewis to participate in the 2019 summer theology program.

## The Lilly Endowment, Inc. Grant

The Lilly Endowment, Inc. provided a \$275,000 grant to support a summer theology program that encourages high school teens from around the country to explore their spirituality and learn more about theology. Lewis faculty, staff, and students come together to provide curriculum, activities, and service opportunities that engage these teens and expose them to theological content. The grant has helped provide funding to initiate and also sustain this program at Lewis in order to work with and serve the outside community.

## Nexstar Builds a Brighter Future for Lewis Students

Nexstar Media Group, Inc. recently gifted the Lewis University Radio/TV Department with a Sony MVS8000 high-definition switcher and five Sony HDC1500 studio cameras.

The opportunity to work on this type of high-end technology fuels the transformational experience that a Lewis education provides to our students and helps prepare them for a successful career in broadcasting. Take **Ashley Bihun '19** for example...

Ashley did radio in high school, but never imagined she could make a career out of it; that changed as she began to look at colleges and took a tour of Lewis. One of the stops on her tour was at the Radio/TV station with Associate Professor/Director of Television Operations John Kilpatrick. Afterwards, Ashley immediately felt excited and hopeful for her future.

Ashley came to Lewis with an undeclared major – but that didn't last very long. She enrolled in an Introduction to Radio course her freshman year which inspired her to take a leap of faith, follow her heart, and finally join the broadcasting program at Lewis.

"I loved how passionate the professors like John Carey and John Kilpatrick were; they were genuinely so excited about what they did and were proud to share their experiences and knowledge to teach and inspire others. I did not know what I wanted to do for my career, but life at Lewis really opened



Junior Reid Pohland directing "Conversations from Stritch Hall" with new control room switcher from Nexstar Media Group, Inc.

Producer for WGN Radio. At the end of her junior year, she started an internship at WGN, and afterwards, she was offered a part-time job which eventually led to this full-time job opportunity right out of college.

"What I liked most about Lewis is that we were treated like adults," added Ashley. "We had a voice, and it would be heard; that helped give me the confidence I needed in my career. I feel comfortable learning and exploring and remain open to compromise and criticism. They taught me how to be a professional, push forward, and be better with every step I take!"

Ashley came to Lewis unsure of what she wanted for her future, but, during her time as a student, she was able to explore her passion and find her true purpose.

"Ashley had experience in radio from high school and definitely came to Lewis well prepared to pursue a career in broadcasting," said Associate Professor/Director of Electronic Media John Carey. "Her abilities became far beyond what we ever expected. She is great at what she does, and we could not be prouder to see everything she has accomplished so far."

Ashley is not the only Lewis alum working with Nexstar Media Group. Recently hired alumni include Shane Gustafson '15, Michelle Niemiec '14, Daniel Long '13, and Breandan Rook '17.

"WGN-America just launched a new primetime broadcast called NewsNation," added Carey. "They hired around 180 people from across the country – and two of them came from Lewis University [Shane Gustafson and Michelle Krzystyniak]. That is a big deal! It means we are doing something right and is one example of how important this partnership is for everyone involved."



Ashley Bihun '19 with Mary Sandberg Boyle, Vice President and General Manager of WGN Radio/Chicago

my eyes. I found what I liked and worked alongside people who loved what they were doing. I finally felt passionate about something, so I knew I was doing the right thing!" Ashley said.

Ashley recently graduated and now works as Supervising

## SPECIAL PROJECTS GIVING



### Baseball/Softball Clubhouses

Because of the generous support of the Lewis community, we were able to build a great space to prepare tomorrow's champions! These new clubhouses will help to enhance our athletic facilities on campus and build a legacy of champions here at Lewis University.

Stay tuned for more information about the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Spring 2021 where you can check out these new facilities.



