

# The LINDENWOOD



FEATURED STORY

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**REAL** EXPERIENCE.  
**REAL** SUCCESS.

**LINDENWOOD**  
UNIVERSITY

# CONSERVATION

## SIBLEY HERITAGE SOCIETY

Kay Wilkinson is a 1960 graduate of Lindenwood College for Women where she studied office management. Her love for the school began in September 1956, the minute she drove through the historic gates onto campus, and as she described it, the adventure would be unforgettable. Appropriately, what Kay loves most about Lindenwood is the institution's rich tradition and the commitment to educational excellence. She shared that while change is happening constantly throughout the world, Lindenwood has been able to incorporate the changes throughout its system and simultaneously hold

steadfast to its tradition. Throughout the years, Kay has always believed Lindenwood was the foundation for her successful life. As part of an unforgettable legacy, she has established the Endowed Emma Purnell Business Management Memorial Scholarship and the Endowed Wilkinson Scholarships to be funded from her estate so her involvement with Lindenwood will carry on. While Kay believes that financial donations are impactful, she also believes that getting involved more in the community and with local youth, as well as having campus events will continue to set Lindenwood apart.

“

I have so many wonderful memories of Lindenwood. One that usually comes to mind — it was a warm, sunny Sunday in September 1956 as we drove through the Lindenwood Gate onto Butler Way. Seeing the beautiful campus, I knew the adventure ahead of me would be unforgettable.

### KAY WILKINSON

*1960 graduate of Lindenwood College for Women*



> Kay Wilkinson attending the LARC Preview in 2017

**REAL EXPERIENCE.**  
**REAL SUCCESS.**

**LINDENWOOD**  
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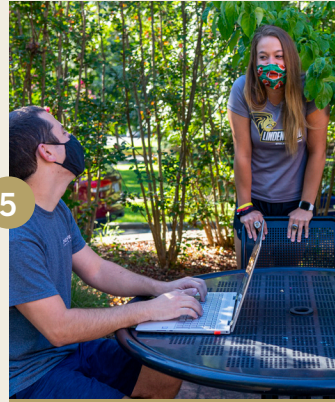
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# Letter from the PRESIDENT



WARNER HALL

Dear friends,

In my second year at Lindenwood University, I am incredibly proud of our focus on providing a quality educational experience to students. I cherish the continued opportunity to serve our students, and I am humbled you have allowed our team to explore and creatively overcome issues in higher education. We continue to listen, to learn, and to educate our community to make Lindenwood a place for all. However, our work is far from done.

Contained within these pages are success stories and moments of civic engagement, social awareness, and human compassion that make Lindenwood such a special place. I am proud of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni, who together, carry on the rich tradition of excellence. Our campus has been invigorated with creativity, intentionality, and a new strategic plan that will position Lindenwood University as a leader in higher education. I look forward to sharing our continued successes and the benchmarks of achievement as we bring our strategic plan to fruition over the coming years.



Ever grateful for your  
friendship and support,

**JOHN R. PORTER, ED.D.**  
*President of Lindenwood University*

## ADVANCEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS *Department*

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*Vice President, Advancement and Communications*

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*Graphic Designer*

**PETER COLOMBATTO**  
*Digital Marketing Manager*

**BRAD HANSEN**  
*Art Director*



# COUNTING LEAVES

## DATA AND STATISTICS



Lindenwood hosted **23** diversity trainings in the Fall 2020 semester



Lindenwood installed **258** hand sanitizer stations on campus



**10** students per week benefit from the Little Free Pantry



**15** no-touch temperature check stations were installed on campus



Lindenwood students gave more than **9,200** hours of community service last year



The university donated **6,500** pairs of gloves and **600** face masks to local healthcare providers

## Nourishing OUR ROOTS

## WELCOME LETTER

### Greetings Lindenwood University community,

I hope this letter finds you happy, healthy, and safe. 2020 has been a challenging year for many people, populations, communities, races, genders, faiths, nations, and professions. It isn't easy to summarize, but we, as global citizens, have been tested in our humanity. The challenges of the world have presented themselves with compounding effects that have forced all of us to take a hard look at the world, but more importantly, ourselves.

My hope is that each of us have taken the time, energy, and space to reflect on how we show up for these challenges, especially when they have the potential to become culturally divisive within our communities. I wish for all of you to navigate our challenging pathways with patience, kindness, and respect not only for others, but also for ourselves. In our social identities and life experiences,

we all possess great knowledge and power, but at the same time — pain, grief, and trauma.

It is in this space, while acknowledging the delicate balance, where we can reflect, reconcile, and begin to move forward again. So that if or when we are called to action by a family member, friend, neighbor, or colleague to create change for the good of the community, we are ready, able, and willing to do so. We have within us the power of our identities and experiences — that diversity is our superpower. Join us as Lindenwood steps into a future of civic engagement and social awareness.



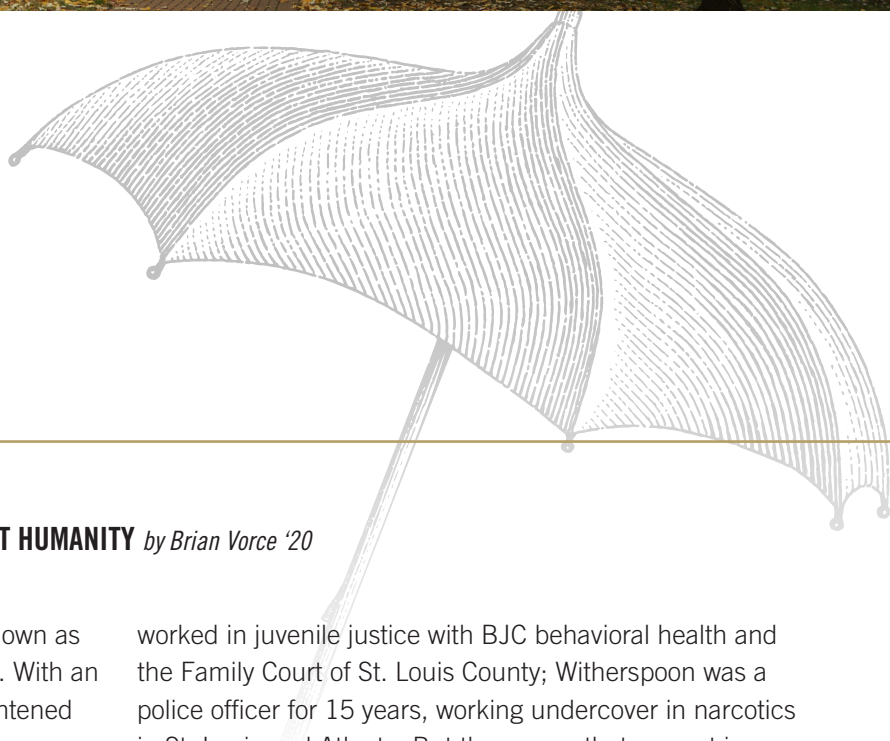
Stay well,

**JENNIFER SPELLAZZA, M.S. (SHE/HER)**

*Coordinator, Center for Diversity & Inclusion*



# Pouring RAINS



## DEFENDING COMPASSION

**EDUCATING CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS TO PROTECT HUMANITY** *by Brian Vorce '20*

The year 2020 will, with clearer hindsight, likely be known as one of the most tumultuous years in American history. With an unprecedented pandemic, economic shutdown, heightened racial tensions, and a heated presidential election, the year has been a constant source of frustration, confusion, and Internet memes. The year has also spotlighted an increasing distrust between the public and the police forces sworn to protect them.

