

COMMUNIQUE

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Rumsey Named April's Employee of the Month

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Chris Rumsey, Billing System Manager in the Business Office, has been named the Employee of the Month for April. He has worked in the role since 2012, prior to which he had served as an account assistant since 1999.



Did You Know?

Did you know that prior to 1970, instead of residential directors, each dorm had house mothers? The house mothers were usually older single women. Any student wanting to spend the night away from campus, or have a guest visit, had to make a formal request in writing to the house mother.

In his current role, Rumsey is responsible for monitoring and recording pertinent information that goes into students' accounts to ensure charges, credits, and other factors, like Work and Learn and financial aid, are applied correctly.

"Every day it's something different," he said. "New scenarios are always popping up that force change, and change is primarily a good thing. It's all about trying to find better and quicker ways of doing your job."

Rumsey also recently assisted the Office of Admissions in launching a net price calculator for graduate programs for the Lindenwood website. He explored different billing scenarios and factors that affect out-of-pocket student costs in order to ensure the estimator tool would be as informative and accurate as possible.

"Chris is a dedicated team player," said Joe Parisi, EdD, Vice President for Enrollment Management. "He willingly stepped up to evaluate and test the new admissions financial aid planner for all evening and graduate students. He is an exemplar of hard work that exudes teamwork."

Terry Kapeller, Business Office Manager, seconded Parisi's sentiment and praised Rumsey's work ethic and team spirit.

"Chris is such a great person to work with," said Kapeller "He is always willing to help out whenever he can and continues to go above and beyond in serving in areas that are not directly within his job scope."

Rumsey said he was surprised and appreciative of the support and kind words

from his colleagues.

“I’m very honored. It’s something that I didn’t really expect, but it’s nice to be appreciated.”

Peggy Ellis Serving on PFP Committee

Peggy Ellis, PhD, BC, FNP, ANP, Dean of the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, has been appointed to the Partners for Progress (PFP) of Greater St. Charles Health Committee.



Members of the PFP of Greater St. Charles are important business and community leaders committed to acting as catalysts for change and economic growth in St. Charles County. The PFP Health Committee is comprised of executives from hospitals and wellness facilities in the area who are dedicated to building relationships and leveraging resources to promote a healthier community through individuals, public and governmental agencies, and private business.

“The goal of the committee is to improve the health of St. Charles County,” Ellis said. “I am hoping to help provide direction toward this goal in a positive way.

Ellis also served as the keynote speaker at a Certified Nurses Day dinner March 10 at Memorial Hospital in Belleville, Ill. Her address focused on educating future nurses while working in academic service partnerships.

Mercier to Serve on State Nursing Board

Deborah Mercier, RN, MSN, AOCNS, Assistant Professor in the Lindenwood University School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, has been appointed to the Missouri Nurses Foundation (MNF) Board. She will serve a two-year term in the role.



The MNF is a non-profit, charitable entity within the Missouri Nurse’s Association (MONA) enterprise that supports the continued growth and development of nursing in Missouri. The primary objectives of the group are to promote professional nursing practice and to enhance the availability of quality health care in Missouri through philanthropic endeavors that support the mission of MONA and the nursing profession.

“I’m looking forward to influencing healthcare policy for Missouri citizens and for nursing as a profession, and to being part of the Board’s fundraising efforts in support of nursing scholarships,” Mercier said.

Schrader to Speak at National Conference

Lindenwood University's grant manager, Vicki Schrader, has been invited to speak at the 16th Annual National Conference of the Grant Professionals Association (GPA), to be held October 15-18 in Portland, Ore. Schrader's session is called "Tools and Strategies for the One-Person Grants Office."



Schrader will discuss how a one-person grants office is often bombarded with numerous requests across multiple departments. She will explain how managing these requests while juggling proposal guidelines and deadlines can be done using a five-cycle process. The advantages of this system will be thoroughly explained, detailing how the process is effective in grants management.

The GPA's annual conference has gained a well-earned reputation as the most comprehensive educational and professional growth event available for those committed to excellence in the practice of grantsmanship, she said. The GPA is a nonprofit membership association that builds and supports an international community of grant professionals committed to serving the greater public good by practicing the highest ethical and professional standards.

"I am honored to be invited to speak at the Grant Professionals Association's National Conference and provide a presentation about how we have grown our grants office here at Lindenwood," said Schrader.

Romero-Ghiretti Presents at Latin American Studies Conference

Gabriela Romero-Ghiretti, PhD, assistant professor of Spanish at Lindenwood University, presented her paper, "Of Pens and Words, Teresa de la Parra Speaks," at the 47th Southwest Council of Latin American Studies (SCOLAS) conference in San Diego, Calif., on March 29.



Romero-Ghiretti's paper analyzes both the portrayal of female characters and the intellectual position of Venezuelan author Teresa de la Parra. In de la Parra's texts, Romero-Ghiretti states, there is a display of women's negotiations for speech and representation within a shifting background of modernity.

Romero-Ghiretti's paper notes the presence of a dissenting voice from de la Parra as she discussed the role of women in society in a predominantly male environment during three conferences in Bogota, Colombia, in 1930. Romero-Ghiretti argues that these conferences are a blueprint of the writer's intellectual career and a testimony of her involvement in advancing an agenda about gender, which was deployed strategically in order to attain a discursive space among traditional views of gender.

Romero-Ghiretti concludes that the cultural negotiations carried out by the author amidst traditional ideologies about women allowed her to obtain a

medium and a space from which to offer controversial views on women and gender.

The paper is part of larger book manuscript Romero-Ghiretti is authoring that studies the participation of Latin American female cultural figures in the early 20th-century and their struggles with discursive space, ultimately acknowledging the female intellectual as an analytical category in its own right. Romero-Ghiretti hopes to use her research to create a genealogy of the intellectual woman in Latin American letters, establishing a theoretical framework to analyze intellectual contributions of women otherwise eclipsed by male practices in the lettered world.
