

## COMMUNIQUE

An e-newsletter  
for Lindenwood employees**Joyce Townsend Named Employee of Month for January**

Anyone who has worked at Lindenwood University for any length of time knows Joyce Townsend. She's the one they see when they're hired to get new employee forms, and she is there later to provide information about health insurance, vacation or retirement plans. For her hard work, she has been named January's Employee of the Month.

Townsend, pictured above, has worked in the benefits office at Lindenwood for 17 years, prior to which she performed the same kinds of duties for a florist in St. Louis, in addition to floral arrangements and such. A native of St. Louis, Townsend has also lived in Utah (while her father was in the armed service), Florissant and Lake Saint Louis before settling in Wentzville, where she has lived for the last 22 years.

She said her route to Lindenwood was quite simple, in that she saw an ad for the position, applied and got the job. Today, she is one of Lindenwood's iconic employees who everyone knows and who seem synonymous with the institution. At the annual Lindenwood Christmas party, she and her daughter, longtime Lindenwood employee Maryann Townsend, can be counted on to demonstrate their tightly synchronized line dancing moves on the dance floor.

"The door to my office is always open to anyone in the hall: employees, students or visitors," she said. "Away from Lindenwood, my life centers around my daughter, nieces and great nephew," Townsend said. "I enjoy the sport of fishing and riding roller coasters."

At the 2009 Lindenwood Christmas Party, shortly before the annual line dancing demonstration, Townsend will be recognized, along with the other 12 employees of the month, who will all be considered for recognition as Employee of the Year.

**Did You Know?**

**Did you know that prior to coming to Lindenwood, President Franc McCluer headed the Constitutional Convention which created Missouri's current Constitution? After two years of debate, and a couple of lawsuits attempting to prevent the Convention from proceeding, the "new" Constitution won wide approval by Missouri voters in 1945. The previous Constitution had been in place since 1875.**

**Douchant Awarded Doctoral Degree in Philosophy**

Rachel Douchant, assistant professor of philosophy, has earned a doctoral degree in philosophy from Saint Louis University. She successfully defended her dissertation, "Hume's Classical Liberalism: A Reconstruction and a Critique," last week.

Douchant, pictured at right, said that while pursuing her doctorate she studied under Bill Charron, the husband of former Lindenwood University Professor Emeritus Donna Charron.

"Donna passed away in July," Douchant said. "She was my mentor here and I informally consider myself her heir because she was retiring as I was



coming in.”

Douchant and Bill Charron have remained in contact since his wife’s passing. In fact, he gifted his wife’s doctoral robes and tam to Douchant, who plans to wear them during future Lindenwood commencement ceremonies.

“It will be so neat to honor Donna’s memory in that way,” she said.

Douchant is an alumna of Lindenwood and has been an assistant professor at the school since 2005.

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## President Attends Meeting, Opposes Grant Cuts

Lindenwood University President James Evans, Ph.D., was one of more than a dozen university presidents gathered Wednesday at the St. Louis Community College campus in Wildwood to address the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE). Presidents of private colleges oppose a plan proposed by Governor Jay Nixon to cut state scholarship funding for students attending private institutions.

Under the current Access Missouri grant program, eligible students who choose to attend private universities can receive as much as \$4,600 a year in scholarship funds; students attending public universities can receive \$2,500; and attendees of community colleges can receive \$1,000. Governor Nixon’s plan would redistribute those state funds, creating a maximum amount of \$2,850 allowed for both private and public universities.

If Nixon’s plan is approved, Lindenwood students receiving Access Missouri grants could lose large portions of their aid. While the CBHE doesn’t have a direct role in that decision, the presidents gathered Wednesday to plead their cases should the board have any sway in guiding the decision.

In the meantime, Evans is urging students, faculty, staff, and Board members to write Missouri state representatives about keeping their grants. In an interview with *The Legacy* he said, “As many students as possible should write to the governor, state senators and representatives to let the government know how important this supplemental grant level is in order for students to continue at the university of their choice.”

For more information about potential cuts to Access Missouri funding for private institutions, please visit [keepmeincollege.org](http://keepmeincollege.org).



President James D. Evans listens during last week’s meeting of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

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## Sibley Day Represents Rare Opportunity for Schools, Students

Lindenwood University is launching a new event designed to celebrate the school’s heritage and its role as an intellectual community. On Feb. 25, regular daytime classes will not be held so that a selection of seminars, workshops and presentations by Lindenwood’s various schools can be held instead. Students may attend any events they choose, as can faculty and staff as their schedules and supervisors permit.

