Congratulations 2018 NCVF DII Men’s Volleyball National Champions!

Read about Lynx Volleyball and the LC transition to NAIA inside!
PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

As I stood on the stage during our 151st Commencement Ceremony in May, I looked out over the audience and the image was striking.

For the first time, I saw an almost equal number of students clad in the black gowns worn by bachelor’s degree recipients as those in purple, which is the color worn by our associate degree students.

Then, as I handed out diplomas, it was gratifying to shake the hands of students receiving their two-year degrees and seeing many that I knew will be back in the fall to finish their undergraduate program here at Lincoln College.

Our vision of returning to our roots as a four-year university is becoming a reality and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to you – our alumni and supporters who are making this possible.

This has been a busy and exciting year! Let me just touch on a few highlights.

One of the most exciting personnel changes we’ve had in years has been the hiring of a new Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Hamin Shabazz.

Dr. Shabazz has had an amazing journey from a street cop in Camden, New Jersey, to the highest levels of academia. His transformation from a G.E.D. certificate holder, who did not finish traditional high school, to earning a Doctorate and becoming Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies at Sul Ross State University, is an inspiring story that will resonate with students. He provides a living example of what can be accomplished with hard work and determination.

His academic credentials and experience are excellent and he shares our vision and excitement for what Lincoln College will become over the coming years.

In April we held a “Game On” rally to announce an exciting change here at Lincoln College – our official entrance in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

This is a major milestone in our journey. It is already having a positive impact, with many of our top-performing athletes coming back to play in the fall. We have had a successful year in our athletic program, culminating in winning the NCVF National Volleyball Championship, which you will also learn more about in this issue. I look forward to even more successes as we move into the NAIA.

To lead us during this transition period, we tapped Mark Perdue as our new Director of Athletics.

Mark has been an AD at institutions in both the NAIA and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and brings 28 years of athletic administration, leadership and management to this position.

We are very excited about his vision and plans for Lincoln College’s athletic program.

In February, the Lincoln Courier announced that Lincoln College was the winner of its annual “Readers’ Choice” award for the best College or University. That’s significant because it’s a sign of strong support and respect here in our home community.

“Over the past few years, we have made a concerted effort to build ties and enhance our presence in the community. We work hard to avoid the fate of other colleges and universities that are viewed as outsiders, hostile to the concerns and values of their host communities.”

Our students consistently support local fundraising and social service projects. We open our facilities to the larger community. We are continually working to draw more area residents to our athletic and performing arts events. Our jazz studies students regularly perform at restaurants in downtown Lincoln. Our vocal music students entertain at nursing homes and other venues. Two of our students are even spending a portion of their summer nights taking turns singing the national anthem at the Lincoln Speedway race track every week.

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While the “Readers’ Choice” award is a nice vote of confidence from the local community, an even more exciting trend is occurring. Our enrollment of area students is up sharply.

More local students are picking Lincoln College. Many of these students are among the top performers in the classroom and on the athletic field. We are finding that a small, affordable private college with a diverse student body, a strong academic support system and options for four-year bachelor’s degrees appeals to today’s students no matter what their background may be.

I look forward to standing on the stage at future graduations and watching an ever-expanding tide of black gowns sweep across the Lincoln Center. Even more exciting will be the day that our first Master’s Degree recipients walk across that stage.

Thank you all for your continued support of Lincoln College. Please enjoy this latest issue.

Embracing our Past, Empowering our Future

The Campaign for Lincoln College continues toward the goal of $8 million for University Hall renovations and other capital projects (Johnston Center for Performing Arts, Scully Natatorium), Scholarships, and of course the LINCOLN Fund, which supports LC’s most urgent needs and highest priorities.

With just a few weeks left in the fiscal year, we take this opportunity to thank our alumni, parents, friends, businesses and organizations whose gifts have brought us to the $5.5 million mark, including Pat Carroll ‘61 and his wife Mimi, who were on campus this spring to visit and see the progress on University Hall. (Pat and his lead gift to the UH project in honor of late LC President Jack Nutt were featured in the Fall 2016 Log.)

For more information about the Embracing our Past, Empowering our Future Campaign for Lincoln College, contact the Advancement Office at 877.522.5867 or email advancement@lincolncollege.edu.

University Hall Renovation Update: The exterior brick replacement and masonry repairs are completed, and new high-efficiency replica windows have been installed in the basement and second floor classrooms.

The Campaign for Lincoln College Steering Committee

John Blackburn, Co-Chair
Jack Sparacio ’63, Co-Chair
Michelle Bauer
Laura Beltchenko
Mike Fisher
Susan Hoblit ’83
Judy Morley
Darwin Runyon ’81
Ex-Officio:
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Help LC finish strong! Make your gift today using the envelope in this issue of the Log, by calling the Alumni & Advancement Office at 577.522.5867, or by visiting lincolncollege.edu and click “Give to LC” at the top of the page to use our simple, secure online giving form!
Alex “Sandy” MacKinnon ’60 was the keynote speaker, and was honored with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree. MacKinnon is a successful businessman and committed alumnus of Lincoln College. He received LC’s Alumni Achievement Award in 2007 and was featured in the Fall 2017 Lincoln Log Alumni Spotlight.

