

Lafata Selected as Employee of Month

Sandi Lafata, office manager of the Adult and Graduate Admissions Office, has been named Employee of the Month for December.

Lafata has been with Lindenwood University in her current capacity for a year and a half, prior to which she was a graduate assistant in LCIE at the Westport location. Lafata enrolled at Lindenwood as a transfer student in 2005.

"I enjoyed the extension campus activity, the facilities and working with the students," Lafata said. "Eventually, I was offered this job and, of course, I took it."

Lafata said she feels a little uncomfortable with the Employee of the Month honor because her performance would not be possible without the people she works with in the office.

"We've had students and faculty and staff who can see the camaraderie in the office," Lafata said. "Lindenwood has good people who are focused and work as a team. The fact that someone thought enough of me to single me out makes me feel good."

Lafata also spoke highly of her supervisor, Dean of Adult and Graduate Admissions Brett Barger.

"Having a leader like Brett is good," Lafata said. "He has a vision consistent with the mission of Lindenwood. He empowers his people and also holds their feet to the fire."

Prior to coming to Lindenwood, Lafata worked for a company that does background checks and also as a program director for the St. Louis Association for Retarded Citizens. After her first trip through college, she served a stint in the Army and was stationed in Washington, D.C.

"I do want to make a difference, and I believe in what I'm doing," Lafata said. "Lindenwood is an easy sell, because our programs are that good. I'm a product of them."

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Townsend and Nack Receive First LU Doctorates

Lindenwood University's first doctoral degrees have been posted, and leading the way are two of our own--Dr. Maryann Townsend, assistant dean of Academic Services, and Dr. Donna Nack, assistant professor of education.

Townsend, seated on the left in the photograph, and Nack, seated on the right, were two of three Ed.D. graduates whose degrees were posted on Dec. 30. The other was Tony Haan, principal of the alternative school in the Lincoln County R-III School District.

"When I got my master's degree in 1998, I said then that I wanted to be Lindenwood's first doctoral candidate," Townsend said.

Similarly, Nack said that when the program was approved, it was suggested to her that she could be the first to earn the degree. Both made their presentations on Dec. 12, 2007. Once Nack and Townsend were both in the program and taking classes together, they began working together on papers and projects. The work was hard and time-consuming.

"I went to summer school for the first time in years," Nack said.

Townsend, who was new to the Education Division, said she made particular notice of how passionate education students are about what they do, based on what she observed in the classes.

Nack, who worked as a part-time cheerleading coach at Lindenwood for many years, joined the education faculty full-time as an assistant professor in 2004. In her career, she has also been a principal at two elementary schools and is part owner of Little Guppy Child Development Center.

Townsend has worked at Lindenwood since 1995. She has spent the entire time in the Academic Services department. She has gone from data coordinator to assistant dean. All three of her degrees are from Lindenwood.

"The irony is that when I finished high school, I said I was never going back to school again," Townsend said.

Both women said they completed the degree program for their own personal reasons rather than for any particular job reasons.

"I did it for me," Nack said. "It was a milestone I set for myself. We are both proud to be the first graduates of the Ed.D. program."

They also said they wanted to thank their friends, colleagues, and families for the support and encouragement they received along the way.

"I enjoyed it," Townsend said. "It was a great learning experience in a lot of ways. If I could go back and make the decision to do this again, I definitely would."

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Lafata Selected as Employee of Month

First LU Doctorates Posted

Poetry Reading Feb. 5 in Sibley Chapel

Wallace Hired in IA Office

Did you know that Ayres Hall was partially built with money given by Andrew Carnegie? The total cost to build Ayres Hall was \$40,000 in 1907, of which Carnegie offered \$10,000 if the difference could be raised without resorting to loans. Originally named Jubilee Hall, this building was renamed in 1927, to honor former President Frederic Ayres.

Guest to Speak about Police Perceptions of Shootings

The Human Services Division presents the first of many prominent speakers at 3 p.m. Tuesday, February 5, in the Leadership Room of the Spellmann Center.

