



Aldemaro Romero, Ph.D.
Dean

Dean's Welcome: *Why I am a Believer*

Welcome to the *Arts & Sciences Today* newsletter.

Since I became Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville on July 1, I've been impressed by the quality of our students, the talent and dedication of our faculty, and the support of our wonderful staff—all of whom are contributing to a truly excellent educational experience for more than 13,900 students enrolled at SIUE this semester.

One of the things that has impressed me the most is the positive impact our alumni are having in the community, from education and health care to business and the arts. That is the best indication that we are doing things right. The fact that we now attract more students from outside our geographic region also speaks highly of the reputation that we have as an institution.

In a short period of time, I've become a believer in the mission of the University. That's why I've made a personal donation to the Lovejoy Library of my papers and documents, valued at \$50,000, so the academic community worldwide can benefit from thousands upon thousands of archival materials that have been accumulated over several decades. My wife Ana and I have also become financial supporters of a great variety of scientific and cultural activities on campus.

The stories in this issue are just a few of the successes of our College alumni, faculty and students. We have more than 27,000 CAS alumni to date, and each of you has a story of your own journey from SIUE to the present. I hope that every CAS alumnus will be a part of our present and future as well as our past. Together, we have an opportunity to continue the legacy of excellence and success that has been reflected by the lives of more than 80,000 SIUE graduates over the past 50 years.

We have become believers in the College's mission and incredible future, and I hope you can join us to share those dreams.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Romero".

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In this Issue: Art Has Impact



Green Roof Projects



A Life-Changing Experience



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Alumni Honored with SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame Recognition

Edna Patterson-Petty

Edna Patterson-Petty views her days at the University as a time of great personal growth.

“As a child and a young adult I was quiet and shy, to the point of almost feeling non-existent,” she said. “My time at SIUE in the art and art therapy program allowed me to develop the skills to tap into a much stronger person, finding and building her ‘own’ creative world.”

Patterson-Petty is best known for creating art quilts which convey specific stories. She created the quilt “Road to Redemption” to be shown in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with President Barack Obama’s inauguration.

Her outdoor installation art can be seen at various MetroLink transit stations in Illinois, and one of her pieces was on display at the American Embassy in Pakistan for three years. Another piece is on permanent display in Senegal, West Africa. Patterson-Petty has received fellowships from the Illinois Arts Council and the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission and co-authored the book *Quilt Designs and Poetry Rhymes*. Her work has also been featured on the cover of *African American Review* and the *American Art Therapy Journal*.

Gordon Bush

Gordon Bush received a bachelor of arts and a master of arts in urban planning from SIUE in 1969 and 1971, respectively. He has served as the assessor of St. Clair County (Ill.) since 2005, and served two consecutive terms as mayor of East St. Louis. During his time as mayor, he was elected president of the National Council of Black Mayors. He also has been the city

treasurer and a city commissioner for East St. Louis and a member of the St. Clair County Board of Review.

Bush received a doctorate of humane letters from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, and the Gordon Bush Elementary School was named after him. He is active on numerous boards and organizations including the SIUE Alumni Association, NAACP, United States Army Reserves Officer Association, Shriners International and is a lifetime member of Kappa Alpha Psi. He is also a recipient of the SIUE Distinguished Alumnus of the University Award.

Bill Plaschke

Bill Plaschke has been a sports columnist with the *Los Angeles Times* since 1997. A 1980 graduate of the SIUE mass communications department, he is a nationally recognized sports writer and commentator. Plaschke was named the Associate Press National Sports Columnist of the Year in 2000, 2004 and 2006. He was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 2004 and is a regular panelist on ESPN’s “Around the Horn” program.

“I’m honored and flattered. I love SIUE—it gave me my career,” said Plaschke. “It basically gave me my life, and I will never be able to totally repay it.”

Plaschke has co-authored books with Tommy Lasorda, Chuck Knox and Dick Williams. His latest book, *American Victory*, which tells the story of Olympic wrestling gold medalist Henry Cejudo, is scheduled for publication in January 2010. Plaschke was voted Big Brother/Big Sister Man of the Year for Greater Los Angeles and received the Pursuit of Justice Award from the Los Angeles Women’s Law Center for his coverage of women’s sports.