### BASEBALL/SOFTBALL CLUBHOUSE DONORS

*(As of October 1, 2020)*

- |                                                        |                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Mr. Gregory, Sr. '84 & Mrs. Jeanne Grill Billo '85     | Mr. Jerome '79 & Mrs. Erin Murphy Lorenz '79           |
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| Mr. Anthony Gautier '19                                | Mr. James Singler '69                                  |
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| Mr. Timothy '03, '12 & Mrs. Angela Howe                | Dr. William L. Tolone '61                              |
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| Mr. Randy & Mrs. Julie Huisman                         | Mr. William '85 & Mrs. Kathy Tumpane                   |
| Mr. Ryan & Mrs. Caty Huisman                           | Mr. Kevin E. Tyrrell '77                               |
| Mr. Bryan '83 & Mrs. Laura Jendra                      | Mr. Kevin S. Tyrrell '07                               |
| Mr. James '03 & Mrs. Kristin Karr                      | Mr. Kirk '84 & Mrs. Virginia Vucsko                    |
| Mr. Clifton '78 & Mrs. Kathryn Todd Kelly              | Mr. James '85 & Mrs. Susan Walsh                       |
| Mr. Thomas '62 & Mrs. Dolores Kennedy                  | Mr. Ralph '60 & Mrs. Joyce Weidensee                   |
| Mr. James J. Lamping '82                               | Mr. Joseph Zdziarski '74                               |
| Mr. John J. Lange '03, '06                             |                                                        |
| Mr. Robert & Mrs. Diana Laskowski                      |                                                        |
| Mr. Bennett '85 & Mrs. Becky Whetzal Litterio '84, '93 |                                                        |

THANK YOU for your continued support of Lewis Flyers Athletics!



## Volleyball Legacy Endowment

Lewis University Men's Volleyball has developed a rich history as one of the premier NCAA Men's Volleyball programs in the country. With the support of the Flyer community, the Lewis University Men's Volleyball Legacy Endowment Fund was recently established.

In just a few short months, we have received commitments for more than \$125,000 from 85 donors and are well on the way towards achieving our goal of reaching \$500,000 in gifts within five years. We cannot do this without the support of our proud alumni and friends like YOU!

"It has been really exciting to get this project underway. With the help of a 14 person alumni/supporter driven committee, we put together the beginning pieces to get this endowment off the ground this past summer. It truly has been inspiring and surreal, and I have enjoyed all of the conversations I have had with alumni and friends of the program. The Legacy Endowment will give our alumni and Flyer fans an avenue to support the Lewis Men's volleyball program and impact current and future Flyers for years to come! There has been an overwhelming response from our supporters, and I am looking forward to continuing to grow and expand as we continue to get the word out." - Dan Friend, Head Men's Volleyball Coach

### Joel '78 and Deb Stava '78, Supporter

One of the best things a college student can learn is that the world is not all about them; it's about others and service to others. Lewis Men's Volleyball does this by teaching student-athletes to compete, collaborate, sacrifice and work hard to accomplish the greater good of team goals! And accomplish they do, much like we see in the Bible where David (with his staff, sling and a few stones) slayed Goliath (with his armor, javelin and size advantage), Lewis men's volleyball has beaten so many "Goliath sized" opponents that we might forget that even David might need more resources to keep fighting the good fight. We, friends and alums of Lewis and Lewis Men's Volleyball, can now take action by helping enable Lewis men's volleyball to continue the excellent work of helping young men reach their full potential and work to find their best selves while uniting as a team to compete for conference and national championships. Thanks for your consideration and action to help the Lewis Endowment grow and lead Lewis University, and men's volleyball to even greater heights.

### BJ Boldog '13 '14

I would not be the person I am today without my experience in the Lewis University Men's Volleyball Program. As a result of my time there I am a better leader, I have a stronger work ethic, and have a better understanding of how a motivated team can create and drive a culture. This Legacy Fund will help ensure that future members of the Lewis Men's Volleyball Program will, like I did, have an opportunity to become the best versions of themselves on and off the court.

### Ryan Coenen (Student-athlete)

Lewis Men's Volleyball has provided me with opportunity, lifelong relationships and lessons that made me a better man. This program has provided me with a family away from home that has taught me the true meaning of accountability and professionalism. I will always hold this team, university, and community close to my heart. With this endowment fund and the generous donations of all of you, there will be endless possibilities for this program and the players to come after me.



