

COMMUNIQUE

LINDENWOOD
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UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

Bower Selected as December's Top Employee

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Marie Bower, Information Technology Administrative Coordinator, has been named the Employee of the Month for December. She has worked at Lindenwood University since 2010, prior to which she was a graduate assistant for two years in the IT Department



Bower is responsible for managing IT contracts related to software and hardware, offering administrative support for the help desk, and assisting students, faculty, and staff as needed. Her extra assistance in the University's ongoing development of tablet and mobile applications is what earned her the Employee of the Month nomination.

"Marie is a smart, energetic, and enthusiastic team player," wrote Rachel Johnson, Public Relations Specialist. "She has been extremely helpful in several digital communications initiatives, and she never hesitates to go above and beyond to problem-solve and explore solutions to complicated issues. Her can-do attitude and cheerful disposition make her a pleasure to collaborate with."

Bower noted that she is committed making customer service a high priority thanks to her time with a previous employer. She also credits her success to strong professional relationships with her colleagues.

"I love working with the people here because they're very knowledgeable and always willing to share that knowledge with me," she said. "I've learned so much in the past four years that's helped me succeed. Receiving the Employee of the Month award is a great honor and I am proud to be part of the talented Lindenwood community."

Outside of work, Bower enjoys spending time with her husband, Jason, and their three children. The family resides in Florissant, Mo.

Did You Know?

Did you know that in the 1990s Lindenwood accepted pigs from farmers in exchange for a reduction in their children's tuition? At the time, Lindenwood was paying more than the farmers were getting at the market, while at the same time reducing the college's expenses in the cafeteria. Due to the uniqueness of the program, Lindenwood received international attention.

Oldani, Hollander Serving Safety on Task Force

John Oldani, Vice President for Student Development, and Terry Hollander, Assistant Men's Basketball Coach and St. Charles County Councilman, have been appointed to a new task force that will study safety procedures at public and private schools in St. Charles County and recommend improvements. The pair was named to the committee by Steve Ehlmann, St. Charles County Executive, after the County Council passed an emergency ordinance following the tragic shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newton, Conn., in December 2012.



Oldani

According to a recent article in the Suburban Journals, the ordinance states that "recent events have re-emphasized the importance of preparation, including ensuring that schools, the mental health community, and law enforcement have training and procedures to enhance readiness for, and response to, threatening situations which may arise within St. Charles County." The ordinance also called for the creation of the task force consisting of at least five educators, five people from municipal and county law enforcement, a member of the mental health treatment community, one member of the developmental disabilities service community, and two County Council members.



Hollander

Oldani and Hollander will join the other 12 appointed members of the committee for two meetings in January at the St. Charles County Administration Building. They will be asked to offer preliminary findings by Feb. 1 and submit a final report by June 1.

As former school superintendent in the Rockwood and Francis Howell School Districts, Oldani brings a key viewpoint to the group. He offers a wealth of experience as an education administrator, and has also previously been involved in other school safety initiatives in the region.

Hollander, who represents approximately 51,000 residents in District 5 of St. Charles County, fills the role of serving as one of two appointed County Council members on the task force. He also offers the important perspective of having served as a student teacher observer in approximately 50 schools during the past three years.