MacKinnon is the former owner and CEO of MacKinnon Equipment & Services. Using a customer-focused approach and following the highest ethical standards, MacKinnon transformed a failing Yale Equipment dealership into a highly successful firm with five locations in Florida and Georgia.

Throughout his career MacKinnon has received many awards, but he says he takes particular pride in two that exemplify strong character traits – the H.L. Culbreath, Jr., profile in leadership award and the Tampa Bay Ethics Award, presented by the University of Tampa Center for Ethics.

Percussionist Richie Gajate Garcia was also honored with an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree. Gajate Garcia invented the popular Gajate Bracket and collaborated on the Richie Gajate Garcia Signature Series Congas, Bongos and Djembe all produced by Latin Percussion.

He has recorded and/or performed with Phil Collins, Sting, Don Henley, Frankie Valli, Stevie Wonder and Ritchie Sambora, as well as worked on film scores including Disney’s Oscar winning animated film “Coco.” He has also performed on a number of Grammy award winning and Grammy nominated songs. He has toured with a variety of artists including Diana Ross, Patti LaBelle, John Denver and Hiroshima.

The student speaker this year was Ashlyn Carroll of Lincoln. Carroll received her Bachelor’s of Business Administration degree. She previously received her associate degree from the College in 2016.

She has been on the Special Honors List and the President’s Honors List, is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and was recognized by Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Ashlyn was also a student-athlete for two years on the softball team, earning an NJCAA Superior Academic Achievement Award, First Team NJCAA All-Academic and Mid-West Athletic Conference Academic All-Conference Softball honors.

Ashlyn works as a teacher aide in Lincoln, serves as the local high school’s softball team assistant and has served as a student Ambassador for Lincoln College.

The complete Commencement ceremony video, produced by LC’s Radio, TV, and New Media program for LCTV is available on the LC TV Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngT-MpW9FrE
Richie Gajate Garcia held a free public percussion clinic in the Johnston Center for Performing Arts, and he and Sandy MacKinnon participated in an “Excellence in Leadership” panel discussion during the week before Commencement.
Embracing our Past, Empowering our Future with ABE

ABE program students, alumni, faculty, and staff took a little time out to relax, socialize, and celebrate at the end of spring semester with a casual reception hosted by the ABE Alumni Committee at Destihl Brewery in Normal, Ill. ABE Director Vance Laine welcomed everyone and introduced the evening’s featured speakers, ABE graduates Shemeka Lee ’18 and Melissa Larson ’13.

Shemeka completed her coursework in March, and shared part of her ABE story:

“After attending an ABE open house, I realized that this was the program for me. The program is convenient, affordable, and most importantly allows adults to earn a bachelor’s degree. …When you’re a mother of two, and working a full-time job, being surrounded by people you can relate to alleviates that uncertainty of whether or not you can successfully complete your degree. …ABE faculty members are exceptional when interacting with and teaching adult students. Their willingness to help, dedication, and understanding played a major role in me earning my degree.”

After needing to take time away from the program to deal with a child’s health issue, Shemeka’s return was seamless.

“It seemed as though I had never been absent,” she said.

Melissa Larson is a first-generation college graduate who also benefitted from the flexibility of the ABE format when her father passed away in 2011. She worked with the faculty, took off the time she needed to take care of her family, and got back to it.

She also shared her personal motivation for persevering and completing her undergraduate degree through the ABE program:

Facing divorce, I knew I needed a safety net. I knew I had to have that education as that baseline of ‘What happens if?’ … What happens if you just want to reach a little further? I had to do that,” she explained. “The other thing is my kids. Next May, I have a senior graduating from [high school]: I hope I’ve impressed on him to take the straight course, go straight through, don’t get distracted… but even if that’s not the path he takes, I stuck with it and got through, and I hope he understands how important education is as a basic foundation for the rest of his life.”

Melissa earned her Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Management degree and is working in operations management, started a business and is the president of Professional Women of McLean County, and also serves as co-chair of Brüegala, an annual charity beer and wine event in Bloomington-Normal.
**SPOTLIGHT:**

**Shemeka Lee**

*First State Farm Foundation ABE Scholarship recipient to earn LC Bachelor’s degree*

In May 2018, a single mother of two young boys, full-time professional, and Accelerated Bridge to Education (ABE) program Dean’s list honoree proudly walked across the Lincoln College commencement stage to add another identity to her impressive repertoire: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts graduate, cum Laude.

Shemeka Lee completed her degree requirements in March and attributes this achievement to her ABE program experience and the financial assistance provided by the State Farm Foundation Scholarship she earned along the way. The ABE program was designed to provide the most flexible and affordable bachelor’s degree programs to working adults in Central Illinois.

ABE students can earn their bachelor’s degree one or two nights per week, supplemented by online learning in a program designed for non-traditional students such as Shemeka. Thanks to the unique ways in which the ABE program caters to adult learners, she was able to work on her degree while maintaining her career and family life.