## MEN'S VOLLEYBALL LEGACY FUND COMMITTEE

(As of October 1, 2020)

Robert J. Boldog '13, '14  
 Ryan J. Coenen '20  
 Charles D. Crowder  
 Jared R. Dayton '08  
 Aaron M. Flick '11, '12  
 David R. Kelnhofer '09, '10  
 Nathan R. Klaas '10

Elias Masud, Jr. '10  
 Kevin J. Miller '03  
 Edwin J. Moses '18, '19  
 TJ Murray  
 Howard J. Petty, IV '11, '13  
 Joel R. Stava '78  
 Yiwei Zhou '14, '16

## MEN'S VOLLEYBALL LEGACY FUND DONORS

(As of October 1, 2020)

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 Mr. Brian Bomgren  
 Mr. Aadan Buck  
 Mr. Brandon Buck  
 Ms. Marie Buck  
 Mr. Timothy & Mrs. Laura Buck  
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 Mr. Diego & Mrs. Mireia Bustamante  
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THANK YOU and GO FLYERS!

# Alumni Living out the MISSION

## Nia White '17

**What seemed like a fun trip to the Philippines, turned into a very exciting chapter of life for Nia White '17.**

After graduation, Nia took a trip to the Philippines with other college students from the surrounding area; but when she returned home, felt lost and confused about the next chapter in her life. She worked in a few different roles for the next year or so, but nothing seemed to be the right fit. Nia decided to take a second trip to the Philippines in 2019 where she visited an orphanage run by the Blessed Virgin Missionaries of Carmel. After that trip, she knew in her heart that she had more to offer. Nia asked the sisters if she could come back to stay and volunteer – and one week later, she had booked a one-way ticket to the Philippines.

Since then, Nia has been responsible for looking after and caring for the children who live in the orphanage. From early childhood development and physical therapy to tutoring, cooking, and bathing – Nia did it all. Now, she also serves as an English teacher for grades 1, 4, 5, and 6, as well as helping other teachers prepare lesson plans and creating curriculum for a college course. Although her role at the orphanage has changed throughout the years, one thing always remained constant – the love and passion for her work.

“I am a missionary at heart. I love it. I really could not imagine myself in any other kind of work. I could never work in retail, a bank, in politics, or media. I have



always wanted a simple life and to serve people as I do here. My favorite part is the kids. They are bad for the ego and good for the heart. Most importantly, for me, they are the face of God. They crack me up. They stress me out. They make me happy. I learn a lot about humanity and its beauty from them,” says Nia.

Nia had many unique experiences and opportunities at Lewis that not only allowed – but also encouraged – her to learn, grow, and explore. She was surrounded by people that motivated her and inspired her to pursue this type of rewarding work.

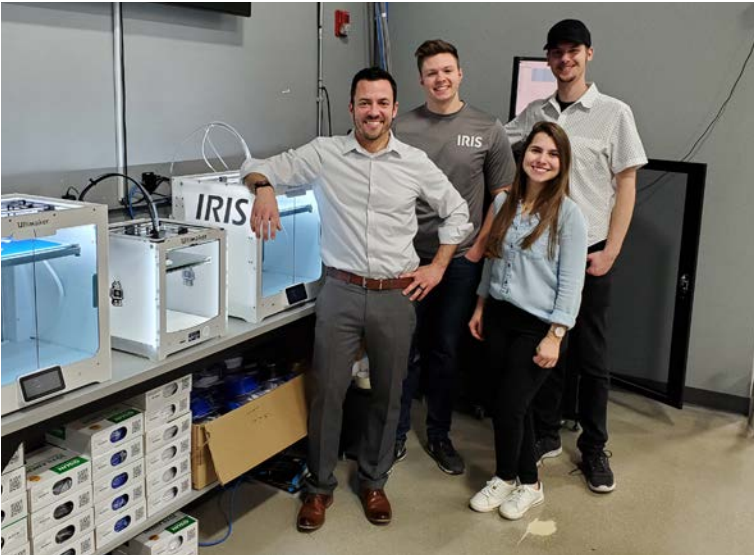
“It is hard not to leave Lewis without doing some type of mission work. Lewis does a great job at opening our minds and hearts to the world around us. Being surrounded by that energy made me want to find it elsewhere, as much as I would have loved to stay at Lewis. The Lasallian network extends to so many countries, even here in the city I live in. Bacolod City has the University of St. Lasalle, and Manila has De La Salle University, both of which are connected to Lewis.”