David A. Klinger is an associate professor at UM-St. Louis. He received a B.A. in History from Seattle Pacific University in 1980, a Master's in Justice from American University in 1985, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Washington in 1992. Prior to joining the Criminology and Criminal Justice faculty at UM-St. Louis, he was assistant (1992-1998) and associate (1998-1999) professor of Sociology at the University of Houston.

Prior to pursuing his graduate degrees, Klinger worked as a patrol officer for the Los Angeles and Redmond (WA) Police departments. In 1997, he was the recipient of the American Society of Criminology's inaugural Ruth Caven Young Scholar Award for outstanding early career contributions to the discipline of criminology. Klinger's research interests include a broad array of issues in the field of crime and justice, with an emphasis on the organization and actions of the modern police. He has published scholarly manuscripts that address arrest practices, the use of force, how features of communities affect the actions of patrol officers, and terrorism. He has conducted two federally funded research projects dealing with the use of force by police officers, one on officer-involved shootings and the other on police special weapons and tactics (SWAT) teams.

Klinger serves as the director of the department's Masters program. He is the author of *Into the Kill Zone: A Cop's Eye View of Deadly Force*.

He will speak about his experiences and the perceptions that police have about police shootings. He has conducted many interviews and published scholarly research on the emotional trauma that officers experience after shootings. Klinger will also have books on hand to sign for those interested.

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Jozsef Poetry Reading Feb. 5 in Sibley Chapel

A reading and discussion of the poetry of Attila Jozsef, Hungary's greatest 20th century poet, will take place at 8 p.m. Tuesday, February 5, in Sibley Chapel on Lindenwood University's main campus.

The reading and discussion will be held by his translators, Hungarian poet Gabor G. Gyukics and Lindenwood professor Michael Castro. Castro is pictured at left. The event is being sponsored by Lindenwood University's MFA in Writing Program in conjunction with the English Department.

Attila Jozsef (1905-1937) wrote an intense, personal poetry with political and metaphysical overtones that still resonates with Hungarians, cutting through socio-economic and ethnic strata with its directness.

Castro and Gyukics's renderings have drawn praise because they have captured an edge in Jozsef's voice that "feels quite contemporary," a quality which eluded earlier English translators and accounts for his continuing popularity in Hungary and around the world.

Jozsef's work has been set to music by composers and blues singers, choreographed for dance, and transformed into visual art. It has been translated into many languages, including French, German, Japanese, Spanish, Finnish, Swedish and now the English translations by Castro and Gyukics in their book *A Transparent Lion: Selected Poetry of Attila Jozsef* (Green Integer Books 2006). The book was published in the wake of the 100th anniversary of Jozsef's birth, the subject of a year-long national celebration in Hungary that featured a conference of his international translators, readings, and other events participated in by Castro and Gyukics.

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Wallace Hired in Institutional Advancement Office

The Lindenwood University family is happy to welcome Tom Wallace. He has assumed the role of director of corporate and foundation relations and is responsible for the University's program to develop and secure gifts and grants from corporations and foundations.

Wallace comes to Lindenwood from the Coro Leadership Center - St. Louis, where he served as the Director of Development. Previous to that he was the vice president and director of development at the St. Louis Christian College.

Lucy Morros, vice president for institutional advancement, says, "Tom brings very important experience and skills to our fund raising effort. He has worked for many years in higher education and knows what has to be done in order to cultivate and steward corporate and foundation donors. Plus, he thoroughly enjoys all phases of development.

Among many advancement projects Wallace is working on at Lindenwood, he is currently raising capital funds for the new Center for the Fine and Performing Arts and for major additions and renovations of the Lindenwood University campus in Belleville.

Wallace's academic background includes an M.B.A. from Saint Louis University with an emphasis in management and a B.A. magna cum laude in Business Administration from the UM-St. Louis. Wallace and his wife, Linda, have lived in Maryland Heights for over 25 years. They have four children: Jamie, Christopher, Jeffrey, and Bradley.