Shemeka recognized these helpful attributes of ABE when she was considering returning to school after earning her associate’s degree in 2014.

> After attending an ABE open house, I realized that this was the program for me. I had never been introduced or even aware of a program such as ABE before. The program is convenient, affordable, and most importantly, allows adults to earn a bachelor's degree with five- to eight-week class sessions.

“When you’re a mother of two and a full-fledged adult, being surrounded by people you can relate to alleviates that uncertainty of whether or not you can successfully complete your degree. In addition, the ABE faculty members are exceptional when interacting with and teaching adult students. Their willingness to help, dedication, and understanding played a major role in me earning my degree.

At one point, I was forced to take some time off due to my youngest son needing a surgical procedure done. When I was ready to return, it seemed as though I had never been absent from the program. My academic advisor was very diligent in keeping in touch with me to ensure I returned to college to finish what I started, which motivated me even more. Since the sessions are only five to eight weeks, it was easy for me to pick up right where I left off.”

The State Farm Foundation Scholarship, which Shemeka was awarded in 2016, assisted her financially in achieving her goals. This scholarship was established to assist non-traditional students enrolled in accelerated hybrid degree programs at Lincoln College in Normal. Many non-traditional community college graduates need an incentive to continue toward earning a bachelor’s degree because they have struggled to balance work, family, and academic responsibilities just to earn the associate’s degree.

The State Farm Foundation generously provided funds for scholarships to cover full tuition for 12 months (less Pell Grant and Monetary Award Program Grant funding). Students in the eight-week accelerated hybrid program are able to earn 36 credit hours per year by attending full-time, while students in the five-week accelerated program are able to earn 27 credit hours per year by taking courses in all nine sessions offered.

The scholarship indeed gave her the push she needed to continue being successful in her coursework even when the task seemed too overwhelming.

Shemeka explains, “I always tell my boys that education is important and now they have seen me walk the walk. They have seen firsthand what discipline, resiliency, and ambition looks like. Following the guidelines of the scholarship, I began to push myself even harder which resulted in me making the Dean’s list.”

Scholarship eligibility criteria for applicants include demonstrating financial need, successfully completing at least 50 semester credit hours from a regionally accredited college, living and/or working in McLean County, and having an overall combined GPA from all colleges attended of 3.0 or higher. The GPA requirement was the biggest motivator for Shemeka.

> “State Farm blessed me with this scholarship, therefore I had no other choice but to give it my all and excel academically. Even in the midst of all my responsibilities, I was determined to receive As and Bs. Receiving this award has changed my life. It allowed me to attend college free for a year, which helped me to better support my family financially, but most importantly it gave me hope. The State Farm Scholarship is a major part of my successful completion of college and there are no words to express the gratitude I feel for this amazing company.”

In May, Shemeka was the first recipient of this scholarship award to graduate from the ABE program. After earning the scholarship and having been inspired by the generosity the company bestowed upon her, she successfully pursued a position at State Farm following an internship with Illinois State Police. She knows the dedication and commitment she has displayed in the pursuit of her degree as well as the knowledge she has gained thus far in her Liberal Arts education all played a significant role in her career transition.

The ABE Liberal Arts degree provides students with a curriculum that is broad, flexible, and challenging, and hones abilities to communicate effectively, make judgments, and understand and analyze difficult concepts. Students like Shemeka receive a well-rounded education in the social sciences, humanities, mathematics, and communication.

Shemeka was also recognized at the Lincoln College Honors Convocation with the Madrigale Maconaghi McKeever Award, awarded to the graduating senior who has derived the greatest benefit from the Lincoln College experience. After graduation, Shemeka hopes to utilize her broad skill-set to further enhance her career. She and her family have dreams of moving to sunny Arizona to continue enjoying the rewards of her hard work at Lincoln College in Normal.

The ABE program thanks State Farm for their commitment to providing financial assistance to our students in need and motivating them to achieve academic excellence! For more information about the ABE program or The State Farm Foundation Scholarship, please contact:

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https://abe.lincolncollege.edu/
GAME ON!

Lincoln College celebrated its long-anticipated acceptance into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes (NAIA) in April with a “Game On” rally featuring coaches, student athletes, pep talks from Lincoln College President David Gerlach and Athletic Director Mark Perdue, and special recognition of the men’s volleyball team, which captured the national championship April 14 in St. Louis.

“This is a major accomplishment and a critical step in returning to our roots as a four-year university,” Lincoln College President David Gerlach said. “Beginning next fall, our student athletes will be able to compete for a full four years. Our fans, who have been strong supporters of our athletes will now get to follow our athletes throughout their college careers.”

“Having the opportunity to help make the transition to the NAIA was one of the things that most attracted me to Lincoln College,” said Mark Perdue, who was recently appointed Athletic Director for Lincoln College. “This will benefit the college and our fans, but most important of all, it will be a terrific opportunity for our students. So many of our students have said they want to remain at Lincoln College, but they also want to continue to play sports in their junior and senior years. Now they will be able to do that.”

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) gave formal approval to Lincoln College’s application at their annual convention in Kansas City April 15. Lincoln College was one of eight institutions approved, bringing the total number of NAIA member institutions to 253.