While at Lewis, Nia was involved heavily in ministry and International Student Association, traveled abroad, served as a peer minister, and worked in the Lasalle House with the Christian Brothers.

“The Brothers taught me a lot and continuously supported me throughout my time at Lewis, and even after. I would talk about campus and my experiences as a student often with Br. James. Br. Tom would help me with my math homework on my work breaks. Br. Phil and I would have very meaningful conversations about vocation and life. Before I left for the Philippines, I had dinner with them, and it was like saying goodbye to my family. It was also the last time I saw Br. Bernard, who was always so kind to me.”

Nia feels blessed to be able to wake up every morning and do the work she loves. This opportunity has allowed her to reflect and be grateful for all that she has and, more importantly, made her eager to share it with others.





## Rob Fell '00

**After the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, alumnus Rob Fell '00 and his team at IRIS Factory Automation decided to take action.**

They quickly joined forces with their partners to help fight the current public health crisis and create face shields to protect those serving on the frontline.

“Let’s flip the script!” says Rob. “We all know this is serious and scary, so let’s do something about it and help the people who don’t have a choice but to face it head on. This is the time to be productive and think of creative ways to get involved. We use this same creative approach in our own business every day, and now we have the chance to use it to protect people which is even better.”

Thanks to the help of Unilever, a transnational consumer goods company, IRIS was able to purchase 12 new 3D printers, in addition to the 10 they currently have. Rob’s team has focused on creating the frames, while their partner, Prismier, uses a technique called water jetting to produce the plastic shield.

“Our goal is to produce 1,400 face shields and donate them to those in need. We want to help encourage other companies to do this too. At this point no deed is too small. There’s no time in history where the affordability of technology enabled so many people to contribute. It’s true that we’re trying to produce 1,400 pieces here at IRIS, but what if 1,400 other people produced just 10 pieces? That is how we need to approach this. We need to flex as a society to use the tools at our disposal to serve those plagued by equipment shortage. Every little thing counts when it comes to protecting the people who protect us!”

Rob graduated from Lewis with a bachelor’s degree in Physics and two minors in Math and Business Administration. After several years of working in technical sales, he found his true calling with IRIS Factory Automation, a manufacturing facility focused on Packaging Automation and In Line Inspection. In June 2013, Robert founded IRIS with the intent of focusing on applying automation increase quality and decreasing manufacturing costs.

Since then, this small firm in Woodridge has continuously grown and is now home to a team of 15 employees. “We have a great staff of young engineers who are very creative,” adds Rob. “Our dynamic team strives to push technology in order to better serve our clients and the community.”

According to Rob, an overriding theme in chaos is character, and it takes character to go above and beyond to do things that will impact anyone besides themselves. He feels that he was surrounded by people that had character and strong ethics during his time at Lewis. This is what shaped him into the person he is today and gave him the ability to lead a selfless team of innovators during a difficult time like this.

## Jay Savsani '07

**After many years working in technology, Lewis alumnus Jay Savsani '07 has completely transformed into a thought leader in the sharing economy space.**

In 2012, Jay founded Meal Sharing - a global platform that connects people to home cooked meals. Fueled by his experience in technology and inspired by all of the traveling he did after graduation, Jay made it his goal to create a website that would bring people together from all around the world via food.

Fast forward to eight years later...

Jay’s start-up company has recently been acquired by Traveling Spoon, one of the world’s largest travel culinary companies. The company now has meals from over 150 countries and 450 cities.

“It has been a crazy experience and I owe it all to Lewis University,” said Jay. “The people that I met at Lewis were inspiring – especially professors Robert Bergman and Arthur Regal. Anything I wanted to explore, whether that be music or switching my major and joining the College of Business, was met with open arms in a way that was not at other universities! I had the confidence to jump into things; to get in there, explore, and make a difference for the world. Lewis inspired me to think big and do things larger than myself.”

Jay spent a few years working abroad, followed by a few other job opportunities, before opening his own agency which was a combination of advertising and marketing for clients and building startups for others. He had a team of designers and developers who helped their clients’ dreams come true – which is what ultimately inspired Jay to build Meal Sharing.

