

The Magazine of
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Alumni Association
No. 5
Fall 2008

A man with dark hair and a slight smile is sitting outdoors. He is wearing a black polo shirt and light-colored khaki pants. He is positioned in front of a building with large windows and a garden area with green plants and pink flowers. In the background, there are green patio umbrellas and outdoor seating.

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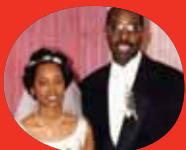
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Dear SIUE Alumni,

As we begin another exciting academic year at SIUE, we continue to experience positive momentum. For the first time in the history of the University, we found ourselves with an enrollment waiting list for new freshmen due to the unprecedented number of applications received—more than 8,000 for a freshman class of 1,850!

The achievements of SIUE's faculty, staff and students are increasingly gaining exposure and acclaim. Our Faculty Excellence awareness campaign is serving as a distinct public reminder of the quality SIUE represents. Faculty profiles may be seen online: www.siue.edu.

I am proud to share with you a brief synopsis of SIUE's most recent quality indicators:

- SIUE has been reaccredited through 2015 by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association through the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). This is the second consecutive reaccreditation based on high marks given by assessment team members in the areas of internal assessment, improvement strategy, faculty and student engagement, and teaching effectiveness.
- For the fourth consecutive year, SIUE has been heralded by *U.S. News & World Report* for its Senior Assignment Program, an integrative learning experience required of all seniors prior to graduation. SIUE is listed in the senior capstone experience category along with 16 other universities including Yale, Harvard, MIT and Princeton. *U.S. News* lists SIUE among the top 10 public universities in the Midwest-Master's category for the second consecutive year. This year SIUE also is in the top one-third of all public and private Midwestern universities.
- SIUE became the 11th member of the Ohio Valley Conference on July 1, 2008. The announcement of the conference affiliation fulfilled one of the major goals of SIUE's move to NCAA Division I athletics.

Another key indicator of the quality inherent at SIUE, and indeed a part of the University's value of Openness, is found in the diversity of thought, experience and aspirations within the campus community. In this issue of *eConnection*, we highlight the successes and contributions of our international alumni who, through their experiences both here and abroad, have added to the rich heritage of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Together, we are the Cougar family. I invite you to visit "home" often and soon.

Go Cougars!



Vaughn Vandegrift, Ph.D.
SIUE Chancellor



SIUE Today



Twelve business students from China, France, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands spent the Spring 2008 semester at SIUE as part of the **School of Business** International Program. Exchange students bring an international perspective to the SIUE campus and add a global dimension to business classes. Through the School of Business International Program, SIUE regularly sends faculty and students to exchange partners in China, England, France, Germany and Hungary.

School of Nursing student Kenneth Wolf was honored by Toyota for his service as an air medical evacuation technician. As a member of the U.S. Air Force, Wolf served in the Middle East from April to July 2007. The Collinsville native said his experiences in the Middle East fueled his interest in pursuing a medical career. Today, the 21-year-old student is working toward a degree in nursing. Wolf was deployed again this summer and plans to graduate from SIUE in May 2009.



Recognizing outstanding and sustained contributions to research and creative activities, the **Graduate School** awarded the honor of SIUE Distinguished Research Professor to two **College of Arts and Sciences** faculty members. Distinguished Research Professor of Mathematics and Statistics Urszula Ledzewicz brings national and international recognition to her department. She has published more than 60 articles since promotion to the rank of full professor and has received five major National Science Foundation research grants and three international collaborative research grants. Distinguished Research Professor of Art and Design Paul Dresang has pursued creative research independently and through internally and externally funded projects, including the prestigious National Endowment for the Visual Arts Fellowship Grant. Dresang is considered one of the foremost international representatives of the genre known as *trompe l'oeil* ceramic sculpture.

Stay up-to-date with SIUE news.

Visit www.siu.edu/news and subscribe to an SIUE RSS feed.



The Gardens at SIUE, the 35-acre multifaceted botanical garden that acts as a natural laboratory for science students, received the city of Edwardsville's Green Thumb Award, a designation that rewards designers for "the great potential of The Gardens to be a destination and community resource." The Award honors The Gardens for its civic contributions, which have included an educational Arbor Day event, a plastic pot recycling program and plant identification. As one of only three designated Signature Gardens recognized in the region by the Missouri Botanical Garden, The Gardens at SIUE is composed of woodlands, grasslands, walking paths and landscape sculpture.

Caroline Pryor, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction in the **School of Education**, has been named editor of the peer-review journal *Learning for Democracy: An International Journal of Thought and Practice*. The journal, formerly housed at the University of Brighton in England, is based on the idea that learning—informal and formal, at home, in school and in the workplace—is central to any solution.



The School of Engineering concrete canoe team, Play Ball, placed second overall at the 2008 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Mid-Continent Concrete Canoe Competition held in Arkansas. Because of high individual scores in multiple categories, including a first in Final Product and several first-place race finishes, ASCE also invited the SIUE team to participate in the 21st Annual ASCE National Concrete Canoe Competition in Montreal, Quebec, June 19-21. The canoe unfortunately suffered severe damage from shipping, and the team placed 19th out of 22 teams.

Faculty members and students from the **School of Dental Medicine** and the **School of Pharmacy** participated in the ninth annual Jamaica Dental Mission Trip in August. More than 60 volunteers, including dental medicine faculty and students, pharmacy faculty and students, and community members treated more than 1,000 people. The School of Dental Medicine faculty and students provided cleanings, fillings, extractions and minor surgeries, while School of Pharmacy faculty and students conducted medication assessments, dispensed medications and counseled patients on their proper use.

SIUE Joins Ohio Valley Conference

The Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) announced at a media conference in June that SIUE has been admitted to the Conference, becoming the league's 11th member. The move was unanimously approved by the OVC Board of Presidents.

The St. Louis metro area includes more than 30,000 alumni of Ohio Valley Conference schools, a number that increases to more than 70,000 when SIUE alumni numbers are included.

"I am very pleased to welcome SIU Edwardsville as a member of the Ohio Valley Conference," said OVC Commissioner Dr. Jon A. Steinbrecher (pictured at right, center). "The addition of SIUE makes us a stronger conference. After our evaluation of the university, it was clear that it is a Division I institution, given the scope and breadth of its academic and athletic offerings."

"This is a great match for SIUE because of the OVC's emphasis on creating an environment where our student-athletes can compete on a high academic and athletic level," said SIUE Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Brad Hewitt.



OVC Members

Austin Peay State University
Clarksville, Tenn.

Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Ill.

Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Ky.

Jacksonville State University
Jacksonville, Ala.