Rance Thomas

After retiring from the U.S. Air Force, Rance Thomas attended SIUE, earning a master’s in sociology in 1973. He went on to earn a doctorate in sociology from Saint Louis University 12 years later.

Thomas joined the faculty of Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey in 1972. A professor of sociology and criminal justice, he was the first person granted emeritus status by the college when he retired in 2002. He was the lead faculty/coordinator of sociology for 30 years and chaired the Minority Mentoring Program for 12 years.

Thomas was the founder and president of the National Minority Caucus in Higher Education. He co-founded and is president of the North County Churches Uniting for Racial Harmony and Justice Organization, which includes churches of various denominations in North St. Louis. He has received numerous awards for community leadership and service, and has served on the boards of the Madison County (IL) Urban League, SIUE Alumni Association (president), Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Board, the Elijah P. Lovejoy Memorial and the SSM DePaul Health Center Advisory Board. Thomas is an elder in the Presbyterian Church USA and has served in various leadership roles at the local, state, regional and national levels.

Plaques commemorating each of these honorees and their accomplishments are part of to the College of Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame display on the third floor of Peck Hall. They have joined members of the 2008 Alumni Hall of Fame inaugural class: Patricia Mercurio, Scott Alspach, Mark Showers and Col. John “Jay” Flournoy Jr.



Edna Patterson-Petty, '84, '88



Gordon Bush, '69, '71



Bill Plaschke, '80



Rance Thomas, '73

SIUE Art Program Has Impact on Region

Galleries, exhibits, events and auctions rise from the seeds planted in SIUE's art department, where countless local artists build the foundations for successful and lucrative careers in visual arts. The presence of SIUE has provided the region with a flourishing community art scene.

"Being involved with community arts organizations is rewarding and provides an opportunity to give back," said Susan Bostwick, MFA '90. She has used her art education to both contribute to, and foster, community artistic efforts in the Edwardsville area. She serves as board president of the local Jacoby Arts Center, works as a coordinator for ARTEAST and is an SIUE Friends of Art board member.

Bostwick credits SIUE for giving her the jumpstart into the world of art. She works mainly in clay and sculpting, though drawing is another passion. She was most inspired by former SIUE drawing professor, Mike Smith, whose "enthusiasm and encouragement was a gift."

"The region is flourishing as a result of the SIUE art alumni who have stayed in the area. The professionalism and passion of these alumni has been a catalyst for the region that now supports galleries, public art and more," Bostwick said.

Elizabeth Adams Marks began her artistic career in the 1970s as a freelance illustrator, having her art appear in books, magazines, movies and television. In 2002, Adams Marks enrolled in SIUE's art education program, earning a bachelor's in art education in 2006. She is an art instructor at Oakville Middle School in St. Louis.

"My education from SIUE refined and enhanced my career in art. It totally revolutionized my life as a visual artist, as well as my new career as an educator," Adams Marks said.

"Through SIUE's textiles program I learned to make handmade paper and hand-bound books."



Susan Bostwick



Elizabeth Adams Marks



John Farley

Her work is displayed in the Eden Project collection in Cornwall, England. She had an article published about her papermaking in the *International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists* in fall 2006 and presented her research in papermaking from crop fibers to the International Hand Papermaking and Paper Artists Congress in Oxford in 2007.

Adams Marks credits the art and design program at SIUE for the community's artistic success. "The teachers in the department, all at the top of their careers as visual artists, are recognized and respected nationally in their field of specialization," she said.

Not all local artists are connected to SIUE through graduation from the art and design program. Retired sociology professor John Farley displays his digital photography at community events and in galleries. "I undoubtedly learned the power of photography to convey messages and images through my work in sociology," Farley said.

Farley has had his photography displayed as part of local ARTEAST exhibits and the Route 66 Festival in Illinois. He said SIUE creates venues for exhibiting art and fosters a community of local artists, all contributing to the art scene.

"The art scene in Madison County is growing and has a bright future, and SIUE is an important part of that," Farley said.

"SIUE attracts creative people with interest in various aspects of the arts. Students, faculty and alumni, even those who do not specialize in the arts, are interested in art and contribute to the vibrancy of the scene locally."