“I wanted to build a tech company for people to travel and try new food – a complete cultural exchange. I noticed a trend during my time abroad, gained confidence through my previous work, and just continued to build upon that. I was ready to change the world.”

Jay hopes that students will read his story and realize their full potential. “I want to be able to give back to the university that gave me the foundation to do some really exciting things in my career. But more importantly, I want to inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs coming out of Lewis!”

# Events and Opportunities



**Thank you to everyone who made the Signum Fidei LIVE Celebration a huge success!** Although we were unable to celebrate together in person this year, it was inspiring to see so many come together, virtually, in support of our students. Thanks to the support of our alumni and friends, over \$300,000 was raised toward the Mission Fund at this year's event. Over the past decade, this event has generated nearly \$2 million for the Mission Fund.



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Visit [alumni.lewisu.edu/SignumFidei/Sponsors](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/SignumFidei/Sponsors) to see a full list of sponsors.



**“The Mission Fund was integral to my success at Lewis.** I attribute my success to myself, but the Mission Fund gave me the chance to show Lewis University all that I am capable of. The Mission Fund came for me at a time when it felt like no matter how hard I worked, or how positive I tried to be, I wouldn't be able to overcome the financial obstacles I was facing. An institution that not only believes in your abilities and cares about your well-being and success, but is willing to prove that by taking action, is something not often experienced by people in their life. If I hadn't been able to finish out my undergraduate studies, I would have never had the opportunity to secure a graduate assistant position in the Office of Technology and work toward my master's degree. I thought I would finish out with my bachelor's degree and be done; I didn't even really think I had it in me to get the second degree. The opportunities that the Mission Fund gave me encouraged, motivated, and inspired me to continue and get my master's degree; after all, if Lewis believes in me, why shouldn't I?”

**Yesenia Gonzalez '18 '20**



# Representatives



Alumni Representatives consider Lewis University as one of their charities of choice; a place where they give back their time, treasure, and talent! They are invested in the success of Lewis and work to advance the mission of the University through volunteerism, donations, and networking.



**TIME:** Alumni Representatives receive exclusive communications and ongoing updates about Lewis University.



**TALENT:** Volunteer opportunities will be sent your way! Alumni Representatives commit to volunteering at least once a year.



**TREASURE:** Alumni Representatives understand the Lewis mission and the importance that philanthropy plays in serving our students. Each Alumni Representative commits to an annual gift to support Lewis and strives to become a President's Circle member.

## ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES

(As of October 1, 2020)

Vanessa Aldape '11	Anthony C. Lyen '14, '19
Kristie J. Bavaro '81, '82	Amber Mikula '85
Samantha L. Bluemer '16, '18	Bridget A. McIlvain '92
Hannah Chamness '17	Natalie A. Plaszewski '13, '15, '18
Trent M. Chamness '17	Lauren E. Prati '14
Kaelen R. Evon '18	Marie T. Ryan '12, '94
Elaine Harris '03, '08	Anthony M. Sam '07, '08
Ryan L. Henning '00	John M. Sherry '78
Christopher J. Hueg '11, '16	Laura Troche '18
Ken '88 and Karyn '88 Houbolt	Yiwei Zhou '14, '16
David R. Kelnhofer '09, '10	

Interested in becoming an Alumni Representative or want to learn more? Visit [alumni.lewisu.edu/AlumniRep](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/AlumniRep).

# Volunteers

**THANK YOU to our 600+ alumni volunteers! There are many ways to get involved at Lewis and pay it forward to the next generation of Flyers.**

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Admissions Events
- Alumni Day Reunion
- Alumni Letter Writing
- Alumni Representatives
- Career Services  
(*Career Advisor: Video Message, Internship Guide, Industry Advisor, Practice Interview Analyst*)
- Classroom Speaker  
(*virtual and in-person options available!*)
- Celebration of Scholarship
- Event Host
- Move-In Week
- Social Media Ambassador
- Student Activities/Services

Visit us at [alumni.lewisu.edu/VolunteerOpportunities](http://alumni.lewisu.edu/VolunteerOpportunities) to fill out a volunteer form and find the best fit for you!