Morehead State University
Morehead, Ky.

Murray State University
Murray, Ky.

Southeast Missouri State
University Cape
Girardeau, Mo.

Tennessee State University
Nashville, Tenn.

Tennessee Technological
University
Cookeville, Tenn.

University of Tennessee
at Martin
Martin, Tenn.

Division I Update

- SIUE became an official member of the Ohio Valley Conference on July 1, 2008.
- SIUE will compete against a Division I schedule beginning in 2008-09.
- SIUE will conclude the reclassification process in the 2011-12 season.
- All SIUE team sports will begin regular season competition in the OVC during the 2011-12 academic year.
- SIUE will become a full Division I program and will be eligible for postseason competition in 2012-13.



Vadalabene Center Undergoes Renovation

May Commencement was the last event held in the Vadalabene Center gymnasium. A \$6 million renovation is currently underway, including replacement of the 23-year-old bleachers. The new bleachers system will allow for 13,800 square feet of space under the bleachers to be converted into an office suite, two classrooms, opponents locker room and an officials locker room. A new gymnasium floor will be installed and the women's public restrooms will be expanded. The renovation project will be complete in December 2008.





From Your Director

Greetings Fellow Cougars,

Several years ago, I visited the YMCA of the Ozarks in Potosi, Mo. The director of Camp Lakewood was a young Hispanic man named Jesus. During our tour, he remarked that as autumn settles on the hillside above the lake, that hillside “becomes a flag of many colors.”

Thanks to strong educational programs, gracious host families and endless possibilities, international students have been drawn to SIUE, and in the process helped weave our institution into a tapestry of many colors. Students from 133 countries, ranging from Aden to Zimbabwe, representing five continents, have chosen to come to SIUE to enrich their lives. In so doing, they have enriched the lives of those of us who only had to journey a few miles to attend classes.

As alumni, their contributions to SIUE can be felt in the world of business, art, music, engineering, education, nursing, medicine and the sciences. Their outreach is global, yet they can all trace a portion of their success to the University we all call our *alma mater*. As an alumni association, it is an honor to profile just a few of those graduates, most of whom decided to stay in the United States after graduating from SIUE.

We are working hard to re-establish contact with as many international alumni as possible—we don’t want to lose their influence, unique perspective and potential impact on current SIUE students. Many of the international students who attended the University in its early days literally helped open the door for future generations of international students. We celebrate the diversity of our University and alumni association and the experiences generated by the presence of a tapestry of many colors.

Steve Jankowski '74 BS
Director, Alumni Affairs
Executive Director, SIUE Alumni Association

The mission of the SIUE Alumni Association is to enhance the personal and professional advancement of SIUE alumni through the establishment and nurturing of mutually beneficial relationships which support the mission of SIUE.

SIUE Mission

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is a public comprehensive university dedicated to the communication, expansion and integration of knowledge through excellent undergraduate education as its first priority and complementary excellent graduate and professional academic programs; through the scholarly, creative and research activity of its faculty, staff and students; and through public service and cultural and arts programming in its region.

SIUE Vision

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, as a premier Metropolitan University, will be recognized nationally for the excellence of its programs and development of professional and community leaders.



Katie Bennett '03 BS
Assistant Director,
Alumni Affairs

Legacy Scholarship Winners

The SIUE Alumni Association provides assistance to the children, grandchildren and spouses of Association members through the Legacy Scholarship program. Two full scholarships are awarded—one to a current undergraduate student and one to an incoming freshman—in addition to five \$100 scholarships.

The SIUE Alumni Association is proud to present the recipients for the 2008-09 school year.

Incoming Freshman



Kate Campbell is the daughter of Steven and Donnell Campbell. She is a 2008 graduate of Civic Memorial High School in Bethalto. Donnell (Huels) Campbell earned a bachelor's in speech communication in 1980, a master's in speech and speech communication in 1994 and a master of science in education in 2005, all from SIUE.

"I am very thankful for the SIUE Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship. This is a huge help to me as I begin my nursing degree. I looked at many different nursing schools and was very impressed with the faculty and facilities at SIUE. My hopes are to earn a master's and become a nurse practitioner. I have faith that SIUE is the right place for me to achieve all my educational goals. Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity."

Kate Campbell, *Freshman*

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship Recipient

Current Student



Twenty-two-year-old James Geppert of Glen Carbon is the son of Pamela and Walter Geppert. Pamela earned a bachelor's in speech communication from SIUE in 1972. James is balancing his educational goals with treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma. He hopes to use a career in music performance and therapy to lift the spirits of others dealing with personal adversity.

"I thank you for the honor of receiving one of your Legacy Scholarship Awards. This scholarship means very much to me. I can feel a bit at ease knowing that I am being accepted more and more by my peers and community. I also feel more at ease, in that I do not have to worry about paying for another year of college, while working to pay just for my daily needs. I'll strive to do the best of my ability during college and continue to do so even after I graduate. This scholarship will give me the extra push toward success."

James Geppert, *SIUE Music Student*

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship Recipient

\$100 Scholarship Recipients

Kyle Carnahan, Oakwood

Clifton Hake, Richview

Katie Kizzire, Edwardsville

Jody Linzy, Carmi

Ryan Stitt, Litchfield



From Your SIUE Alumni Association Board President

The beginning of a new academic year is an exciting time for the SIUE Alumni Association Board of Directors, with new officers, measurable progress and a renewed sense of purpose for all alumni.

We have just completed our 50th anniversary celebrations, and, wow, what a response from our alumni community! Thirteen alumni events were held in honor of SIUE's 50th Anniversary. The events drew more than 2,000 alumni and community members. Our events ranged from the Flashback to the MRF to alumni gatherings in Baltimore and Washington D.C., not to mention our favorite Cards vs. Cubs game at Busch Stadium. Thank you for your support, excitement and participation in these events.

Our focus this year is to reach out to our alumni, both nationally and internationally. As an international SIUE alumnus with degrees from India and Canada, I am humbled and honored to be elected as your Association president. I propose that we build on the momentum of last year and continue to offer a series of fun and exciting social and networking opportunities for alumni, community members and current students, as well as community-based outreach projects.

I would also like input from you on the increase in the number of events hosted by the Association. Let us know what you'd like to do, where you'd like the event to take place and the most convenient times. I welcome this feedback from alumni around the globe. It would be great to host an international alumni event for our more than 1,500 international alumni.

I invite you to get involved in this wonderful opportunity, showing your pride in your education and your *alma mater*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ajay Kansal', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ajay Kansal, '89 MS
President
SIUE Alumni Association

Connections.



The SIUE Alumni Association is creating new ways to connect graduates and current SIUE students to each other, the Alumni Association and the University.

Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow



SIUE's student alumni association, Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT), gives current undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to interact with alumni prior to graduation through mentoring opportunities and social activities.

Students pay a \$20 annual membership fee and receive a STAT membership card, STAT T-shirt, membership discounts at area businesses, invitations to STAT and Alumni Association events and a subscription to the *eConnection*.

The Alumni Mentor program matches STAT members with alumni from their chosen field of study. Alumni give students valuable career advice through job shadowing opportunities, résumé critiques and mock interviews. Alumni interested in participating in the program are invited to download the online mentor handbook and participation survey at www.siu.edu/alumni/stat.

STAT Officers

President – Heather Jeffers is a psychology major from Steeleville.

President Elect – Brandon Rahn is a political science and economics major from Lincoln.

Vice President – Jason Bradley is a sociology major from Auburn.

Treasurer – Tiffany Leschke is an accounting major from West Dundee.

Co-Vice-President of Programming – Carly James is a speech communication major from Anna.

Co-Vice-President of Programming – Nichole Butler is a speech communication and political science major from Girard.

STAT Board Members

Stephanie Springer is an elementary education major from Chester.

TaMonte Whitelow is a mass communications major from Centralia.

Ksenia Petrova is a business administration finance and international business major from Sterlitamak, Russia.

Samantha Schulte is a speech language pathology and audiology major from Pleasant Prairie, Wis.

Brittany Tounsel is a biological sciences major from Hazel Crest.

Visit www.siu.edu/alumni/stat for more information on STAT and to find out how you can get involved!

Membership Benefit Sponsors

The value of an SIUE Alumni Association membership has just increased thanks to new discounts at local and national businesses.

Enterprise Car Sales: Receive a \$300 gas card with purchase at St. Louis Metro area locations.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car: Receive a five percent discount off Enterprise Rent-A-Car's already reduced internet rates at airport and neighborhood locations nationwide.

54th Street Grill & Bar: Receive a 10 percent discount off the entire food bill for the member and three guests at Edwardsville and Shiloh locations.

Curves: Receive 60 percent off the sign-up fee in Edwardsville, Staunton and Troy.

Working Advantage: Save up to 40 percent off of entertainment, shopping and travel. Visit www.workingadvantage.com.

Visit www.siu.edu/alumni/benefits for the complete list of membership benefits.

Networking. Connecting. Fun!

Alumni events are all about you connecting with fellow alumni for business and pleasure! We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.



February 2008

The School of Business hosted an alumni lunch at AT&T in St. Louis on Feb. 25. Sixty alumni enjoyed a free lunch with School of Business and Alumni Association representatives, as well as the chance to reconnect with the University and each other.

SIUE alumni, students and faculty attended the 7th Annual SIUE Jazz at The Sheldon Concert and Alumni Reception on Feb 26. Attendees enjoyed an appetizer buffet, drinks and the opportunity to meet the student, faculty and alumni performers at a reception prior to the concert, which was held at the Fox Theater in St. Louis.



Former members of SIUE student government, past student organization presidents, fraternity and sorority members, past resident assistants, past Resident Housing Association members, past Campus Activities Board members and more returned to SIUE for a Student Leaders Reunion on March 1. Attendees enjoyed a breakfast buffet, campus tours and free tickets to SIUE's last home basketball games as a Division II university.

The Alumni Association hosted a free alumni reception between SIUE's last home basketball games as a Division II University. Attendees enjoyed refreshments and met Head Men's Basketball Coach Lennox Forrester and members of the SIUE Alumni Association Board of Directors.

March 2008



The Alumni Association sponsored the Arts & Issues Arlo Guthrie "Solo Reunion Tour - Together At Last" concert on March 5. SIUE alumni and friends enjoyed a pre-performance wine tasting reception with a variety of gourmet tapas.



The Alumni Association hosted a brunch for Washington, D.C., area alumni on March 30 at Old Ebbitt's Grill. Attendees shared their thoughts and feedback with the Alumni Association staff and met with Marcia Maurer, dean of the SIUE School of Nursing.

April 2008

SIUE mass communications alumni, faculty and students attended the Mass Comm Alumni Night on April 11 in the Dunham Hall television studio. The Department of Mass Communications awarded scholarships to current students and recognized Jack Klobnak with the Alumni Achievement Award. The alumni emcee for the evening was Paul Shankmann, a reporter for Fox 2 News (KTVI-TV) in St. Louis.

Visit www.siu.edu/alumni for the complete schedule of upcoming events, activities and opportunities to reconnect with fellow alumni and SIUE!

May 2008



The SIUE Alumni Night at Busch Stadium returned on May 2. Three hundred fifty SIUE alumni, family and friends watched the Cardinals beat the Cubs in the 11th inning. The SIUE Alumni Association provided all attendees with free T-shirts.



July 2008



The SIUE Alumni Association participated in the Whitaker Music Festival at the Missouri Botanical Garden on June 4, July 9 and Aug. 13. Alumni enjoyed warm breezes and cool tunes as they sat in the Alumni Association reserved seating area.

The Alumni Association hosted a dinner for Pittsburgh area alumni on July 16 at Bruschetta's South Side. The dinner was attended by Williams Folkerts, '85, Jacqueline Kuffel, '95 and her husband, Paul. They had a wonderful time networking and sharing their memories of SIUE.

Upcoming Events

Homecoming at SIUE!

Friday, October 10

SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame Awards Dinner

6:30 p.m.

Crystal Garden Banquet Center
Edwardsville

Annual Chili Cook Off

5 – 7 p.m.

Korte Stadium

Men's Soccer

SIUE vs. McKendree University

7 p.m.

Korte Stadium

Saturday, October 11

Young Alumni & STAT Tailgate

11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

SIUE RecPlex

Club Football

SIUE vs. Miami University

1:30 p.m. Kick-off

SIUE RecPlex

Women's Volleyball

SIUE vs. Air Force

7 p.m.

Edwardsville High School Gymnasium

Arts & Issues

Meridian Ballroom on the SIUE Campus

Savion Glover's BARE SOUNDZ, Oct. 30

Boys of the Lough, Dec. 10

Doris Kearns Goodwin, Feb. 5

First Person: Stories from the Edge of the World, Feb. 20

Beyond Abbey Road featuring Peter Mayer and Company, March 20

T.S. Monk, April 25

Performance and ticket information is available online: www.siue.edu/artsandissues

University Theater Productions, A Season for the Child

Performance and ticket information for University Theater Productions and A Season for the Child at the Dunham Hall Theater on the SIUE campus is available online: www.siue.edu/THEATER then navigate to Friends of Theater and Dance.

