

*The Magazine for  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Alumni Association & Friends  
No. 20  
Fall 2015*

A man with short brown hair, smiling broadly, wearing a grey suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a blue patterned tie. He is holding a black smartphone in his hands. A small American flag pin is visible on his lapel. The background is a blurred office setting.

tion **e**connect



Your alumni website  
has been redesigned.

Check it out!

[siue.edu/alumni](http://siue.edu/alumni) 

## In this issue



SIUE is nationally recognized for excellence.



**On the cover:** Jeffrey Harrison, BS '12, shares his entrepreneurship success story.



Meet the 2015 Alumni Hall of Fame inductees.

The Quad is beautiful with fall colors. To see more photos of campus, follow us on Instagram.



@suedwardsville

The *eConnection* is published by the SIUE Alumni Association and the SIUE Foundation, in cooperation with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Contact Director of Alumni Affairs  
**Steve Jankowski:**  
[sjankow@siue.edu](mailto:sjankow@siue.edu)  
618-650-2346.

**The following alumni have contributed to the production of this magazine:**

**Ashley Chitwood, '04, '12**  
**Carol B. Dappert, '81**  
**Stephen Jankowski, '74**  
**Heather V. Kniffel, '95, '13**

# The Results Are In!

Thank you for your response to our Alumni Readership Survey! We asked you to tell us how we can better meet your communication needs, and you did not disappoint us! Here is what you told us.

## How would you prefer to receive the alumni magazine?

- 47% of you prefer to receive the magazine via email
- 53% of you want a copy in the mail or a combination of mail/email

*(Interesting note: the responses to this question did not vary considerably by age group.)*

## What information is most important to you in the alumni magazine?

- University News: 67.5%
- Alumni Events: 63%
- Alumni Association News: 56%
- Alumni Interviews/Stories: 50%
- SIUE History: 50%

## How frequently would you like to hear from us?

- 60% of you want to hear from us on a quarterly basis
- 33% of you said twice a year
- Only 7% would be happy to hear from us just once a year

## Two themes stood out in the comments provided. You want more information about:

- Events and travel opportunities
- Networking and professional development


## Who responded?

The ages of respondents ranged from under 25 to over 65 years of age; 46 percent were male and 54 percent were female.

## Next Steps

After taking your feedback into consideration, we are implementing the following plan:

- Revamp the *eConnection* content to better match the interests of our alumni
- Maintain one printed issue of the *eConnection*, mailed each fall
- Develop an online companion to the magazine, sent via email three times a year

In order for this new plan to be effective, we need your current email address. Please **visit [siue.edu/alumni](http://siue.edu/alumni)** and sign in to **Cougar Tracks** to update your contact information. 

**Five \$100 Amazon gift cards** were offered as participation prizes. Five random winners were drawn from all respondents who shared an email address. Congratulations to:

1. Jennifer Scott '03 St. Charles, Mo.
2. Christen Gates '11 Radcliff, Ky.
3. Kelley McGuire '11 Edwardsville, Ill.
4. Tony Certa '74 Maryville, Ill.
5. Suzanne Caudera '04 St. Peters, Mo.



*Thank you for your participation!*



# A Greeting from the Interim Chancellor

## Dear Alumni and Friends of SIUE,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to this issue of the *eConnection*. In my new role as Interim Chancellor of SIUE, I now have a wider platform from which to brag about the excellent qualities of a University that I am proud to say has been a part of my life for over 30 years. Having seen SIUE from the various levels of scholarship and administration, the pride I feel in where we started to where we are today is difficult to describe. As alumni and friends of the institution, you realize the work involved in maintaining and promoting quality within higher education. It is now my privilege to lead SIUE until mid-next year as the University both builds on our successes and weathers a challenging fiscal environment.

To help illustrate some of the recent success we've enjoyed here at SIUE, please read on and see whether you don't agree that the University is a special place with a special mission.

- For the 12th consecutive year, *U.S. News & World Report* has listed SIUE in the Best Regional Universities Midwest and, specifically, among the top 10 public universities in that category. In the past year alone, SIUE has advanced three spots to number 44.
- SIUE is in *Washington Monthly's* Top 40 for master's universities in the nation for the second consecutive year. The University maintained its position as first among all master's institutions in Illinois on the national magazine's list. This is the sixth-consecutive year that SIUE has been recognized by the publication.
- SIUE has enrolled a record high 14,265 students for fall 2015. Undergraduate enrollment is up 360 students (3%) over last fall and is the highest ever in the 58-year history of the institution. This is the second largest freshman class and the first-year retention rate has improved 5% over the past two years, reaching its highest point in ten years. African American and Hispanic student enrollment are each at the highest levels in the history of the institution. Total international enrollment has eclipsed 400 students for the just the second time in ten years.
- In FY15, the University brought in \$43 million in grants and contracts for research, teaching and service initiatives.
- Also in FY15, SIUE reported a total economic impact of \$514 million, generating approximately \$8.60 for every dollar invested in the University (an increase of nearly \$1.80 over the previous study in 2010). Nearly 2,100 full-time employees and 9,200 regional jobs exist as a result of business generated by SIUE employees, students, annuitants and visitors.

All of these accolades come as a result of the dedication of SIUE's faculty and staff and the quality of our student body. Our human resources are the most important and I ask you to join me in supporting SIUE to ensure that we continue to attract the best and brightest higher education has to offer. The Southwestern Illinois region depends on SIUE to thrive both now and into the future. You can be an integral part of that successful relationship. If you have questions or would like to be more involved in helping us build for the coming generation of Cougars, please contact us. Together, we can take SIUE to the next level!

**Let's celebrate the "e"!**

Stephen L. Hansen  
SIUE Interim Chancellor



**"SIUE provides a vibrant learning environment composed of teacher-scholars, dedicated staff, and rigorous programs and services. We prepare students for life."**

# SIUE is Nationally Recognized for Excellence



**U.S. News & World Report “Best Colleges of 2016” ranks SIUE among the best Regional Universities Midwest for the 12th consecutive year.** The University is 10th overall among public universities in that category. SIUE was featured at number 44 in this year’s rankings of Regional Universities Midwest, advancing three spots from last year.

**For the second-consecutive year, SIUE is in Washington Monthly’s Top 40 for master’s universities in the nation.** SIUE maintained its position as first among all master’s institutions in Illinois on the national magazine’s list. This is the sixth-consecutive year that SIUE has been listed. Unlike conventional college rankings, Washington Monthly evaluates an institution’s “contribution to the public good” in three broad categories: social mobility, research and service.

**SIUE is set in one of the “50 Safest College Towns in America,” according to the 2015 SafeWise Report.** Edwardsville ranked number 25 on the list of 50 towns. SafeWise cited SIUE’s investment in safety technology, such as the Rave Guardian app, to maintain a secure campus.

## SIUE is Committed to Diversity

SIUE received the 2015 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

The University’s LGBT-Friendly Campus Climate index score is 4.5 out of 5 stars for the second consecutive year. SIUE was evaluated on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression for the first time and scored 4.5 and 4 stars, respectively.



## SIUE Student Enrollment Continues to Grow

SIUE exceeded its previous record student enrollment. The University registered an all-time high of 14,265 students for the fall 2015 semester. Overall enrollment leaped by 293 students.

- Freshman class is the second largest in SIUE history: 2,096 students earning a mean ACT of 23.2
- Freshmen from Missouri: 13% (compared to only 2% in fall 2012)
- New transfer students: 1,266, the second highest in the past nine years
- African American (1,982) and Hispanic (537) student enrollment are each at the highest levels in the history of the institution
- International student enrollment increased to 423 and is the highest at the University since fall 2004
- Student body reporting a diverse cultural background: 28 percent
- Credit hours delivered online: 9% (compared to 6% last fall)

## SIUE Student Retention Continues to Improve

The student retention rate has reached its highest in 10 years. The first-year retention rate climbed by five percent over the past two years.

- 74% of the fall 2014 freshman class returned for their sophomore year (compared to 73% for fall 2013 and 69% for fall 2012)

# SIUE Today

## Research and Creative Activities

SIUE faculty members recognize the importance of scholarship and the impact it has on classroom learning. Last year, SIUE was awarded a record amount of \$43 million from external sponsors for research, instructional support and public service. Nearly 30 percent of the University's tenured and tenure-track faculty are participating on awarded externally-sponsored projects.

