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LINDENWOOD

LU Commencement Moves to Family Arena

The 2007 baccalaureate and commencement ceremonies for Lindenwood University will be May 18-19 at the St. Charles Family Arena.

University officials announced the change in location on Thursday. Commencement had been indoors for the past three years at the Hyland Performance Arena, but the ceremonies had “outgrown our available space,” said President James D. Evans, Ph.D.

Evans said the university had been planning to hold commencement outdoors this year in the Lindenwood Athletic Stadium, but decided to switch to the Family Arena when it became available at the last minute. Lindenwood will begin negotiations with arena officials on a long-term arrangement for commencement. Lindenwood held commencement outdoors on the main campus for many years before moving it inside in 2004.

Evans said the decision was the best one possible for graduates, who will now receive up to 10 tickets apiece for their graduation guests. In past years, graduates had received only 3-4 tickets because of limited seating in the Hyland Performance Arena.

Lindenwood expects 630 graduates to participate in Friday night’s ceremony and up to 800 on Saturday. More than 2,800 have been invited to participate both days.

This year’s commencement speaker is Rift Fournier, internationally-known screenwriter, producer and director.

The baccalaureate and graduate commencement ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday. The undergraduate commencement will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday.

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