The athletic organization is headquartered in Kansas City and is a governing body of small athletics programs that are dedicated to character-driven intercollegiate athletics.

Since 1937, the NAIA has administered programs and championships that seek to balance athletics with the overall college educational experience. The student-athlete is the center of all NAIA experiences. Each year more than 65,000 student-athletes have the opportunity to play college sports at NAIA member institutions.

The NAIA was the first collegiate athletics association to invite historically black institutions into membership and the first to sponsor both men’s and women’s national championships.

In 2000, the NAIA reaffirmed its purpose to enhance the character building aspects of sport. Through Champions of Character, the NAIA seeks to create an environment in which every student-athlete, coach, official and spectator is committed to the true spirit of competition through five core values – integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, and servant leadership.

According to the NAIAA, the program seeks to “change the culture of sport” by providing training to instill values “that build character, so students, coaches and parents know, do and value the right thing on and off the field.”

Perdue said he is looking forward to bringing the Champions of Character program to Lincoln College.

“Lincoln College has a strong tradition of outstanding student athletes. We had 37 Academic All-Americans last year and our core values fit in very well with those of the NAIA,” Perdue said. “Lincoln College also has a long tradition of community service by its students, but that is an area where you can always do more. I’m looking forward to working with local leaders to find new opportunities for our student-athletes to volunteer in the community.”
Lincoln Claims 2018 NCVF DII National Championship

The Lincoln College Men's Volleyball A team completed their season-long mission by winning the 2018 National Club Volleyball Federation (NCVF) DII National Championship in St. Louis, Mo., in April.

The Lynx came into the 48-team event looking to improve upon their 5th place finish a year ago at the 2017 National Championship in Kansas City. This time around, LC went a perfect 9-0 in the tournament and defeated the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in a thrilling, three-set title match to claim the program’s first National Championship in just its fourth year of existence.

“We could not be more proud of the way our players performed at this event and throughout the season,” said Lincoln Head Coach Mark Tippett. “They set this goal for themselves at the beginning of the year and definitely put in the work to make it happen,” he added.

Lincoln entered the 2018 DII Tournament as the overall #2 seed. The Lynx were ranked just behind the defending 2017 NCVF National Champions from St. Louis University (SLU). The two teams appeared to be on a collision course for the championship as they each easily won their respective pools on days one and two of the event to move into the 16-team Gold Division for single-elimination play on the third day.

During the final day of competition, LC cruised through the first two rounds of play, picking up wins over Azusa Pacific (25-13, 25-15) and Missouri S&T (25-16, 25-20) before being tested by a strong challenge in the semi-final round from Davenport University. In that match, the Lynx took set one 25-23, but dropped their first set of the tournament in set two 22-25. In the deciding set to 15, Lincoln was able to grab the momentum back and ride it to a 15-10 win which sent the team to the DII Gold Medal Final.

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Congratulations Hall of Fame 2017

The 2017 Athletic Hall of Fame Class was inducted on Friday, Nov. 10, at the Hall of Fame Banquet held during Homecoming week. The Lincoln College Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes the long and exemplary history of athletics at Lincoln College and includes student athletes, teams, coaches, managers, administrators, faculty, staff, and friends who have distinguished themselves in the field of athletics at Lincoln College, either by their performance on an athletic team or by meritorious efforts in supporting the athletic program at the College. The 2017 inductees were:

**Dan Hemenway**

*Coach 1991 – 2007*

Originally from St. Louis, Dan Hemenway joined Lincoln College in 1991 as head swim coach and physical education instructor. He is a graduate of southwestern Missouri State, where he was a four-year letterman and served three years as Swim Team Captain for the Bears. He received his graduate degree from California State-Long Beach; while there he was an assistant coach for two years. He coached successful swimming and water polo teams at Saddleback High School in southern California for six years prior to coming to Lincoln College.

During Hemenway’s tenure, at least 38 school records were broken and the Lynx placed second in the national championships 12 times. He coached a dozen national champions, 96 All-Americans and 32 Academic All-Americans. LC was the Illinois State Champions in 1994, 1995, 1998, 1999, and 2000, and Hemenway was Coach of the Year each of those years. He was named National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Coach of the Year in 1999, 2005, and 2006. He was also the Illinois Swimming Association Coach of the Year in 1994 and 1995.

Hemenway served as interim Athletic Director at Lincoln College in 2007 and was inducted into the NJCAA Swimming and Diving Hall of Fame in 2009. He was also named to the Who’s Who of Junior College Professors in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

Hemenway cites his swimmers’ success and Life Time Best Times among his favorite memories, and says, “I have been richly blessed to coach so many fine individuals. It has truly been my honor and pleasure. It is because of their hard work and sacrifices that I am receiving this honor.”

**Brianne Nation ’04 | Female Athlete**

Brianne Nation came to Lincoln from Bartonville, and became the first woman Lynx to win a national championship in swimming. She took two first place finishes at the National Junior College Athletic Association National Meet in 2004, winning the 200 Individual Medley and the 100 Freestyle.