## LIST OF VOLUNTEERS

Adam Abbasi '16, '17	Amanda M. Biskup
Zackary R. Abu-Shanab '18	Daniel R. Black '83
Vincent C. Acevez '17, '19	James R. Black '04, '09
Joni D. Adams '07	Christine M. Blake '17
Commeleana O. Addison '14, '17	Darian Blanks, Sr. '17
Archibald Agyemang '19	Buffy S. Blanton '13, '18
Joan C. Ajide '19	Samantha L. Bluemer '16, '18
Ruby Aleman '06, '09	Kayla M. Bogda '20
Mary E. Alexiades '93	Craig L. Boller '09
Mohamad Ali Hamada '19	Martin E. Boyles '83
Abraham Y. Alramhi '18	Sheila Boysen-Rotelli
Alexis A. Alzona '18	Crystal Bozzelli '13, '19
Joseph Ancel	Emily Brabham, OSF
Emily D. Anderson '13	Jereme R. Braggs '12
Eric E. Anderson '01	Hillary C. Brannen '19
Rhonda Ansier '19	Victoria M. Brier
Catherine Anton '19	Carolyn T. Brodnicki
Francisco G. Arenas '10, '16	Serdar '02, '99
Erika D. Armenta '17	Kimberly M. Broughton '11
Linda S. Arnold '96	Zorriante R. Brown '06, '09
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April L. Aumann '10, '15	Sergio Bueno '02, '04
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Reinschmidt '03  
Stephany D. Renovato  
Tovar '10, '20  
Stephan T. Reynolds  
Erin M. Richards '15  
William Z. Riley '18  
John M. Rinderer '19  
Samantha J.  
Rinehart '14  
Colleen M. Riordan '18  
Andrew M. Ritter  
'71, '99  
Whitcliffe B. Roberts  
'18, '19  
Semaj L. Robinson  
Mariza G. Rocha '05, '16  
Arturo Rodriguez, Jr. '10  
Franky M. Rodriguez '15  
Carlos A. Rojas Avila '13  
Carl D. Rossini '78  
Sean P. Ruane '12  
Renel Ruiz '20  
John K. Russell '70  
Shayla N. Russell '10  
Kayla E. Ryan '15, '19  
Beth A. Sack '89  
Michael G. Sack '89  
Suzanne Sahloul '12  
Anthony M. Sam  
'07, '08  
Ariana Sandoval '16, '19  
Jay V. Savsani '07  
Julia M. Schaefer '20  
Heather N. Schiele '08  
Kelsey Schluntz '19  
Kelsey N. Schmitt '14  
Miranda M. Schmitt '18  
Jacqueline K.  
Schoder '15  
Emily C. Schout '18  
Katherine E. Serdar '97  
Mark J. Serratore '10  
Alhaji S. Sesay '19  
Paul H. Sevcik '05  
Bobby Shakespeare,  
Jr. '14  
Glenn A. Sharp '87  
Charlene J. Sheetz '63  
John M. Sherry '78  
Jill M. Siegfried '85  
Alyssa J. Siwek '17  
Katheryn L. Slattery  
Jo E. Slowik '88  
Noah D. Slowik '19  
Jennifer H. Smazil '19  
Ashley Smith '19  
Chelsea L. Smith '15, '17  
Joseph J. Sparacio '16  
Erik T. Speakman '18  
Katrina E. Spears '08  
Dale R. Stahr '94  
Jennifer J.  
Staskowicz '16  
Anu Stephen '12, '19  
William R. Storie '69  
Holly A. Stowe '16, '19  
Aaron D. Struble '18  
Joanna Sturnieks '19  
Roberto Suarez  
'02, '06, '09  
Mark D. Swain '93  
Hanna G.  
Swanberg '20  
Jessica L. Swanson '19  
Victoria Sweeney  
Andrew T. Sweet '07  
Audra L. Sybert '02  
Kaitlyn M. Szymkiewicz  
Hetal Talati '19  
Amanda R. Taylor '12  
Susan E. Tekampe  
'08, '14  
Bridget A. Terrones '12  
Donna R. Thompson '15  
Fabiana Tkac  
Amaal V. Tokars '85  
Joelle M. Tolentino  
'07, '19  
Jason R. Tooth '08, '14  
Seth Osric A.  
Torralba '19  
Nycole L. Torres '17, '20  
Oscar E. Torres '09  
Rachel N. Tracey  
'14, '16  
Laura Troche '18  
Daniel A. Troy '15  
Aneta K. Trybula '14, '19  
Erik W. Turner '05  
Qiana E. Turner '16  
Amenaghawon F.  
Udobong '19  
Brianna Uribe  
Laricia M. Vazquez '18  
Joseph F. Volin '08  
Alexis A. Waddell '11  
Julianna E. Walen '20  
Dennisa M. Walker '14  
Philip Wessel '15  
Stephen Wessel '17  
Desiree West '20  
Taylor A. Wheeler  
William F. Whims '10  
Keith J. White '77  
Nicole Wiik '19  
Erin Williams '19  
James O. Williams,  
Jr. '20  
Robin L. Williams  
Alexandria K. Wilson  
Marjorie Wisniewski  
'04, '12  
Elena J. Withers '05, '19  
Kelly R. Womack '20  
Randy Wooding '16  
Ryan T. Wynn '16  
Gwendolyn L. Young '13  
Megan M. Zahos  
'06, '15  
Jessica A. Zajda  
Esmeralda Zamora '19  
Miguel Zamudio '09  
Brian S. Zankowski  
'10, '15  
Benedict Zele '19  
Yiwei Zhou '14, '16  
Steven J. Zlatic '96  
Paulina C. Zougras '20