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Powers to Receive Award from North Central

P. Joseph Powers, of the Education Division faculty, will receive the John W. Vaughn Excellence in Education Award from the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. The award is presented annually to a handful of educators throughout North Central's region who "have made exceptional contributions to schools, students and communities." The award is named for John W. Vaughn, who served as the Executive Director of the Commission on Schools from 1977 until 1986.

Powers, pictured at left, will be given the award at a luncheon at the downtown Marriott Hotel in Chicago on March 17. The luncheon is a part of the NCA's annual conference.

Powers earned his Ph.D. in educational administration and his education specialist degree from Saint Louis University, two master's degrees in secondary school administration and history from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and a bachelor's in political science and history from Southeast Missouri State University.

He came to Lindenwood as a full-time faculty member in fall of 2007 with 33 years of school administration and teaching experience in Norway and the United States. Most recently, he was principal at Ladue Horton-Watkins High School. He teaches in the educational doctorate program.

Website Adds More Career Services Info

Career Services has added a "What Can I Do With This Major" section to its website to provide students a clearer understanding of the career opportunities connected with their majors.

"Oftentimes, students choose an academic major without having a clear understanding of what positions might be available to them upon graduation," said Dana Werhli, Director of Career Services.

The new section can be accessed at www.lindenwood.edu/campus_life/career_majors.asp. The site contains printable PDF files that include lists of related job titles, typical employers, and helpful tips to assist students in obtaining relevant experience.

Werhli encourages faculty to use the website as a reference when they are advising current students or recruiting potential students to their programs.

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Whaley Helps History Department with Fundraiser

Congratulations to the Lindenwood University History Club for donating \$100 to the Missouri Historical Society! The money will be used to purchase books for the MoHist Library and Research Center.

The donation was a result of the History Club's trivia night November 16. Student Sara Lewis organized the event and James Allison, Andrea Miller, Caitlin Knepper, Allie Kasbohm, and Luke Ritter were key workers. Professor Mike Whaley was the faculty sponsor.

Thank you to the History Department and their students for their direct community involvement!

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Former Prof Jashemski Dies

Wilhelmina Jashemski, 97, a history professor at Lindenwood from 1942 to 1945, died of renal failure Dec. 24 in Silver Spring Maryland.

Jashemski, who taught most of her career at the University of Maryland, was regarded as one of the foremost experts in the world on the gardens of Pompeii, which were buried beneath 15 feet of volcanic ash from Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D.

She wrote numerous books on the subject and conducted many archeological digs on the site of the Roman city. Her fascination with the doomed city reportedly started after a one day visit to Pompeii in 1955.

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'08 Christmas Party Date is Set

The 2008 Faculty and Staff Christmas Party will be held Friday Dec. 12. Please note this is the second Saturday of December. The party had previously been held on the third Saturday. The time remains the same--7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

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AI Gore Film to be Shown Thursday

The Natural Science Club, Word Society, and Campus Y are sponsoring pizza, drinks and a showing of Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* with a discussion to follow at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, in Young Hall Room 111.

That day is the national teach-in for Focus the Nation, an organization to increase awareness, teach, and foster ideas about global warming.

Please announce this to your students, and join us. Also look for students outside the cafeteria during lunch that day with green armbands and other freebies!

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Lindenwood Athletic Headlines (Jan. 28-Feb. 3)

The Lindenwood basketball teams are home on Saturday afternoon with a doubleheader against Avila. The women's hoop team will also play its final non-conference game of the season on Tuesday night at Olivet Nazarene.

The Lindenwood women's ice hockey team will play at home for the final time this season with a Saturday/Sunday series versus Grand Valley State. The team moved up to the number one spot in last week's ACHA national poll

The Doug Bletcher era at Lindenwood begins this weekend as the Lions baseball team opens up the 2008 season. The 14th-ranked Lions have a tough opening weekend, with the team traveling to fifth-ranked Lee for a four-game series.

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

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