According to two of Lindenwood University's leading criminal justice and criminology professors, this is the perfect time to increase our understanding of the criminal justice system and to have the tough conversations with one another about the complex issues facing the country.

Drs. Billi Patzius and Pernell Witherspoon, professors of criminal justice, took different paths to Lindenwood. Patzius

worked in juvenile justice with BJC behavioral health and the Family Court of St. Louis County; Witherspoon was a police officer for 15 years, working undercover in narcotics in St. Louis and Atlanta. But they agree that current issues are shaking the foundations and the faith in law enforcement professionals, and the remedy is better understanding through communication.

"With professionals who have already been in the field a while, it's more difficult to approach police brutality, dishonesty, and ethical issues within police departments or any agency in the criminal justice field," Patzius said. "Because nobody goes into the field thinking, 'I'm going to be an unethical person who's not going to treat people fairly.' So defenses go up right away, especially for those who have been in the field for a while and who feel strongly about their own beliefs and their own convictions."



> Real experience in the field supports student success

“We want Lindenwood students to be armed with the knowledge to have intelligent conversations about these things,” Witherspoon added.

So how do professors teach these sensitive issues? How do we explain the violent clashes between protesters and police? The racial tensions and distrust? What will future justice officers know about the chain of events leading to 2020?

“We are exposing them to different ideas and history and why things are the way they are now,” Patzius said. “We have those difficult conversations in class, and my hope is they walk away with a different perspective.”

Younger students come into the criminal justice and criminology program with beliefs from home and from their peers, Patzius said. Recognizing the biases we all hold as humans is important to thinking critically about current events.



We are exposing them to different ideas and history and why things are the way they are now.... We have those difficult conversations in class, and my hope is they walk away with a different perspective.

**DR. BILLI PATZIUS**

“I’m not looking to change them to become something different,” said Witherspoon, who has taught at Lindenwood for 15 years. “I’m here to give them the knowledge to try to channel or at least do some type of self-assessment of their biases, so that when they get out there, they are able to remain as professional as they can.”

“We’re human. Our emotions get in the way, but hopefully, we are teaching them how to keep those emotions from influencing behaviors.” And, mentoring rising professionals to be socially aware and civically minded is not an easy undertaking.

Using police as an umbrella term to describe all law officers or criminal justice professionals – or to say they are fundamentally racist – is offensive, Patzius said. However, the criminal justice system can become oppressive over time, especially to certain ethnic or social groups, and she knows some people hate to hear that. She said her years working with juvenile offenders exposed her to diversity issues — and how students coming from criminal justice backgrounds may not want to believe in these issues. She said if criminal justice professionals ignore the issues, they will never go away.

“Regardless of their own personal opinions, I would love for students to be open-minded enough and be able to think

critically enough to have these conversations that are very difficult – with their colleagues especially,” Patzius, a 13-year Lindenwood veteran, said. “I reflect on my college professors and how much of an impact they had on me when I was trying to figure out what to do. I’m so grateful to them, and this is my chance to try to do the same thing for my students.”

“

We’re human. Our emotions get in the way, but hopefully, we are teaching them how to keep those emotions from influencing behaviors.

**DR. PERNELL WITHERSPOON**

Witherspoon combines stories from his time as a police officer with the most recent research to present compelling questions and dilemmas to his students in order to stimulate their thinking.



> With extensive careers in law enforcement, Drs. Patzius and Witherspoon bring real experience to the classroom



“

It’s interesting that when I present some of this evidence and research to students, as a black man, some of the black students may look at me as a sellout. At the same time, some of the white students might look at me as racist.

**DR. PERNELL WITHERSPOON**

In America, Witherspoon said, a lot of issues are based on race: “It’s interesting that when I present some of this evidence and research to students, as a black man, some of the black students may look at me as a sellout. At the same time, some of the white students might look at me as racist.”

“I have to explain to them, I’m presenting research, not Witherspoon’s opinions.”

The first few days are key to getting students to open up about these topics, Witherspoon said. He has to get students to trust they can speak openly, or they might shut down for the semester. Everyone has biases, and Witherspoon wants his students to challenge themselves and look at their own possible prejudices.

“I have to be open and real with them about what’s going on,” Witherspoon said. “Just as I’m trying to teach them, I’m still learning as well.”

“They get pretty brave behind a keyboard, a little more open about certain things,” said Patzius, the criminal justice and criminology program chair. “But we’ve had heated conversations in every class I’ve taught. And we should, because these are difficult topics.”

This focus on current events and critical thinking is part of what makes Lindenwood’s criminal justice and criminology program so effective, Patzius and Witherspoon say. And while the professors possess the data and research the students will need to know, they also impart practical knowledge from their years as professionals in the field.

Lindenwood professors are from diverse backgrounds who have many contacts with various organizations, including the FBI, DEA, and the juvenile justice system. As part of a relationship with St. Louis County police, Lindenwood students can complete the county police academy for college credit their final semesters, which graduates students with degrees and jobs.

Students will soon have access to the Crime House, a forensic experiential learning facility. Devoted to criminal investigations, the Crime House will inspire more hands-on learning. “The idea is to set up in the rooms different types of crime scenes: blood splatter, broken bones, a baseball bat, you name it,” Patzius said. “The students will love it.”

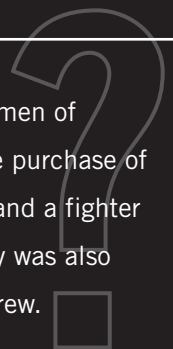
Ultimately, Patzius and Witherspoon hope their students acquire and develop the knowledge, skills, and impartiality to build bridges between themselves, their colleagues, and the public they serve. With open minds and lines of dialog, the problems of 2020 can be solved.



> The S.S. Lindenwood Victory Ship

**FUN FACTS**

Did you know that during World War II the women of Lindenwood raised enough money through the purchase of war bonds and stamps to have a Victory ship and a fighter plane named after the college? Enough money was also raised to supply a ship with a library for the crew.



# BASKING IN THE *Light*



## IN DEPTH SERIES

Lindenwood University was featured in a November episode of “In Depth with Host Laurence Fishburne”. Through this award-winning series, “In Depth provides a podium for new ideas and unique perspectives through

a short documentary format.” Lindenwood was highlighted as a university facing the challenges of the modern workforce head-on. With an entrepreneurial mindset and a focus on experiential learning and forward-thinking, the documentary detailed what Lindenwood is doing to prepare students for the future, within the historical perspective that has supported the campus since its founding in 1827.



## LIVING OUT DREAMS

Dr. Marcus Smith, assistant professor of history, joined Lindenwood’s faculty in August of 2020 to pursue his dreams of helping students become aware of the much broader and interconnected world they are a part of. “Our lives are not as local

as we might often think they are,” said Marcus. In 2005, Dr. Marcus spent a year in Baghdad as part of the National Guard. After earning the Purple Heart and returning home to the States, Marcus shifted his focus, making it his goal to learn more about the deep Middle Eastern history that he recognized he was a stranger to. Inspired by his experience, Dr. Marcus now passes his knowledge to help teach cultural competence and well-roundedness to his students.



## CELL #77

Lindenwood alumnus Aslan Demir ‘18 released his book Cell #77 in July of 2020. Demir, who is from Turkey explains that Cell #77 is a “bloodied portrait of state oppression” — referring to his home country. In an effort to make a difference in a “so-called democratic country” Demir speaks out calling

attention to the menacing acts taking place in the country he calls home. “This book is my way of fighting injustice that is going on in my country” explains Demir. “That’s why it is by far, the most important thing I have ever accomplished.” Demir graduated from Lindenwood with a master’s in writing, and continues to create.