Green Roof Projects at SIUE



The new green roof systems that are in place at SIUE are an effort toward greater environmental sustainability. William Retzlaff, associate professor of environmental sciences and chair of the biological sciences department, has been conducting research on green roofs for the past five years. His research with the Green Roof Environmental Evaluation Network (G.R.E.E.N) will help determine which types of plants and growth media are best suited for green roof systems in the Midwest.

Advantages of using a green roof system include noise reduction, improvement in biodiversity/habitat/aesthetics, and keeping homes warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

The first green roof site at SIUE was established on the Engineering Building in 2004. Researchers in the G.R.E.E.N. program have established several other test sites on the SIUE campus.

■ A vertical green wall system, located near Bluff Hall, is testing the potential of biowalls to reduce urban heat flux.

■ The recently opened Student Success Center addition to Morris University Center includes a 16,000 square-foot green roof site, which will help increase energy efficiency for the building.

■ SIUE's ground-level green roof research field site is located near Supporting Services and is where the storm water runoff benefits of green roofs are evaluated.

In September 2009, G.R.E.E.N. began a research project at the field site to test the Steep Green Pak roof system. Biological sciences graduate student Dan Murphy is evaluating the viability and feasibility of the system for residential use.

Murphy came to SIUE's biological sciences graduate program specifically to conduct research on green roof systems. After obtaining a bachelor of science in horticulture from the University of Idaho, he wanted to combine his interest in horticulture and sustainable cities research.

"There aren't many schools that have green roof research programs, and most of them are on the Eastern side of the country," he said. "The program here at SIUE is one of the best, so that's why I left Idaho and came so far to be involved in this program."

Murphy evaluates model steep roofs for his research project. Each model has looped straps attached to the roofing shingles in horizontal rows. The Steep Green Paks are

then placed through the loops and hang on the roof surface, the straps keeping them in place. Eventually the newly planted specimens will grow and retain storm water runoff. See video at greenroofblocks.com.

Serving as assistant to Murphy is undergraduate biological sciences major Blake Fernando, an Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URCA) assistant. Although Fernando's area of interest is in pre-med, he believes green roof research is important. "This could lessen our impact on the environment and is something that every homeowner could do," he said.

Since 2004, 75 students from different academic disciplines at SIUE have worked with Retzlaff to conduct research and maintain the green roof projects. Find out how you can become involved. Contact William Retzlaff at wretzla@siue.edu.

Learn more about SIUE's green roof projects www.green-siue.com.



From left, William Retzlaff, Dan Murphy and Blake Fernando display the Steep Green Pak roof system used on the latest SIUE green roof research.

Keeping the Music Alive



Jack Gramlich

Jack Gramlich, BA music education '72, loved music and SIUE. Gramlich, who died in Dallas at the age of 57 in February 2008, left a lasting legacy that honors those

two loves. His bequest will annually fund \$5,000 scholarships for up to 10 deserving music students at SIUE.

"Jack Gramlich and Mary Thouvenot were my first voice students to graduate from SIUE after my arrival in 1969," retired SIUE vocal teacher Sarah Turner said. "He was a second tenor, and I remember vividly assigning him a pretty rough repertoire for his senior recital.

"He was an intelligent, conscientious and thorough student," Turner said. She kept up with him for many years after graduation. "I finally lost track of him completely," said Turner. "But not in my memory." Apparently, the memories of Turner had remained vivid for Gramlich, as well.

Gramlich taught school in Illinois for three years before beginning a new career in journalism as editor for the *Wall Street Journal* in Chicago. In the early 1990s, Dow Jones & Co. transferred him to its newly opened southwest division office in Dallas, where Gramlich continued to work as a journalist until retiring after more than 25 years in the newspaper industry.

Retirement was an ideal time for Gramlich to return to his first love by taking the position of director of music at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dallas, where

he directed the chancel choir and the children's choir until the time of his death. Gramlich was also a member of the Turtle Creek Chorale for several years, performing regularly in the chorale's serious concerts and in those spiked with humor and spirited choreography. Later, he became a member of the Dallas Symphony Chorus.

