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American Humanics program tops in nation

Lindenwood University was recognized for having the nation's top American Humanics program at the recent American Humanics Management Institute in Atlanta.

The 2005 program excellence award recognized Lindenwood's top-flight preparation of nonprofit leaders for the workplace. Lindenwood was honored for thoroughness in course work, leadership, professional employment, marketing and fundraising, institutional support and relationships with nonprofits.

"Lindenwood University has developed creative solutions for working with professionals by offering American Humanics degree completion programs in concert with YMCA and other national nonprofit organizations," said American Humanics International President Dr. Kala Stroup.

American Humanics is a national alliance of colleges, universities and nonprofit organizations preparing undergraduates for careers with youth and human service agencies. American Humanics' mission is to prepare and certify future nonprofit professionals to work with America's youth and families.

The American Humanics Management Institute is a three-day intensive educational symposium designed for college students with an interest in nonprofit management. Administered by the national office of American Humanics, Inc., the Management Institute provides the capstone experience in undergraduate and graduate nonprofit studies.

During the conference, Executive Director and Dean of Campus Life Sheryl Guffey, along with Shawn Dunn, Special Project Manager for the YMCA of the USA, gave an impressive presentation about the unique partnership that the two are forming. Lindenwood is partnering with the YMCA to be the national education and Leadership Development Center for the YMCA of the USA. Lindenwood University was chosen because of the high quality of education and its commitment to traditional values shared by both organizations.

Lindenwood University has been with American Humanics for the past 15 years. During this time, Lindenwood has developed both an undergraduate and a graduate degree program in Human Service Agency Management. These programs has certified over hundreds of students to work in and run nonprofit organizations. Within these years, Lindenwood's American Humanics has won each of the following awards: Excellence in Fundraising, Excellence in Certification, Excellence in Community Relations, and the Excellence in Public Relations.

In addition, Paul Lee, one of the students at Lindenwood University, was appointed to the National Student Advisory Board of American Humanics. In this capacity, he will directly plan the next American Humanics Management Institute in San Diego. There are only six students that serve on the national board every year.

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