

COMMUNIQUÉ

Alan Dixon Speaking at Commencement; Ehlmann Picked for Baccalaureate

Longtime U.S. Sen. Alan Dixon, D-IL, will be Lindenwood University's Commencement speaker Saturday, May 17, at the Family Arena in St. Charles. The Lindenwood Board of Directors approved Dixon and Baccalaureate speaker Steve Ehlmann at its regular meeting on Friday.

Dixon, at left, is originally from Belleville, IL. He is a veteran of the armed forces. He graduate from the University of Illinois and received his law degree at Washington University. He was a state senator, state treasurer and secretary of state. He served Illinois as a U.S. senator from 1980 until 1993. He was part of the all-important Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission in 1994-1995. He lives in Fairview Heights, IL and is currently a partner with the law firm Bryan Cave in St. Louis.

St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann will be the speaker at Friday night's baccalaureate and graduate commencement. Before becoming county executive, Ehlmann was employed as St. Charles County's director of administration. He has been a judge and a state senator and a state representative. He was Republican floor leader in the Senate. Ehlmann is also a local historian and a recent winner of Lindenwood's Sibley Medallion of Honor.

This Communiqué

Dixon Speaking at Commencement

Wellness Station Coming to Cafeteria

Volunteer Center Opens Today

Did You Know?

Did you know that Nobel Peace Prize winner and Hull House founder Jane Addams visited Lindenwood in 1925? In her speech to the students, Ms. Addams stated that the only way that the world will experience lasting peace is for the nations of the world to place women in positions of authority in the government.

[Return to Top](#)

'Wild Thyme Wellness' Station Coming to Cafeteria

Students, staff, and faculty will soon have the ability to identify healthy or vegan food options in the cafeteria through a new system due to debut after Spring Break. Ralph Pfremer of Pfoodman, Lindenwood's food service provider, said the system is the result of student requests for more authentic, creative cooking techniques, vegetarian and low-fat choices and an increased emphasis on authentic international foods.

The new system, called the "Wild Thymes Wellness" station, will provide a set of icons that will help students identify low-fat items and vegan items. Pfremer, pictured at right, said the system will be enhanced and expanded next year.

One of Pfoodman's regional chefs, Dan Joyce, a Culinary Institute of America graduate, was brought on to help Executive Chef David Klimuszka (who is also a culinary institute graduate) with the project. They have researched recipes from all over the world, a cross section of student requests, and have found international suppliers of authentic foods and herbs and spices to produce a restaurant-quality product with an emphasis on wellness.

Pfremer also said that after Spring Break an upgraded version of each of the on-campus coffee shops will be rolled out with new equipment to make more of the popular-style coffee drinks.



[Return to Top](#)

Volunteer Center Opens Today in Butler Hall

Today marks the grand opening of the Lindenwood Volunteer and Community Service Center in Butler Hall.

Organizer Jack Beckerle, assistant professor of nonprofit administration, hopes this center will help student organizations, athletic teams and individuals become more involved with the local community. Beckerle, pictured at right, is working with the Community Council of St. Charles and other nonprofits to provide volunteer opportunities for LU students. The center is located in Butler Hall Room 108. Office hours are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The phone number is 949-4639.

"The procedure is very simple," Beckerle said. "Any student organization advisor, coach or representative may call our office or drop by and volunteer for community service. We will also contact Lindenwood organizations with requests for help from local nonprofits. We see this as a great way to show that Lindenwood students want to make a difference in our community."



[Return to Top](#)

Bezemes Starts Work at Lindenwood

The executive director for Lindenwood University's new Center for Fine and Performing Arts is on campus and has begun his duties. But he has quietly been for several months scheduling acts for the center, which is scheduled to open this summer.

Peter Bezemes, a 1979 Lindenwood graduate, has made a very successful career in the entertainment industry; he has performed casting for Hollywood films, television, Broadway theatre and many others. He has also worked as a producer or promoter in virtually every facet of the entertainment industry. He worked as a radio producer and worked for RKO Broadcasting in TV and radio licensing. Bezemes, pictured at right, has produced concerts and records, has been a music publisher, is a voting member of the recording arts academy that selects nominees and winners for the Grammy Awards, and has written for television and the stage, among others.



"I first read about the Center for Fine and Performing Arts in the Lindenwood alumni newsletter," Bezemes said. "I was excited about it as an alum, and I made a call to Dr. (James D.) Evans who was my psychology professor when I went to school there."

Later, Bezemes did some consulting on the new facility, and in June accepted an offer to become executive director. He said the building itself was a key factor in his decision to take the job.

"I have been in many theaters, and it quickly became apparent to me that this was no ordinary school facility," Bezemes said. "The theatre is grander than most theatres on Broadway. There is an amazing amount of fly space, a large stage, and the surrounding support systems are all in place—a scene shop, costume facilities, and the music and dance facilities. There is nothing we can't do there. It will bring wonderful recognition to the school."

Bezemes said that versatility makes it a natural stop for touring companies, musical acts and celebrity performers, some of which have already been booked for the facility's first season. An announcement of specific acts is forthcoming.

Bezemes said that in addition to having a first-class facility in which to produce their own shows and concerts, students will benefit from the exposure to and opportunity to work with professional shows and performers that come to the center.

"There will be learning opportunities they won't see anywhere else, including the well-known performing arts schools in New York and elsewhere," Bezemes said. "It's an amazing and exciting thing for any student to be able to work with the best equipment in the best facility and to have the chance to work around professionals at a lower cost than other places."

The opening performance is planned for September 2008, although the details have yet to be announced.

Butler Library Pitches in for Posters

Butler Library needs your help with a very special community-wide reading project.

"We are creating promotional "Read" posters to display across campus during National Library Week in April," said the library's Suzanne Gleason. "These posters will feature members from our own community."

Gleason said that in order for the campaign to be successful, faculty, staff and students are being asked to choose a favorite book with which they can be photographed. The choice is yours whether you bring along a fun fiction book, an academic tome from your field of study, or even your favorite children's book.

"This is a great opportunity to build community among the members of this campus," Gleason said. "Please call or email me to set up a time to have your photo taken. It will only take a few moments and can be scheduled at a time and location most convenient to you."

[Return to Top](#)