Also in 2004, Nation was named Lincoln College’s Swimming and Diving Women’s Most Valuable Player and was awarded All-American honors by the College Swim Coach Association of America as well as a National Junior College Athletic Association Academic All-American.

After graduating from Lincoln College, Nation earned her Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Midstate College in 2011, and currently works at Cast Technologies in Peoria.

“I absolutely loved and enjoyed my two years here. I met some amazing people, and had some of the best times. Our swim team really bonded the second year and we created many life-long memories!” shares Nation, who lives in Peoria.

**Josh Wegrzyn ’00 | Male Athlete**

Josh Wegrzyn was a two-time NJCAA national champion and seven-time NJCAA All-American at Lincoln College, where he was named the NJCAA Swimmer of the Year. He broke the NJCAA national record in the 200-yard backstroke and tied the record in the 100-yard backstroke in 1999.

After graduating from Lincoln College in 2000, Wegrzyn went on to Southwest Missouri State, where he was an NCAA Division I National Qualifier in four events. He was named the 2001 Swimming Rookie of the Meet for US Swimming’s Summer Senior Nationals. He was a 2002 NCAA Division I National Championship Qualifier and five time Missouri Valley Conference individual event champion. He set three individual event conference records in the 200 Individual Medley, 100 Backstroke, and 200 Backstroke. In 2004, he was an Olympic trials qualifier and competitor.

He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Geography from Missouri State University in 2004, and another Bachelor’s degree in Organizational Communications from Missouri State in 2006. In 2010, he earned his Master’s degree in International Affairs and Public Administration from Missouri State University. From 2003 to 2006 he was an assistant swim coach at Missouri State University and from 2006 to 2010 he was an assistant swim coach at Georgetown University.

Wegrzyn left swimming to pursue a career in multi-family real estate development and operations management. He married Kristina Crooks in 2012; they live in Washington, D.C. with their two children. He writes, “I’m deeply touched to be honored by Lincoln College; thank you for remembering me and my contribution to Lincoln College athletics.”

**Bill Piskorski ’72 | Male Athlete**

Bill Piskorski, a native of Peoria, was an outstanding baseball player and student at Lincoln College. While at Lincoln College, he earned both the Marvin D. Johnson Award and the William B. McKinley Prize in 1971, as an outstanding freshman.

In 1972, he became the Lincoln College baseball team co-captain and also earned a .346 batting average for the year.

After graduating in 1972, he went on to play for the University of New Mexico Lobos. In his first year at New Mexico, the team won its first 17 games, including four wins by at least 10 runs, setting a school record for consecutive wins that still stands today. He was also team captain at the University of New Mexico in 1974.

After graduating with a degree in education, he stayed in New Mexico and went into banking and business. He was also an assistant varsity head coach at Eldorado (New Mexico) High School from 1983-1987. Piskorski has had a successful career in business, earning the Eagle Award for Anheuser Busch Management and has been a three-time Southern Wine and Spirits Manager of the Year.

Piskorski still lives in Albuquerque with his wife Carol. They have two children and five grandchildren. He says his favorite LC memories are “the friendships you develop at LC, competing with your coaches and teammates at Shirley Field and walking away with a win” and that he owes much to his two years at Lincoln College. “The coaching, teachers and staff guided you and prepared you for a productive future. Best two year of my younger life!”
Congratulations to the 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame class!

Lynx Athletics is excited to make the leap to NAIA and continue building on the long tradition of excellence—in competition and the classroom—that has marked our years in the NJCAA. The 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame class includes Vicki Vaughan, Lady Lynx Basketball Coach from 1991 – 1998, LaToya Doage and LaToya Johnson, two of Vaughan's star players from the class of 1995, Men’s Basketball players Eddie Jones ’80 and Phil Styles ’87, and longtime Friends of Lynx Athletics Jim and Sue Ryan.

Tom Zurkammer ’63
Male Athlete

Tom Zurkammer has been both a coach and athlete at Lincoln College. He was recognized for his athletic achievements as a basketball and baseball player. He was a member of the 1962 basketball team that earned a 30-7 record and won the State Championship, before becoming the first ever Lynx team to compete at Nationals, finishing 11th in the nation. In 2004, the Lincoln College 1962 basketball team was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

After graduating from Lincoln College in 1963, Zurkammer went on to earn All-American honors in both basketball and baseball at MacMurray College in Jacksonville.

He returned to Lincoln College in 1965, teaching math and computer sciences, while also assisting in the athletic program. He coached the men’s basketball teams from 1967 to 1970. He earned his Master’s in Education in 1968 and in 1982, he was appointed Dean of Academic Affairs at Lincoln College. He was named Vice President of Academic Affairs in 2002 and Provost in 2003. He remained as Provost until his retirement in 2008. He continues to serve the College as an adjunct professor in math.

In 1996 he was named to the MacMurray College Athletics Hall of Fame. In 1985, he received LC’s Alumni Achievement Award in Education and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by Lincoln College at commencement in 2014.

Tom and wife Connie live in Lincoln. Together they have five children and eight grandchildren.