**Dr. Huaibo Xin**, assistant professor of kinesiology and health education, has been presented the Vaughnie Lindsay New Investigator Award for FY16. The award recognizes individual programs of research or creative activities at SIUE. Xin's research focuses on using Community-Based Participatory Research (CBRP) and improving Bosnian refugees' mental health through promoting physical activity. International refugee populations are highly susceptible to severe mental distress due to their pre-immigration, immigration and post-immigration traumas. Those traumas include war, famine, religious persecution, exposure to violence and discrimination and social exclusion. Xin hopes her research will help reduce the severity of traumatic experiences among the vulnerable refugee population by preparing the next generation.

**The School of Nursing** has been awarded a three-year grant worth \$1,085,903 from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This interdisciplinary grant provides funding for the School of Nursing, along with the Schools of Pharmacy and Dental Medicine and the Department of Social Work, to expand the scope of services provided at the WeCare Clinic on the East St. Louis campus through the development of the nurse patient advocate (NPA) model. Nurses will serve as care leaders to facilitate efficient and integrated services. With the four disciplines working side-by-side in a collaborative environment, communication among professionals and patients will be improved, ultimately leading to improved health outcomes and reduced costs. The practice also stands to enhance the education of SIUE students involved in care.

**School of Engineering** researchers are receiving national praise for their work to reduce fatalities and injuries involving roadside incident responders through the creation of safety training materials. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials has named their project, "Development of a Highway Incident Management Operational and Training Guide: Phase II," a Sweet 16 High Value Research Project for 2015. "The scenes of traffic incidents are vulnerable places for responders, and the safety of fire and rescue personnel, law enforcement officials and motorists is well worth protecting," said Ryan Fries, associate professor and graduate program director in the SIUE School of Engineering. As of April 2015, more than 3,000 incident first responders have been trained using the materials Fries and his team developed. The Federal Highway Administration has fully endorsed the project for use at the national level.

**A catastrophic earthquake** and its aftershocks devastated the South Asian country of Nepal in April and May 2015. Media coverage of the country's worst natural disaster has ensued, but it likely hasn't included the perspectives of Nepali natives who live in remote villages and speak un- or under-documented languages. With the help of a \$70,287 RAPID award from the National Science Foundation, Kristine Hildebrandt, associate professor of English language and literature, traveled to Nepal to gather the stories of Tibeto-Burman language-speaking peoples. Hildebrandt is the principal investigator of the research project, titled "Narrating Disaster: Calibrating Causality and Responses to the 2015 Earthquakes in Nepal." The highly competitive RAPID awards fund "rapid response research" in the wake of unanticipated events, such as natural disasters.



**School of Pharmacy** researchers have been awarded a five-year, \$2.65 million grant from the National Institute of Aging, a division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to strengthen their efforts in combating Alzheimer's disease. The research team, comprised of medicinal chemists, pharmacologists and pharmaceuticals experts, will use the funding to develop a drug for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. "The National Institutes of Health has placed a significant amount of responsibility in our hands," said Dr. Ken Witt, principal investigator and associate professor in the School of Pharmacy. "Now, we can truly make things happen. Securing the funding is merely putting needed fuel in the tank and getting those tires moving faster."

## Administrative Changes



*Stephen L. Hansen, PhD,  
Interim Chancellor*

Stephen Hansen, PhD, is serving as interim chancellor at SIUE for a one-year appointment, during which a search for a new chancellor will be conducted. Hansen just concluded serving as interim dean of the

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS). He is a former dean of the SIUE Graduate School and history professor in CAS. Hansen and his wife Julie, SIUE emerita associate professor and humanities librarian, have resided in Edwardsville since 1984.

**“SIUE is a strong university with a national reputation for excellence. My goal is to continue the activities that have contributed to that strength — enabling students to learn, improving the quality of our programs, developing our resources and serving the community.”**

*—Stephen L. Hansen, PhD, Interim Chancellor*



*Jeffrey Waple, PhD, Vice Chancellor  
for Student Affairs*

Waple is the new vice chancellor for Student Affairs. He brings more than 20 years of professional service in student affairs and comes to SIUE from

Northern Kentucky University. He was NKU’s assistant vice president for Student Engagement and dean of students. Waple succeeds Narbeth “Nobby” Emmanuel, who recently retired.



*John C. Navin, PhD, Dean of the  
School of Business*

Navin served as interim dean since June 2013. He is a professor in the Department of Economics and Finance, a department he once chaired. He has been a

member of the SIUE faculty since 1991. He also served as the undergraduate program director for the bachelor’s program in economics and finance, and the bachelor’s program in economics.



*Gregory Budzban, PhD,  
Dean of the College of Arts  
and Sciences*

Budzban (BUDS-ban) brings more than 25 years of academic experience, along with six years of professional experience from

Martin Marietta Aerospace, to SIUE. He most recently served as chair of the Department of Mathematics and acting director of the STEM Education Research Center at SIUC. He has been a member of SIUC’s faculty since 1991.



*Mary Weishaar, PhD, Executive  
Director of International Affairs*

Weishaar will provide University-wide leadership for all activities and initiatives that support the advancement of SIUE’s global mission, including strengthening

SIUE’s study abroad program, promoting global industrial and scholarly partnerships and supervising international student services such as immigration matters, advising and cultural advancements. She previously served as associate dean in the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior.



*Curt Lox, PhD, Dean of the  
School of Education, Health and  
Human Behavior*

Lox served as interim dean since May 2014. He brings more than 20 years of academic experience, with 19 of those at SIUE. He

joined the School’s faculty in 1996. He served as associate dean from 2003-09 and as chairperson in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Education from 2009-14.





Approximately 300 students took a break from finals and came to Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge for **"SIUE Gone to the Dogs."** The annual event provides dog therapy to students during finals week.



High school students received an introduction and overview of SIUE before spending a day at each of the **Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing and Dental Medicine** during the SIUE Healthcare Diversity Summer Camp. When the summer camp started in 2009, it targeted minorities interested in pharmacy. The camp expanded to include the three healthcare professions at SIUE in 2013. The camp was made possible by a \$5,000 grant from Walgreens, which gives diversity grants to schools of pharmacy across the nation.

**The School of Dental Medicine's Multidisciplinary Laboratory** has met green building leadership standards, which has earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) distinction from the U.S. Green Building Council. The newly updated laboratory, with its energy and environmentally efficient design, has received a LEED Silver certificate. This most recent classification brings the total number of LEED certified buildings on the SIUE campus to six. Other LEED certified buildings on the SIUE campus include:

- Art & Design West – LEED Gold
- Lukas Athletics Annex – LEED Silver
- Science Building West – LEED Silver
- Engineering Building Addition – LEED Silver
- One residential building in Cougar Village – LEED Residential

According to Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration Rich Walker, SIUE expects to add three more buildings to its LEED list in the future: Science Lab East, the Engineering Student Project Addition and the Edwardsville Dental Clinic in University Park.





# Cougar Athletics



## Soccer Champions Ready for Season

Men's Soccer Head Coach Mario Sanchez and Women's Soccer Head Coach Derek Burton each will guide their teams into a season with one goal in mind: Repeat.

Both teams earned tournament championships in 2014, with the women claiming a regular season title as well in the Ohio Valley Conference. The men's team finished second in the regular season before winning its first Missouri Valley Conference tournament title. Both teams advanced to the NCAA Division I tournament. For the men, who made 10 consecutive Division I appearances from 1973-1982, it represented a return to the NCAA Division I Championships. For the women, it was the first Division I tournament appearance in school history.

"It will be a little bit different," Burton said of being the hunted team. "I think we got a taste of it down the stretch last year because we were in first place. It will be a new experience being a defending champion. The mindset of the team changes. You have to be more conscious of how you approach every game and understand that we are a major target now, especially in conference."

Both programs are also dealing with the loss of key players from their championship seasons. On the men's side, the Cougars lost MVC Player of the Year Christian Volesky and MVC Defensive Player of the Year Matt Polster. Both recent graduates are playing professionally. Volesky is with Rochester of the United Soccer League and is leading the team in scoring. Polster is with Chicago Fire of Major League Soccer and is a leading candidate for Rookie of the Year in the nation's top league.