## EXPRESSIONS

Expressions by Four Artists in Wood, Stone, Wool, and Steel opened in Lindenwood’s Boyle Family Gallery on Oct. 15 and is expected to run until Dec. 4. The exhibition contains the work of four St. Louis based artists — Abraham Mohler, Matt Schiermeier, and two of Lindenwood’s very own — Dean of Education, Anthony

Scheffler and Lindenwood alumna (’15) and Web Content Administrator, Alexandra Bardon. “I am grateful for the opportunity to present my pieces alongside gifted artists whose work is technically accomplished and esthetically striking,” said Scheffler. The Expressions exhibit is intended to not simply showcase the work of these four St Louis area artists, but to examine expression through four different mediums. The works vary from simple representation to complex interpretations, and from high-craft to abstraction.

# Linden BRANCHES

## LINDENWOOD IN THE COMMUNITY



### SUPPORTING LOCAL

Supporting local organizations is an impactful way for Lindenwood to serve the St. Charles County community. This fall, Lindenwood sponsored charity golf tournaments supporting All American Athlete, and Five Acres Animal Shelter. All American

Athlete's mission is focused on developing athletic and life skills in children to help them become better citizens through guidance, encouragement, and instruction. Five Acres Animal Shelter is the only no-kill animal shelter in St. Charles County and seeks to find loving homes for animals. Lindenwood was proud to partner with these incredible organizations and looks forward to future opportunities in St. Charles County.



### GIVING BACK

Lindenwood partnered with Francis Howell School District to provide ten mobile hot spots to ensure reliable internet connectivity, essential for students participating in virtual learning. Dr. John Porter, President of Lindenwood University, and Scott Myers, Director of

Development, presented a check for the purchase to Dr. Nathan Hoven, school district superintendent. "We are grateful for the generous support of Lindenwood University and Dr. John Porter," Hoven shared. "This donation demonstrates Lindenwood's deep commitment to our community and will help ensure technological equity among students in the Francis Howell School District. I look forward to the many ways our two great institutions will partner together in the future."



### DESERVED RECOGNITION

Robert Fontaine-Holman '20 was recognized by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and was presented the 8th District and International William H. Hastie Scholarship Award for Creative Research. He works in the community to host

reading nights for children and brings together Brothers of Omega, firefighters, and college athletes to support child literacy. Lindenwood is proud to congratulate Robert Fontaine-Holman on his award and grateful to his commitment to community. He is currently working as a language arts teacher in Columbia, Mo.



### THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Lindenwood University School of Arts, Media, and Communications donated twelve drums and 100 marching band uniforms to the band at Madison High School in Madison, Ill. The 40-member band is under

the direction of Lindenwood alumnus and adjunct faculty member, Bernard Long, Jr., who shared the impact of the gift: "We are very appreciative of this donation as it will save students' lives and produce and prepare future Lindenwood University band students." This gift will provide students with the necessary equipment to revitalize their band program, as 96% of the student population at the school is considered economically disadvantaged.

# The UNDERSTORY



## LETTER FROM STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

**Dear Lindenwood Community,**

Lindenwood University has saved my life! Lindenwood has saved me from inner city genocide, poverty, and self-destruction. Dr Martin Luther King Jr. stated that, “People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don’t know each other; they don’t know each other because they have not communicated with each other.” That quote has impacted me very much, because that’s the type of culture I wanted to instill within the students here at Lindenwood.

Relationships are wealth, and we as students are here to get our education and connect with one another. For me, the students here at Lindenwood have become my family. And during this uncertain time, keeping the school open has been a primary goal for Lindenwood Student Government. LSG has combined with campus partners to put together a legendary COVID-19 response commercial. This commercial will feature why it’s important to follow the guidelines and safety protocols.

The commercial will also feature students’ stories, trials, and tribulations.

We have done a great job so far with battling the virus and doing our part to protect one another. Events are still being held virtually, and we are still able to network with one another. We are Lions, we are strong, and together we will achieve greatness at its highest level.



*I wish you the best,*

**MARCO LEE**

*Lindenwood Student Government President*

*Marco Lee is a senior majoring in criminology and criminal justice. He began his Lindenwood journey at the Belleville campus and transferred to St. Charles for the 2020-21 academic year. Lee is a native of the Englewood neighborhood on the south side of Chicago, Il. and would like to attend law school. His goal is to be a top criminal attorney and someday dreams of running for office.*



People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don’t know each other; they don’t know each other because they have not communicated with each other.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**



› Students enjoy a nice fall afternoon on campus in 2019

If you asked Kathryn Finnerty where she was most happy as a child, she would tell you her happiest memories involve the ocean. She loves the waves, swimming, and everything related to water. Kathryn, who is known by most as Kat, is a current graduate student at Lindenwood University. She finished her undergraduate degree in May 2020, in the most unprecedented time our world has seen in the last century, as one might state. While some might find it hard to find a silver lining during a pandemic, there is something to be said about the community at Lindenwood giving students the opportunity to continue their education and find their true passions.



> Kat and her teammates cheer on the community

Kat joined the Lion community from Waterloo, Ill., and initially considered attending Lindenwood in hopes of playing on the volleyball team. When she came to campus to meet her potential teammates and see the facilities, she was sold.

While she had no idea what she wanted to study, after much research and a conversation with Dr. Julie Turner, Kat was convinced that a degree in nonprofit administration was the right academic program that would provide her with the tools and knowledge she'd need to make an impact in the world.



During her undergraduate studies, Kat had the opportunity to work with a variety of non-profits, one involving animal welfare, and another involving children. Throughout her classes and community engagement, she came back to this idea of the water and her love for the environment. After

completing her bachelor's degree in May, Kat chose to stay at Lindenwood and is pursuing her master's in Nonprofit Administration. Kat's future goal is to work for a company that cares about the environment and marine life.

Kat's passion is to give back to the community and educating others on the potential they possess to affect change. From her perspective, no matter how long you are there or what type of community you are part of, that community is shaping you in some way, and you have the power to make a positive difference.

### KAT FINNERTY

*2020 Lindenwood Graduate*

## FUN FACTS

Did you know that prior to coming to Lindenwood, President Franc McCluer headed the Constitutional Convention which created Missouri's current Constitution? After two years of debate, and a couple of lawsuits attempting to prevent the Convention from proceeding, the "new" Constitution won wide approval by Missouri voters in 1945. The previous Constitution had been in place since 1875.



> LU President Franc McCluer with U.S. President Harry S. Truman

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, SOCIAL AWARENESS, AND STUDENT VOTERS** *by Hailey Carver '21*

Led by the desire to increase voter turnout, Dr. Amy Estlund and Dr. Barbara Hosto-Marti created the Generation Z Leading the Vote Initiative. With the help of funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health, Estlund and Hosto-Marti are helping Lindenwood and the surrounding St. Charles community realize that they, too, have a voice.



“It is important to be knowledgeable on local and national politics and policies,” Estlund said. “We have a great power to vote for people to represent us. Politics and policies are complicated subjects and we can use this opportunity to make it a little easier to understand, so college students feel empowered to get involved and voice their opinion.”

Through this joint initiative by the School of Health Sciences and the School of Humanities, Estlund and Hosto-Marti held voter registration drives, workshops, and outreach activities. As equity and improvement in public health can depend on the voice and participation of the community, Lindenwood and the Foundation are seeking to engage more communities.

“Even before the pandemic I knew this election was going to be critical to the health of our democracy,” Hosto-Marti said. “Increasingly people, especially young people, are losing faith in their government because they do not feel that the people in office represent them.”