Bill Gossett ’43
Friend of Athletics

It would be difficult to identify anyone who has been a stronger friend of the Lincoln College athletic program than Bill Gossett. For decades Bill has been a familiar face at Lynx games, but it is his strong support behind the scenes that has had the most impact on the athletic program at Lincoln College.

Gossett, a member of the Lincoln College class of 1943, is a well-known business and civic leader. He is a World War II U.S. Army Air Corps veteran, serving from 1943-1946. In 1947 he took over the family business, Gossett’s Cleaners, which later became Gossett’s Cleaners and Decorating, which he operated until 2001. He has been an advocate for education throughout his life, and served on the Lincoln Elementary School District 27 and West Lincoln-Broadwell school boards.

He was a member of the Lincoln College Board of Trustees from 1998 until 2013 and has served as a Trustee Emeritus since 2013. In 2013 he received Lincoln College’s Alumni Achievement Award in Business and Community Service. He has served as a member and on the boards of many local organizations and also volunteers at the Lincoln Heritage Museum.

Bill was the second of four generations of Gossetts to attend Lincoln College. He married R. Jean Brown (LC class of 1947) in 1949; they live in Lincoln and have two sons and eight grandchildren.
MUSEUM CORNER

Moseley named LHM Director

In January, Anne E. Moseley was named director of the Lincoln Heritage Museum at Lincoln College. Moseley has been with the Museum since 2011 and replaces Tom McLaughlin ’94, who left to accept a position in the financial services industry.

Anne holds a Bachelor’s degree in History from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (SIUE) and a Master’s degree in Public History from the University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS). She was awarded the Illinois State Historical Society’s Malkovich Award for Young Museum Professional in 2015 for her outstanding contribution to Collections Management and Exhibit development at the Lincoln Heritage Museum.

“I can’t express how fortunate and humbled I am to be entrusted with this responsibility. The Lincoln Heritage Museum is a great asset for Lincoln College and Logan County generally. I look forward to helping the Museum grow in the coming years,” Moseley said.

“I look forward to new opportunities but know I will greatly miss my Lincoln College family,” McLaughlin said. “However, knowing that Anne will be taking over the directorship of the Museum gives me complete confidence that I am leaving this institution in terrific hands.”

Moseley is certified by the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) as a Certified Interpretive Trainer (CIT), and is a member of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Steering Council, Abraham Lincoln Association, the National Association for Interpretation Region 5, and the Abraham Lincoln Center for Character Development.

The Lincoln Heritage Museum opened its 2018 special exhibit “Let Us Do Our Duty: Abraham Lincoln and Citizenship” on Lincoln’s birthday, Feb. 12. The new exhibit showcases examples of Illinois citizenship displayed by Abraham Lincoln, by volunteering to join the Illinois Militia, surveying a portion of Sangamon County, and fighting for the rights of citizens by debating Stephen A. Douglas. The exhibit includes pieces on loan from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill., and has been officially endorsed by Illinois Bicentennial Commission, and will be on display through December.

“We are delighted the Lincoln Heritage Museum exhibit is an official endorsed project of the Illinois Bicentennial celebration. As we recognize our 200th year of statehood, now’s the perfect time to pay tribute to the people, places, and things that are born, built and grown every day in Illinois,” said Tonya Lamia, Deputy Director of Illinois Bicentennial. “This exhibit that celebrates the life and legacy of Abraham Lincoln is a wonderful project to help celebrate and commemorate our state’s 200th birthday.”

“We are very excited to partner with the Illinois Bicentennial Commission to celebrate the 200th birthday of Illinois and inspire our visitors to help serve their communities” stated Lincoln Heritage Museum Director Anne Moseley.

The exhibit “Let Us Do Our Duty: Abraham Lincoln and Citizenship” has been generously sponsored by Edward Jones Advisor, Sal Pollice, of Lincoln.

“What an honor it is to have the opportunity to partner with Lincoln College and the Lincoln Heritage Museum in sponsoring the latest exhibit ‘Let Us Do Our Duty.’ We at Edward Jones believe ‘Citizenship’ and being an active participant in your community are traits that we have in common with Lincoln College and are excited to be a part of sharing this piece of Abraham Lincoln history,” said Pollice. “President Gerlach, Anne Moseley and the entire staff have done an amazing job presenting the historical displays and continue to offer a very sophisticated and hands-on view for all visitors to learn and enjoy.”

The “Let Us Do Our Duty: Abraham Lincoln and Citizenship” exhibit will continue to be open to the public until the end of December. For museum hours and any additional information, contact the Lincoln Heritage Museum at (217) 735-7399 or visit http://museum.lincolncollege.edu.

“Let Us Do Our Duty: Abraham Lincoln and Citizenship”
Lincoln College has received a $3,645 environmental grant for watershed awareness from Illinois American Water.

A total of $20,750 was awarded by IAW for community projects that improve, restore or protect watersheds to remind consumers of the vital need to protect water resources every day for future generations. LC was the only college among the nine grant recipients.