Remember to show your SIUE Alumni Association membership card to receive a discount on both Arts & Issues and University Theater performances (restrictions may apply).



SIUe Alumni
SPANNING
THE GLOBE



Fernando Aguirre

Today, Fernando Aguirre, '80 BS, is chairman and CEO of Chiquita Brands International. As a 17-year-old high school graduate from Mexico City, he just wanted to come to the United States to learn to speak English and play baseball. The Charles Orr family of Moro, Ill., became his host family, he enrolled as a senior at Civic Memorial High School in Bethalto and joined the baseball team.



SIUE baseball coach Roy Lee watched Fernando play and was impressed by what he saw. With the help of his high school coach, Fernando received a full scholarship to attend SIUE and play baseball for Coach Lee.

Fernando's plans for a one-year stay in America quickly changed. "I had a great opportunity to get an education," he said. "It was a relatively simple choice."

As he researched the University, he became interested in the School of Business. He felt SIUE was the right size and had a strong business program which would provide him with a bilingual, multicultural experience—the perfect combination for success when he returned to Mexico.

Fernando spent most of his career as a Cougar in the infield. That changed his senior year when second-year baseball coach Gary Collins took full advantage of Fernando's pitching skills, leading to the lowest earned run average on the team.

"I knew baseball wouldn't last forever," Fernando said. He dedicated himself to his studies and achieved one of the highest grade point averages of any student athlete at SIUE. Fernando immersed himself in the study of computer management systems while also working at Lovejoy Library, officiating high school soccer games and teaching Spanish.

A summer internship with Procter & Gamble in Mexico City sparked a love for marketing and a change in majors. Fernando graduated from SIUE in 1980 and headed back to Mexico City and a job with Procter & Gamble. He rose in the ranks of Procter & Gamble over the next 19 years, working in Canada and Latin America. In 2004, he became Chairman and CEO of Chiquita Brands International.

Fernando has great memories of the University and considers the athletics department a family. Fernando was inducted into the SIUE Athletics Hall of Fame. "It was a great honor to be named in that group," he said. "It has really helped me see that there is so much we can do to give back to our *alma mater*."

Fernando brought his family to the Hall of Fame induction ceremony in October 2007. "It was a great opportunity to show my children that participation in athletics teaches discipline and gives you life skills," he said. "But I also stressed to them that it's not the end-all." Fernando lives with his family in Cincinnati.

Jyoti Dharna

Jyoti Dharna was born and raised in Nairobi, Kenya, then came to the United States to continue her education.



After one year at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, the advice from several cousins attending SIUE led her to Edwardsville. Jyoti brought her interest in engineering to a program she had heard was very good and less expensive.

“I really enjoyed SIUE,” she said. “I felt so welcomed that I didn’t even feel like I was different, which really helps when you come from somewhere so far away.” That was especially important since this was the first time Jyoti had been to the United States.

Jyoti quickly became deeply immersed in the School of Engineering. “The new engineering building brought all of the students together in one place,” she said. “And the engineering faculty and staff were so available.”

She helped design the Department of Computer Science robotics Web site and worked with the Collinsville High School robotics team to build their robot. Jyoti made an impression on the Dean of the School of Engineering—he recommended Jyoti to serve as a student commencement speaker for the December 2003 graduation ceremony. As she remembers it, “I told the graduates that we still had a long journey ahead of us.”

After graduation, Jyoti was hired by the Monsanto Company as an application developer. Jyoti’s parents, grandparents and in-laws still live in Kenya. She has considered the possibility of going back, but thoroughly enjoys what she is doing now.

She currently serves in an analyst/project management role. Jyoti said she makes good use of the interactive design classes she took at SIUE and the mentoring she received from engineering faculty members.

Her work for Monsanto has not gone unnoticed. In July of this year, Jyoti Dharna was named to the “Top 30 under 30” by the *St. Louis Business Journal*, a list of 30 young professionals who are on their way to being the next generation of movers and shakers.

Arif Nasib



Arif Nasib grew up in Pakistan. “But I spent the best part of my life in America,” he said.

Arif enrolled at SIUE as a business administration major in 1978, joining a cousin who was already attending the University. He was greeted by the person whom he described as his host momma when he arrived at the Amtrak station in Alton. “Doris Gvillo and her husband demonstrated such friendship and hospitality. They became like family,” he said.

SIUE proved to be just as friendly. “The openness and interaction on the campus was inspiring,” Arif said. That openness led to a position at *The Alestle*, which is where he learned to speak in front of people. Public speaking served him well when he was elected to the Student Senate, serving with then-Senate President John Mosser. “We had such a good time,” Arif said. His relationship with Mosser was a strong one—Mosser later established a scholarship at SIUE in honor of Arif.

Arif has fond memories of faculty members like Rick McKinney, with whom he played racquetball. Sharon Tucker and Kumar Jain helped him secure a graduate assistantship, and Arif easily echoed the words written on the board every day by finance professor Jackie So: There’s no such thing as a free lunch.

After receiving his BS in business administration in 1982 and his MBA in 1985, Arif put his commitment to his homeland into practice. “I had a social responsibility to go home to share my knowledge and experience,” he said.

Today, Arif is the chief executive officer of the Petroleum Institute of Pakistan. He has helped the Institute initiate scholarships for students involved in the study of petroleum-related subjects.

Arif’s younger brother Imran earned a degree in business from SIUE in 1987, selecting a university, which as Arif put it, “encourages and challenges students. They learn and see so much.”

Grahaeme Hesp



Grahaeme Hesp is a native of Newcastle upon Tyne in northern England. After much of his family had immigrated to the United States, he spent the summer of 1993 working as a camp director for the Okaw Valley Council of the Boy Scouts at Carlyle Lake.

Grahaeme went back to England to attend Sheffield Hallam University. When he discovered that he could study abroad after his first year, he returned to summer camp and enrolled at SIUE.

Grahaeme met several members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity during Welcome Week. “I was enticed by the Greek experience,” he said. “It was uniquely American.”

Fraternity members invited him to join them for an evening of Monday Night Football and wings at Shenanigans Bar & Grill in Edwardsville. “Joining the chapter was one of the reasons I wanted to stay at SIUE,” he said. “The key thing was the opportunity to connect with the campus. It definitely was a family atmosphere. People watched out for each other.”

What was supposed to be a two-semester exchange program became a more permanent move. When his exchange period ended, Grahaeme transferred to SIUE instead of returning to England. He earned a BS in business in August 1997 and an MBA in 1999.

“I truly believe the experience of the faculty and quality of education in the SIUE School of Business is unmatched,” he said. Grahaeme credits School of Business Professors David Ault and Tim Schoenecker with providing critical direction for his career.