Estlund and Hosto-Marti named this initiative in hopes of empowering their community and encouraging them to get involved with the November primary and future elections. Another goal they hoped to achieve was an increase of voter turn-out in low voter-turnout areas in St. Charles.



“This grant was to promote election participation and voter education with people who are not normally engaged in the process. I was excited about the opportunity to get our students and underserved populations in St. Charles engaged,” Hosto-Marti said.

Lindenwood helped voters check their registration status, mobilized voters who are new to the process or have limited access to voting, aided in voter protection efforts, and educated communities on voting and the democratic process.

“I hope Lindenwood has a positive influence and position in the greater St. Charles community. We can serve our neighbors in new and different ways. We knew this would be an excellent opportunity to bring activism, engagement, and education,” Estlund said.



> Students work to encourage the community to vote



This grant was to promote election participation and voter education with people who are not normally engaged in the process. I was excited about the opportunity to get our students and underserved populations in St. Charles engaged.

**DR. BARBARA HOSTO-MARTI**

In lieu of the traditional homecoming festivities, Lindenwood hosted Spirit Week October 26 to 31, as a new weeklong series of events that adhered to safety guidelines, while providing engaging and fun activities for the Lindenwood family.



The weeklong series of events included a door decorating competition, an alumni “Hallo-Zoom” party, a Dwelling Dance, and many more interactive activities. The range of events allowed students the opportunity to be involved in campus-wide socially distant activities, or the convenience of participating from their very own room or home.

One of the more popular events was the Lindenwood University Food Fight, where local eateries showcased Lindenwood themed menu items throughout the week, in an effort to get the most votes from the Lindenwood community.

Other popular events included a T-shirt giveaway, LU Cribs, and the Alumni Hall-Zoom Party, where alumni joined in on a spirited zoom party which included spooky conversation, a costume contest, and a Lindenwood alumni swag box for the contest winner. Students also enjoyed Hallowed Walls, where they had the opportunity to display their artistic talents by painting a mini mural, incorporating their pride for Lindenwood, as well as their individual organizations. The murals were displayed along Butler Way Street. The three winning organizations were announced during the Let’s Get Quizzical Spooky Spectacular Night, where they were each awarded a \$100 credit toward their organization.

To close out the week, students were invited to dance the night away from the comfort of their home, while streaming a special concert by Queens Blvd. Students who attended the Dwelling Dance were invited to share a photo of themselves enjoying the concert in their Halloween costume for a chance to win a prize.



> Logo and theme for Spirit Week 2020

> Student organizations painted Hallowed Walls mini murals along Butler Way



# ATHLETICS

## LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY



### ROAD TO THE BIG LEAGUES

In just four years, Geoff Hartlieb has gone from Lindenwood Lion to Pittsburgh Pirate. His hard work and dedication led him to become one of the key relief pitchers for the Pirates in his second season in Major League Baseball. The path for Hartlieb has been unique, but with a close-knit family he was able to reach his goals.

Hartlieb transferred to Lindenwood University after spending one season playing basketball at Quincy University. The Highland, Ill. native chose to play baseball for the Lions, a decision that would sculpt his future. When he joined the Lindenwood baseball program, the long 6-6 right-handed pitcher immediately had an impact on the team. His success began to catch the eyes of MLB scouts heading into the 2015 MLB Draft, and talks about him being drafted began to surface. As Hartlieb and the Lions were making a push for the conference tournament in the spring of 2015, he was hit with the sad news about his mom being put on hospice care with lung cancer.

Hartlieb went home for a few weeks, was no longer working out, and questioned his return to St. Charles for the rest of the season. After the passing of his mom, Hartlieb was selected

by the New York Mets in the 37th round of the 2015 MLB Draft, but he held on to something bigger than the game of baseball.

“My mom always wanted me to graduate. She always wanted me to finish school and that was something that was instilled in my sister and I at a young age. I think falling that low in the draft happened for a reason.”

Hartlieb returned to Lindenwood for his senior season and carried the memory of his mom with him on the brim of his hat. “Every time before I pitch, I have some stuff written on my hat to think about my mom and center myself to remember that there is stuff bigger than what I am doing in that moment. My parents did a great job raising me and my sister, and I think they gave us the tools to get through the tough times.”

Baseball serves as a therapeutic escape for the mind during rough times, and the team companionship at Lindenwood helped Hartlieb through one of the toughest periods in his life. Hartlieb closed out his collegiate career in 2016 and was selected by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 29th round.



> Geoff pitching at Lindenwood University

“

My mom always wanted me to graduate. She always wanted me to finish school and that was something that was instilled in my sister and I at a young age. I think falling that low in the draft happened for a reason.

**GEOFF HARTLIEB**





After nearly three years in the minors, Hartlieb got the call to the big leagues on May 17, 2019. Just one day later he made his MLB debut, a moment the Highland High School product will never forget.

“I was nervous when they called my name, like super nervous. As soon as they called my name my stomach flipped over and my heart started racing.” Hartlieb continued, “I’ll never forget walking out for the first time, and it’s just a huge stadium (Petco Park). The guys in the bullpen were telling me not to look up at the third deck, but I did anyway. Once I actually got out there it’s pretty simple, it’s the same game you’ve been playing your whole life.”

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 baseball season was unique and forced many to change their everyday living. With games nearly every day and sometimes two games in a day, the down time for Hartlieb was important to get away from the game. “It was a weird season with a lot of challenges,” said Hartlieb. “It was taxing both physically and mentally, but it was a lot better when my wife and my dog were in town.”

Hartlieb has many memories as he completed his second season in the majors. While some may just see a baseball, the 26-year old carries a different memory with each one. “I have given my dad a lot of them (baseballs) over the years, he’s got one from every level I’ve played. I have my first out at Busch Stadium, I’ve got my first win, and my first pitched ball. To be able to say you got a win in the major leagues, it’s still kind of hard to believe it actually happened.”

During the 2020 regular season, Hartlieb had one of the better seasons in the Pirates bullpen. With a 3.63 ERA over the span of 22.1 innings pitched, Hartlieb earned the respect from his peers. At the conclusion of the season, Hartlieb ranked fourth in the National League in percentage of inherited runners stranded, demonstrating his dependability in tight spots. From a young St. Louis Cardinals fan to a Lindenwood Lion, Hartlieb has now made his mark on the game of baseball at the highest level.



> Geoff taking the mound for the Pittsburgh Pirates



I was nervous when they called my name, like super nervous. As soon as they called my name my stomach flipped over and my heart started racing.

**GEOFF HARTLIEB**

## LINDENWOOD FOOTBALL TEAMS UP WITH LOCAL POLICE

With the topic of racial injustice and division among the American people, the Lindenwood football team took steps toward bringing the local community closer together. Shortly after the death of George Floyd, tensions began to increase and caused many to ask “why”.

The Lindenwood Athletics Department released a statement, recognizing the racial divide and vowing to help create change in our country. Lindenwood football head coach Jed Stugart and his team took action as they collaborated with the local police department to create healthy conversation in hopes of building a positive change in the world. The Lions teamed up with St. Charles Mayor Dan Borgmeyer and St. Charles Chief of

Police Randy McKinley to bring open and honest dialogue to the table.

With nearly two dozen in attendance, people with diverse backgrounds gathered in a room to better understand how to close the gap of racial injustice and social division in the country. Lindenwood was represented by many different backgrounds, including many African American student-athletes who spoke on their encounters with law enforcement. Likewise, the local police representatives provided their experiences and viewpoints to provide better understanding for all in attendance. Since the first meeting, the Lions have met with the multiple police chiefs and police officers around the St. Charles community.