Dr. Julia Ossler, Lead Faculty for the Conservation Biology program at Lincoln College, said the funds will be used to raise awareness of watershed protection and the impact of stream-bank erosion along Sugar Creek at the Campbell Creekside Outdoor Center for Environmental Education at Lincoln College.

“Earth Day Work Day 2018

Earth Day was Sunday, April 22, but LC celebrated with a weekend “Earth Day Work Day” at the Campbell Creekside Outdoor Center for Environmental Education. Director Dennis Campbell and Conservation Biology Lead Faculty Julia Ossler were joined by LC students and community volunteers, who worked on a long list of projects on Saturday and Sunday, including:

- Barking and improving forest trails
- Removing dead vegetation from the demonstration pond
- Pulling weeds and removing dead stems from flowerbeds
- Building new sections of the Peoples of the Past Boardwalk
- Planting wildflower seeds in seedling trays and potting seedlings
- Transplanting plants to the forest garden and pollinator habitat
- Assembling and painting pre-cut bird houses
- Planting the vegetable garden in the Insectarium
- Clearing and making brush piles in the woodland garden
- Cutting bank stairs for creek access
- Cleaning out the Log Cabin after a hard winter
- Painting/applying stickers of nature designs on the Little Free Library box
- Pulling the invasive garlic mustard plant in the forest
- Cleaning up the archaeological dig pit
- Photographing nature
- Walking around the property and having fun
Class Notes

1950s

Jerry Fox, class of 1956, was recently awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from the University of Dubuque. A long-time Trustee of the University, Jerry served two terms as Chair of the Board. After graduating from LC, Jerry earned degrees from Northwestern University, then embarked on a career in financial writing, editing, and publishing. He started his own financial publishing company in 1990, selling that firm in 2006. After living many years in Lake Forest, Ill., Jerry and Joyce moved to Longboat Key, Fla., figuring they and had endured enough cold and snowy winters. Jerry continues to be active in a number of charitable and church activities in Longboat Key and Sarasota.

1970s

Ernest Schweit, class of 1970, was recognized by the Village of Grayslake, Ill., for the work of the Grayslake Arts Alliance, which he helped found. The GAA was one of several civic groups honored at a Village Board meeting in December for organizing public events at the Village Center. Ernest writes, “I’m so proud of the work our group has done to bring awareness of the arts to our town, and I’m looking forward to more of the same in 2018.” Earnest got his start in photography and journalism at LC; check out his recent work at his website https://www.ernestjschweitphotography.com/.

William “Bill” Koehn, class of 1972, was inducted into the Geneva Community High School Athletic Hall of Fame, along with his daughter Lindsey Koehn Hueftermann, in February 2018.

Robert Kenner, class of 1974, became a grandpa for the first time last year when baby Jemma (his daughter’s daughter) was born May 23, 2017.

Jim Maijala and Jeanne Deverell Maijala, class of 1975, have been living in Arizona since 1979. They write, “We think of Lincoln often and would like to reconnect with our class!”

1980s


Andrea (Myerson) Berman, class of 1983, writes that she and husband Richard are going on a cruise in September to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary.

1990s

Marquis Lewis, class of 1990, made a surprise visit to campus when he was in Lincoln for a high school wrestling tournament in December. After LC, Marquis attended Northern Illinois University where he contracted an illness which left him paralyzed from the waist down. His love of wrestling continues, however, and he is a volunteer coach for Carbondale High School. On arriving on campus, he ran into Baseball Coach Tony Thomas ’88 at the Lincoln Center and met President David Gerlach. The next day, Dean of Students Bridgett Thomas ’01, ’07, went to the high school tournament to visit with Marquis and took this photo—not realizing until afterward that another Lynx wrestler, Michael French ’96, was behind them, also waiting to say hello to Dean Thomas.

2000s

Ramiro Palmar, class of 2002, shared this about his February mission trip to Central America: “I had the honor to be part of a team that headed out to Honduras to build a bridge in five days for the community of El Pinal - San Jose. In that remote area, people walk a few miles out of their way in order to safely cross the river to go to work, have access to medical assistance, or for kids to go to school. I’m extremely thankful to God for giving me the opportunity to bring His love to the people of Honduras and for using my talents in ways I never thought of doing. On this trip I met some of the most amazing people that became family, worked with an amazing organization called Sowers4Pastors whose heart for years has been to empower the people of Honduras through community projects like this one, among many other things they do in the area to help. It was a lot of work, but working alongside a great group of people from Christ Church of Orlando, the crew of Sowers4Pastors and the great people of Honduras was an honor and an experience that I will not forget, and something I look forward to do again in the future.” Watch the video about the bridge building trip online at https://vimeo.com/255417354.

Courtney Jones, class of 2012, is looking forward to getting back into theatre work following her theatre company closing and time away due to health issues.

Abby Hammer, class of 2010, reunited with Andrew “Scotland” Smith ’10 in Scotland this spring. Abby and their daughter Scarlet traveled there so Scarlet could meet her Scottish family. They enjoyed castles, Scottish history, and of course soccer, both by playing as much as possible and going to a Glasgow Celtic game. Scarlet is now following in her parents footsteps by playing competitive soccer for Illinois Fire Juniors, a junior league for the Major League Soccer team Chicago Fire. Who knows… maybe she will play at Lincoln College one day!
In Memory

Our deepest sympathy to the families of those listed below. Due to space limitations, we are only able to publish each person’s name, age, class year, and date of death.