Audrey Tallant, chair of the SIUE Department of Music, praised Gramlich for his generosity. "The Gramlich scholarships will allow us to recruit talented students for our music program, enabling us to bring high quality musicians to SIUE," Tallant said. "Without the help of people like Jack, it would be impossible to maintain the caliber of our music program. He will be remembered by all of us in the department every time a scholarship is awarded in his name."

Alumni Annual Phonathon Comes Home

This year's annual alumni phonathon is back at SIUE. Our own SIUE students are calling alumni to ask for support of the University-wide campaign. Josh Olmstead, SIUE's new assistant director of annual giving, has put together an enthusiastic group of students who are excited about talking to you.

"The Student Call Center is a great way to connect alumni to the University and offer them the opportunity to get back involved with their *alma mater*," said Olmstead. "The student callers are having a blast reminiscing with SIUE alumni and talking about how much the campus has changed since they attended school.

What Student Callers are Hearing from Alumni

"It's nice to hear from a student who actually lives on campus."

Alumni are "in awe of the changes that have taken place."

"While one of the goals of bringing the Student Call Center back to campus is to raise valuable funds for SIUE and the College of Arts and Sciences, the wonderful conversations our students are having with CAS alumni is something that is immeasurable," said Olmstead.



The annual campaign is your opportunity to directly help today's students through your tax-deductible gift. Unrestricted giving to the College provides the Dean with funds to use where most needed across all 19 CAS units. Examples include Honors awards, travel-study programs, senior project support, student artwork stipends, visiting artists and speakers, and lab equipment

"The support of our alumni is so important. It is the only unrestricted funding that allows Dean Romero to meet opportunities that arise during the academic year," said Marilyn Marsho,

director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences.

As always, you determine where you would like your gift to go. For a listing of suggested funds that need your support, visit us online at siue.edu/artsandsciences/giving. Contact Marilyn Marsho, at 618.650.5048 or mmarsho@siue.edu for additional assistance with your contribution.

Going Green

Student callers verify alumni addresses, phone numbers, employers and e-mail addresses. With increasing costs for paper, printing and mailing, CAS is going green by maximizing electronic publications. In order to do that, we need your cooperation. Please provide an e-mail address that will allow us to move in this ecologically sound direction. We will be posting our publications online, as well as mailing a limited number to some of our earlier graduating classes.

Please make the student feel welcome when he or she calls you. After all, we're all part of the SIUE College of Arts and Sciences family.



George Pelekanos



David Kauzlarich



Kathryn Bentley



Margaret A. Simons



Leah C. O'Brien



Jennifer Rehg



Urszula Ledzewicz

Faculty Excellence

Congratulations to the College of Arts and Sciences faculty members who have recently been lauded for their achievements and work.

George Pelekanos, professor in mathematics and statistics, received the 2009 SIUE Hoppe Research Professor Award. The Hoppe Research Professorship will allow him to devote more time to his current project entitled "On the Development of a Fast and Efficient Reconstruction Algorithm in Computational Electromagnetics." Pelekanos will serve as a Hoppe Research Professor for two years, and receive the help of a graduate assistant and additional financial support for his project.

Sponsored by the SIUE Graduate School, the Hoppe Research Professor Awards recognize faculty whose research or creative activities have the promise of making significant contributions to their fields of study.

David Kauzlarich, professor of sociology and criminal justice studies and chair of that department, was named the 2009 SIUE Paul Simon Outstanding Teacher-Scholar. Kauzlarich received the William and Margaret Going Endowed Professor Award at SIUE in 2008 and SIUE's Great Teacher Award in 2005. He was also named the Critical Criminologist of the Year by the American Society of Criminology Critical Criminology Division in 2005. He has authored four books and written nearly three dozen articles or book chapters.

Administered by the SIUE Graduate School, the Simon Award recognizes full-time faculty members who contribute original research or creative activities and integrate that research or creative activity into their teaching activities.

Kathryn Bentley, assistant professor of theater and dance, was presented the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award at SIUE's 26th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration in

February. Bentley is both a professional actress and director. Since joining SIUE in 2006, she has headed the University's annual Black Theater Workshops and directed several productions. She has worked with companies such as the St. Louis Black Repertory Company, HotCity Theatre, Blackberry Productions in New York, Portland Stage and Cleveland Playhouse, and is a member of the Black Theatre Network and the Association for Theatre in Higher Education.

