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Did You Know?

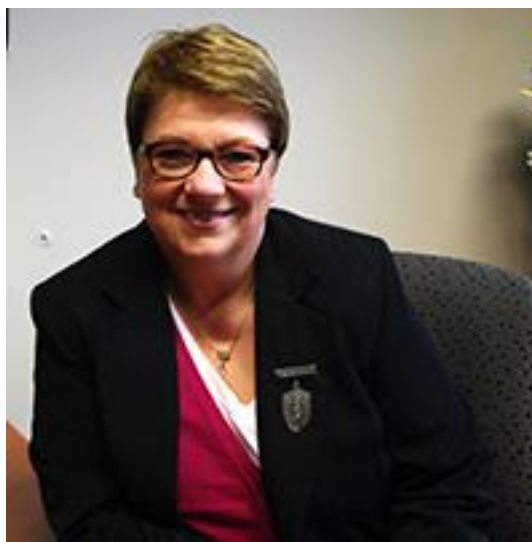
Lindenwood developed a special “Lindenopoly” game to commemorate the University’s 175th anniversary. According to former President Dennis Spellmann, “The game mixed fun and education and takes us all down memory lane.” The game was developed in 2001 and went on sale in 2002.

Giessman Named Interim Director of Alumni Relations

Longtime Lindenwood employee Michelle Giessman has taken a new position with the University as the new interim director of alumni relations.

Giessman, a familiar face in the Student Development office, has been the director of residential life for the past 19 years. In that time she has seen a lot of changes at Lindenwood.

“I have had the pleasure of meeting thousands of resident students as freshmen and following them through graduation,” Giessman said. “Along the way, I have assisted in the selection process when we began the new resident hall expansion, gratefully filling eight new resident halls, renovating the old Ayres Dining Hall into resident space, and seeing air conditioning installed in Cobbs, Irwin, Ayres, and soon to be Sibley.”



In her new role, Giessman will be working with the Alumni Board, acting as a liaison between the alumni association and the University, and working with the St. Charles Alumni Club in all areas ranging from assisting with identification cards to fundraising.

Thies Creates New Criminal Justice Course

Criminal Justice Professor Jeanie Thies has created a new criminal justice course called Wrongful Convictions. The course takes a case-based approach to the study of causes, consequences, and remedies in wrongful convictions.

One aspect of the class is the chance to work on an active case before the Midwestern Innocence Project (MIP), a nonprofit organization that works to free wrongfully convicted people in a five-state region in the Midwest.

MIP provided training to Thies and her 11 students, who are reviewing a homicide case file from over 20 years ago in which the convicted person claims innocence. The review includes reading case files like police reports, transcripts, and court filings and correspondence related to the case. The class will then collectively prepare a summary of the key aspects of the case and create a report on their findings, identifying features which suggest improprieties or facts that may point toward innocence.

Thies created this course based on her previous experience with inmates.

“I used to be a prison psychologist for nine and a half years, and inmates were always professing innocence,” she said. “While I knew most were not, I assumed a few were. I later learned of a couple prisoners that I had casually encountered – not my clients – were exonerated in high-profile murder cases. I’ve followed this issue since I’ve been a professor and have been shocked by some of the case facts and professional misconduct that has led wrongful convictions.”

Thies said she didn’t know of another school or university in the region that was conducting an Innocence Project course, but could not be certain.

“The Innocence Project does use students to work on these cases, most often law students, though undergraduate students in journalism programs have also worked on IP cases,” Thies said.

Thies’s class is working on a homicide case in which a person has been incarcerated for nearly 20 years.

Ortiz Wins at Fashion Challenge

Fashion Design Assistant Professor Nasheli Ortiz won the ALIVE On the Scene: Wear It Fashion Challenge on Nov. 5.

Ortiz competed against nine other fashion designers in St. Louis for a grand prize of \$5,000 and a development package from Stevens-The Institute of Business and Arts (SIBA).



The designers were challenged to design a piece based on an iconic or contemporary work of art. Ortiz based her award-winning gown on a piece by artist Sarah Frost.

“I am super excited about this award, and I need to express my sincere gratitude to the jury panel for selecting me as a recipient of the Wear it Fashion Challenge Award,” said Ortiz. “I am so humbled to have been chosen for this award knowing that there were many amazing designers in the competition.”

“I need to thank ALIVE Magazine, St Louis Fashion Week, and SIBA for continuing to support and encourage fashion design in St Louis,” Ortiz continued. “Thank you to my coworkers Jacob Stanley and Audra Hubbell that helped me in the process of this piece, my students that gave me feedback and were there that night to support me. Thank you my Lindenwood family!”

Hutcheson Represents Lindenwood at KDP Biennial Convocation in Orlando, Fla.

Kappa Delta Pi faculty advisor Dr. Jill Hutcheson and student Toni Faletti represented Lindenwood University at the 50th Kappa Delta Pi Biennial Convocation on Oct. 21-24 in Orlando, Fla.

As chapter delegates, Hutcheson and Faletti accepted one of only seven Chapter of Excellence awards given by Kappa Delta Pi International. The Tau-Phi chapter earned this recognition for professional development programming in 2014-2015. Tau-Phi was also recognized for exceeding its membership goals for 2014-2015.