Grahaeme’s Greek affiliation led to connections with the Kimmel Leadership Center, where he served as interim advisor for Greek Life. He thoroughly enjoyed the experience and continues to work in the field he came to love at SIUE. After leaving SIUE and working on several university campuses in the Southeast, Grahaeme earned a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) from Florida State University in October 2006. He is currently the director of Fraternity and Sorority Life at the University of California, Berkeley.

Keyvan Samadi

When Keyvan Samadi graduated from high school in Tehran, Iran, he wanted to study abroad. Because of the cost, he never considered the United States, until a relative living in the region invited Keyvan to stay with him.



Keyvan's visa enabled him to enroll at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He spent one semester there and two semesters at St. Louis Community College before deciding to enroll at SIUE. "I felt welcomed," he said. "I found very engaged students, a gorgeous campus, a lot of student employment opportunities and a huge international community."

Timing became an issue—Keyvan moved onto the SIUE campus at the time of the 9-11 terrorist attacks. He heard warnings of possible reprisals against certain international students, something he said he personally never ran into. "The environment at SIUE was very friendly," he said.

Keyvan worked as a media technician at the Morris University Center while working on his undergraduate degree. "Barry Dunn, who offered me the position, became a great influence on my life," he said.

He earned a BS in computer science in 2004. "The educational curriculum went beyond the classroom," he said. "Learning included community involvement and personal experiences."

"I believe a rich and diverse education is a key to fostering an open dialogue and mutual understanding," he said. "I also regard higher education as the most practical way to deliver the knowledge and skill sets necessary for a successful career."

Keyvan will graduate from SIUE with a master's in computer management information systems in December 2008. He is currently working for the Monsanto Company in St. Louis.

"I like the environment, the community and the people at Monsanto," he said. "I hope to stay with the company." Keyvan said he would welcome the opportunity to work in Canada or Australia. In the meantime, his parents and brothers, whom he hasn't seen in more than two years, remain in Iran.

Pereari Aboro

Pereari Aboro already knew something about a U.S. education when he left his home in Lagos, Nigeria.

His older sister graduated from Principia College in Elsah, Ill. where he enrolled in August 1999. Pereari took a job in the St. Louis area upon completion of his undergraduate work in mathematics and economics at Principia. After a year of work, he followed the advice of friends and considered attending SIUE to pursue a graduate degree. “I was looking for the best school I could attend,” he said. “It had to be competitive, yet affordable. SIUE seemed to be a perfect fit.”

Pereari describes the University as having some of the best professors he has encountered, helping to make class time very enjoyable. His fondest memories involve the two terms he served as president of the International Student Council. “The experience opened my eyes to different possibilities,” Pereari said. “I gained great insight and skills, learned things about myself and took away strong leadership abilities.

“SIUE is a very international student-friendly campus. The University opened its arms to me and other international students, becoming our extended family,” he said. “I’m proud to be associated with SIUE. I can come back to it anytime and call it home.”

Even before he graduated with an MBA in August 2006 and an MS in finance in August 2007, another international alumnus provided him a connection that would lead to future employment. He met Dion Joannou, an SIUE graduate from South Africa, during a breakfast forum on campus.



Joannou opened doors for Pereari at Nortel, and a month after graduating, Pereari had a job with the company. “One SIUE alumnus opened a door for me, and I hope to do the same thing in the future,” he said.

Pereari enjoys his position with Nortel, but will eventually return to Nigeria. “We (international students) have benefited from an American education and have been given a unique opportunity,” he said. “The people in Nigeria need the skills we have learned here to help improve the economy and their quality of life.”

Bill and Doris Gvillo

Bill and Doris Gvillo raised two daughters on their family farm outside of Edwardsville. Four grandchildren and one great grandchild have been added to their clan, but there are almost 250 other individuals who could easily call this remarkable couple “mama and papa.” Many of them did.



Bill and Doris were already heavily involved in their local community when they were approached by Reba Klenke of SIUE. Reba asked the couple to become part of the International Hospitality Program’s Host Family Program. In fall 1971, their other committee responsibilities eased a bit, so they decided to sign on.

Doris admits her husband Bill entered the Host Family Program reluctantly at first. “We just didn’t understand it,” Doris said. So why go through with it? “If you’re not a world traveler, this is almost a way of letting the world come to you.” Ultimately they fell in love with the process.

The first student Doris and Bill hosted was Haris Hamid from Pakistan. They picked him up at the airport and helped him get acclimated to his new life and settle into his apartment. The Gvillo’s also provided Haris with a chance to see how Americans lived. “Without this program, these students would leave our country without experiencing an American home,” Doris said.

Over the next three decades, this scenario would be played out dozens of times, as the Gvillo’s hosted students from Dubai, France, Germany, India, Iran, Kenya, Losoto, Malaysia, Norway, Pakistan, Syria, Taiwan and Turkey.

“The experience provided an education for my own children and grandchildren, giving them a greater understanding of the world,” Doris said. “When we got to know the students on a one-on-one basis, we found them all to be kind and generous people.”

The international students also gained a great deal. The Gvillos became a second family for most of them, experiencing life’s highs and lows together. “We’ve been to so many graduations,” Doris said with a smile. The Gvillos were also there to provide support when a student would learn of the death in their own family thousands of miles away. “We did what any loving person would do—we put our arms around them and cried with them,” she said.

In October 2002, Doris Gvillo suffered her own loss, when Bill died after a lengthy illness. Current students and former students were there for her this time, their arms around her, crying with her.

Doris continues to serve as a host to international students, currently hosting Maqood Al Noor, the son of a Pakistani student she and Bill hosted during the 1980s. The home they shared is now decorated with gifts from around the globe, tokens from past international students. “The people are more important than what they gave,” Doris said.



do so. They have done so without any expectations, rewards or recognition, but purely out of their own sense of compassion and concern for their fellow human beings who needed help.

They continue to prove that in spite of all of the bitterness and acrimony in the world, there are still wonderful people like them who continue their selfless efforts to make this world a better place for all of us."

Doris maintains a contact book of more than 200 of the SIUE students she and Bill hosted through the years. She routinely receives letters and e-mails updating her on marriages, births and, sadly, the death of some of her "international children."

Doris Gvillo calls the interaction a blessing. "I have lots and lots of happy memories and no regrets," she said. She encourages anyone who might have thoughts of participating in such a program to join. "The rewards are tremendous."

One of the most precious and lasting gifts Bill and Doris Gvillo have given is their impact on the lives of the international students they hosted. After Bill died, the City of Edwardsville set out to create a tribute to the couple. Letters and donations poured in from former recipients of the Gvillos hospitality.