## LINDENWOOD LAUNCHES eSPORTS TEAM

Lindenwood University announced the formation of the 46th intercollegiate athletics team with the establishment of an eSports program. The eSports team is an adaption of the Lindenwood University Gaming Association, which has been active as a student organization since 2019.

“As we look to find new innovative ways to provide a premier experience for students, adding eSports to our sport sponsorship is a perfect fit,” said Brad Wachler, Lindenwood Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics. “This allows us to provide a tremendous opportunity to engage our current students, but also a terrific platform to recruit new students and to promote our video game design major and other top-level academic programs.” Lindenwood will begin by immediately sponsoring Overwatch and League of Legends teams and look to grow their teams to other games in the future.



## LINDENWOOD ATHLETICS



> Computer setup for eSports team at Lindenwood

## LINDENWOOD RANKS THIRD NATIONALLY WITH 182 D2 ADA ACADEMIC AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Division 2 Athletics Directors Association (D2 ADA) announced the 2019–20 recipients of the D2 ADA Academic Achievement Awards, and Lindenwood Athletics had 188 student-athletes receive recognition, which led the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) and finished third in all of NCAA Division II.

In order to receive an Academic Achievement Award, the student-athlete had to maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, have attended a minimum of two years (four semesters) of college level work, and must have been an active member of an intercollegiate team during his/her last academic year. Lindenwood ranked third nationally, with an impressive 188 student-athlete recipients.

## LONGTIME ATHLETIC TRAINER, BIGGERSTAFF ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Athletic trainer and Lindenwood Sports Hall of Famer Randy Biggerstaff announced his plans to retire earlier this year after more than two decades at Lindenwood. During his tenure, Biggerstaff served as the department chair of the School of

Sport, Recreation, and Exercise Sciences, the Athletic Training Education Program Director, and Head Athletic Trainer.

“The last 24 years on the faculty and staff, and the 9 years before that on LU Boards, have been a wonderful journey,” said Biggerstaff. “I made many friends, taught many athletic trainers, and mentored new and old professionals. In addition, I have had the great opportunity to work with outstanding faculty and administrators, as well as some of the finest athletes and greatest coaches.”

Among his many achievements are the National Athletic Trainers Service Award in 2017 and induction into the Missouri Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame in 1995, Missouri Sport Hall of Fame in 1997, and the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame in 2010.



> Biggerstaff retires after three decades with Lindenwood

## LINDENWOOD ATHLETICS UNVEILS 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

Lindenwood Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics Brad Wachler announced the **2020 induction class for the Lindenwood Sports Hall of Fame**. Seven individuals and one team comprise the 2020 class, which will soon take its place among the University's all-time greats.

### ★ ANDREW BRADBURY

Andrew Bradbury spent two seasons as a member of the wrestling team, donning the black and gold during the 2003–04 and 2004–05 campaigns. Bradbury earned All-American status in each of his two seasons and won back-to-back national titles at 125 pounds. In 2005, Bradbury guided Lindenwood to the second team title in program history, while also helping the Lions claim top honors at the prestigious National Dual Championships.

### ★ MICHAEL COURSAULT

Michael Coursault was a member of the men's lacrosse team for four seasons from 2006–09. Coursault played in 56 games for the Lions, accumulating 133 goals and 50 assists during his career for a 3.27 points per game average. Coursault earned All-American honors three times. In addition, Coursault was a three-time first-team all-MCLA performer and served as team captain for Lindenwood from 2007–09.

### ★ GRAEME HOSSACK

Graeme Hossack was a four-year member of the men's lacrosse team, leading the Lions from 2012–15. Hossack was a ground ball machine for Lindenwood, ranking fifth all-time in NCAA history by collecting 452 ground balls during his career. As a senior in 2015, Hossack established the Lindenwood single-season record with 153 ground balls. Hossack was a first-team All-American in 2015, becoming the program's first All-American during Lindenwood's NCAA era.

### ★ JIM LANGE

Jim Lange was a four-year starter for the men's lacrosse team from 2004–07. Lange concluded his career in 2007 as the program's all-time leading scorer, eclipsing 200 career points. Lange was a four-time all-conference performer and was selected as a MCLA All-American in 2005. Lange captained the Lions for three seasons, helping lead the team to three straight conference championships and three consecutive appearances in the MCLA National Championship Tournament.

### ★ TRAVIS MEARS

Travis Mears was a member of the shotgun sports team from 2005–10, helping lead the Lions to ACUI Collegiate National Championships in each season during the program's historic stretch of 15 consecutive titles. Mears had three top-ten finishes at the ACUI Collegiate National Championships, including a second-place finish in 2009, and won the overall individual National Championship in 2010. In all, Mears amassed seven individual Collegiate National Championships.

### ★ CHRISTOPHER MILESKI

Christopher Mileski served as head coach of the cycling program for six seasons from 2009–14 and was at the helm of the cycling program during the 2014 USA Cycling Collegiate Road National Championships as the Lions finished second overall. Mileski has dedicated over two decades to the sport of cycling and helped lay the foundation for the program at Lindenwood.

### ★ RYAN NICKLAS

Ryan Nicklas was a four-year starter for the Lindenwood men's volleyball team from 2003–06, finishing as one of the most decorated players in program history. Nicklas guided the Lions to a 112-33 record, twice leading Lindenwood to the NAIA National Championship Match. The Lions won four consecutive conference championships during Nicklas' tenure. Nicklas was a two-time All-American, and a three-time all-conference performer. Nicklas accumulated 1,157 kills and 462 blocks as a Lion.

### ★ 2015 LION LINE

The 2015 Lion Line is remembered for winning the program's first national championship in the open jazz division. At the time, the national title for the Lions was the sixth in program history, with each of the previous five trophies coming in the open hip-hop division. The Lions earned the best score of the group, en route to the title.

## FUN FACTS

Did you know that the Lindenwood athletic teams were first called the Lions in 1970? The actual mascot was not used until much later.



> LU Mascot, Leo the Lion



# The Mighty CANOPY

## THE GIVING COMMUNITY



### GIVING

#### TRUE LOVE AT THE FEDERAL RESERVE

Kathleen Louise Carlson earned her bachelor’s degree in business administration from Lindenwood University in 1987 and she could be described in one word, passionate. Depending on relation, one would have called her Kathy or Katie. She met her husband, Keith, at the Federal Reserve

and their love stemmed from their passion for education and learning. Katie had a wide variety of interests over the years—ballet, photography, art, stained glass, quilting, and most of all, music. Keith was an economist whose appetite for statistics and numbers was seen through his love for baseball, where he not only kept thousands of baseball books but kept baseball statistics, researched baseball players and numbers. When Katie passed away in 2015 from cancer, Keith was determined to honor Katie’s life. While he didn’t know what this initially meant, he did know that their bond over education and her love of music were two ways he could honor her. He learned about endowed scholarships and did his research – he could endow a scholarship in her name for the arts, therefore creating the Kathleen Carlson Memorial Scholarship for Instrumental Music. This scholarship affords juniors and seniors majoring in music performance or instrumental music the opportunity to receive scholarship support based on availability and funds. Keith was able to



> Katie and Keith at Lindenwood graduation in 1987

attend the annual Endowed Scholarship Luncheon two times where he was able to meet the recipients of this scholarship.