Adjunct Instructor Wins Tourism Honor

Angela da Silva, adjunct instructor of recreation, sport, and tourism at Lindenwood University, recently received one of the Missouri tourism industry's top awards – the Pathfinder Award – at the 47th Missouri Governor's Conference on Tourism.



Da Silva, who also works as an interpreter at Lindenwood's Historic Daniel Boone Home and Cultural Center, was among several honorees recognized at the annual Missouri Division of Tourism (MDT) awards banquet, held Oct. 14 at The Lodge of Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, Mo.

The Pathfinder Award is presented each year to an individual or organization that succeeds at reaching niche markets. In her role as an instructor at Lindenwood University, da Silva is in the unique position to reach young adults and educate them on Missouri's distinct history.

"I've been really thankful for the 20-year relationship I've had with MDT and being able to showcase the African American history of the state," da Silva said.

Among her classes is one focusing on Missouri heritage, which gives students the chance to explore historic communities, such as Arrow Rock and Boonville.

Additionally, da Silva is the owner of the National Black Tourism Network, which hosts media tours and special events that showcase Missouri history.

"This is a great award for Angie and she is well deserving of it," said Joseph Lovell, associate professor and chair of the department of recreation, sport, and tourism administration. "We value her contributions to our department, and the students are truly the ones who benefit from her knowledge and experience."

Social Work Faculty Give Presentation at National Conference

Two Lindenwood University social work faculty members, Dr. Carla Mueller and Dr. Dana Klar, presented at the Council on Social Work Education's 61st Annual Program Meeting in Denver, Colo. The meeting sprawled across Oct.

15-18 and both the Sheraton Denver Downtown and Crowne Plaza Denver Downtown.

Mueller and Klar presented their workshop, "Social Work Education in a Conservative Environment," which covers political and legal challenges in addition to strategies for risk management and effective teaching methods. Mueller and Klar plan to publish their findings.

"It is interesting to see the same concerns challenging some of our basic social work tenets in social work classrooms across the U.S. We are fortunate to have a forum for open discussion to strategize effective teaching methods to come to a common ground," Mueller said.

Workshop participants included social work educators ranging from rural northern Idaho and southern Indiana to Rhode Island and New York. Similar classroom issues were shared with themes of political polarization and conflicting values.

Suzy Jones Named Belleville's Employee of the Month for October

Dr. Suzy Jones, director of academic success and retention, has been selected as the Belleville Campus Employee of the Month for October.



Jones was hired into the Lindenwood Belleville family in January 2015. In her relatively short time on campus, however, she has accomplished an incredible amount for the Academic Success Center (ASC) and the students, faculty, and staff that her office serves.

Not only does she oversee and manage the ASC, but Jones also serves as a success mentor for the general student population as well as conditionally admitted students. She collaborates with faculty and coaches to lead outreach efforts for at-risk students who may have stopped attending class or are failing exams.

Within her first few months as an employee, Jones spearheaded the implementation of a new ID scanner system to track and collect data of students' time spent in the Academic Success Center. She is also in the

process of initiating a system for online tutoring appointments, which she expects to implement in spring 2016.

Jones serves on the Student Engagement and Retention Committee, Academic Standards and Policies Committee, and Appeal Approved Committee.

Jones was nominated for Employee of the Month by Shannon Vallowe, coordinator for the Academic Success Center, and Dr. Paige Mettler-Cherry, associate professor of biology.

“Suzy has made it a point to ensure that all Lindenwood students, faculty and staff are knowledgeable of the services the ASC has to offer,” said Vallowe. “On top of being the director of the ASC and managing the overall daily operations, Suzy currently averages close to 40 student meetings per week, which include 75 contracted students, as well as general population and at-risk students. She is the epitome of the term ‘team player,’ as she continuously goes out of her way to help those around her, and her personality is simply infectious.”

“It was such a wonderful and unexpected surprise to be named Employee of the Month!” said Jones. “The Academic Success Center would not operate as smoothly and efficiently as it does without our entire ASC team! I’m so grateful to work with such a positive, caring, and talented group of people.”

October LindenStar Recipients

The LindenStar program, Lindenwood’s new peer-to-peer employee recognition program, has had over 15 nominations in October.

To nominate an employee for the program, employees may access the nomination form in the ADP Human Resources portal. Click on “Resources” under the “Home” tab on the portal home page and click on “Lindenstar” under the “Commonly Used HR Forms.”

Fill out the form and print out and send to Maddelene Collins. Each employee may nominate up to 12 people per year in a variety of categories. In May, the top nominees in each category will receive a special recognition.

The recipients for October are

Liana Bazzanella
Carrie Cruse
Jessica Fazio
Whitney Gass

Lori Malloy
Comela Mathis
Ashley Minton
Joyce Norman

Angie Hester
Damaris Jimenez
Tyler Kostich
Kelli Lile
Pam Love

Katie Schilling
Adam Ulrich
Jason Waack
Sara Wiedman
Donnie Wieland

Our Mission - Lindenwood University offers values-centered programs leading to the development of the whole person—an educated, responsible citizen of a global community.