"I feel very comfortable with returning players Austin Ledbetter, Brett Lane and Andrew Kendall-Moullin," Sanchez said. "They are ready to take over that mantle. Between them, you have three players who are capable of really pushing the team

from the leadership side. The goal scoring is going to create an interesting dynamic. It will be a little more by committee this year."

The women's team lost its leading scorer Michelle Auer, who led the team with 10 goals and 26 points, and Samantha Jones, a key leader on defense. "We don't spend too much time talking about replacing them, because they're not here," Burton said. "You don't replace them. You try to replace the impact they had on the team, whether it is in a similar fashion to how they played and what they brought to the team, or in a new way. That's one of the things we find out about ourselves as we work through the preseason and nonconference season. We have players to do that from a leadership perspective."

Burton, like Sanchez, believes the offense may come from several sources. "We may not have one player score 10 goals, but we might have four players each score three goals," he said.

October represents a crucial month for both teams. The women, having already played a pair of road games in the league, kick off a stretch of five consecutive home games in the OVC. They are the team's only home games in OVC play. The men will celebrate Homecoming with their second MVC game of the year on October 3 against Central Arkansas. The men play four of their six conference games in October. SIUE will face Evansville at home, as well as Drake and Bradley on the road.

*Cougar Women's Soccer Champions*



*Cougar Men's Soccer Champions*



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general news**

**@SIUEGameday for  
game day updates**

**siuecougars.com**





## From your Alumni Association Board President

The relationship that alumni have with their university is a unique connection. Students spend years of their lives attached to their university in a protected and nurturing educational

atmosphere. They experience some of the most exciting, life-changing events and interactions within a very short period of time. Many grow to love and know the campus, staff and faculty with the endearment of a second home and family. During these same years, the university grows and changes but always under the watchful eyes of the students. Upon graduation, students leap into the real world with some fear, but also the courage to apply what they learned and experienced in college to their new professions.

During this new chapter of their lives, many alumni lose touch with their university. They no longer see the daily changes that build a small commuter college into an internationally known and respected university. Their favorite professors and staff members retire and move on to new life challenges. The university grows in both number of students and buildings. So much so that it is hard to recognize. These changes make it hard for alumni to reconnect to a portion of their lives that they look back on so fondly.

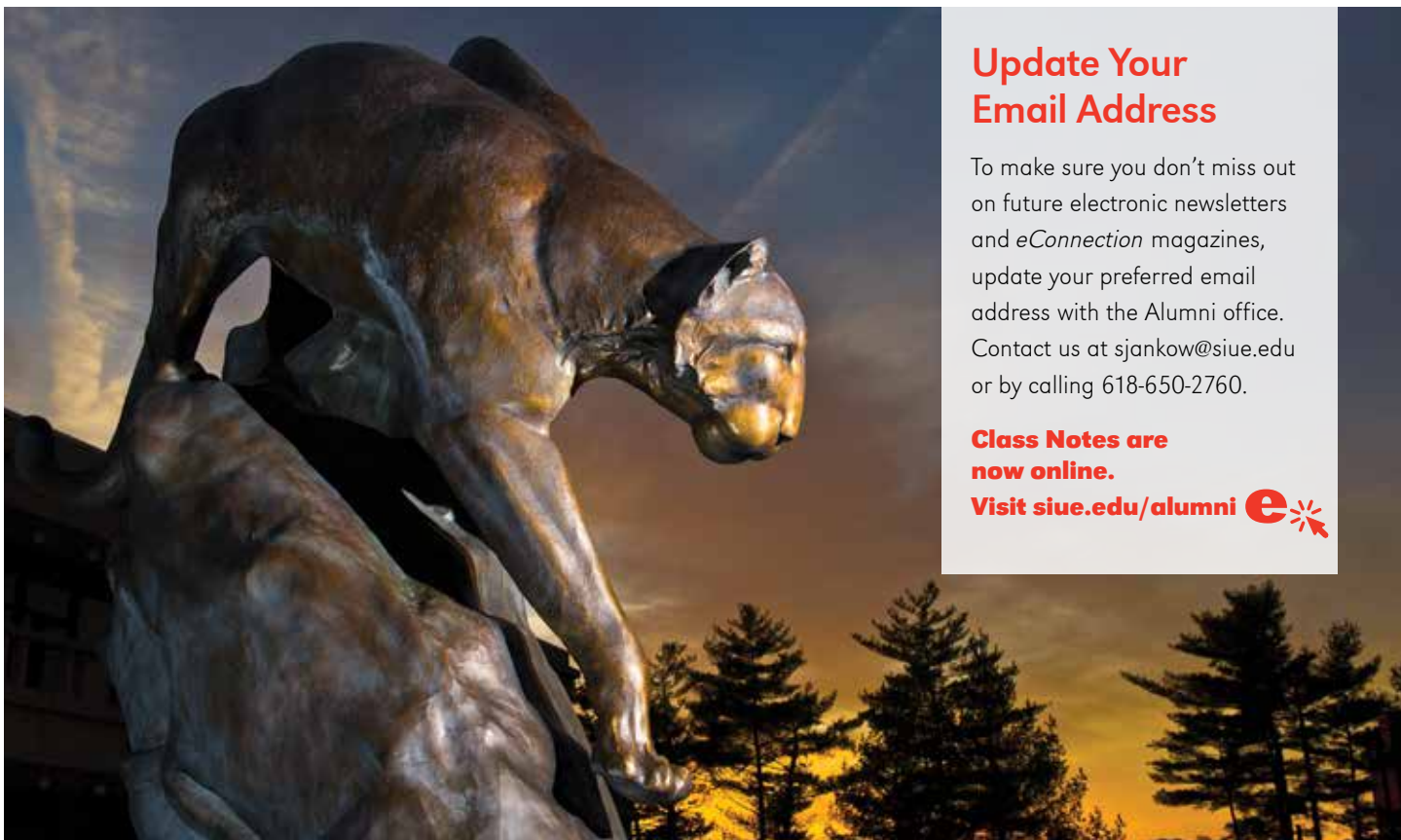
The truth is, we each have a different relationship with SIUE. We all fell in love with a place that gave each of us a different perspective. We had diverse experiences and learned various things, but the connection for each of us will always remain. All of us add to the legacy and tradition of SIUE. This amazing university will always be our second home, the stage for some of our best memories, the connection point for our lifelong friendships, and our alma mater.

I ask you now to reconnect with our university. Donate your time to mentor a student, speak to a class, help with campus move in, or just come back to campus for a visit. If you were fortunate enough to have faculty or staff that positively influenced your life, reach out to them. Tell them how much of an impact they had on you, and ask them if there is anything you can do to give back.

Lastly, please reach out to the Alumni Association staff or to me if you have any questions about opportunities to reconnect with SIUE.

*Thank you for your commitment to our university!*

**Kevin Nesselhauf**, BS '08, MBA '13  
SIUE Alumni Association President  
knesselhauf@gmail.com



## Update Your Email Address

To make sure you don't miss out on future electronic newsletters and *eConnection* magazines, update your preferred email address with the Alumni office. Contact us at [sjankow@siue.edu](mailto:sjankow@siue.edu) or by calling 618-650-2760.

**Class Notes are now online.**

Visit [siue.edu/alumni](http://siue.edu/alumni) 



## Professional Development

Career development doesn't stop when you land your first job after graduation. The Office of Alumni Affairs is often contacted by SIUE alumni seeking assistance with their careers. As SIUE alumni, you have access to a wide range of services designed to support you as you navigate your career.

### Career Development

The SIUE Career Development Center offers:


- Career counseling and assessment
- Graduate school application assistance
- Job search resources
- Resume preparation support

Alumni are invited to attend on-campus career fairs and mock interview days. Alumni may also utilize the Cougar Jobline.

Visit [siue.edu/cdc](http://siue.edu/cdc) to get started. 

### Career Webinars

The Alumni Association offers a series of free webinars to provide vital information and assistance for those who are about to graduate to those who are about to retire. You can access this information anytime from anywhere!

Visit [alumnicareerservices.org/siue](http://alumnicareerservices.org/siue) to view topics and dates and register for an upcoming webinar 



### New Master's Programs

Are you looking for job security? Do you want to advance in your career or perhaps start a new career? Are you thinking about pursuing a doctoral degree? Now is a great time to consider a graduate degree from your alma mater. SIUE continues to add new master's programs to help you stay relevant in today's global marketplace.

