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LINDENWOOD

Belleville mayor joins Lindenwood board

Mayor Mark Kern, who worked with city and school officials and dozens of community partners to bring Lindenwood University to Belleville, has joined Lindenwood's 35-member board of directors.

Kern, 40, attended his first board meeting Friday afternoon at Lindenwood. He and his wife, Erin, were guests Friday night at the Lindenwood Club for the Butler Society Dinner, an annual gathering of Lindenwood's top donors.

"We're thrilled to have Mark on our board," said Lindenwood President Dennis Spellmann. "We saw his commitment to education firsthand when he worked so tirelessly to bring Lindenwood to his city."

Kern, who has been Belleville's mayor since 1997, said joining the board seemed like a natural thing to do.

"Lindenwood and Belleville are a very good fit," he said. "Joining the board seems like an extension of my position as mayor. I want to look out for Belleville, and I want to contribute what I can to one of the finest four-year colleges I have come to know."

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