Margaret A. "Peg" Simons, professor emerita of philosophy, and **Leah C. O'Brien**, professor of chemistry, are recipients of the 2009 SIUE Distinguished Research Professor Award from the SIUE Graduate School. The award is an academic rank given to SIUE faculty members to recognize outstanding and sustained contributions to research and creative activities for at least five years after being named full professor.

Since 1990, when she was promoted to professor, Simons has given 15 international, 35 national, 10 regional and eight local presentations. She is regarded as one of the top scholars in writing about the philosophy and life of Simone de Beauvoir. Her most recent publications include a 2008 article in France and 2009 book copy of her edition of *Beauvoir's Wartime Diary*. She retired from SIUE in August 2009 as distinguished research professor emerita.

O'Brien has published 15 articles in pre-eminent journals in her field since her promotion to professor in 2001, and has been asked to use her expertise in chemistry and science to review articles submitted to the *Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy*, *Journal of Physical Chemistry* and the National Science Foundation. She has received research funding from both the National Science Foundation and the American Chemical Society.

Jennifer Rehg, assistant professor of anthropology, received the 2009 SIUE Teaching Excellence Award, the highest teaching honor the University bestows

upon its faculty. Rehg's achievement was recognized during SIUE's commencement ceremony in May. She has been with SIUE since 2003. Her research focuses on monkeys in rain forests.

Additional College of Arts and Sciences faculty who were recognized by SIUE's Teaching Excellence Award Committee include:

■ **Alicia Alexander**, assistant professor of speech communication, received a Teaching Distinction Award

■ **Denise DeGarmo**, associate professor and chair of political science, received a Teaching Recognition Award

■ **Renee Fussell**, instructor in speech communication, received a Teaching Recognition Award

Urszula Ledzewicz, professor of mathematics and statistics, received the William and Margaret Going Endowed Professorship for 2009. Ledzewicz has had a distinguished career as a mathematician with current research interests focused on analyzing models related to cancer treatments. Among her many accomplishments as a scholar are more than 100 papers published in professional journals, presentations of her work at 120 international conferences or universities, and the receipt of 11 external grants. In addition to a truly outstanding research record, Ledzewicz has taught a wide variety of courses and has served as advisor for more than 20 master's theses. She received the 2002 SIUE Hoppe Research Professor Award and was named a Distinguished Research Professor at the University in 2008.

The Going Professorship is the only endowed professorship at SIUE and was established to recognize outstanding teaching and scholarship for College of Arts and Sciences faculty. Dr. William Going was the first academic dean at SIUE and a member of the Department of English Language and Literature.



In Memoriam

The College of Arts and Sciences noted the passing of several well-known and well-loved personalities in the past year.

Carol Lark, assistant professor of art and design in the art therapy program, died on Oct. 7 following a bout with leukemia. She joined the SIUE art and design faculty in 2003 after having a private art therapy practice and working in art therapy at St. John's Mercy Medical Center and the Craft Alliance Family Arts Program in St. Louis.

Arthur Zahalsky, 78, died on Aug. 26. He was an emeritus professor of biological sciences, joining SIUE in 1971 as chair of the department. Professor Zahalsky's established area of research was tropical medicine and parasitology, particularly in relation to African sleeping sickness. He retired from SIUE in 1994.

Lyman "Zeke" Holden, emeritus professor of mathematics and statistics, was 82 when he died on April 24. He was one of SIUE's pioneering faculty, and began teaching mathematics at the Alton site in 1958. He officially retired in 2004 after 46 years at the University and continued teaching at SIUE until 2007.

Professor Emeritus **Harold Eugene Broadbooks** died at age 93 on March 29. He retired from biological sciences in 1985, and was one of SIUE's original faculty members. He was hired from Shurtleff Baptist College to teach at the University's original residence center site in Alton. Professor Broadbooks' research focused on the salmon population of the Northwest United States.

William Dolan Claudson, professor emeritus of music, died on Feb. 3, at the age of 76. He retired from SIUE in 1999 after 29 year of service to the University. Professor Claudson's specialization area was music education, and he had served as chair of SIUE's music department for eight years.