For four years after Katie passed, the Carlson sisters, Kelley, Jenny, and Laura, were able to spend lots of quality time with their father, Keith. His final years were focused on enjoying life with his family and especially his great-grandchildren. In January 2019, Keith passed away unexpectedly. Many of the siblings were shocked by his passing, but his eldest daughter, Kelley, believed that he was at peace. Kelley and her stepbrother, Aaron, were in charge of their father's estate and thought a scholarship was the right way to honor his love of learning and passion for education. When starting to think about the scholarship, Kelley quoted that, "Creating a scholarship was perfect for her (Katie), so it was perfect for him." It took Kelley awhile to approach her siblings about this scholarship, but they agreed. By creating a scholarship in their dad's name, they would, "reap the rewards for doing something so good that others would be benefiting as well."

However, it wasn't until the family attended the Endowed Scholarship Luncheon later that year when they realized what type of scholarship they would create to honor their father. At the luncheon, they were able to meet the recipient of Katie's scholarship and sat with two other students who had received baseball scholarships. The family thought it was a sign those students received baseball scholarships and their father was

so passionate about the sport. They were also convinced that having both Katie and Keith's scholarships housed at Lindenwood would be what her dad would have wanted. In the end, the siblings established the Keith Carlson Endowed Scholarship, designated to support eligible juniors and seniors on the baseball team.

If there is one thing that we learned from our interview with Kelley, she stated her dad was passionate about the importance of education and believed one should never stop



learning, a sentiment which he hoped would be passed down to his grandkids and great-grandkids. Kelley shared that while she misses her father, she learned so much about him and Katie. Their love and commitment education persist, and the family is eager to continue this tradition. She knows that this passion will grow,

and encourages others to follow in her parents' example, staying humble, realizing the importance of giving, attending future luncheons, and sending future family members to attend Lindenwood.



> Celebrating 2019 Scholarship Recipient, Andrew (center)



Creating a scholarship was perfect for her (Katie), so it was perfect for him... By creating a scholarship in their dad's name, they would, reap the rewards for doing something so good that others would be benefiting as well.

**KELLEY BARUZZINI**



## A CHAMPION'S LEGACY

Not even John Creer himself thought a brief conversation in 1991 with Lindenwood's then-president, Dennis Spellman, would turn into a career and a heart-felt passion for the University that has spanned nearly 30 years. After a lengthy coaching career at several colleges across the country, he and his wife, Liz, looked to return to Florida where they began their journey together. However, other plans became reality.

John's career at Lindenwood University began as dean of students, but it was his transition and involvement in the University's athletic programs that he is likely known for and where his passion and legacy reside. There are many accolades to acknowledge, including what John feels are some of the proudest moments of his career – the 1997 track & field program that won Lindenwood University's first national championship, and the University's impactful decision to transition to NCAA Division II sports – but what John focuses on today is something we, as the Lindenwood community, are so thankful for: his unwavering support to assist the University and its students in ensuring its continued advancement.

"It is so important to give back," said John. "Lindenwood is not only vital to the St. Charles area, and has impacted so many around the community, but cares so much to always have the needs of the students as its number one priority. It is important we all continue to help it be as best as it can be."

It's almost ironic that John's work with Lindenwood has picked up since his retirement as the athletic director in 2015. Lindenwood showed appreciation to John for all his dedication and tireless efforts throughout the years, including induction into the Lindenwood University Sports Hall of Fame and honoring his track & field legacy by creating the John Creer Track & Field Invitational event that occurs every year. John and Liz worked to show their appreciation to the University as well, through their selfless contributions.



If you walk around campus, you may come across a John Creer brick paver and the John Creer Hall of Fame Walkway, which were made possible through donations to the University by John and Liz. You may also see John himself, who continues to work on a project within the Advancement and Alumni Relations Department to document and catalog the University's proud student-athlete history. However, it's the John Creer Endowed Scholarship that John and Liz are probably the proudest of.

The John Creer Endowed Scholarship was created through donations by John and Liz, as well as friends and family, to assist student-athletes in their pursuit of the best education around. According to John, "it is so important for student-athletes to completely pursue the education that will carry



> Creer coached Lindenwood to their first National Championship



It is so important to give back... Lindenwood is not only vital to the St. Charles area, and has impacted so many around the community, but cares so much to always have the needs of the students as its number one priority. It is important we all continue to help it be as best as it can be.

**JOHN CREER**

“

It is so important for student-athletes to completely pursue the education that will carry them past their athletic career, and if we can help them by assisting with the costs of their educational journey, we should.

### JOHN CREER

them past their athletic career, and if we can help them by assisting with the costs of their educational journey, we should.”

John’s career at Lindenwood is one to admire, even though John is one of the humblest individuals around. While the University is forever indebted to his work between 1991 – 2015, it is the students of today and tomorrow who can be indebted to him moving forward, thanks to his continued support of the University.

“I left the athletic program with great relationships and I am so fortunate to maintain many of those, but I ultimately just want the University to be as best as it possible can be.” – John

On behalf of the entire University community, we thank you John.

If you are interested in contributing to the John Creer Endowed Scholarship, or would like to discuss other donation options, including endowing your own scholarship to make a lasting impact, please reach out to the Advancement Department at (636) 949-4937.

## THE GIVING COMMUNITY



> The Creer family endowed a scholarship to support student-athletes



> Lindenwood football team community service project in North St. Louis

## FUN FACTS

Did you know that Lindenwood has a long history of being involved in community service projects? Over the years this has included everything from volunteering for the Red Cross during WWI and WWII, to teaching inner city kids during the summer. Today’s LU students provide over 9,200 hours of community service each year.

Strong. Inspiring. Supportive. Humble. These characteristics come to mind when thinking about Lindenwood alumna, Dr. Shane Williamson '14. Born and raised in Harrisburg, Pa., she was a first-generation college student who started her higher education at Shippensburg University, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees. In 2007, she received her doctorate in social and philosophical foundations in education from Rutgers University, and she completed an MBA from Lindenwood in 2014.



Her journey with Lindenwood began seven years before becoming a proud alumna, when she joined the University in 2007 as the dean of first-year programs. She had an immediate impact on the student experience and by 2008, she had partnered with Dr. Pernell Witherspoon and Cathy Hart to establish the Black Student Union, an organization she would advise for over a decade.

By 2016, Williamson became dean of students and was instrumental in making Lindenwood a more diverse and inclusive campus. She worked with two-time alumna, Naa'na Wilson, and established Black Student Excellence & Enrichment program (BSEE) program, a place where Black students and other students of color would have the resources necessary for success along their educational pathway.

However, many students at the institution faced additional challenges, and Williamson was intentional in her support.

Together with Rev. Dr. Nichole Torbitzky, university minister, Williamson established the Little Free Pantry on campus in 2019. The pantry provides food assistance and basic toiletries at no cost and is available to any Lindenwood student. Taking care of the basic needs of her students allowed Williamson to work on supporting higher needs.

Under Williamson's leadership, Lindenwood opened the Center for Diversity and Inclusion in January 2020 to foster a culture of belonging, and serve as a resource for students, staff, and faculty through advocacy, outreach, and education. She established the first affinity organization for alumni, the Black Alumni Council comprised of talented entrepreneurs and professionals. She is as humble as she is accomplished. Her service to the community is evident in the partnership with Salvation Army, where her initiatives have raised thousands of dollars and countless donations.

After many meaningful years at Lindenwood, Dr. Shane Williamson accepted an opportunity to be the first director of diversity, equity, and inclusion for the Webster Groves School District. While much of her time at the University was committed to creating an equitable and inclusive campus, the work is far from over. She states that you don't have to have diversity, equity, or inclusion in your job title to take responsibility, and that no act is too small to make a positive impact.