SIUE alumnus Adil Ameer had this to say:

"With all of the turmoil and tension that exists in the world today, one can only hope and wish that there were more good Samaritans like the Gvillos, who have done so much in their own way to provide such a wonderful example of the values and characteristics of what makes the USA such a great country.

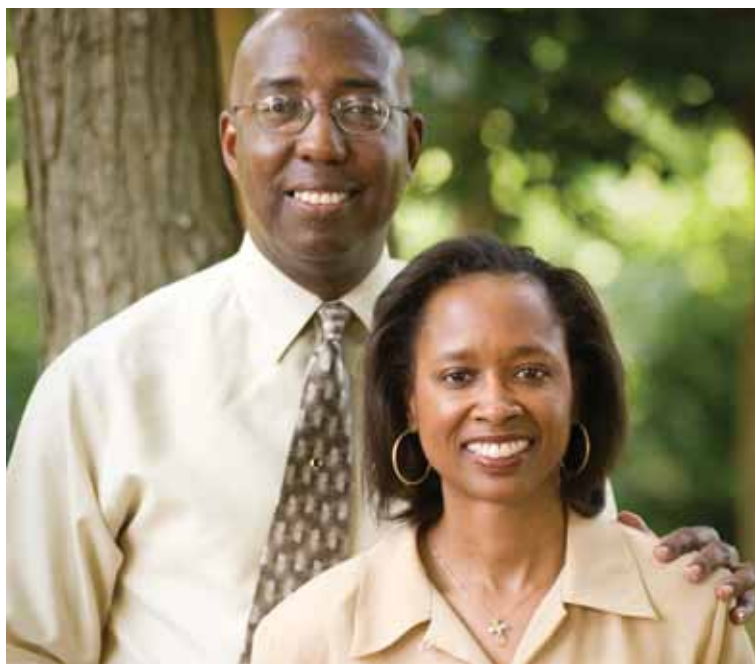
I strongly believe the Gvillos have done more to create a sense of international humanitarianism and good will than a lot of the organizations and agencies whose main objective it is to

"The experience provided an education for my own children and grandchildren, giving them a greater understanding of the world."



SIUE Love Connection

Returning to SIUE to complete an MBA six years after graduating can be a daunting task. For Kimberly Tolson, it was the opportunity to reconnect with a familiar face and take a chance at love.



Kimberly first met Edwin Franklin in the fall of 1984 when she was a freshman business major. Ed was working full-time at SIUE. Kim knew Ed only in passing. Ed said that Kim always appeared to be a woman on a mission.

Kim received her BS in 1988 and moved to the Washington, D.C., area. She returned to SIUE to complete her MBA in 1994. During that time, she took a job at WSIE Radio in Dunham Hall.

Kim and Ed ran into each other again in the summer of 1995. “When I came back to SIUE, I didn’t know anyone on campus, so it was nice to see a familiar face,” Kim said. At first, they just waved at each other from across the Quad. Eventually, Ed took a chance and joined Kim for lunch in the summer heat. They renewed their acquaintance by thawing out from their cold offices during the lunch hour every day.

They talked for weeks and gradually got to know each other. Ed finally suggested that they meet for a movie in Fairview Heights as friends. After a few more friendly meetings, Ed and Kim started dating in October 1995.



In September 1996, Ed took Kim to dinner at Harry’s Restaurant in St. Louis for what she thought was a celebration of her new job. After they were seated and ordered appetizers, Ed gave Kim a gift bag containing a fairly large box. She unwrapped the box and found a smaller box inside. She continued to unwrap a series of smaller boxes until she found a small jewelry-sized box.

“Kim started hyperventilating but I tried to play it off like it was just a pair of earrings,” Ed said. When Kim opened the box to find a ring, she turned the open box around to face Ed, set it down on the table and said, “Ask me.”

“I took the ring and said, ‘Marry me.’ She snatched it out of my hand and said, ‘Yes!’”

Ed and Kim were married February 15, 1997. It was an intimate wedding with family and close friends. Kim is currently working as an accountant for the Missouri Housing Development Commission and Ed is working in Academic Computing and Smart Classroom Support at SIUE.

Ed and Kim feel that they balance each other out as a couple. Kim is “the serious and reserved type” and Ed is “corny as all get out.” They live in Glen Carbon with Ed’s pride and joy—his black 2006 Corvette.

Visit the “SIUE Love Connection” section on our Web site to read about other Cougar couples and share your own story!

Class Notes

The Class Notes listed are those of SIUE Alumni Association members. A full listing of Class Notes received from all alumni can be found at www.siue.edu/alumni.

School of Business

Stacy R. (Poos) Campbell, '99 BSA, and her husband Mark, had their second son, Jackson Ray, last October. She is employed with MPP&W, P.C. in St. Louis.

Darryl R. Collins, '02 MBA, was elected to the Southwestern Illinois College Foundation Board of Directors. He is senior vice-president, Retail Group and operations manager for Commerce Bank in St. Louis.

Barbara L. Deist, '06 BS, is an invoice management analyst with Control Point Solutions in St. Louis.

Michael J. Diaz, '78 BS, is an attorney at law in Godfrey.

Laura N. (Peipert) Doll, '05 BSA, '06 MSA, married John Doll. She works for Scheffel & Companies in Edwardsville.

Jamie M. (Kruckeberg) Grapperhaus, '04 BSA, '06 MSA, married Andrew John Grapperhaus.

Sara M. Guarino, '04 BS, is a third-year law student at St. Louis University.

Mary "Betsey" E. Hall, '07 BS, is a staff assistant in the office of U.S. Senator Dick Durbin in Marion.

Olanrewaju "Lanre" O. Iwayemi, '03 MS, '05 MSA, and Arlene C. Odiachi '05 MS, '06 MBA, were married last November and make their home in Edwardsville.

Brian Jones, '93 BSA, was recently promoted to manager of TheBank of Edwardsville Troy Center.

Ralph Korte, '68 BS, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Korte Company, which Ralph founded in January 1958.

Stacy A. (Pfeffer) Kramer, '00 BS, works for Illini Concrete in Belleville and recently purchased a home in Troy.

Jane W. (Whorton) Louer, '85 MBA, is the owner and president of Louer Facility Planning in Collinsville.

Robert Lowrance, Jr., '83 BS, business administration, joined his three brothers in making a \$10,000 donation to the Boys and Girls Club of Bethalto in honor of their parents.

Samuel R. Massey, '85 BS, is a special investigator for Hartford in Lakewood, Calif.

Dennis McCracken, '76 MBA, has been appointed City Clerk and City Collector for Edwardsville.