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Mr. Frederick R.
& Mrs. Pamela J. Adams, Jr.
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& Astronomy Museum
Mrs. Linda R. Akkari
Mr. David M. Allen
Mr. Terry K.

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& Mrs. Gloria Guthrie

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& Mr. John A. Hale

Ms. Kristi Ann Halfond

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Ms. Kellene M. Hamilton

Dr. Warren H. Handel

Mr. William E.

& Mrs. Kathaleen D. Hanke

Mr. Myles R. Hansen

Ms. Deborah K. Hard

Dr. Joel C. Hardman

Mrs. Rita A. Hardy

Veronica Armouti, '86 BS sociology, '88 MS policy analysis, has been named a recipient of the 2009 Woman of Distinction Award from the Alton YWCA.

Peter Basola, '72 BM, '76 MM, has retired as vice president of enrollment from Lewis and Clark Community College after joining the college as a registrar in 1981.

John Becker, '89 BS, '97 MA sociology, is the executive director for Senior Services Plus in Alton.

Kevin Bodden, '92 BS physics, '95 MS mathematics, was nominated for the Illinois Community College Trustees Association 2009 Outstanding Faculty Member Award.

Walter Chappas, '75 BA mathematics, was promoted to chief technology officer of PetroBeam Inc.

Melissa Churchman, '00 BS social work, '01 MSW, is vice president of the Illinois Region of the United Way of Greater St. Louis.

Claudie Droste, '82 BS mass communications, is the owner of Copycat Video in Alton.

Dr. Andrew Dykeman, '90 BA philosophy, was elected as second vice president of the Illinois Chiropractic Society. Dykeman is a local chiropractic physician with an office in East Alton and is the sole proprietor of Rosewood Chiropractic Clinic in the city.

Christopher Flake, '08 BS criminal justice studies, is now patrolling the streets of Highland after completing work at the Southwestern Illinois College Police Academy. He previously worked for the Centreville Police Department.

Bev George, '75 BS English, '79 MSSED secondary education, has been named to the board of directors for the national Council of Real Estate Brokerage Managers. She is the broker and owner of Bev George & Associates in Glen Carbon and a past president of the Greater Gateway Association of Realtors.

Edward Geppert, Jr., '69 BA government, has been named to the Illinois Education Funding Advisory Board. Geppert is the president of the Illinois Federation of Teachers.

Larry Gilbert, '96 MPA, was honored with the Olympian Leadership Award for his contributions to law enforcement, public safety and the administration of justice. Gilbert is the Southwestern Illinois College Police Academy director and Administration of Justice Program coordinator.

Dennis G. Hall, '72 MS physics, was honored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Hall is the vice provost for research and dean of the graduate school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

Rich Haydon, '82 BM, '87 MM, is a guitarist with the group Standard Time, which has released a new CD, "Eastern Central Pacific."

Jack Humes Jr., '74 BA, '75 MS geography, has been named to the board of directors for YTB International Inc. Humes is a private practice lawyer with the Humes Law Office in Edwardsville.

Andre Jackson, '84 BS mass communications, is the editorial editor at the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

Ric Johns, '81 BS art, was inducted into the Illinois Football Association Hall of Fame in Chicago in April. Johns, the head coach at Belleville West, guided Calhoun High to Class A state championships in 1992-93 and coached the Warriors from 1981-96.

Robert Johnson, '82 BS mass communications, won the Dr. Paul and Duddy Costello Memorial Award for Mixed Media during the 61st Annual Currier Museum of Art NHAA Juried Exhibition in Manchester, N.H.

Dee Joyner, '71 BA, '73 MS government, was one of five recipients of a Coro Leadership Award from the Coro Leadership Center. Joyner is senior vice president of Commerce Bank, responsible for organizational development and community relations.

Andrew Manar, '97 BS history, is the chief of staff for Illinois Senate President John Cullerton, a democrat representing the 6th District in Chicago.

Lori McAllister, '79 BS sociology, completed her master of professional counseling at McKendree College in 2007 and received her license as a professional counselor in 2008. She is currently working as a family therapist for Catholic Social Services in Belleville.

Adam Miller, '03 BS history and political science, is dean of students and athletics director at East Alton-Wood River High School.