"Our alumni have obligations to give back to the Lindenwood community, stay involved in whichever way you would like, whether for your talents, mentorship, or financially if you are able," Williamson shares.



Commitment and dedication are core to her personal life, as well. She continues to serve her community as an adult leader and merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts and is an enthusiastic Zumba instructor. Shane is a devoted mother to a wonderful son, a woman who lives through her faith. Strong. Inspiring. Supportive. Humble.



> Williamson established the Black Alumni Council at Lindenwood





### ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD HOLLIS C. HEYN

The Alumni Service Award recognizes Lindenwood University alumni who have demonstrated outstanding service and leadership to Lindenwood University

– whether it be through volunteerism, philanthropy, recruiting, or any other means. Recipients have given significant time, talent, and effort to support the mission of Lindenwood University. We are honored to present Hollis Carolyn Heyn with the 2020 Alumni Service Award. Hollis is a 1975 alumna who obtained her bachelor's in English from Lindenwood College for Women and a master's in English Language and Literature from Southern Illinois University. Her focus for the last ten years has been American literature with a special emphasis in the 20th c. Southern writer William Faulkner's novels. Hollis considers herself a Texan even after spending her entire adult life in Missouri but spends her vacation time with friends and family in her hometown of Dallas. Her favorite Lindenwood memory is sitting on the Sibley Hall porch with her friends. Hollis currently teaches in the School of Humanities and has been a full-time faculty member at Lindenwood since 1996.



### ALUMNI MERIT AWARD JON "JT" TAYLOR

We are honored to present Jon "JT" Taylor with the Hollis Carolyn Heyn with the 2020 Alumni Merit Award. The Alumni Merit Award recognizes alumni who have enhanced the prestige of Lindenwood

University by virtue of their character, integrity, career, and personal accomplishments. Traditionally, the award has not been given in recognition of a single remarkable achievement but has been reserved for those alumni who have attained and maintained extremely high stations in their chosen fields of endeavor and in their service to society. JT is a 1996 alumnus who obtained his bachelor's in criminal justice from Lindenwood. He began his career at the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport in 1997. After graduating from the police academy and the fire academy, JT was assigned to police services. He's had career assignments in patrol, SWAT, criminal investigations, K9, bomb squad, police training, and strategic planning. He was promoted to Assistant Chief

of Police in 2014 and to Chief of Police in 2020. He has been married to his wife, Elissa, for 21 years who is also a Lindenwood alumna, and JT's college sweetheart. JT and Elissa have three children, Ella, Edie, and Hank. JT's favorite Lindenwood memories include playing football, meeting life-long friends, the Lindenwood "trailer park" where the football players and wrestlers lived, and his mentor, Rick Steinmann.



### YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD KAYLA PIERS STEWART

The Young Alumni Award recognizes the accomplishments of Lindenwood University alumni who graduated in the last 10 years. Recipients are up-and-coming talents and have demonstrated outstanding promise

for contributions to Lindenwood and the greater community. Recipients have been active with events within the Alumni Association, networking opportunities, fundraising, and student recruitment. Kayla Piers Stewart was awarded the 2020 Young Alumni Award. She graduated from Lindenwood in 2014 with a religion degree, and currently resides in Chicago. She is the vice president of sales at an S&P 500 tech company. Kayla and her husband, Chase, have two Rhodesian ridgebacks and are expecting a son early next year. Chase is also a Lindenwood alumnus and the couple have remained active alumni, through both service and generosity. Kayla and her husband dedicated the Piers Stewart Lounge in McCluer Hall and started an endowment scholarship. Kayla also currently serves on the School of Humanities Advisory Board. Her favorite Lindenwood memory is speaking at graduation.

## FUN FACTS

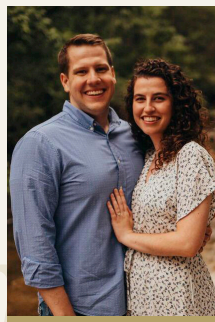
Did you know that, during WWI, President Roemer took a train-car load of coal and gave it to the public during a shortage caused by rationing? During February 1918, in a good will gesture to the community, Roemer released 104 tons of coal, destined for Lindenwood, to 200 area families in need.

MARRIAGES



**CARRIE BUENTE (NEER) '16, '19, '20 AND AARON BUENTE** were married August 29 in Alton, Ill. Carrie holds degrees in dance, human performance, and higher education from Lindenwood, and she currently works in the residential life office. Aaron is a current student working on his degree in cybersecurity. They celebrated their wedding with a number

of fellow Lindenwood alumni, including their photographer Abby Erickson '20.



**RACHAEL TERWELP (KENNEDY) '18** announced her engagement and was married in September. We hope to see wedding photos in the next issue!



ACHIEVEMENTS

**STEVE ANDREWS '76** retired from teaching after 38 years – congratulations!



**LOUIS LAUNER '86** researched and wrote an article for the St. Charles County Heritage, the quarterly journal of the

St. Charles County Historical Society about Roemer Hall, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2021. He wrote about their Keynote speaker, Dr. Henry Noble MacCracken, President of Vassar College, who dedicated Roemer at its opening.



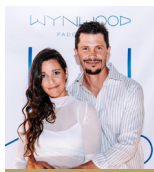
**JESSICA L. SCHROER '97, '00** joined the Lindenwood University staff on July 24 as Director of Marketing.

**CLINTON ANDERSON '98** was promoted to a leadership role with Hub International as president of specialty practices.

**KEITH ENLOW '98** was appointed as president of the Clarus Corporation in August.



**DR. AMANDA SHELMIRE '04, '08, '11** was hired as the principal of the new high school in the Wentzville School District effective July 1, 2021 when the school officially opens.



**FERNANDO ALARCON '04, '05, '07** has been working as a Padel director and overseeing business development

for the Wynwood Padel Club. Wynwood Padel is the biggest Padel club in the US with eight Padel courts, located in Miami. His wife, Claudia Grand-Alarcon, is also a Lindenwood alumna '07 who has been a key player in Fernando's success in this industry.

**JOHN SALTER '07** fought Andrew Kapel on Bellator 244 in August. Salter was inducted into Lindenwood's Sports Hall of Fame, class of 2013, as part of the men's wrestling program. Bellator MMA is a leading Mixed Martial Arts organization featuring many of the best fighters in the world.

**KIAUNDR A SMITH '10** was elected to the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross Connecticut.



**TRACEY GOOCH '11, '18** is the founder & CEO of the TMG Leadership Consulting Firm in Texas, which

specializes in behavior analysis, effective communication, leadership development, increasing employee engagement and productivity for mid-size to large healthcare organizations.

**STEFANIE MOORE '12** is the new site director at Missouri Eastern Correctional Center for Ashland University Correctional Education Program.



**JOSEPH LOVELL '13** earned tenure and was promoted to associate professor on July 1 at Dixie State

University. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Academic Professional award through the Utah Recreation and Parks Association in March 2020 and presented a poster on wellness impacts from sport participation at the North

American Society for Sport Management conference in May 2020. In addition, he published a paper with a student on sport analytics in the journal of emerging sport studies in June 2020.



**JOSEPH PULEO '14, STEVE CAKOUIROS '14, JULIUS DAMENZ '16, AND LEVI BARNES '17**

won the audience award for Best Documentary at the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase. Their film, *America's Last Little Italy: The Hill* is a historical documentary about the Hill neighborhood in St. Louis. In addition to their award, the filmmakers were invited to the St. Louis International Festival.