#### Master's of Integrative Studies

The fast pace of change in our society is creating new career opportunities for individuals trained in multiple disciplines. SIUE's new master's of integrative studies allows you to access expertise from multiple areas and integrate courses into a degree that meets the needs of an emerging career field.

Tracks have already been approved and a plan of study developed in

- Sustainability
- Diversity training
- Cultural heritage and resource management
- Organizational design thinking

If none of these career paths are right for you, you might be able to design your own academic plan. Enrollment is open for spring 2016.

#### Business Analytics Specialization

Business professionals who can make data-driven decisions are in high demand. According to a Graduate Management Admission Council 2013 survey, 98 percent of employers believe business school graduates need to know how to use data to drive decisions. A new master's specialization in business analytics is available for all School of Business graduate programs, including:

- MBA
- Accountancy
- Marketing Research
- CMIS
- Economics and Finance

Visit [siue.edu/academics](http://siue.edu/academics) to learn more. 

## Upcoming Events



### Wine by the Water

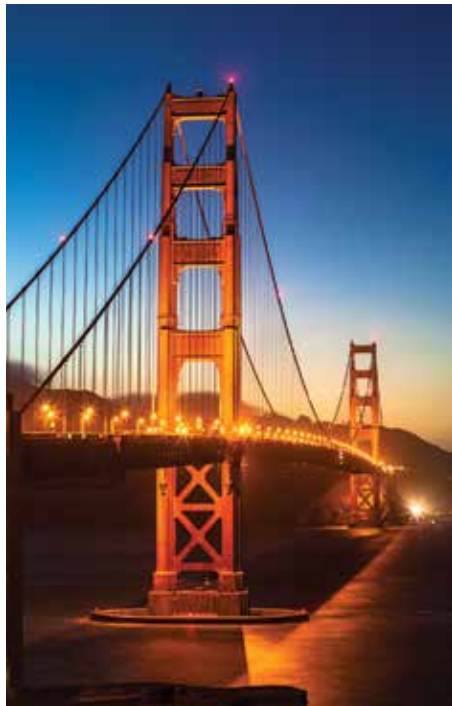
Sunday, Oct. 25

2- 4 p.m.

Grafton Winery & Brewhaus

Appetizers provided, Cash bar

Register at [siue.edu/alumni](http://siue.edu/alumni) 



### Attention San Francisco Bay area alumni!

An Evening with Abby Schwarz '03, Community Director at Yelp.com

Thursday, Nov. 12

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Thirsty Bear Brewing Company



### SIUE Cougars vs. SLU Billikens Pre-Game Reception

Wednesday, Nov. 18

5:30 p.m.

Game time 7 p.m.

### Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 3

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Birger Hall Special Events Room

## Alumni Travel Opportunities

### Cougars on the Move: Scottsdale, Arizona February 26-28, 2016

Join SIUE alumnus Larry Heitz '69 and the SIUE Alumni Association for a weekend in the Southwest. Alumni from across the country are invited to join us.

### Music Lovers Tour of Cuba May 14-21, 2016

Tour Cienfuegos, Trinidad and Havana! Guests will enjoy architecture, food and music throughout the week. This trip features live private music performances, guided tours and art demonstrations.



For more information, visit [siue.edu/cubatrip](http://siue.edu/cubatrip).

Visit [siue.edu/alumni](http://siue.edu/alumni) for more event and travel information and updates! 



## Past Events

### Alumni Networking Breakfast, April 17

Alumni Association board member Ryan Perryman '04 hosted 30 alumni at S.M. Wilson & Co. in St. Louis. Guest speaker Ryan Freeman '01 talked about the importance of business networking.

### SIUE Foundation Networking Hour — Featuring SIUE Alumni “Top 40 Under 40” April 21



SIUE faculty, staff, alumni and community members celebrated the five alumni who were named to the *St. Louis Business Journal's* Top 40 Under 40 Class of 2015.

- Dr. Munier El-Beck '00, Director, Hospitalist Program, St. Anthony's Medical Center
- Ryan Freeman '01, Vice President, McCarthy Building Cos. Inc.
- Travis Liebig '02 '08, Community President, Simmons Bank
- Tolga Tanriseven '03, CEO, GirlsAskGuys
- Scott Thoma '98 '00, Principal, Edward Jones

The honorees participated in an interactive panel and shared their professional experiences and the influence SIUE has had on their success.



### Always a Cougar Cookout, May 7

The SIUE Alumni Association, Kimmel Student Involvement Center and Office of Student Affairs hosted the first annual Always a Cougar Cookout at Birger Hall. Nearly 300 graduates were welcomed into the Alumni Association as we kicked off commencement weekend with food, yard games, music and giveaways.

### 2nd Annual Springfield Happy Hour, July 15

More than 120 alumni from SIUE and SIUC enjoyed an evening in Springfield, Ill. Guests were greeted by the SIU Board of Trustees and SIU President Randy Dunn. The event filled the top floor of the Hilton Springfield, overlooking the State Capitol Building.

### Alumni Networking Breakfast: Meet Coach Jon Harris, August 6

Alumni Association Board of Directors member Ann Frank '86 '93 hosted alumni and SIUE athletics fans at Madison Mutual in Edwardsville for a casual “meet and greet” with Jon Harris. Harris is SIUE's new Head Men's Basketball Coach. In addition to personal introductions, Harris addressed the crowd and shared his excitement for the upcoming basketball season.

### Happy Hour, August 13

Alumni and friends met for drinks and appetizers on the patio at McGurk's in Souland. The McGurk's happy hour has become an annual favorite for alumni of all ages.

### Cougars on the Move: Tampa, Florida, May 1

Walt '69 and Stephanie '87 Knepper hosted alumni and staff at their home in Reddington Beach, Fla. Guests enjoyed a beautiful sunset on the water, gourmet pizza and appetizers. The next night, guests danced and enjoyed an evening on the beach at TradeWinds Island Resort in St. Pete Beach.



# Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients

Each year, the SIUE Alumni Association awards more than \$25,000 in scholarships to incoming and current SIUE students. Thanks to the generosity of our Alumni Association Board of Directors and members of the Stahlschmidt Family, the total dollar amount in scholarships awarded for 2015-2016 will top \$30,000.

## Stahlschmidt Family Legacy Scholarship

In honor of their parents, Dorothy and Raymond, the Stahlschmidt family established the Stahlschmidt Family Scholarship in Fall 2009. Eight of the ten children graduated from SIUE and are thankful for their parents' support of their education. The scholarship usually provides two \$1,500 scholarships to incoming SIUE students. But because of the record number of applications, members of the family wanted to provide more assistance and raised the number of awards to four.



*(Seated left to right) Agnes Stahlschmidt, Janet Stahlschmidt Hohenstein and Helen Stahlschmidt King present their family's scholarship to (Standing left to right) incoming freshman Brenna Champley of Taylorville, Ill.; incoming freshman Jonce Scheffel of Carrollton, Ill.; and SIUE junior Ashley Tabb of Arthur, Ill. Not pictured, incoming freshman Macie Christisen of Perryville, Mo.*

## Board of Directors Scholarship

The SIUE Alumni Association Board of Directors Scholarship is provided through the generosity of the Board. The first \$1,000 award was presented in 2014. This year, the Board wanted to provide more assistance to SIUE students, and the number of awards was increased from one to three.




Alumni Association Board member Fran Karanovich presents the Board of Directors Scholarship to SIUE sophomore **Luke Jansen** of Effingham, Ill.

Alumni Association Board member Fran Karanovich presents the Board of Directors Scholarship to incoming freshman **Katelyn Kreutztrager** of Roxana, Ill.



Alumni Association Board member Fran Karanovich presents the Board of Directors Scholarship to incoming freshman **Kari Westbrook** of East Alton, Ill.

Help another SIUE student reach their potential with your financial support

[siue.edu/give](http://siue.edu/give) 



# SIUE Alumni Legacy Scholarships

The SIUE Alumni Association awards seven scholarships each year — five \$500 awards, two full tuition and fees for one year scholarships. We are proud to present the recipients of the 2015-2016 awards.