Rob Moginot, '06 MA history, was named the Daughters of the American Revolution 2009 Outstanding Teacher of Illinois in History. He is currently teaching at Marquette Catholic High School in Alton. Additionally, he was named Coach of the Year in girls 1A and 2A soccer by the Belleville News-Democrat and received similar honors when named a Spring 2009 Riverbend All-Star. Moginot led the Lady Explorers soccer team to an 18-5-1 record. The team finished second in the state in 1A play this year.

Eugene Redmond, '64 BA English, donated more than 200,000 images, posters and photographs to SIUE's Lovejoy Library this summer. This extensive collection covers more than 40 years and documents Redmond's time with legends in the literary world, Civil Rights movement, and historical figures. He is an emeritus professor from SIUE, retiring from the Department of English Language and Literature in 2007.

Laura Reed, '97 BS political science, has partnered with Jan Carpenter on a new venture, Cork Tree Creative. The company will provide graphic design, e-marketing, public relations, writing services, advertising, global branding and internal corporate communications.

Joe Silkwood, '97 MPA, is coaching baseball at Alton Marquette High School. He is still the treasurer for the Village of East Alton.

Dr. Anna Smith, '00 BS biological sciences, '04 DMD, owns Dentistry with TLC which was the Small Business of the Year award recipient from the River Bend Growth Association.

P. Dewayne Staats, '75 BA, was one of 10 people selected for the inaugural East Alton-Wood River High School Alumni Hall of Fame. Staats is the play-by-play television commentator for the MLB Tampa Bay Rays.

Elizabeth Stroble, '80 MA history, '84 MA American & English literature, became the 14th President of Webster University in St. Louis on July 1.

George Strode, '01 BLS, is currently serving as Task Force Phoenix resource manager in Kabul Afghanistan.

Michael Szeles, '06 BS theater and dance, was nominated for a New York Innovative Theater Award for his work in an Off-Off-Broadway production. He and the rest of the cast of *The Most Damaging Wound* were nominated for the IT Outstanding Ensemble award. Szeles was also nominated for an IT Outstanding Solo Performance in 2006.

Melissa Weissert, '07 BS history, is a tour guide at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, Ill.

Bryan White, '03 MPA, is the assistant city manager and budget director the city of Canandaigua, N.Y. White had previously served as the confidential assistant to the city manager of Watertown, N.Y., since 2004.

Charles Willett, '83 BM, '84 MM, took part in presidential inauguration activities in January. The Alton native is a master gunnery sergeant and clarinetist with the United States Marine Band, which participated in the inaugural parade for President Barack Obama.



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A Life-Changing Experience

It took Kelsey Borrowman more than a year and a half to save enough money to pay for her travel study trip to Istanbul, Turkey, but the SIUE senior says it was “worth every penny.” A double major in philosophy and history, Kelsey and six other SIUE students participated in a month-long educational trip led by Lucian Stone, assistant professor of philosophy, this past summer.

Students spent time in the classroom at Yeditepe University where they received lessons on the Turkish language, culture and cooking. They also explored Istanbul, touring museums, mosques and historic attractions. This combination of classroom instruction with on-site visits provided a profound learning experience.

“Traveling abroad is incomparable to classroom education,” she said. “After studying the history, politics and the art, traveling to Istanbul allowed me to *experience* the history, politics and the art.”

Fellow students had majors in different areas, including music, political science and art. Borrowman believes that this diverse group made the educational experience more enriching.

“The great thing about traveling in a group is you get to experience, the profound

change of thought,” she said. “When everyone thinks of Istanbul, they think ‘Middle East.’ But Istanbul is Istanbul. It’s a city that lies within both Europe and Asia with a rich history of conquest, modernization and political leadership. Talk about a mixing pot! The influences come from all over the world, and that makes Istanbul completely unique.”

The students lived in dormitories at Yeditepe University and took public transportation whenever they traveled. Borrowman said they began to feel more like residents than tourists. “We really got to know the ins and outs of the city,” she said. “We really lived there. We had our favorite coffee shops, favorite restaurants and favorite spots for gelato.”

As part of the travel study course, Borrowman earned six credit hours in Philosophy 390, Islamic Art and Islam and Modernity. Her parents paid for her college credit hours, but she herself financed the travel portion of her trip. A travel stipend from the College of Arts and Sciences was the only additional financial support she received for the trip.