**SAMANTHA STIRLINGER '15** opened an online boutique called Marigold Boutique in October. Her company is based

out of St. Louis, but a fully online boutique. She plans to grow Marigold by doing monthly marketing photo shoots and have an ambassadors program. You can also find Samantha working full-time at World Wide Technology.



**AMY RUSSELL '16** was named small commercial marketer at the Valley Insurance Agency Alliance (VIAA),

a cohesive family of more than 130 independent insurance agencies in Missouri and Illinois.



**PATRICIO PEREYRA '17** was on the table tennis team at Lindenwood and recently moved to Orlando. He is playing professional Pickleball and coaching both table tennis and pickleball.

**HANNAH FINCHAMP '18** qualified for the Mountain Bike Olympic Long Team with her finish at the 2019 World Championship at Mont-Sainte-Anne. Follow Hannah on her #RideToTokyo with USA Cycling and the Orange Sealed Off-Road Team.



**STACEY ROBZEN '18** was named executive vice president and chief marketing officer of The Boldt Company in June.



**CRISTAL CAMPOCASSO '18** is currently completing her first-year practicum as a clinical intern, providing therapy

services to children and adolescents in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Cristal is also working with the IFER fund, which aids immigrants and refugees in Missouri and Illinois whose lives have been disrupted by COVID-19.

**MAROUEN HELALI '19** started a new job as a reliability engineer for Bayer. She works on ensuring high availability of their systems to our customers which ultimately leads to the advancement of research in seed genetics.



**HALEY HOLMAN '19** received her first teaching job as a fourth-grade teacher at Westhoff Elementary in the Fort Zumwalt School District.



**KATIE GIERER '19** is currently the freshman English teacher, Google mentor, and assistant volleyball coach at her alma mater, Marquette Catholic High School in Alton, Ill.



**POSY LOU DURR '19, '20** began working for Spry Digital, a web design and development company in St. Louis in

May 2020. She is the Junior Marketing Coordinator, and she joined a group of women working in the digital field called Together Digital. Through this networking group, she also was offered the opportunity to serve as an adjunct professor for a Social Media Campaign Planning course at Maryville University.



**SETH BOSCHERT '20** received a full-time offer from Brown Smith Wallace LLP as a staff accountant in their Tax

Services Department.



**CHRISTIAN BRAVO '20** joined Fidus Finance, LLC team in Orlando, Fla. as an analyst. He will be working with

analyzing construction cost, borrower credentials, investment strategy feasibility, and processing and underwriting loans.



**KAYLA DRAKE '20** is the former Lindenlink editor-in-chief and is one of the 57 emerging journalists named as a Poynter-

Koch Media and Journalism Fellow for 2020–21. She is serving her fellowship as a general assignment reporter for St. Louis Public Radio.

MEMORIAL

**CAROL BREWER**

1924 – 2020  
Gaithersburg, Maryland  
*Class of 1944*

**BARBARA  
GUIGNARD**

1941 – 2020  
Columbia,  
South Carolina  
*Class of 1963*

**DORIS PREE**

1922 – 2020  
Saint Louis, Missouri  
*Class of 1943*

**PATRICIA WATHEN**

1929 – 2020  
Hilliard, Ohio  
*Class of 1951*

**LOUIS BROCK**

1939 – 2020  
Saint Charles, Missouri  
*Class of 2009*  
*(honorary degree)*

**MARY KNOX  
PILKERTON**

1937 – 2020  
Nashville, Tennessee  
*Class of 1959*

**IRIS SOULE**

1934 – 2020  
O'Fallon, Illinois  
*Class of 1956*

**BETTIE WIMBERLY**

1927 – 2020  
Wabash, Indiana  
*Class of 1949*

*In Memoriam*



> Honoring Lou Brock's Legacy, (l to r) Mrs. Beverly Porter, Dr. Porter, Rev. Jackie Brock and Mayor Dan Borgmeyer, surrounded by members of the Brock family

# Future GROWTH



### STRATEGY & INNOVATION

Lindenwood University announced the strategic planning process in October, guided by Rob Westervelt, Vice President for Strategy and Innovation. With over 22 years of higher education experience, he is confident in the school's trajectory.

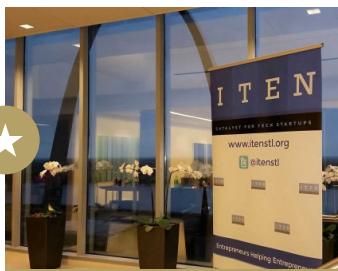
"I believe that Lindenwood is poised to become the most innovative university in the country," he shared. Vice President Westervelt is eager to embed innovation in the Lindenwood culture and recognizes the value of differentiation. One of the many ways Lindenwood is differentiating itself is by establishing unique partnerships in the community to broaden the student experience and enrich the development of scholars.



### OWL 360

OWL 360 integrative technology was installed in 207 classrooms at Lindenwood in advance of fall semester. These innovative cameras and speakers allow students learning virtually to engage

and participate in class while not physically present in the classroom. As an essential tool for Lindenwood's hybrid course delivery, OWL cameras have advanced the educational experience for students and have expanded resources for students and faculty alike.



### ITEN

Lindenwood University welcomed ITEN, the IT Entrepreneur Network, as a new division of the institution this fall. Founded in 2008, ITEN has been a catalyst for technology innovation in the St. Louis region and supports tech entrepreneurs

in the successful launch of new companies. Mary Louise Helbig, executive director, shared her vision for ITEN as a new division of Lindenwood University, "We are committed to building connectedness within St. Louis' innovation community. Providing collaboration opportunities among our entrepreneurs, businesses, and students will benefit the individuals who are participating while promoting economic growth in the region."



### THE LINDEN GOLD

The Linden Gold is a student-centered publication effort driven by Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Mark Arant. The Linden Gold engages student writers, content creators, and digital design talents, working in collaboration to share stories of university

successes. Achievements of students, faculty and staff come together in weekly publications on the Lindenwood website and highlight the accomplishments of the campus community. Led by Mia Tebbe, Lindenwood University senior and project lead, the team of students execute each story from conception to publication. Read their stories on [www.lindenwood.edu/lindengold](http://www.lindenwood.edu/lindengold).



> Dr. Sarah Leassner uses OWL video technology in the classroom



# LIONS' RELIEF FUND

Lindenwood University's Lions' Relief Fund was created to respond to the educational, physical, and economic challenges our students face as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now more than ever, our students are encountering unforeseen financial emergencies that can disrupt their educational plans. It is imperative that Lindenwood University can be there to assist and help bridge the gap in order for our students to stay on their educational course.

“

I am very grateful for getting support through the Lions' Relief Fund. It helped me focus on my studies and not worry about my financial issues. I graduated in May and I appreciate the opportunity.

**ALISHER ABDULLAEV '20**

I am completely grateful for the opportunity that Lindenwood offered to us and how supportive the University was throughout this pandemic. The Lions' Relief Fund helped me immensely in a time where I was being locked down in my hometown in Argentina, after one of the toughest confinements worldwide. I am a senior and will be graduating next fall. To the donors, I thank them so much for their assistance and generosity since it has truly helped me to advance in my endeavors, and without the help, it would not have been possible.

**OLIVA ESCUDERO, '21**

# HELP MAKE AN IMPACT!

## \$50

Supplies 15 students with face coverings.

## \$100

Pays for 10 days of on-campus healthcare for a student in isolation.

## \$250

Supplies a student with books.

## \$750

Helps pay for an OWL classroom video system.

## \$1,000

Provides cleaning supplies for a week.

To make a gift online, visit  
[www.lindenwood.edu/lions-relief](http://www.lindenwood.edu/lions-relief)

LINDENWOOD

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