## Full Tuition and Fees Scholarship: Current SIUE Student

**Katie Terziovski, sophomore**

"I would like to thank the Alumni Association for selecting me to be a recipient of this scholarship. This scholarship allows me to live on campus where I can truly immerse myself in the college atmosphere. Along with allowing me to experience college life, this scholarship definitely removes a great deal of stress from my plate. I will really be able to focus on my classes for my elementary education degree. I am even more excited about this school year thanks to the Alumni Legacy Scholarship."



## Full Tuition and Fees Scholarship: Incoming Freshman

**Summer Standefer, Bethalto, Ill.**

"I could not be more excited about obtaining this scholarship and want to thank everyone involved in the selection process. Receiving this scholarship will allow me to pursue a quality degree on a beautiful campus. I am looking forward to being academically challenged in the classrooms so I can grow into a better professional leader in the real world. Through this scholarship, I went from being on the fence about being able to attend this school to immediately signing up for Springboard. The school is a perfect match for me and I am very excited to begin the upcoming academic year. I am ecstatic to officially be an SIUE Cougar."



## \$500 Scholarship Recipients



Alumni Legacy Award recipient **Josie Wright**, Collinsville, Ill., is a sophomore at SIUE.

*Photo by John Locus*



Alumni Legacy Award recipient **Melissa Weller**, Waterloo, Ill., is a junior at SIUE.



Alumni Association Past President Bev George presents the Alumni Legacy Award to incoming freshman **Gillian Lewis** of Swansea, Ill.



Alumni Association Board member Ann Frank presents the Alumni Legacy Award to incoming freshman **Ashlyn Cadle** of East Alton, Ill.



Alumni Association Board member Ann Frank presents the Alumni Legacy Award to incoming freshman **Ellen Snyders** of Jerseyville, Ill.

# Kathleen Dwyer, MEd Curriculum and Instruction '01

To say Kathleen Dwyer has a dynamic personality would be an understatement of monumental proportions. Her personality, coupled with the love she has for what she does, is part of what led to her being named a 2015 recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching.

Winners of this Presidential honor receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at their discretion. They also are invited to Washington, DC, for an awards ceremony.

The path to the White House recognition ceremony on July 31 was, for Dwyer, a bit on the winding side. She earned a bachelor's in biological sciences from the University of Illinois Chicago. She pursued this field of study because it was tough. "When I was in high school, I was the award winner in English and communications, so I decided I wanted something to challenge myself," she said. "Math and science did that. That's not the typical reason people go into a field, but I've never regretted it."

Dwyer intended to focus her boundless energy and interest on research. She began her research in environmental sciences on a five-acre patch of virgin prairie in Chicago. Her data collections led to museum presentations and feedback from attendees.

"I continuously heard from other teachers, 'You should be a teacher.' I finally listened, but that was not originally what I had planned," she said.

Since Dwyer did not have any experience as a classroom teacher, she wanted a master's program that emphasized curriculum and instruction through practical and relevant material. She knew by reputation that SIUE had a good program in education, so she enrolled. While her statistics class made her a bit nervous, she learned valuable lessons on working collaboratively to solve problems and better understand the material. "I use that model of learning in my classroom to this day," Dwyer said.

Virginia Bryan, emerita professor of physics, and Elaine Abusharbain, associate professor of biological sciences, were Dwyer's favorite instructors because of their pragmatic approach to teaching. "They worked with a simple model: Don't just talk at the kids all the time. Have them do things, because that is the best way for them to learn," she said.

Dwyer's first teaching assignment was in the now closed Wellston School District in St. Louis County. "It was a fantastic place to learn," she said. "There were a lot of challenges, but the kids were just kids who were worthy of having the best possible teaching."

The Maplewood-Richmond Heights School District has been the beneficiary of Kathleen's skill set for the past 15 years. She currently teaches high school science. When Dwyer first started, the district was struggling. "We were fortunate to have a fantastic superintendent who had a vision for the district," she said. "Our district is now a place where you feel a sense of pride, and honors and recognition are the norm."

Dwyer and the entire school district benefit from support of the St. Louis science community. She and her students have worked with Argonne National Laboratories, Washington University, St. Louis University, University of Missouri-St. Louis and the Danforth Institute. They regularly visit the St. Louis Zoo to monitor animal behavior and speak with zoo keepers.

**"The work these teachers are doing in our classrooms today will help ensure that America stays on the cutting edge tomorrow."**

*—President Obama on the 2015 recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching*



*Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching Kathleen Dwyer '01 with U.S. Chief Technology Officer Megan Smith (left) and National Science Foundation President France Córdova (right).*





*President Obama greets recipients of the 2015 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching.*

The Presidential Award recipient is also committed to teaching teachers. She conducts training for teachers on Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL). An instructional strategy used for sciences, POGIL uses distinct classroom materials that teach students how to think analytically and work as a team.

Five years ago, Dwyer applied for a posting through the International Relations and Exchanges Program offered by the U.S. State Department. The program had focused on social studies and language, but that year welcomed science and math teachers. Dwyer was accepted into the program and spent one month in India teaching workshops on everything from chemistry to American government. One particular school in India had 70-80 students in the classroom. "The students were so attentive and interested, and the teachers felt deeply respected," she said. "So much was accomplished."

When we asked what she planned to do with the \$10,000 monetary award which accompanies the Presidential recognition, she replied, "That's a lot of Skittles." What she really means is she will use the money to benefit her students. In the past, she has used grants and her own funds to take students to Costa Rica for research and to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF). The world's largest international pre-college science competition, Intel ISEF was held in Pittsburgh in May. Dwyer already plans to take her students to Phoenix in May for the 2016 fair.

Dwyer was excited to meet President Obama. She was also eager to meet the other award recipients. "Two teachers from each state are selected; one from science and one from math," she said. "It was exciting to meet them, talk with them, share stories and learn new ideas."

The teacher who is always learning new lessons has one for anyone interested in the teaching profession. "Teaching involves doing something you love," Dwyer said. "Embrace the work and be ready to rock it, because I can't think of a more rewarding profession."

# Jeffrey Harrison, BS Business Administration Entrepreneurship/Finance '12

The word 'entrepreneur' is derived from the French word 'entreprendre' which means "to undertake."

SIUE alumnus Jeffrey Harrison enjoys the thrill of "undertaking." He grew up in Red Bud, Ill., and learned entrepreneurship from his father, a graduate of the SIU School of Dental Medicine.

"I mowed the grass at my father's practice. I took out the trash. I hung the Christmas lights on his office building. I always knew what it was like to be an entrepreneur," Harrison said, "My father enjoyed being able to take off when he wanted to and sort of control his own destiny. That's what I wanted to do."

A Cox Scholarship from the School of Business and a men's golf scholarship from Intercollegiate Athletics brought Harrison to SIUE. It did not take long for him to "undertake" something. By his sophomore year, he had helped create the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO), a student organization in the School of Business, and launched a bike-sharing enterprise called "eCycle." The business venture didn't work out, but Harrison learned valuable lessons and received sage advice from his mentor, former School of Business Dean Gary Giamartino. "He told me to develop a concept that does not take a lot of capital but that meets the needs of college students," Harrison said.

Harrison's maturity, drive and professionalism led to his appointment as SIUE Student Trustee with the SIU Board of Trustees. It was on a trip to Carbondale for a board meeting that he was introduced to SIUC student Mike Philip, who told Harrison about his new business.

Philip had launched a venture called RoverCard. The plastic discount card was sold to students in the SIUC campus bookstore. As smartphones became more prevalent, Mike saw the potential in creating a mobile version of his website, RoverCard.com. Fellow SIUC student Michael Rzeznik helped Philip develop the mobile platform. With the shift to a mobile platform, Philip and Rzeznik rebranded the concept to RoverTown.

Harrison stayed in contact with the two SIUC students, and his interest in the operation grew. The three decided to bring the service to Edwardsville and began marketing the concept to SIUE students.

"In our first 30 days, we were overwhelmed with the amount of demand from SIUE students," Harrison said. "We knew we had something special." What they didn't have was money. So Harrison reached out to contacts he had made through the School of Business, and RoverTown was soon ready for growth — with Harrison as chief operating officer (COO).

RoverTown realized strong sales during the summer of 2012 when the program was launched on both the Carbondale and Edwardsville campuses. Thanks to a lot of hard work and hustle, the three partners were able to connect with more initial investors. In 2013, RoverTown was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Arch Grants Global Startup Competition. The global business startup competition provides grants to early stage ventures to help grow businesses and create a more robust entrepreneurial culture and infrastructure in St. Louis. The start-up then moved from Carbondale to St. Louis.