# Class Notes



▲ **Gabriella Waddell '19** (B.S. Business Admin./Information Systems) and her husband, Tim Schalk, welcomed their son, Lucas, on September 1, 2020.

WGN producers **Shane Gustafson '15** (B.A. Mass Communications) and **Michelle (Krzystyniak) Niemiec '14** (B.A. Broadcast Journalism) helped to launch the all-new NewsNation, a nightly primetime newscast on WGN.



▲ Flyers to fiancés! **Gabby Daley '19** (B.A. Social Work) and **Sebastian Dodero '19** (B.A. Psychology) got engaged on August 10, 2019.

Crystal Lake Police Chief, **James Black '04** (B.A. Criminal Justice) '09 (M.S. Criminal Justice), was sworn in as President of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police in May 2020.

**Deanna Sortino '10** (M. Ed. Cnl/ Instructional Technology) was named the Illinois Art Education Association Secondary Art Educator of the Year.

**Collin M. Kent '15** (B.A. Political Science) joined Foran Glennon Palandech Ponzi & Rudloff PC. Collin earned his J.D. from The John Marshall Law School in 2017. Joining as an associate, Collin will focus his practice on first-party property insurance coverage and litigation as well as commercial litigation.



▲ **NaTyshca (Hood) Pickett '06** (B.A. Journalism) recently launched the first Black women-run magazine in the state of Arizona. The purpose of the magazine, *Arizona Coffea*, is to illuminate positivity in the Black community through connection, inspiration, and empowerment.



▲ **Liseth Chavez '15** (MBA) and her husband, Rafael, welcomed a little baby boy into the world. Meet future Flyer, Cristian, born on June 22, 2020.



▲ **Erin (Richards) Saylor '15** (B.A. Criminal Justice/Psychology) and Ryan Saylor married on September 5, 2020.

**Isabelle Munoz '17** (B.A. Radio-TV Broadcasting) recently accepted a position with Douglas Shaw & Associates as an account coordinator. In this role, she assists fundraising efforts of non-profit organizations across the United States through project management and performance analysis.

**Amanda Thatcher '18** (M.A. Organizational Leadership) has been appointed director of the new Office of Communication in the Medical School at the University of Michigan.



▲ **Kevin P. Davenport '11** (B.A. Communication Studies) and Ruth Bernal got engaged on September 20, 2020.

In July 2020, **Joseph O'Connor '79** (B.A. Biology/Liberal Arts) was appointed to serve on the Illinois State Board of Health.

Former Chief of Police for Orland Park, **Tim McCarthy '00** (M.S. Criminal Justice) has retired after 26 years on the job. Thank you for your service.



▲ **Emily Thomas '16** (BSN) and Giulian Racu got engaged on September 12, 2020 – in a hot air balloon.



