

## Barger Opens Sinquefield Cup Chess Competition

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In the strongest field ever to compete in a chess tournament, Brett Barger made the first move.



Barger, Associate Vice President for Operations and Finance and Chief Purchasing Officer at Lindenwood University, moved a pawn two spaces forward Aug. 27 to start the 2014 Sinquefield Cup at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis.

Barger's opening move was for Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana who finished 7-0-1 and won \$100,000 to go along with this year's championship. Barger got to select which board on which to make the opening move and chose Caruana's because he's the only American Grandmaster.

"It was an amazing experience," Barger said Wednesday.

Barger said a few years ago the Chess Club reached out to him about starting a chess team at Lindenwood. In 2012, the Lindenwood team was formed with the help of Mike Elam and Jason O'Dell. Elam is the Director of Student Life Sports at the University. O'Dell is the Director of Chess Operations for the Lions.

"I got the ball rolling and tried to support it until it got up and running, but Mike and Jason have done the heavy lifting to make it work," Barger said.

The numbers of Lindenwood chess players hovers between 10 and 20, Barger said. In the Lions' first year of competition, they beat Yale and Washington University. Barger said international chess masters started in the Lindenwood program.

## Did You Know?

**Did you know that, for a brief period during the mid-1980s, Lindenwood offered classes at the General Motors plant in Wentzville, Mo.? The classes were tailored for GM employees. Similar programs were available for McDonnell Douglas, Chrysler, AT&T, and United Van Lines employees.**

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## Stein to Present Next Month in Georgia

Michael Stein, professor of sociology at Lindenwood University, will present “Not on the Internet: Ruminations of a Pedagogical Curmudgeon” in October at the 78th International Atlantic Economic Society Conference in Savannah, Ga.



Stein first presented the paper at the annual meeting of the American Association of University Professors. He co-authored an article with Chris Scribner and David Brown that was published last year in the *Journal of Academic Freedom*. The article and presentation centered on external assessment and the role of technology.

An economist from the University of Connecticut attended Stein’s initial presentation and read the paper and asked him to submit a proposal for the upcoming IAES conference.

“This also has the virtue of giving my Lindenwood colleagues some relief from my harping on the subject,” Stein stated.

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