

COMMUNIQUE

Kantz named July Employee of the Month

Robert "Mike" Kantz, senior production stage manager of the Center for Fine and Performing Arts, has been named Employee of the Month for July. Kantz, pictured at left, graduated from Lindenwood in 1995 with a degree in technical theater and has been employed here since August 2007.

Before returning to work for his alma mater, Kantz worked for more than 10 years as a Broadway stagehand. He's been involved in several top-rated shows, including *'Tommy,' 'Sesame Street,' 'The Music Man,' 'Evita,' 'Cats,'* and *'Jesus Christ Superstar.'*

"I've been to all 50 states and three countries," Kantz said. "Along the way I've met some stars who are great people, but in the end everyone is there just to do their job."

Kantz's job at the Lindenwood center is to manage details. He oversees the technical side of sound, lighting, props, carpentry and electrical projects to keep the building in working order for performances. Scheduling and purchasing also fall under his purview.

"Basically, I handle the logistics," said Kantz.

As the center gears up to host its debut performance, Liza Minnelli on Sept. 11 and 12, Kantz says the biggest challenge is simply getting a new building put together to make the space work well.

"I'll be glad once the game plan is in place, we get rolling and it all works," he said.

On the Employee of the Month award, Kantz said he was surprised to have been selected because of the behind-the-scenes nature of his job.

"Even though people may not see me, they've noticed my work and I'm honored."

Did You Know?

Do you know the name of the only person ever born at Lindenwood? Not much is known about Watson Irwin, but sometime in 1871 he was born at Sibley Hall. Watson was named after Lindenwood's first major benefactor, Judge John S. Watson. It is likely that Watson was President Robert Irwin's nephew.

Wilmes Hired As Communications Specialist at Lindenwood

Please join us in welcoming Rachel Wilmes to the Communications Office staff at Lindenwood University. She assumes a project management role in support of several initiatives on the growing campus.

Prior to accepting this position, Wilmes, pictured at right, served as public relations and marketing coordinator for SSM St. Joseph Health Center, St. Joseph Medical Park in St. Peters and St. Joseph Health Center-Wentzville.

Wilmes received her bachelor's degree in mass communications with an emphasis in public relations from Lindenwood University in 2004.

**Convocation Was Wonderful Success!**

Freshman Convocation Wednesday was the first event in history at the new Lindenwood Center, and congratulations are in order for all the staff members involved in preparing the building for its coming out party. Thanks also to the faculty and staff who supported and participated in the event! Next up is the Liza Minnelli concert September 11. Got your tickets yet? Visit the Lindenwood Center Box Office or call 949-4433.

Philosophy Program Seeks to Name Philosophy Award for Charron

The Philosophy Program has decided to honor Dr. Donna Card Charron, who passed away on July 31, by naming the annual Philosophy Award after her. Faculty and staff who are interested in contributing to the naming of the Dr. Donna Card Charron Philosophy Award may make contributions through Lucy Morros, vice president for institutional advancement, at 636-949-4532.

Charron, who taught at Lindenwood from 1989 until her retirement in 2005 as full professor of philosophy, laid the foundation for the Philosophy Program at Lindenwood and helped to establish it as a regular major. She also helped found the Honors Program and Honors College and established the Coffee Conversation speaker series and in numerous other ways supported the life and culture of the university. She was granted Professor Emerita status in 2006.

Charron received her Ph.D. from Washington University, working as a public relations and public opinion researcher for 20 years before starting her teaching career. She also established the Atchison Art Association and founded and the Midtown Arts Center of Saint Louis. She was president of Card Industries from 1980 until her death.

She founded the Ste. Genevieve Convention and Visitors Bureau and was responsible for numerous activities in promoting Ste. Genevieve and its French heritage. She was the author of a book on the St. Louis Woman's Club as well as a number of scholarly articles on business and economic philosophy.

Memorial donations may also be made to the Foundation for Restoration of Ste. Genevieve (P.O. Box 88, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670).

Teaching Award Information Just Around The Corner

Faculty members should be receiving instructions soon from Professor Jennifer Firestine, chairperson of the faculty development committee, about nominations for this year's teaching awards.

Of particular importance is the Emerson Award for Excellence in Teaching, which has an impending deadline. Firestine's committee will review all nominations and submit top candidates for the award to the Dean's Council, which will make a recommendation to the president.

Wall of Fame is Up and Running

If you haven't seen it yet, make sure to take a look at the Lindenwood University Wall of Fame outside the executive offices.

Four new display cases adorn the wall and will highlight Lindenwood's top faculty and staff members. Lindenwood's Employees of the Year, and the winners of the four annual faculty awards—Emerson Award for Excellence in Teaching, President's Scholar Teacher Award, Scholar of the Year Award, and LSGA Professor of the Year Award, will be recognized on the Wall of Fame.

Vice President for Human Resources Rick Boyle said a final cabinet will highlight the legacy of the current president and will include a replica of the medallion signifying that office.

LU 7th Largest Among Private Kansas-Missouri Schools

Lindenwood University is ranked seventh on the list of the 25 largest private colleges and universities in Missouri and Kansas, according to *Ingram's* magazine. The list is compiled annually by the Kansas City business publication, and featured in the August "Best of Business" issue.

The list is based on each university's reported fall enrollment from the previous year. Lindenwood's top spot was earned by an impressive 8,756 students last fall. Of those, 5,230 were undergraduate and 3,526 were graduate enrollments.

"We are fortunate to have experienced such growth throughout the years here at Lindenwood," said President James D. Evans, Ph.D. "It's an honor to be recognized for our work in creating one of the best universities in the Midwest. We will continue in our endeavor to make Lindenwood a top choice in higher education for students around the world."

To view the Ingram's publication, visit IngramsOnLine.com.

Lindenwood Athletic Headlines (Sept. 1-7)

--The NAIA version of Missouri/Illinois takes place this weekend when the ninth-ranked Lions football team starts the season versus 12th-ranked MidAmerica Nazarene. The two programs that are tied for the best HAAC record since 2004 will face off in Olathe, Kan. in the best early season matchup among NAIA schools.

--The men's golf team, which was a Top 10 squad for much of last season, opens the year against other schools in the state at the Missouri Intercollegiate.

--One of Lindenwood's newest athletics program, table tennis, has its inaugural event at the Lindenwood September Open on Saturday and Sunday.

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