"Being in the city gives us so many opportunities, including introductions to investors," Harrison said. "We've really been able to grow the company beyond a few campuses to more than 100 colleges and universities, including Mizzou and The Ohio State University.

RoverTown recently moved from T-REX, a St. Louis start-up incubator, to a new office in downtown St. Louis. The start-up has also grown to a staff of 15, including 12 full-time employees at its St. Louis headquarters. The aspirations for the tech start-up are many, including expanding to serve additional market segments in the future. They are also working with some retailers, including Best Buy, Anheuser Busch In-Bev and others. "We're trying to

**"In our first 30 days, we were overwhelmed with the amount of demand from SIUE students. We knew we had something special."**

*—Jeffrey Harrison, SIUE alumnus and entrepreneur*



use our information to help students save nationwide,” he said. “Our goal is to dominate the 21 million college student market.”

That kind of ambition can get you noticed, and Harrison is keenly aware of the endless possibilities. “I’m excited about the people I’ve met through this experience,” he said. “My goals at the end of the day are to get my investors their return, get my team their return, and hopefully, get my little bit after that.”

Given the potential on the horizon for these three young businessmen, Harrison said a valuable lesson has been learned. “You can’t be distracted by all of the opportunities, because at the end of the day you need to make it work right now,” he said. “That’s how entrepreneurs get sidetracked and end up failing; they get too scattered with their resources. We struggle with that every day, but we now have the team to stay focused.”

RoverTown became a reality for Harrison and his partners in August 2011, less than one year before he graduated from SIUE. Just before he graduated in May 2012, Harrison set a goal for himself that he would be running his own company before he was 25 years old. Quite an “undertaking” for anyone, but Harrison achieved his goal. He has been the RoverTown COO now for three years, and he recently celebrated his 26th birthday.



*Jeffrey Harrison interacts with a Rovertown employee in their new space in downtown St. Louis.*

### **How does RoverTown work?**

The process is fairly simple. A student downloads the RoverTown app on their iPhone or Android smartphone. They log in to the geolocation-based system with their university email address to show they are an actively enrolled student. When a participating student enters a business that is part of RoverTown, the discount, which they can use at point of purchase, appears on their device. RoverLink is a companion service that allows businesses to participate in RoverTown and create discounts using their own technology.

# Ashley Seering, BA Mass Communications '14

Her company is called Night Owl Productions, with the name derived from her love and respect for the winged creature and the traits it represents. Ashley Seering works a crazy schedule, often to the wee hours of the night, and those who know her and work with her say she is wise beyond her years.

Her name, her work and her company have been getting a lot of buzz since the May 3 premiere of her documentary film "The Heroin Project." The project, co-produced with Cory Byers, mass communications instructor at SIUE, has been screened in multiple locations, including the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase. In November, the film will be screened at the St. Louis International Film Festival. The 23-year-old said many people are surprised by her success when they learn she's only been doing this type of work for the past three years.

Seering grew up in Mascoutah, Ill., and was first exposed to television production in middle school. "My family took vacations to Los Angeles almost every summer. We always went on studio tours and television show tapings," she said.

Her interest in television production grew as she saw the many creative options on both the technical side and the storytelling side. Seering and her twin sister both enrolled at SIUE. Seering was ready to experience life away from home and take advantage of the possibilities afforded to students through the mass communications program.

Her first experience in television production was in a mass communications class taught by Cory Byers, and she credits Byers with being a mentor and inspiration. "Cory did a lot of things that were film-based, and our styles were very similar," Seering said.

The other person she credits for her success is Riley Maynard, emeritus professor of mass communications. She describes Maynard as straightforward, direct, a bit harsh at times and the person who most realistically presented the industry in which she now works. Seering also believes the range of experiences she had in her mass communications classes helped her grow to where she is now.

Early in her academic career, Seering worked as a crew member for the production of an educational video on the heroin epidemic for Project Drug Smart, a drug awareness and prevention campaign sponsored by the Edwardsville school district. The project sparked her interest in the topic and helped build connections with individuals close to the issue,

including Madison State's Attorney Tom Gibbons and County Coroner Steve Nonn. Through those connections, Seering was asked to videotape meetings of the Madison County Heroin Task Force.

She soon discovered a reality she didn't know existed, and became aware of the scope of the problem and the human toll it was taking. "There was so much information and so much emotion," Seering said.

Seering had developed a love of documentary work and enjoyed what she calls passion projects. She decided to produce a piece on the heroin issue as her next big project. Big it was. What was originally planned as a 20-minute documentary grew to an hour. She gathered a tremendous amount of material and interviews. "It was a tremendous challenge achieving the finished product," she said. "There was a lot of editing that needed to be done, and I needed to maintain the integrity of the story, especially for the families who opened up emotionally and shared these very raw experiences."

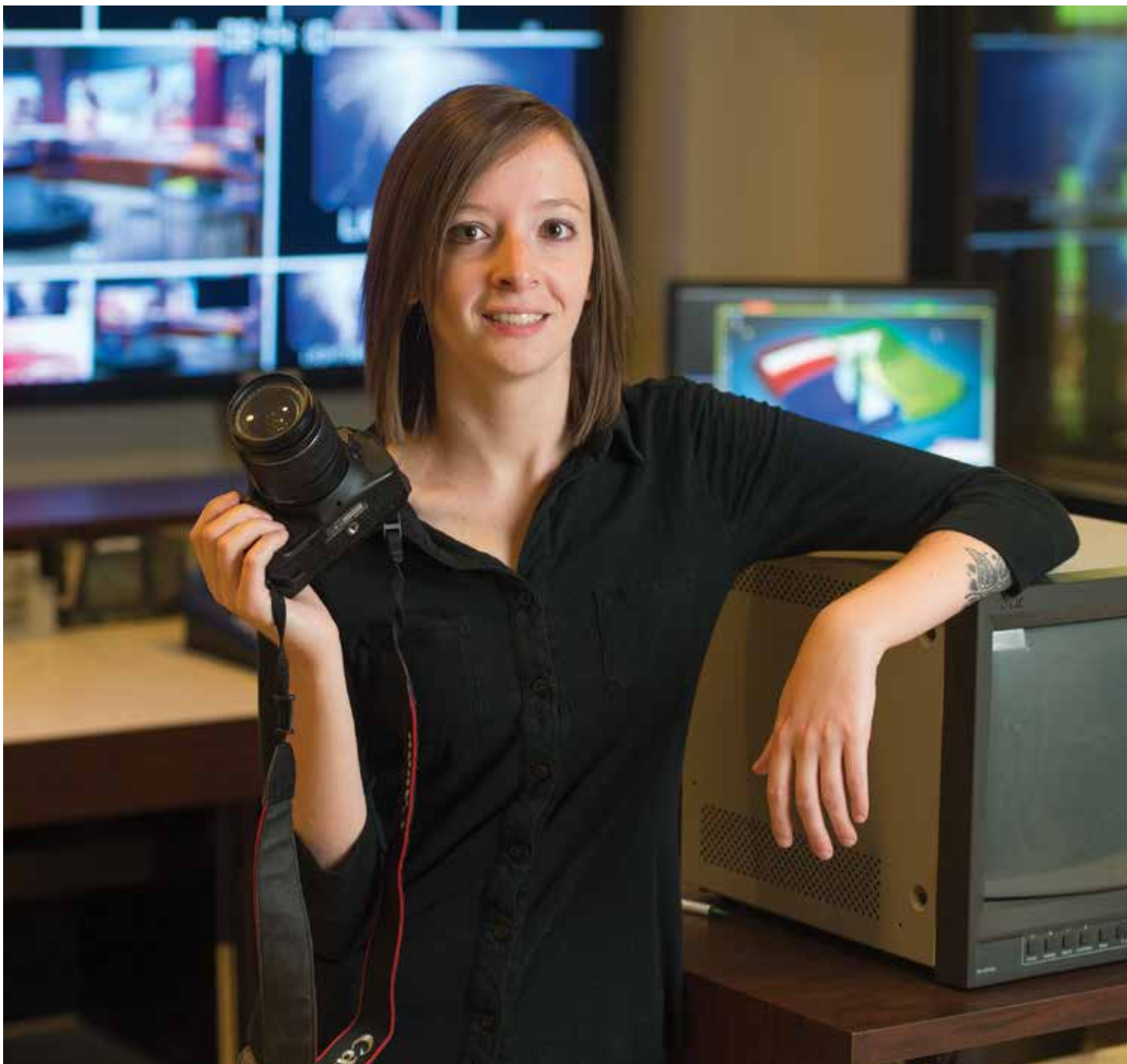
In the end, Seering feels she grew as well. "What I learned most was how to be a better storyteller," she said. "I also learned too many people are unaware of the heroin crisis and its impact."