▲ **Katie (Broenneke) Bartucci '13** (B.A. Elementary Education) married Anthony Bartucci on May 9, 2020.

In August, **Caitlin DiLallo '17** (M.Ed. Education Leadership: Principal Endorsement) was named co-principal of Komarek School in North Riverside.



▲ **Jeffrey Weiss '15** (B.A. Psychology/Sociology) '19 (M.A. Clinical Mental Health Counseling) and **Katelynn Papineau '16** (B.A. History/Secondary Education) were married October 10, 2020 in Kankakee IL.

## IN MEMORIAM

Michael L. Abel '77, '79  
Mohammed R. Aburoza '78  
Maria E. Arpin '13  
Marie A. Averion '93  
Jeanette F. Baran '92  
Renee K. Berard '89, '96  
Robert J. Berding '73  
Lawrence J. Blecka '66  
George Boratyn '79  
Lorraine Borck '79  
Mary K. Bossom '62  
Thomas J. Braham '78  
Mary S. Burch '77  
Helen Butker '96  
Glen W. Butterfield '46  
Holly M. Calvillo '11  
Patrick J. Casey '97

Eugene F. Connell '78  
Owen F. Connell '65  
Ronald G. Crabtree '79  
Sara J. Daneman '78  
Thomas L. Darovic '01  
Melanie R. DiSantis-Jones '03  
Paul E. Dolik '68  
James A. Dutton '91  
Walter Dziurawiec '66  
Kevin M. Egley '67  
Stephen Elich '54  
Stephanie M. Finn '04  
John L. Fitzgerald '72  
Michael R. Flaherty '73  
William R. Flynn '65  
Robert M. Francisco '93  
William J. Frost '79  
Matthew Garman '75

Linda M. Gaspero '94  
Selester Gilty '88  
Thomas H. Grabowski '67  
Worden W. Hahn '78  
Nancy Hargrove '87  
Joseph C. Haverstuhl '66  
Pamela J. Hawkins '92  
Robert J. Henke '79  
Nancy A. Horn '97  
Michael F. Hughes, Trustee Emeritus  
Janice L. Hunter '03, '05  
Leigh R. Kalra '00  
Salim M. Kassem '97  
John M. Keemle '56  
Ted J. Kepes '88

Glenn Klima '77  
Mary Korwin '82  
Robert J. Kosiba '63  
James A. Lakofka '71  
George W. Lanwermyer '49  
Robert M. Lazar '78  
Marilyn Lelliott '82  
Lisa C. Lewis '90  
Roscoe H. Lindsey '74  
Jennifer L. Loch '00  
Philip T. Loftus '69  
Scott P. Lukaszak '75  
Patricia M. Martin '00  
Sandy L. Mazur '03  
Melvin V. Melichar '47  
Rodney K. Miller '75  
Sherrie M. Mitchell '86  
William T. Moore '69

William R. Murphy '54  
Judy M. Murray '76  
Dennis O. Myers '78  
Robert J. Nemanik '66  
Pamela V. O'Shea '85  
Ronald L. Pacin '67  
Margot S. Pappas '06  
Patricia Penca-Gaugush '64  
Joseph R. Pigato '60  
Edgardo M. Plurad '94  
Harold P. Poulos '65  
Hope W. Rajala '74  
Richard M. Samuel '74  
Charles T. Schwarz '62, '90  
Melvin Seats '73  
Tad Sieck '02  
Michael R. Sisk '97

Alan G. Slakis '97  
Leonard A. Speiller '78  
James J. Springer '54  
James P. Staeben '67  
Edward Thomas '92  
James M. Tierney '54  
Priscilla J. Triplett '96  
Robert G. Vanucci '73  
William C. Vick '02, '03  
Brock M. Weidner '77  
Clarence B. Williamson '96, '00  
Taylor O. Wright '83  
Artis Yancey '05  
Edward D. Zigman '78  
John M. Zimmer '64  
Christina I. Zloza '12

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

# Save the Dates



**ALUMNI  
DAY  
MAY 1, 2021**



**APRIL 9, 2021**

**LAUGH TO  
CREATE  
AWARENESS  
COMEDY NIGHT  
MAY 21, 2021**

**VIRTUAL  
EVENTS**

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in from the comfort of your own home!