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# COMMUNIQUE

An e-newsletter  
for Lindenwood employees

## More than 150 Attend Philanthropy Summit on LU Campus

More than 150 representatives from local businesses attended the inaugural Grow Philanthropy Summit last week at Lindenwood University. Assistant Professor of Nonprofit Administration Julie Turner, Ph.D., created the event along with two other community leaders to provide a forum through which attendees could forge philanthropic strategic partnerships.

"We wanted to make it possible for nonprofit and charitable organizations, along with philanthropists and business owners, to come together in one place at the same time," Turner said. "The goal was to give them the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about how to help one another grow and how to create alliances that offer true mutual benefit."

The summit began with a keynote address from Deaconess Foundation President Reverend Jerry Paul. The remainder of the day was filled with a variety of presentations, including "Partnering with the Community to Grow New Revenue Streams," "Creating Beneficial Workplace Volunteer Programs," and "Best Practices in Philanthropy."

"It's our hope that as a result of our collective participation in this event we will all feel better equipped and energized to continue embarking on new strategies to foster economic growth," said Turner. "With every success we improve our communities and the lives of those we touch."



**Did you know that Lindenwood's LCIE program is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year? Started in 1975, LCIE was originally called LC IV. In addition to its location on the main campus, LCIE had satellite campuses in St. Louis, Chicago, Los Angeles and Washington D.C.**

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## Wiedman named Employee of the Month

Lindenwood University Associate Director of Day Admissions Sara Wiedman was selected as Employee of the Month for May. She accepted her current position in admissions last year after working for more than two years as a University admissions counselor.

Wiedman currently serves as a CAMS liaison, ensures student applications and financial aid packages are properly processed, and oversees the department's student ambassador and work and learn programs.

"I like that my job offers always offers opportunities to learn something new and take on challenging projects," Wiedman said. "The people I work with are never satisfied with the status quo, and neither am I, which is why I think we work so well together."

Wiedman's drive to go above and beyond has not gone unnoticed. Her track record of exceeding expectations was specifically mentioned in an anonymous nomination letter submitted on her behalf.

"Sara has displayed an outstanding performance in surpassing her targeted recruiting goals for the upcoming school year and has taken on responsibilities that have streamlined the admissions process. She is well-deserving of recognition for her commitment to serving the University."

Wiedman is also busy preparing for a new adventure outside of work. She is expecting the arrival of her first

child in September.

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## Johnson Selected for Community of Scholars

Lindenwood University Professor of Education Emilie Johnson, Ph.D., has been selected to serve on a steering committee known as the Community of Scholars for the recently formed Center for Character and Citizenship. The center will be dedicated to instilling in children the principles of character education, or concepts such as morality, virtue, compassion, and respect, within the classroom setting.

"The steering committee is comprised of experts and educational professionals from around the region who will work together and share ideas about the most effective ways to the practice character education in our schools," said Johnson. "We will meet at least four times a year and attend conferences and engage in group projects. We'll examine current methods, share best practices, and learn from each other."

Johnson has a wealth of experience to contribute to the committee, both as a long-time educator and a former trainer in teacher education for the U.S. Department of Education. She said she's excited to working on the project because the goals of the Center for Character and Citizenship closely align with those of the University.

"It's a natural fit for what we do here at Lindenwood because we, too, seek to educate the whole person and to create well-rounded individuals," Johnson said. "We need to make sure we're readying our teachers to practice those things and to pass them on in their classrooms."

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## Witherspoon is Guest on Channel 2's Jaco Report

Lindenwood University Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Pernell Witherspoon was interviewed last week by Fox 2 News KTVI reporter Charles Jaco for a special report titled the "Jaco Report: Downtown Law and Order." The full segment addressed the controversy and racism allegations spurred by a recent proposal by the City of St. Louis to close three downtown night clubs because of violence-related issues.

Witherspoon, a 16-year veteran of the law enforcement community and current doctoral candidate, discussed the criminology and sociology behind identifying groups most likely to engage in destructive activities. He also addressed the need for more resources in the fight against violence among at-risk youths.

[Watch Full Interview](#)

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## Film Series to Launch in Renovated Young Auditorium

Young Hall Auditorium is currently undergoing extensive renovations to become a cinema that will host the upcoming Lindenwood University Film Series. When the project is finished later this fall, the space will house 175 theatre seats, handicap-accessible sections, a large high-definition projection screen, and a Dolby Digital 7.1 surround sound system.

"To have a series like this is a great way to highlight the art of film," said Associate Professor of Communications Peter Carlos, who has been working on the launch of the new program and the auditorium renovation. "The new space will provide viewers with an appropriate setting that will allow them to get the full experience and to more fully appreciate the art form."

David Brown, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Philosophy Department, received approval to launch the new series earlier this year. Under his direction, the program will focus on offering movies that have high artistic, cultural, and intellectual value.

"We'll be showing the kinds of films that are on the 'best of the best' lists of film critics and that would be used by film schools," Brown said. "We are not going to show the latest popular thing or duplicate anything that already is being done on campus."

The first part of the series will feature movies from the 1960s, which have been chosen by a film selection

committee comprised of both faculty members and students. The award winning movie *Easy Rider*, starring Jack Nicholson and Peter Fonda, will kick off the series at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 28, inside the newly renovated Young Hall Auditorium.

Admission to all Lindenwood Film Series events will be free for faculty, staff, and students. The cost to attend for members of the general public will be \$5 per person.

A full schedule of titles and show times will be available soon on the new Lindenwood University Film Series website, which is currently in development. For more information, please contact Brown at 636-949-4411 or [dbrown@lindenwood.edu](mailto:dbrown@lindenwood.edu).

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## **Rams Coming to Hunter Stadium**

Officials are expecting 8,000 fans to pack Hunter Stadium on Saturday when the St. Louis Rams and new quarterback Sam Bradford come to Lindenwood University for an intrasquad scrimmage. Start time is 6:30 p.m. Faculty and staff members interested in attending may sit in the reserved endzone green seats beneath the Spellmann Center.