Seering enjoys the wide range of work she is currently doing through Night Owl Productions, but her aspirations rest in producing and directing documentaries. She has been able to experience the process thanks to her work on "The Heroin Project" and her collaboration with Byers and Tom Atwood, mass communications instructor. Seering believes her success is directly linked to how she approached her education at SIUE. Even classes that didn't completely interest her got the same drive and focus as her mass communications courses, because she knew she would learn something she could use later.

"I believe one of the most important things students need to do is take college much more seriously," she said. "It is good to take advantage of the faculty, the facilities and the equipment made available to you."

**Ashley Seering's documentary, "The Heroin Project," focuses on the heroin addiction problem in and around Madison County, Illinois.**





Before launching her own company, Seering's skills and experience kept her busy working as a freelancer. Now, running her own business, she is busier still. She admits the lifestyle is not for everyone. "I've had a lot of ups and downs," she said. "Then a project will come along and remind me that the work is worth it, and I should work hard and dedicate myself to it."

Seering hasn't stopped the learning process just because she is no longer a college student. "I'm always reading a book or online articles about production. I also enjoy meeting new people within the St. Louis film community."

According to Seering, 100 percent dedication is vital to success. "You have to make sure everything else in your life is supportive of your career goals," she said. "Surrounding yourself with a positive environment will allow you to focus on what you want to do. That's what I've been able to do." As we said, wise beyond her years.

**"I believe one of the most important things students need to do is take college much more seriously."**

*—Ashley Seering*

# Jorge Garcia, BS Business Administration International Business '01, MBA '04

Ultra-marathoner Jorge Garcia likes to tell people, "The hardest part is getting to the starting line." This philosophy is based on his own personal experience and challenges he has faced.

When Garcia was just eight years old, his mother was killed by his father. After the tragedy, he and his younger brother, Edwin, lived with their aunt and on the streets for a while. He and his fragmented family were constantly on the move; Garcia attended four high schools before graduating from high school in Elizabeth, NJ, where he found his ticket out. "A Marine Corps recruiter visited school and offered travel, hospitality and food," he said. "I enlisted immediately."

Garcia did a lot of running as a child, but he had never participated in athletics or organized sports. Part of the Marine physical fitness test was a three-mile run, which he enjoyed. "The Marine Corps was where I discovered my passion for running," he said. "The Corps opened a lot of doors for me and made me the man I am today."

Running was a key component of that maturity. "I needed an outlet for the stress I was experiencing," Garcia said. "Running was my savior."

When Garcia left the Marines, he took a job in a factory. His best friend from the Corps, who had met and married a woman from Granite City, Ill., had moved to the Midwest. Garcia reached out to his friend and learned about the couple's plans to attend the local university, SIUE.

With encouragement from his friend, Garcia moved to Granite City and enrolled at SIUE as a 21-year-old freshman. "I lived in the 400-side of the Tower Lake apartments" he said.

"My roommate, Chris Nance, was student body president. He took me under his wing and told me I was too old to procrastinate and needed to get to work right away."

Garcia stresses the impact his professors had on him. He decided to major in business administration with an international business specialization and helped organize a Latin American Awareness student organization.

Running, however, was still his savior. "When I was really stressed out and wanted to cry, yell or just hit something, I would go running," he said. "I loved the way it made me feel; I ran for the joy of it. I could run and never get tired."

He had been focused on 5Ks, but thought he might like to try a marathon. When Jorge learned the marathon distance was more than 26 miles, he felt he had run that distance before, but never in an official race. "I made rookie mistakes in my first marathon," he said. "I went out too fast and tried to run for time instead of running at my regular pace."

**"When I was really stressed out and wanted to cry, yell or just hit something, I would go running. I loved the way it made me feel; I ran for the joy of it. I could run and never get tired."**

—Jorge Garcia





For the next almost two dozen marathons, he went at his own pace. "People would ask me why I was running so slowly," Garcia said. "I would tell them I was running because I enjoy it." A slower pace also gave him the chance to talk to people about running and to kids about appreciating the people who had helped them. "I always remind the kids to go home and hug their parents and thank them for everything they do," Garcia said. "It is a blessing for me to talk to people. I was that kid who needed someone who could point me in the right direction."

His direction changed when he started pacing marathons, eventually pacing a four-hour marathon. A pace runner runs a steady pace and keeps track of that pace to help other marathon runners achieve their goal of finishing at a particular time. It was in one of these runs that he met Nozomi, a 56-year-old woman from Japan who was hoping to qualify for the Boston Marathon. "She inspired me!" Garcia said. "I had been pacing marathons, because I love seeing other people achieve their goals. The most rewarding thing for me is helping people finish their first race, qualify for Boston or set a personal record."

Garcia ran the 2013 Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon in three hours, 12 minutes, qualifying him for the Boston Marathon by three minutes. Garcia completed the Boston Marathon and has completed marathons in all 50 states. He is a member of the 50-State Marathon Club, an ultra-marathoner (covering 100 miles in one day), and plans to run marathons on each of the seven continents. He is scheduled to run in the Madrid, Spain, Rock and Roll Marathon in April 2016.

**Alumnus and marathoner Jorge Garcia is a top 10 finalist in the 2015 *Runner's World* Magazine Cover Search. The winners, one male and one female, will be revealed on the Today Show, by host and avid marathoner Natalie Morales on October 29.**

His inspirational story, his love of running and his desire to help others led to him being declared one of the top 10 finalists for the cover of *Runner's World* magazine.

"I can only accomplish what I do through the assistance of others," Garcia said. "There is a lot of training involved, and runners must have a great support system." Jen Schaller, owner of the RunWell store in Edwardsville, has taken him under her wing.

Garcia runs with a personal inspiration. In every race, he carries a photo of his mother. He even speaks with her while he runs. Because of running, he is now able to tell his mother's story, as well as his own. He hopes to inspire others to overcome hardship by continuing to reinforce his message: "The hardest part is getting to the starting line."



# Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees

The SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame was established in 2008 to recognize and honor SIUE alumni who, through leadership, character and hard work, have made exceptional contributions in their chosen field, in their communities and at SIUE. We are proud to present the SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2015.



## *School of Business*

**David Mayo**  
**BA Music '82, MBA '88**

Mayo is currently a partner/senior leader in information systems at Edward Jones. He is also a member of the chief information officer's staff responsible for all aspects of project management at

Edward Jones. Mayo has been heavily involved with the SIUE School of Business, the SIUE Alumni Association and within his community.



## *College of Arts & Sciences*

**Richard Bragga**  
**BA Mass Communications/TV and Radio '77, MS Mass Communications '82**

Bragga is the president of Philanthropy 1, a philanthropic services and communications company. He is the only person

awarded the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy's three top honors for leadership, writing and research. Bragga has been nationally recognized for his work with the Boy Scouts of America.



## *College of Arts & Sciences*

**Terry Turchie**  
**MS Government '76**

The former deputy assistant director of the Counterterrorism Division of the FBI, Turchie is the recipient of the FBI Director's Award and co-author of three books. As president and co-founder of TK Associates

LLC, Turchie frequently serves as a consultant to corporate and law enforcement organizations. He has co-produced award-winning documentaries for the National Geographic Channel and is the former director of counterintelligence at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.



## *School of Dental Medicine*

**Dr. Darryll Beard**  
**BS Biological and Medical Sciences '80, DMD '83**

Beard is co-chair of the Illinois Mission of Mercy, an event that will provide an estimated \$1 million in free dental care to patients who would not otherwise

have access to necessary treatment. He serves on the Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs for the American Dental Association (ADA) and on the board of directors for Delta Dental of Illinois. Beard is a past president of the Illinois State Dental Society (ISDS) and served on the ISDS foundation board. He has served as a delegate to both the ADA and the ISDS House of Delegates. Beard is a fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists. He is past president of the SIU School of Dental Medicine's alumni council and maintains a private dental practice in Waterloo, Ill.