Steve McRae, '86 BS, and his wife Holly, have been appointed honorary Chairs of the 34th Annual Easter Seals Ball and Auction for the City of Edwardsville.

Jenee E. Meier, '04 BSA, has been transferred to the Chicago office of KPMG, LLP.

Donna K. (Schetter) Mizerski, '90 BS, was recently promoted to Customer Service Officer with TheBank of Edwardsville.

Jonathon Moore, '06 BSA, works for the Army Audit Agency and will transfer to the Agency's San Antonio Field Office this October.

Becky Muys, '95 BS, management information systems, is head of IT purchasing for the Tampa, Fla. division of MediNotes. She lives in New Port Richey, Fla. with her husband.

Edward T. Pinnell, Jr., '82 BS, '90 MBA, is vice-president and fiduciary officer for the St. Louis Private Client Group of National City Bank.

Arif Pyarali, '88 BS, '93 MS, is a senior project manager at AT&T in St. Louis. He and his wife, Karen S. Barczewski ('88 BS) live in Edwardsville.

Michael J. Schroeder, '04 BS, is the compliance and transportation manager at Cooper Bussmann in Chihuahua, Mexico.

Mark S. Shashek, '87 BS, received the Albert Cassens Award for Outstanding Community Service from the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce. He was elected to serve as Vice-President of the SIUE Foundation Board of Directors and was named Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Anderson Hospital in Maryville.

Adam M. Sintzel, '03 BS, is a real estate investor at Sintzel Investments, Inc. in Belleville.

Joshua P. Smucker, '04 BS, '07 MBA, is a team leader in the Operations Division at Edward Jones in St. Louis.

Michael C. Tinkler, '69 BS, recently earned the designation of Certified Financial Planner. He is a personal financial planner with Diel & Ferguson Financial Group in St. Louis.

Matthew H. Townsend, '06 BS, is a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual. He is with the Gilliland Financial Group of Glen Carbon.



Gary True, '75 BS, '81 MBA, received his Master of Laws in Taxation from Washington University School of Law in May. True is a partner in the Edwardsville law firm Hepler, Broom, MacDonald, Hebrank, True, & Noce, LLC.

Bernice K. Varady, '98 BSA, is a senior accountant at Eclipse Capital Management, Inc. in St. Louis.

Rita L. Wells, '78 MBA, is a manager for the Department of Energy's Golden Field Office, the organization which manages renewable energy and energy efficiency in the U.S. She has been recipient of the Presidential Rank Award, and the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. She lives in Falls Church, Va.

College of Arts and Sciences

Gary Eugene Beamon, '05 BA, '08 MA, left the area in August to continue his studies in the D.A. program in wind ensemble conducting at the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley.

Courtney Henson, '07 MFA, recently completed an exhibit at Maps Contemporary Art Space of the Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis.

Robert "Bob" Kochan, '72 BS, mass communications, was inducted in the St. Louis Media Hall of Fame for Public Relations/Advertising. He is President of Kochan & Company Advertising and Marketing in St. Louis.

Roger C. Lowery, Ph.D., '66 BA, government, '69 MA, government, is chair of the Department of Public and International Affairs at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. His wife Pat, '67 BA, speech pathology, recently retired from public schools and is working as a speech-hearing-language pathologist in private practice.

Stefanie (Hartman) Perryman, '03 BS, is celebrating the birth of her second child, Cole Jackson Perryman, born March 21, 2008. Stefanie is married to Ryan Perryman, a 2004 construction management graduate.

Tarek Samara, '03 BS, political science, the owner of Sgt. Pepper's Café in Edwardsville, has opened a new location in Wood River. Both restaurants are Beatles-themed.

Dewayne Staats, '75 BA, mass communications, is being honored with a scholarship in his name. The scholarship was established by John Klobnak, also a mass communications graduate. Staats is the broadcast voice of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

Ginger (Sanders) Steinhauff, '97 BA, '05 MSED, recently graduated from Lindenwood University with a master's in school counseling. She is now the 8th/9th grade transition school counselor in the Hancock Place School District in St. Louis County.

School of Education

Bev George, '75 BA, English, '79 MSED, secondary education, has been named a Five Star Real Estate Agent by St. Louis Magazine. Bev is president of Bev George & Associates.



John McDaniels, '77 MSED, was named a 2008 "Man of Distinction" by the Alton YWCA for his outstanding personal achievement and contributions to the community.

School of Engineering

Dustin R. Graumenz, '08, construction management, is a field analyst in the Project Controls Group for the ConocoPhillips Wood River Refinery CORE project in Roxana.

Ryan Perryman, '04, construction management, is celebrating the birth of his second child, Cole Jackson Perryman, born March 21, 2008. Ryan is married to Stefanie (Hartman) Perryman, a 2003 speech communication graduate.

Faculty Notes

School of Business

H. Lynn Beck, Department of Economics and Finance, traveled to Moldova, Russia, over the holiday break to work with area farmers to create production plans.

Robyn A. Berkley, Department of Management and Marketing, was a panelist for the Professional Organization of Women in St. Louis. She also presented two co-authored papers at the OBTS/OB Teaching Conference in Malibu, Calif.

Bijoy Bordoloi, Department of Computer Management and Information Systems, recently returned from India after completing a six-month Fulbright Scholarship teaching program at the Birla Institute of Technology & Science on the Pilani campus in Ragasdhan, India.

Radcliffe (Pug) G. Edmonds, Jr., Department of Economics and Finance, retired in July 2007. He was a member of the SIUE School of Business since 1979.

Ramana K. Madupalli, Department of Management and Marketing, presented "An examination of the effects of facets of job satisfaction on salesperson's propensity to leave," at the National Conference for Sales Management.

John Meisel, Department of Economics and Finance, serves as the NCAA representative for SIUE.

Madhav N. Segal, Department of Management and Marketing and Director of the Masters of Marketing Research (MMR) program, presented "Exploring marketing research operations in China: A qualitative analysis" at the Conference of the Society of Marketing Advances.

College of Arts and Sciences

Brett Stamps, Department of Music, has released a CD with Victoria Records. He is joined on the recording by SIUE alumnus trombonist Jim Owens. The CD, Bad To The Bone, also features faculty/alumni Reggie Thomas, Rick Haydon, Miles Vandiver and Zeb Briskovich. Adjunct faculty member Jim Martin and alumnus Cody Henry make guest appearances.

Biz Zhou, Department of Geography, and Tom Lavallee, Department of Foreign Language and Literature, traveled to China with 14 SIUE students this summer.

