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To: [AllEmployees;](#)
Subject: Communique - June edition
Date: Monday, June 13, 2011 4:01:21 PM



Gress Selected as April Employee of the Month

June 13, 2011
Volume 4, Issue 15

Sara Gress, Admissions and Financial Aid Counselor, has been named the Employee of the Month for April. She has worked in the position since October 2010, prior to which she was a graduate assistant in the department.

"I was a work and learn student in admissions when I transferred to Lindenwood my sophomore year," Gress said. "I became a GA after I graduated in May of 2010 and enrolled in graduate school to begin working toward my master's in teaching. It was about six months from then that I moved into my current position."

Gress serves as a liaison between prospective and current students, moving them through the application, financial aid, and enrollment processes. She also actively recruits students from several area high schools.

"Sara takes customer service to a whole new level," wrote nominator Joe Parisi, Dean of Undergraduate Day Admissions. "We get positive feedback all the time about her courtesy and professionalism, and she's also on target to exceed her recruiting goals. She is just fabulous."

Parisi also noted that Gress routinely exceeds expectations by taking on extra tasks in support of the department's goals.

"While working on institutional initiatives, I often rely on Sara to put together creative programs," he said. "She outlines the approaches and researches success strategies using important reference materials. Her passion, resourcefulness, and ability to see projects through really make those initiatives successful."

Gress described her job as an honor and expressed gratitude at being able to give back to her alma mater. She also said she was excited and surprised to receive an award for doing something she enjoys.

"On a daily basis, I just go in with the mindset of focusing on what needs to be done and I try my best to do it well. It's neat when someone takes the time to recognize your hard work."

Did You Know?

Did you know that during the 1940s and '50s, Lindenwood had a Romeo contest in which a Hollywood actress would choose a male to be the date for the queen of the end-of-year dance? Some of the actresses that helped make choices for Lindenwood over the years included Dorothy Lamour, Yvonne De Carlo, Elizabeth Scott, Joan Fontaine, Veronica Lake, and Ella Raines.

Dasovich Announces find at Local Archeological Dig Site

Lindenwood University Archaeologist Dr. Steve J. Dasovich recently announced that he has located the archaeological remains of a French Colonial building's foundation and dirt floor at 906 S. Main Street in Old Town St. Charles, Mo. His findings were recently covered by KMOV Channel 4 and KTVI Fox 2 News.



Dasovich said the building, which was built around 1770, was likely constructed by Louis Blanchette, the founder of St. Charles. This date, the type of artifacts found in the dirt floor, and the history of ownership of this property tie directly to Blanchette, who arrived in the area around 1769 and established a trading post that later became St. Charles.

Students in an archaeological field school run jointly by the University of Missouri–St. Louis and Lindenwood University conducted the excavations this summer. Though the field course has ended, Dasovich is planning on conducting further excavations at this location next summer.

Lindenwood University has recently started a new anthropology/archaeology degree program.

Glancy, Isenberg Receive International Award for Creating Online Learning Concept

Lindenwood University professors Fletcher Glancy, Ph.D., of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship, and Susan Isenberg, Ph.D., of the School of Education, recently received the Best Theoretical Paper Award at the 2011 European, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern Conference on Information Systems. The pair traveled to Athens, Greece, in May to present their concept of a new online learning format to academics from more than 20 countries around the world.



The title of the paper is “A Conceptual E-Learning Framework.” The piece details a new method of conducting online education that’s centered around three theories, which include andragogy, transformative learning, and media synchronicity.

The andragogy theory asserts that adult learners are self-directed and self-motivated. The transformative learning theory states that reflecting on information creates new perspective for students following a learning experience. The media synchronicity theory centers on selecting media to best meet the needs of the learner and the objective.



“By examining these three theories, we were able to find the major parallels and come up with an online framework concept that makes online education more learner-centered,” said Glancy. “It operates under the ideals of helping learners understand how to meet and define their own needs and pace, identify what they need from the material, and decide how best to apply that information.”

Key components of Glancy’s and Isenberg’s framework concept include information seeking, reflection, discussion, integration, and assessment. Each portion is necessary in order for adult learners to reap the full benefits of online education.

“Instead of the typical online format that attempts to mirror the traditional face-to-face, hierarchal setting of a classroom, our framework offers the potential to create something different with better outcomes,” said Isenberg. “It also offers a sense of direction that could potentially exceed the learning outcomes of not only current online learning systems, but also face-to-face learning.”

Glancy and Isenberg are in the process of submitting a proposed taxonomy for online learning media to the 30th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference, which will take place Sept. 21-23 at Ameristar Casino in St. Charles, Mo. They also plan to submit their work to education and information systems journals for publication.

Beard, Abbott, Delgado Assuming New Roles

Director of Executive Communications Julie Beard has assumed the newly created position of Executive Editorial Director. She now oversees all non-sports content on the Lindenwood University Web site.

Beard is working closely with Computer Services, Public Relations and Marketing, and the University Webmaster to ensure all schools, offices, and other non-sports entities make a successful transition to the new Hannon Hill content management system that will soon replace the school's current online presence. She also continues to distribute the *Daily Digest* and provide editorial support to President James D. Evans, the Executive Offices, and Institutional Advancement.

Dr. Marilyn Abbott, Dean of the School of Sciences, has been named to the newly created position of Associate Provost. She will assist Dr. Jann Weitzel, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, with many important functions of academic affairs as they work together to provide support and leadership for the University's growing academic programs.

Dr. Ricardo Delgado, Associate Professor and Chemistry Department Chair, will replace Abbott as Dean of the School of Sciences. He will continue to serve as department chair in addition to his new role.

The transitions of Abbott and Delgado will take place in January 2012, at which time Weitzel will turn her attention to preparing for the Higher Learning Commission visit.

