

LEWIS ALUMNI & FRIENDS

MONTHLY
JET-SETTER 

Alumni and Friends,

Happy May! As you can imagine, our campus has turned a lush shade of green and the trees and flowers are blooming. There is nothing like Lewis University in the springtime! In a few weeks, we will come together to celebrate the academic, personal, spiritual, and professional growth of our Class of 2024. These Flyers are poised to go out and create a better world and we are eager to see how they use all they have learned to do this!



Speaking of creating a better world, let us pray as a Flyer family for two upcoming Mission Trips of Lewis students, faculty, and staff members. In May, seven students from the Education Department, along with several faculty members, will travel to Browning, Montana to serve the people of the Blackfeet Tribe. Also in May, a Lewis group will travel to Bacolod City, Philippines for a two-week mission to build a house with Gawad Kalinga, an organization that provides housing and services for the poor. Students will also have the opportunity to meet and volunteer alongside Filipino college students. We ask God to keep all of the mission trip participants safe during their travels and bless this time of enrichment for each of them.

We invite you to take a look at some of the activities on campus, upcoming events, as well as some recent accolades of our alumni in this month's Jet-Setter. Good things are happening at Lewis University!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Save the date or register for an upcoming event. We hope to see you soon!

- **College of Nursing & Health Sciences Spring Event - Wednesday, May 1:** Join us for a presentation meant to increase awareness of how nurses impact the community. We will identify reasons for choosing nursing as a profession and discuss innovative solutions to address onboarding, the creation of a safe work environment, as well as health equity, diversity, and inclusion support for all RNs. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)
- **2024 Flyers Baseball Alumni Day – Saturday, May 4, 2024:** Join us as the Flyers gear up to take on the University of Indianapolis during "Rivals Week!" Before the first game at noon, we'll be honoring our senior athletes for their dedication and contributions to Flyer's Baseball. In between games, Lewis Baseball will proudly retire the uniform numbers of two legends: Hall of Fame pitcher, **Thomas Brennan #24**, and Flyers Baseball catcher, **Richard Baranak #19**, in a special ceremony. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)
- **Golden Flyers 50 Year Reunion – Saturday, May 18, 2024:** Save the Date! We will honor our Class of 1974 (50 years since graduation!) as they are officially inducted into our Golden Flyers society. ***All members of the Golden Flyers society (anyone who graduated in 1974 or earlier) are invited to this annual event.*** Don't miss this fun-filled day to reminisce with former classmates and fellow Flyers who are already a part of the society. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)
- **Flyer Golf Outing – Friday, June 14, 2024:** The 44th annual Flyer Golf Outing will take place at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Sponsorship opportunities are available. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)
- **EAA Airventure Oshkosh - Monday, July 22 -27, 2024:** Save the Date for EAA Airventure Oshkosh which will take place this summer. ***We will host an alumni gathering for Lewis alumni on Saturday, July 27 at Booth #53 at Aviation Gateway Park!*** [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#) Can't make the gathering on Saturday but will be at EAA during the week? Stop by Lewis' booth (#53) and register for a chance to win some cool Lewis swag items! To let us know you'll be stopping by during the week, [CLICK HERE.](#)

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you are someone who supports Lewis University, we invite you to tell us why. We would like to know your story and what drives your generosity toward Lewis! Please share your WHY with us by clicking [HERE.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know places on our Romeoville campus are named after De La Salle Christian Brothers who served our institution? The Brother Paul French, FSC Learning Resource Center is one of those places. Brother Paul French, FSC, President Emeritus was President of Lewis from 1967-1971 and a faculty member for more than 40 years. The first person ever to receive the title of President Emeritus at Lewis, Brother Paul was recognized for his leadership during the challenging years of the late '60s and early '70s. While other colleges and universities faltered during these times, Brother Paul promoted the development of a high-quality Catholic education at Lewis and laid a firm foundation for Lewis to add graduate programs and become a university.

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

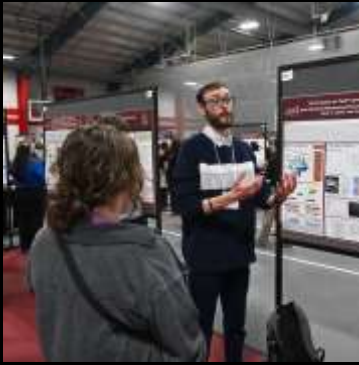
Easter at Lewis U

Easter Mass was celebrated at the Sancta Alberta Chapel, followed by the annual Easter Egg Hunt, hosted by the Christian Brothers! Lewis students had a ball hunting for eggs!



Celebration of Scholarship

Lewis' annual Celebration of Scholarship took place on April 17 and 18 in the Fieldhouse. Both graduate and undergraduate students showcased their academic focus areas and research findings for judges, peers, faculty, and guests. More than 200 students gave presentations and many of them will continue working on these projects next year. From improving charging capabilities for electric vehicles and tailoring nutritional supplements based on lifestyle and demographics, to improving retention of water in soil for better-growing conditions, Lewis students are determined to find solutions to make this a Better World. Go, Flyers!