## *School of Education, Health and Human Behavior*

**Dr. Walter Warfield**  
**BA History '68, MSED Educational Administration '73**

Warfield is currently scholar in residence with the University of Illinois College of Education and

Human Services in Springfield. He has served as the executive director of the Illinois Association of School Administrators. Warfield is widely recognized for his published works and his leadership abilities, and is credited with mentoring dozens of SIUE graduates seeking administrative positions across the state.





### **School of Engineering**

#### **Dr. Daryl Beetner BS Electrical Engineering '90**

Beetner is a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla. In August 2014, he became chair of that department. Beetner also chairs

the University of Missouri research board, holds two patents, and has been recognized locally, regionally and nationally for his teaching, research and service. Beetner earned an MS in electrical engineering in 1994 and a PhD in 1997 from Washington University in St. Louis.



### **School of Nursing**

#### **Dr. Wrenetha Julion BS Nursing '80**

Julion is a professor at Rush University College of Nursing. She is actively engaged in research focused on providing culturally relevant parent training to low-income families of color. Julion has

conducted research with African-American fathers and is the author of the "Julion Index of Parental Involvement," which measures the involvement of fathers with their children. She earned an MSN/MPH from the University of Illinois-Chicago and a PhD in nursing from Rush.



### **Graduate School**

*The SIUE Graduate School is proud to induct its first representative into the SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame.*

#### **Congressman John Shimkus MBA '97**

Shimkus has devoted his life to public service through service in

the U.S. Army, as a high school teacher, as Madison County treasurer and now as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 15th District of Illinois. John has served the people of Illinois in Congress since 1996, when he won his first term from what was then the 20th District of Illinois. Shimkus is a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and chairman of its Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy.

### **School of Pharmacy**

*The School of Pharmacy will induct its first member in 2019 on the 10th anniversary of its first graduating class.*

The SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2015 was inducted during the awards ceremony October 2 in the Conference Center of the Morris University Center. With the induction of the Class of 2015, more than 90 exceptional SIUE alumni are now celebrated in the Hall of Fame.

## **SIUE Athletics Hall of Fame**

The Athletics Hall of Fame recognizes the achievements of former student-athletes, coaches, administrators and teams that have participated in the intercollegiate athletics programs at SIUE, as well as to celebrate the history of the institution. Congratulations to this year's honorees:

- Gary Collins, baseball head coach
- Terri Evans, women's basketball's second all-time leading scorer
- Kip Kristoff and Mark Kristoff, wrestling national champions
- Valerie McCoy and Erin Newman, softball All-Americans
- Joe Reiniger, men's soccer's fourth all-time leading scorer
- Tim Tighe, a member of the inaugural 1967 men's soccer team
- 1975 Men's Soccer Team, took SIUE to its first appearance in the NCAA Division I national championship game
- 1991 Baseball Team, won the NCAA Division II North Central Region championship and placed fifth at the NCAA Division II College World Series

Read more about the inductees:

[siuecougars.com/hallfame](http://siuecougars.com/hallfame) 

# Traditions

## Preserving University History

When classes began on the new Edwardsville campus in September 1965, only the Peck Building and Lovejoy Library had been completed. At that time, the basement of the library was the place students went to find a meal; the Morris University Center would not be finished for another two years.

Today, the basement of the library houses the Louisa H. Bowen University Archives and Special Collections. The history of the archives is nearly as interesting as the institutional history stored within it.



"SIUE has a very unique history, one started by local demand," said Dr. Steve Kerber, university archivist and special collections librarian.

SIUE's first university archivist was not named until the campus was almost 15 years old and occurred at the request of the man who would take the position. Dr. Allan McCurry, who was dean of the School of Social Sciences at the time, approached then-President Earl Lazerson. McCurry requested his appointment be transferred to Lovejoy Library. Lazerson agreed, and McCurry assumed the role of university archivist in 1979.

Kerber came to SIUE in 1995 after nine years at the University of Florida where he earned a PhD in history. He began his SIUE career working with then-university archivist Louisa Hopkins Bowen. Louisa Bowen had succeeded McCurry as archivist in 1985. After she lost her battle to pancreatic cancer in 1996, the university archives and special collections unit of the Lovejoy Library was renamed in her honor, and Steve was named archivist. "I didn't know anything about SIUE when I came here," he said. "But being the archivist, you can't help but learn the history of the institution."

According to Kerber, the University Archives serves a dual role. First is the special collections role, which is in conjunction with the library. The other role is records management. "We preserve the university records that have enduring informational value," he said.

Much of what is contained in the archives is going through the digitization process. Library and Information Services has two platforms for publishing digital projects: CARLI, a statewide system; and Scholarly Publications and Repository of Knowledge (SPARK). SPARK is an institutional repository that provides a central platform to publish, disseminate and preserve the research and scholarly activity generated by the University and the community. The open access publishing platform complies with the State of Illinois Open Access to Research Articles Act, signed into law in August 2013.

Current digital collections include the Alumnus magazine, the Muse yearbooks, the Mississippi River Festival collection and the Observer newsletter. There is even a collection of the Shurtleff College Retrospect yearbook which dates back to the early 1900s.

Kerber's favorite physical collection is the work of University photographers Charlie Cox, Bill Brinson and Denise MacDonald. In fact, SPARK contains Kerber's "Eye on the e" digital exhibit honoring the work of photographer Charlie Cox. The exhibit was created after Cox passed away in December 2014. SPARK also includes the oral history interviews conducted over the years by Dr. Stanley Kimball, emeritus professor of historical studies.



### **Louisa H. Bowen University Archives and Special Collections**

**[siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/archives](http://siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/archives)** 

### **Digital Collections**

**[siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/about/digital\\_collections](http://siue.edu/lovejoylibrary/about/digital_collections)** 

### **SPARK**

**[spark.siue.edu/archives](http://spark.siue.edu/archives)** 

*To honor her memory, the university archives and special collections unit of Lovejoy Library was renamed for Louisa Bowen in 1997.*





"We are working to preserve and make available the institutional memory of the University," Kerber said. "We want people to be able to access these resources remotely and at their convenience."

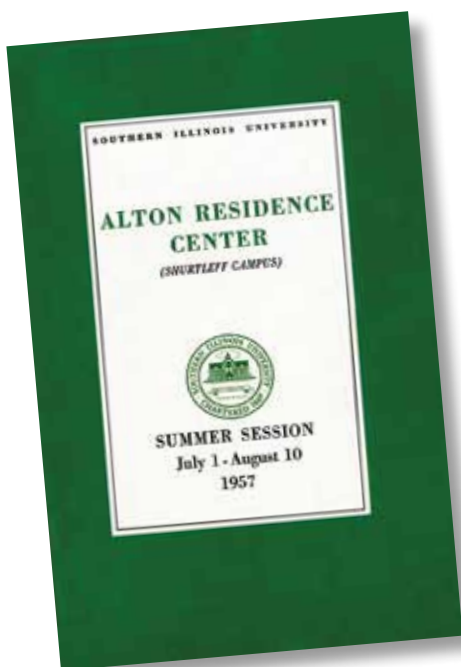
A visit to the University Archives is indeed a journey of memory.

*University Archivist and Special Collections Librarian Steve Kerber holds a hard hat that was worn at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Edwardsville campus in 1963.*

**Lovejoy Library is home to one of the largest academic archives in the state of Illinois.**

**Collections include:**

- **University records**
- **SIU Board of Trustees meeting minutes**
- **Class catalogs**
- **Annual reports**
- **SIUE bulletins**
- **Materials given or provided to the University by individuals**
- **Rare books**



## SIUE Undergraduate Catalogs, 1957-2005

Past issues of the undergraduate catalogs were recently digitally-reformatted and published online. The catalogs date from the first term of operation at the Alton Residence Center (the former Shurtleff College; now the School of Dental Medicine) in the summer of 1957 up through 2003-2005. The "born digital" catalogs created since 2006 are accessible at the Office of the Registrar website. "The catalogs contain a wealth of historical information about the operation and instructional programs of the university, including the academic personnel and the curriculum," said Steve Kerber, university archivist and special collections librarian.

# GRADUATE STUDIES AT **SIUE**



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