The day will begin for faculty with a presentation at 9 a.m. by Dr. Janet McNew, provost of the University of Tampa, who will speak on the opportunities and challenges inherent in being a mid-sized university in the midst of transition. Having served as professor, chairperson, dean, and provost at various institutions, Dr. McNew has a keen understanding of both administration and faculty.

The schedule of workshops and presentations will start at 11 a.m. and will go to 3:50 p.m. Evening classes will continue as scheduled. Presentations will run the gamut, from arts workshops to presentations on

finance to a workshop for students considering careers in education.

"In creating and contributing to these programs and presentations, faculty and students will have an opportunity to learn and grow in a manner that will enhance our everyday university life," said Ana Schnellmann, one of Sibley Day's key organizers. "Sibley Day, 2009, is the start of a vital LU tradition that will help us celebrate what we are, have been and will become."

To see the Sibley Day schedule in its entirety, go to [www.lindenwood.edu/sibleyday](http://www.lindenwood.edu/sibleyday)

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## Math Competition Here 'Tremendous Success'

Sixty students from six area high schools participated Feb. 10 in a high school mathematics competition sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and Lindenwood University. The free competition was hosted at the university for the third year in a row.

"Again, the competition was a tremendous success!" said Larry M. Granda, Ph.D., assistant professor of mathematics. "Thanks to all who helped organize and run the event, including Wojciech Golik, Nadine Menninga, Deb Hopkins, and Hope Diamond. I want to especially thank Sara Weidman in Admissions, who was absolutely integral to the organization and success of the competition."

Granda also extended his thanks to the administration for its financial support, which made it possible to offer the competition free of charge.

"Congratulations to all of the dedicated faculty members who directed and produced this intellectual competition event," said Lindenwood President James Evans, Ph.D. "LU just keeps advancing toward excellence, thanks to our exceptional faculty and staff."

Two exams were offered: one designed for freshman and sophomore-level students, and one designed for junior and senior-level students.

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## Theatre Program to Present 'Wizard of Oz'

The Lindenwood University Theatre Program will present the timeless musical "The Wizard of Oz" as part of the inaugural Mainstage Season at the university's new J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 20, 21, 27 and 28 with matinees at 2 p.m. on Feb. 21 and 28. All performances will be in the center's Bezemes Family Theatre. All Lindenwood faculty and staff are entitled to two free tickets to the show. The cost for additional tickets ranges from \$10 to \$20 each; they are available at the Scheidegger Center Box office (636-949-4433).

The musical, which starred Judy Garland in the classic film version, tells of young Dorothy Gale, who is transported from her home in Kansas to the magical land of Oz by a tornado. There, she and her dog Toto are befriended by munchkins, a Tin Man, a Scarecrow and a Cowardly Lion, who team up on a quest to reach the mysterious Wizard of Oz so she can find a way back home. The way is fraught with danger, however, as the quartet is hunted by a wicked witch and her minions.

The cast includes Amanda Walker, Lindsay Bartlett, David Moreshead, Samantha Bonomo, Lizzy Nolen, Michael Juncal, Nick Moramarco, Robert Mitchell, Keith Parker, Adam C. Loyd, Brent Nowack, Katie Lynn McGowan, Tara Rispin, Kelly McCarthy, Maggie Murphy, Mike Dowdy and Kevin Hester. The director is Marsha Parker. Assistant Director is Becca Helms. Musical director is Pam Grooms, and assistant musical director is Mike Dowdy. Choreographer is Devon A.A. Norris. Set designer is Donnell Walsh, and lighting designer is Tim Poertner. Costume designer is Donna Northcott, and sound designer is Jennings Drew Matney.

For more information, call Marsha Parker at 636-949-4906.

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## **Lindenwood Athletic Headlines (Feb. 16-22)**

--The Lindenwood wrestling team will host the NAIA Eastern Regional this Saturday, an event which includes seven of the Top 15 teams in the country, including No. 1 Lindenwood and No. 2 McKendree.

--The men's and women's basketball teams play three of their final four regular season games this week as they look to build momentum heading into postseason.

--Lindenwood men's ice hockey, which is on an 18-game winning streak and ranked first in the ACHA, will host a charity game against the St. Louis Blues Alumni on Sunday at 4 p.m. at the Lindenwood Ice Arena.

--The men's volleyball squad, which is off to a 10-1 start, can make its claim as the top team in the nation during a California trip, which includes two matches against the current No. 1 team.

--The track and field program will look to sweep the men's and women's titles at the HAAC Indoor Championships.

NAIA National Championships Lindenwood will host the 2009 NAIA Swimming and Diving National Championships on March 4-7 at the St. Peters Rec-Plex.

The complete Lindenwood athletics weekly newsletter is available at this link:  
<http://www.lindenwood.edu/athletics/newsletter/current.pdf>