

# COMMUNIQUE

LINDENWOOD  
AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR  
UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

## David Powell Top Employee for September

David Powell, of the Lindenwood University Maintenance Department, has been named the Employee of the Month for September.



Originally from Paducah, Ky., Powell moved to the St. Louis area in 1999 and became a full-time employee at Lindenwood in 2005. He works primarily in the areas of the Hyland Arena, Hunter Stadium, and the University's extension centers.

"In this job, we all do a little bit of everything," Powell said. "I always say that if I'm doing my job correctly you'll never know I'm there."

Despite performing his duties quietly, Powell's solid work ethic and positive attitude stood out to his Employee of the Month nominator.

"He and Elvin Cruz from maintenance were outside in the heat for several days this summer installing new lights in Hunter stadium without complaint," said Scott Queen. "He's also been working hard on installing the new video board and helping with other projects currently underway in Hyland. His patience and dedication are appreciated."

Powell was humbled to be recognized but noted that he believes his colleagues are equally as deserving of the award.

"Saying that just one of us is the employee of the month is difficult," Powell said. "Because as small as we are and as much area as we cover, it takes every single one of us to get the job done."

October 8, 2012  
Volume 6, Issue 7

## Did You Know?

**Did you know that there are tunnels under the heritage portion of campus? The tunnels were created in 1933 for LU's steam and electrical needs. Early on during WWII, when Midwesterners were worried that they could be bombed, Lindenwood periodically had air raid drills that sent them to these tunnels.**

---

## Faculty Award Winners Announced at Meeting

Dr. Richard Boyle and Dr. Jason Dude Lively announced the winners of Lindenwood University's five faculty awards for 2012 at the faculty meeting on Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 3. The winners of all of the awards, with the exception of the LSGA Professor of the Year award, are selected by the Dean's Council from nominees vetted by the Faculty Council.

Nominations are made from within the faculty.

Jo Ellen Kerksiek, of the School of Humanities, won the Lindenwood Service Award, which recognizes outstanding service to and promotion of Lindenwood among the full-time faculty. Commitment to advising, committee and task force work, student clubs and activities, and/or outside community service are taken into account.



O'Banion



Thouvenot



Crawford



Ezvan



Kerksiek

John Crawford, of the School of Sciences, won the Scholar of the Year Award. The award is presented to a full-time faculty member who has distinguished himself or herself in the area of professional scholarship, which is normally validated by editors, publishers, judges, or professional organizations not directly affiliated with the University.

Patrick O'Banion, of the School of Humanities, was selected for the President's Scholar-Teacher Award, which recognizes a full-time faculty member who most effectively merges professional scholarship with effective teaching method. Specifically, the winner will have conducted research of a substantial level of professionalism and either involved students in it or used it to benefit students in the classroom.

Winning the Emerson Award for Teaching Excellence was Mira Ezvan, of the School of Business. The award is presented by Emerson Electric, Inc., and recognizes a full-time faculty member who demonstrates the best combination of pedagogical innovation, student centeredness, and effectiveness as a classroom teacher.

The Adjunct Teaching Award was presented by Mark Theissen, who teaches in the School of Fine and Performing Arts. The only one of the awards recognizes part-time or adjunct faculty members, this award seeks to recognize the professor who has demonstrated the best combination of pedagogical innovation, student-centeredness, and effectiveness as a classroom teacher.

Finally, David Matthias, President of the Lindenwood Student Government Association, announced the winner of the LSGA Professor of the Year Award—Frank Thouvenot. Matthias announced that the process this year produced a record number of nominees and votes for the winner. He also pointed out that Thouvenot's entry on the Rate My Professor website revealed a very good rating, as well as a chili pepper for "hotness."

Each award winner was presented with a plaque and recognized on stage during the meeting.

---

## Isenberg Paper Best at European Conference

Susan Isenberg, PhD, of the Lindenwood University School of Education, co-authored a paper titled "Media Selection for Online Learner-Centered Education" that received the Best Theoretical Paper Award at the 2012



European, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern Conference on Information Systems (EMCIS) in Munich, Germany. It was the second consecutive year her work received the recognition.

Isenberg had previously won the award for a co-authoring a paper titled “A Conceptual E-Learning Framework.” It outlined and described a new method of conducting online education that centered on three theories, including 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 following a learning experience creates new perspectives for students, and the media synchronicity focuses on the idea that media must be carefully selected in order to best meet the needs of learners and objectives.

“The 2012 paper about media selection was the natural next step,” Isenberg said. “It’s an orchestrated dance we do with students in picking the right contemporary media resources. This research provides information that will help instructors make smart choices about what media to use and when to use it in support of student learning.”

Isenberg is currently exploring ways to test her research concepts by incorporating them into real educational settings and observing the outcomes. The information gathered will be included in a new paper she hopes to present at the 2013 EMCIS conference.

“I plan to submit a paper for next year’s event. This is a trilogy of research, so the next piece will be about proof of concept and evaluation.”

---

## Shafer to Present in Las Vegas

Ruth Shafer, PhD, Adjunct Professor in the Lindenwood University School of Education, will deliver a presentation during the 2012 Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) Centennial Conference November 8-11 in Las Vegas, Nev. The topic of her address will be “Meeting Retention and Placement Rates: How to Improve and Bring Change to Your Schools.”



Shafer, who serves as an ACICS Commissioner, also teaches a Professional Learning Communities (PLC) graduate course at Lindenwood. The class focuses on a highly researched school reform strategy designed to improve data through collaboration.

Her presentation at the ACICS conference will introduce attendees to the concept of professional learning communities, discuss current practices and alternatives, and explore the power of collaborative teams. Participants are expected to learn how the process increases student productivity, scores, and retention rates.

Shafer previously served as an administrator for a large suburban school district, where she engaged in teacher training along with the development and implementation of various curriculum, programs, and grants. She is currently an education consultant with a specialty in process improvement.

---