“It was a personal, internal development that affected not only my time in Istanbul, but the way I approach philosophy. Istanbul changed everything,” she said. “Since then,

I’ve spent a lot of my time contemplating perception, especially in reference to print media and entertainment.”

Borrowman believes that even though she was in Istanbul for only a brief time this summer, the city will always be with her. She is already making plans to take the 12-hour flight to Turkey again.

In the meantime, the Barry, Ill., native is preparing to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and apply to philosophy graduate schools. She hopes to study continental philosophy, feminism or aesthetics. She is also an Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Program associate, working on a project entitled “Written Riot: Aesthetics as a Response to Tyranny.” Her faculty mentors for the project are Thomas Jordan, associate professor of historical studies, and Bryan Lueck, assistant professor of philosophy.

“The experience has left me with a greater appreciation for the world around me, individual cultures, art, history and philosophy, and also for my educational experience here at home,” Kelsey said. “I try to come to every class as I did in Istanbul—ready to fully immerse myself in the experience of the classroom, alert and appreciative.”



“I can’t thank the College of Arts and Sciences enough for being part of this experience. Their support of me personally and for the trip has made for a paradigm shift in my life and educational experience.”

– Kelsey Borrowman

Alumni Profile

Lindsey Lester-Brutscher



While working on her master's in Russian area studies at Georgetown University, Lindsey Lester-Brutscher wrote a term paper on the growth of the Soviet Union's Navy in the 1970s. Her research indicated that the Russian Navy was increasing in strength at that time, but the U.S. Navy was undermanned. An Army veteran classmate encouraged her to meet with a recruiter, and she enlisted in the Navy shortly after graduation in May 1981.

She met her husband Tommy Brutscher while in graduate school, and the two were married after she completed training for the Navy. Her first naval assignment in Japan was as an air intelligence officer with a patrol squadron home ported in California. Following an assignment in Maryland, Lester-Brutscher switched her career focus to personnel, a field which offered more assignments for women within the U.S. This change led Lester-Brutscher to Minnesota and the Washington, D.C., areas.

As the daughter of a career Army-Air Corps/Air Force officer herself, Lester-Brutscher knew how difficult military relocations can be on children. The moves, coupled with the death of Lester-Brutscher's first husband in 1998, were especially difficult for the family, and she sought stability for her daughters. Lester-Brutscher and her daughters settled in the Metro East when she was transferred to Scott Air Force Base in 2003.

"I promised them they would finish growing up here," she said. One of her daughters is a freshman at Bradley University in Peoria, while her oldest is

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enrolled in the master of social work program at SIUE.

Experiences teaching at a community college and for the Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) program at Riverview Gardens High School in North St. Louis County helped kindle a passion to return to the classroom.

"When I was getting ready to retire, I knew in my heart of hearts that I wanted to teach," she said. Lester-Brutscher already had a bachelor's and master's in Russian area studies, but she lacked the additional coursework needed to teach middle and secondary school in Illinois. She began coursework for another undergraduate degree in teacher certification at SIUE in January 2007.

In October 2008, Lester-Brutscher received The Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate Medallion for SIUE. This medal honors outstanding seniors representing the values and virtues

of America's 16th president in each of Illinois' four-year, degree-granting colleges and universities.

She graduated from SIUE in May 2009 with a 4.0 grade point average, a bachelor's in political science and a secondary social science teacher certification.

Lester-Brutscher returned to Riverview Gardens in August. As the ranking officer, she teaches four class periods of senior NJROTC students. "The purpose of NJROTC is to instill values of discipline and good citizenship," she said. "Instructors are all retired Navy, but we are not there to recruit for the military. We are there to instill in young people the values that we learned in the Navy, such as self-discipline, integrity and a strong work ethic.

She plans on teaching NJROTC at Riverview Gardens for the next several years. But after that, she thinks she'll be ready, once more, to make a change.



Staying in Touch

Please take a few minutes to send the College and your department an update on where your life has led you since leaving SIUE. It's a chance to reconnect with old friends and professors while sharing your successes as an alumnus of the College of Arts and Sciences. We look forward to hearing from you.



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