

# COMMUNIQUE

LINDENWOOD  
AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR  
UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

## Stuhler Selected as July Employee of the Month

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More than 600 people attended the seventh annual Lindenwood University Employee Picnic in July. The event has developed into an extensive operation, coordinated exclusively by Eric Stuhler, Lindenwood's in-house legal counsel and the July Employee of the Month.



## Did You Know?

**Did you know that Lindenwood Athletics Director John Creer trained the Saudi Arabian national track team in preparation for competition in the 1980 Olympic Games?**

Stuhler said the picnic started humbly in 2007 and has become a wonderful tradition.

"I run the annual bar association picnic, so I thought why not one more?" Stuhler said.

He said Lindenwood's 2 1/2-hour picnic has developed into nine months of planning, with every nuance and detail outlined in a binder he calls the "picnic bible." Stuhler's picnic staff only grows as the Stuhler family grows. His wife, Debby, helps, as well as daughters Allison and Amanda. Now he has a son-in-law, Joe Radi, who has joined in the fun.

"It's just great to see all of our employees get together," Stuhler said. "There's no head table. Just a chance for family visits."

Stuhler said he loves to offer old-fashioned treats and games for the kids.

"Most of them play enough video games," he said. "It's hard to believe, but for many of them it is a new challenge to crawl in a gunny sack for a three-legged race."

Stuhler said he was pleased and honored to be selected as employee of the month.

"There are so many deserving, hard-working people at Lindenwood," he said. "It's really what makes this institution so special."

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## LU Welcomes Three New Maintenance Employees

Lindenwood University has named Dennis Barnes, Jim Peanick, and Mark Rudis as full-time employees in the Maintenance Department. All three are former carpenters who now serve the University by making repairs and updates to several assigned housing locations.



Barnes is responsible for maintenance duties in the Linden Terrace residences, including houses located on Glenco and Duchesne Drives, Droste Road, and Lammert Court. Outside of work, the St. Charles resident enjoys spending time with his family.

Rudis also handles maintenance duties in the Linden Terrace residences, including houses located on Karen, Charbo, Anneric, and Patma Streets. He currently lives in Portage Des Sioux and enjoys studying Native American history and spirituality and attending powwows in his free time.

Peanick, a Wentzville resident, handles maintenance duties in Parker, Cobbs, and Ayres Halls. He is an avid golfer and outdoorsman and also serves as the custodian of a recreational ballpark in Flint Hill, Mo.

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## Nursing Professor Receives Grant

Deborah Mercier, RN, MSN, AOCNS, Assistant Professor in the Lindenwood University School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, has received a grant from the Bristol-Myers Squibb Virology Fellows Research Training Program. She applied for and received the funds in support of her doctoral program research study, “Understanding the Barriers to and Facilitators of Hepatitis C Treatment Engagement.”



Bristol-Myers Squibb annually awards grants in support of research studies designed to advance science and knowledge related to the care of persons infected with HIV/AIDS and hepatitis. Mercier’s research will focus on patients with hepatitis C and the factors that affect their decision-making process about receiving treatment.

“Part of what I’m trying to understand is what encourages and what stops people from engaging in treatment,” said Mercier. “My study involves having conversations with patients and care providers to understand all the influencers on a more personal level. As new and better therapies become available, we will have a better understanding of how to engage people in those treatments.”

Mercier is collaborating on the project with her dissertation chair Maithe Enriquez, PhD, associate professor in the Sinclair School of Nursing at the University of Missouri-Columbia, and Adrian DiBisceglie, MD, co-director of the Saint Louis University Liver Center and chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

“The work will be done at Saint Louis University, and I’m a student at the University of Missouri-Columbia, so I’m waiting for final approvals from both institutions,” Mercier said. “We are anticipating those approvals soon, and we hope to get started on the study later this fall.”

In addition, Mercier also recently learned that an abstract she completed as part of her research practicum with Dr. DiBisceglie has been accepted for poster presentation at the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases’ (AASLD) annual meeting. As lead author, she will present on “Pre-Treatment Education and Treatment Completion in Patients with Hepatitis C Treated with Boceprevir or Telaprevir” during the AASLD event in November in Washington, DC.

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## LCIE Business Division Presents at ACBSP Conference

A group of faculty from the LCIE Business Division gave a presentation called, “Lessons Learned by a School Offering Non-Traditional Business Programs” on June 22 at the 2013 Annual Conference of the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Mark Lerman, Angela Holden, Richard Cooper

The LCIE Business Division received accreditation in 2012 from ACBSP, an internationally recognized business school accreditation body.

The presentation at the conference explained what makes the LCIE Business Division unique, including details of how project management techniques kept the accreditation process on track.

“Comments and questions following the presentation indicated that the presentation was extremely helpful and informative,” said Angela Holden, DM, MBA, PMP, Director of the LCIE Business Division.

Mark Lerman, PhD, Director of LCIE Graduate Human Resource Management Programs, presented along with Holden and Richard Cooper, JD, Director of LCIE Undergraduate Human Resource Management Programs.

“The presentation was especially well-received by schools aspiring to earn ACBSP accreditation,” said Lerman.

The group accepted the LCIE ACBSP accreditation certificate at the conference and attended several recognition events to celebrate their continued success.

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## Dames' Dissertation Makes 'Best Of' List

Christina Dames, PhD, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, has received notice that her doctoral dissertation was named to a list of the best cultural anthropology dissertations of 2012. "Gender, Ethnicity, Infrastructure, and the Use of Financial Institutions in Kalimantan Barat, Indonesia," placed 16th on the list of 64 dissertations compiled by Barbara Miller, professor of cultural anthropology and international affairs at George Washington University in Washington, DC, on the blog site [www.anthropologyworks.com](http://www.anthropologyworks.com).



Dames completed her dissertation and earned a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2012. Her research focused on the spread of formal financial institutions in the expansive, rugged, and sparsely populated province of Kalimantan Barat.

Her work explored the far-reaching effects that an increased accessibility to financial institutions has had there in terms of work, transportation, education, and healthcare. She also investigated the different ways in which people chose to use these various institutions during the region's financial transformation.

"I am honored to have been recognized and included on this list of important research," Dames said. "As illustrated by the 64 dissertations on the list, anthropologists make important contributions to ongoing conversations on human rights, development, violence, sustainability, security, and many other challenges facing humans today. I'm grateful to Anthropologyworks for making this point known to a wider audience."

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