Prospective Student Day

On April 20th, Lewis University Admissions welcomed prospective students and families to campus to learn more about a potential Lewis education. Ten alumni generously answered our call for volunteers to help that day with check-in, questions, tours, etc. Thank you to the following alumni volunteers who took time to share their Lewis experience with future Flyers and their families: **Olayinka Adekoya '86, Joseph Fennell '72, Vanessa Hall '23, Josephine Herrera-Rivera '16, Patrycja Junkiert '20, Kelly Kolton '17, Mary McGee '06, Janet Rodriguez Flores '18, Beth Sack '89 and Juanita Samms '21!**



Plane Pull

On Saturday, April 27, 47 teams competed at Lewis University in the 4th Annual Lewis Plane Pull to benefit Illinois Special Olympics. Special Olympics Illinois is a not-for-profit organization offering year-round training and competition in 18 sports for more than 21,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities and 9,000 young athletes ages 2-7 with and without intellectual disabilities. Lewis' Plane Pull is the ultimate tug-of-war competition with teams of ten raising funds to test their strength. Teams were placed in different divisions and each one had an opportunity to pull a United Airlines aircraft 12 feet as fast as possible. Participants raised more than \$52,000 for the Illinois Special Olympics. Congratulations to everyone who competed for this worthy cause!



EVENT PHOTOS

To check out photos from our alumni events, [CLICK HERE.](#)

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations **Evan Katsenis '19** for being awarded the 2024 IL State Board of Education Those Who Excel Award of Special Recognition.

Thank you to **Cherilyn Murer '75, Danuta Lesnicki '12, and Amanda Theel '11** for being panelists at our Women in Business discussion.

Congratulations to **Donna Herman '05 '07** and **Dr. Deborah Augsburger** who presented at the Learning Disabilities Association Conference in Orlando, FL.

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Mateo '18** who recently received a 2024 ISBE Those Who Excel Award of Special Recognition.

Congratulations to **Claudia Chavez-Miranda '05 '10, Amy Baldrige '10, Dr. Joel T. Martin '17 and Toni Hicks '15** on receiving a 2024 ISBE Those Who Excel Award of Meritorious Service.

Congratulations to the following Plainfield CCSD202 teachers for receiving Teacher of the Year awards: **Kayla Kobal '20, Kimmy Schuelke (Janousek) '07** and current Flyer **Christine Wolinski.**

Congratulations to the following Plainfield CCSD202 teachers for receiving Awards of Excellence: **Selena Landa '10, Amber Witry '16, Kim Schuelke '07** and **Stacey Vander Heide '13.**

ALUMNI DIRECTORY

Register or update your information in our Lewis Alumni Directory! This is a great way to connect with classmates and network with fellow Flyers. To update your information or register, [CLICK HERE.](#)

ARTS & IDEAS



Before Lewis University's Arts and Ideas program concludes for the summer, make sure to experience the Senior Capstone exhibition at the Wadsworth Family Art Gallery. Looking ahead? Explore the exciting lineup of events planned for the fall semester, [CLICK HERE.](#)

LOOKING TO MAKE A JOB CHANGE?

To check out Lewis U's Career Services resources for alumni: [CLICK HERE.](#)

Interested in volunteering as a classroom speaker, career advisor, mock interview analyst, or professional resource for students? Or maybe you'd like to represent your company at one of Lewis' job fairs? If so, please email alumni@lewisu.edu and we will connect you!

FREEWILL



Safeguard your loved ones with a will crafted via Free Will this month! Lewis University teamed up with FreeWill, an innovative online platform that seamlessly walks you through the creation of a legally binding will. It's quick, it's free, and you can finish it in under 20 minutes. Beyond ensuring the well-being of your loved ones, you also have the opportunity to leave a lasting mark on Lewis University, shaping your legacy for generations to come. To create your free will now [CLICK HERE.](#)



INTERESTED IN EARNING AN ADVANCED DEGREE?

Our [Organizational Leadership, MA](#) program has recently been redesigned to better provide you with the education you need to excel in your career. That's why we've implemented stackable micro-credentials that reflect the skills that employers actively look for in today's market.

[Apply now](#) or contact the Office of Graduate Admission at (815) 836-5610 or grad@lewisu.edu to learn more.



CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

To check out a comprehensive listing of all of our Lewis U social media channels, [CLICK HERE](#). Like and follow the Alumni social media pages to receive updates on upcoming events and stories from Alumni.

FLYERS ATHLETICS



With the conclusion of the winter sports season, Lewis Athletics holds the #11 position in the Learfield Directors' Cup Standings, showcasing our commitment to excellence across multiple sports disciplines. To stay up-to-date on all things athletics, [CLICK HERE](#).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN THE LEWIS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

Become an Alumni Representative! Alumni Representatives make a commitment to serve their alma mater with their time, talent, and treasure. Would you like to learn more about the responsibilities of serving as a Lewis U Alumni Rep? [CLICK HERE](#).

Better yet, join us for our next quarterly Zoom lunch on **Wednesday, July 17 at noon (CST)**! Hosted by our Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement, Brandon McGhee '08 '10, this meeting is a chance to connect during lunchtime and hear about the latest from the Lewis

Alumni Office! If you'd like to join us, simply email mcgheebr@lewisu.edu and Brandon will send you the Zoom link!

LEWIS U NEWS

To check out all the latest news from Lewis U, [CLICK HERE.](#)

MAKE A GIFT

Consider making a gift to Lewis University and make an impact on a Flyer's education. To choose from a variety of impact areas, please [CLICK HERE.](#)

Questions? Please email Kathleen Hillsman in the Alumni Office at khillsman@lewisu.edu.

Lewis University
1 University Parkway, Romeoville, IL 60446