1930s

1940s

1950s

1960s

1970s

1980s

1990s

2000+

Memorials

Margaret E. (Irwin) Randolph
Margaret E. (Irwin) Randolph, wife of late LC Trustee Dr. John E. Randolph, passed away December 21, 2017 in Bloomington, Ill. She was 77. She was born in Beason, Ill., attended University of Illinois, and went on to graduate from the Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Springfield; she worked as nurse for three years at the University of Illinois Education and Research Hospital in Chicago. Margaret served as the President of the McLean County Medical Alliance, the CL Chapter of PEO and the Board of the Day Care of McLean County. She was an active member of Calvary United Methodist Church for 45 years, volunteered at Bro-Menn Hospital, supported the ISU-Mennonite School of Nursing, and established the Randolph Memorial Scholarship at Lincoln College. She is survived by her two daughters, Julie (Steve) Knipstein and Dr. Laura (Dr. Jerry Oakey) Randolph, five grandchildren, three brothers and two sisters.

Dr. Gilbert “Gene” Blaum
Former LC Trustee Dr. Gilbert “Gene” Blaum passed away March 26, 2018 following a car accident. He was 81. Blaum was born in New Holland, Ill., and graduated from Blackburn College and the University of Illinois Chicago. He practiced medicine in Park Ridge before moving to Lincoln in 1964. He served in Vietnam and was a decorated Army flight surgeon, was a founding member of Abraham Lincoln Memorial Medical Center and the Family Medical Center, and helped found the Logan County Paramedics Association, among numerous personal and professional accomplishments. He served as a Lincoln College Trustee from 1996 to 2001. He is survived by three children and six grandchildren.

Michael D. Ertel
Michael D. Ertel, former business faculty member, passed away December 3, 2017 in Bradenton, Fla. He was 76. Ertel moved to Lincoln in 1968 and taught business and accounting at LC for over 30 years. He had a positive impact on the many students and others he encountered; he was a member of Lincoln Rotary and Trinity Episcopal Church. He is survived by his mother Sara, brother Glenn, and daughters Kelly Pleasant and Kristin Spain, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Ruth Willard Redhead
Ruth Willard Redhead, former English and French faculty member, died October 29, 2017 in Minneapolis, MN. She was 92. She studied and traveled internationally, taught at LC from 1951 to 1955, and later taught French at South Dakota State University where she was given the title of Distinguished Professor in 1989, the second to be honored with that title from SDSU at that time. She retired in 1991. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert Redhead.
Upcoming Events

Golf Outing for Scholarship
Lincoln Elks Golf Course
July 27, 2018

Fall Semester Classes Begin
August 20, 2018

Learn from Lincoln, Live like Lincoln Lecture Series
September 6, 2018
Lincoln Heritage Museum

Fine Arts Fall Play
September 20-23 / 27-30, 2018
Johnston Center Main Stage

Grand Soirée
Lincoln Center
September 29, 2018

Family Weekend
October 19 – 21, 2018

Fine Arts Showcase
October 19, 2018
Johnston Center

Learn from Lincoln, Live like Lincoln Lecture Series
October 25, 2018
Lincoln Heritage Museum

Homecoming Week
November 5 – 10, 2018

Alumni Reunion
November 9 – 10, 2018

Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet
Davidson-Sheffer Gymnasium
November 9, 2018

Alumni Reunion and Awards Banquet
Davidson-Sheffer Gymnasium
November 10, 2018

Fine Arts Fall Play
November 14 – 18, 2018
Johnston Center Hostick Theatre

Winter Break
December 17, 2018 – January 8, 2019

2019

Fine Arts Spring Play
February 14-17 / 21-24, 2019
Johnston Center Main Stage

Kinzie / M.L. King Scholarship Breakfast
January 21, 2019
Davidson-Sheffer Gymnasium

Spring Break
March 11 – 17, 2019

Fine Arts Spring Play
March 27 – 31, 2019
Johnston Center Hostick Theatre

Fine Arts Vocal Performance Concert
April 12 – 13, 2019
Johnston Center Main Stage

Fine Arts Jazz Studies Concert
April 25 – 26, 2019
Johnston Center Main Stage

Honors Assembly & Commencement
May 11, 2019
Lincoln Center

LC Fine Arts had a busy spring!

In March, LC Jazz Studies students, accompanied by Jazz Studies Lead Faculty Denise La Grassa, took their original compositions to Chicago, where they spent a day recording in the Rax Trax Recording Studio. Rax Trax owner Rick Barnes donated his time and facilities to give the students a day of hands-on experience with a professional recording studio. In April, ten LC vocal music students and Vocal Performance Lead Faculty Laurie Lewis-Fritz traveled to New York City in April to perform with singers from all over the country under the direction of Grammy-winning composer and conductor Eric Whitacre. The performance was part of the Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) Concert series held at the Lincoln Center.