School of Dental Medicine

Keith Dickey, DDS, associate professor, and director of continuing education and alumni services, and section head of practice managements at the SIU School of Dental Medicine, is president of the Illinois State Dental Society. Dr. Dickey, who received his MBA from SIUE, also maintains a private practice of general dentistry in East Alton.

School of Nursing

Laura Bernaix and Cindy Schmidt won the Association of Women's Health Obstetrical and Neonatal Nursing Outstanding Research Paper Award for their study of the influence of instruction on breastfeeding.

Kay Gaehle, assistant professor, was one of 15 nurses in the State of Illinois to receive \$10,000 Illinois Board of Higher Education Nurse Educator Fellowship. Gaehle is further developing her expertise in oncology.

School of Nursing Dean Marcia Maurer and Associate Professor Lorraine Williams launched the Student Nurse Achievement Program (SNAP) in Fall 2007. Through a five-year road to success program, SNAP gives Metro East students from disadvantaged backgrounds the tools they will need to realize their full potential.

Passings

Paul Vordtriede, '94 BS, biology, '97 MS, biology, died of esophageal cancer on February 4, 2007, at the age of 36. His widow, Sarah Vordtriede, '94 MS, environmental studies, said Paul completed his PhD at the University of Missouri-Kansas City while undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

Arthur "Art" Hooper, professor emeritus, passed away December 11, 2007, at his home in Madison, Wis. He was 86 years old. He joined the SIUE faculty as a professor of business administration and was later named chair of the Department of Business Administration. Before retiring in 1984, Hoover also directed SIUE's off-campus MBA program and served as the director of the MBA program for the SIUE School of Business.

James L. Owens, Jr., of St. Louis, professor emeritus, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, died July 26, just four days before his 71st birthday. Professor Owens joined the SIUE School of Education in 1971 and retired in 2002 after 32 years of service to the University.

Sandra Sliker Bouman, associate professor of music, died June 22 at her home in St. Louis after a valiant fight against breast cancer. It was said the Bouman's work at SIUE was marked by a drive to improve the quality of instruction in her field and to diversify opportunities for professional development, culminating in the creation of a new certificate program in vocal pedagogy aimed at the needs of working school teachers. She was 68 years old.

Peter R. Herdman, associate professor emeritus at the SIU School of Dental Medicine, died Friday, January 25, at the age of 64. A staff sergeant in the US Army Medical Corps and a Vietnam veteran, Herdman earned a doctorate in anatomy at St. Louis University in 1976. He spent the next 27 years teaching neuro-anatomy at the School of Dental Medicine.

In fiscal year 08, SIUE faculty and staff received \$27,217,600 in externally sponsored grants and contracts for research, teaching and service. This amount makes SIUE one of the top 20 master's degree granting institutions in the U.S. in terms of research and development expenditures as measured by the National Science Foundation.



International Night

The tradition of celebrating international students on the SIUE campus began in the early 1970s. The International Student Council sponsored what was known as International Night.

The event was held off-campus at St. John's Methodist Church in Edwardsville. By 1982, the event moved on campus and the University Center Board became a co-sponsor. The role of co-sponsor of International Night grew to include the Student Program Board, which is now known as the Campus Activities Board.

International Night is held after SIUE's annual International Fest, which features clothing, cultural artifacts, books, music and demonstrations representing many countries. International Night features an international cuisine buffet followed by international dance, music and cultural presentations by student organizations. The evening concludes with a fashion show of traditional garments from countries around the world.

Both events provide the SIUE community an opportunity to gain a better understanding of international culture as international students showcase and share their own countries and cultures.



Stahlschmidt Legacy

In the last edition of the *eConnection*, we introduced you to the Stahlschmidt Family. Eight of 10 siblings graduated from SIUE, many of them sending their own children through the University. During a family reunion after the publishing of the article, the siblings (pictured below) decided to create an endowed scholarship in honor of their parents. Each year, the Stahlschmidt Family Legacy Scholarship will provide two students with an annual award of \$1,500 beginning in fall 2009.



Honoring the Gvillos

Bill and Doris Gvillo left a lasting impact on dozens of international students. In recognition of their unselfish service and creation of good will, SIUE is creating a scholarship fund in their honor.

Donor Profile: Charles Dragovich



After graduating from SIUE in 1986 with a BA in chemistry, Charles Dragovich took his first job in research at the Jewish Hospital of St. Louis. Since then, Charles has practiced pharmacy at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa, and the Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. He then moved to director of strategic alliances and

development for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores and the American Pharmacists Association. He is currently associate director of managed markets marketing for Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation in New Jersey.

"One of the most important lessons I learned at SIUE was the concept of lifelong learning, which to this day drives me to develop new skills to improve my business acumen," Charles said.

Charles, who serves on the SIUE School of Pharmacy Advisory Board, established an endowed scholarship for the School of Pharmacy in 2005. "Throughout most of my professional career, I have worked with pharmacy students," he said. "I no longer have direct contact, but I'm still able to support them through this scholarship."

Charles also created the scholarship in honor of the Dragovich and Holesko family legacies. His mother, father, sister, maternal uncle, aunt, both children and over 10 cousins have all taken classes or graduated from SIUE.

"SIUE provided me a strong foundation of knowledge, experience and leadership skills that helped me proactively seek new opportunities and build a very rewarding career."

If you would like more information regarding creating your own financial legacy or the Bill and Doris Gvillo Scholarship Fund, contact us: (618) 650-2760, or visit www.siu.edu/alumni.



Meet the SIUE Alumni Association Board

Front Row: (Left to right) Paul Baeske, Ajay Kansal, Rita Adkins, Larry Lexow, Marcia Wickenhauser, Christine Williams, STAT Representative Brittany Tounsel, STAT Representative Heather Jeffers

Back Row: (Left to right) Dr. Barry Delassus, Tom McRae, Advisory Board Member Deb O’Neill, Dr. Karen Kelly, Bev George, Steve Jankowski, Kevin Doyle, SJ Morrison, Chris Slusser, Katie Bennett, Veronica Armouti

Not Pictured: Bill Graebe, Dr. Rhonda Green, Chuck Rathert, John Simmons and Mike Stewart, Advisory Board Members Elzora Douglas, Janet Sprehe

SIUE is proud to support responsible use of forest resources. This magazine is printed with soy-based inks on paper that came from well-managed forests or other controlled sources certified in accordance with the international standards of the Forest Stewardship Council. See below for some interesting statistics based on the selection of materials used in this publication.



Number of trees saved: 3 trees, **Total energy saved:** 2 million BTU's, **Greenhouse gases prevented:** 329 lbs, **Wastewater reduction:** 1,076 gallons, **Solid waste reduction:** 178 lbs



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