

SPRING 2009

# LYNN

MAGAZINE

FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LYNN UNIVERSITY

## EXAMINING THE BIG QUESTIONS

New core curriculum  
transforms learning

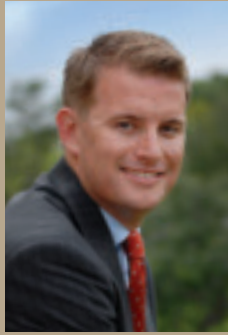
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## One for the timeline

Kevin M. Ross  
President



KARIN MARTINEZ

For me, this year at Lynn University brings to mind the markers in our university timeline—those pivotal years in Lynn’s history where giant leaps of progress were made. Now is another such time at Lynn University. Why? This fall we introduced a

wholly new and re-imagined core curriculum titled *The Dialogues of Learning*.

The *Dialogues* are, quite simply, transforming the way students learn at Lynn. With our new core, we are capitalizing on two of Lynn’s hallmarks—innovative teaching and small class size—to more fully engage students in their learning through in-depth dialogues and conversations with their peers and professors.

You can read about our new core in detail beginning on page 8, so I won’t attempt to retell the story here. I will tell you that designing a new core curriculum is the most important initiative in our strategic plan, *Lynn 2020*. In our plan, we state Lynn’s vision: “to be recognized as one of the most innovative, international and individualized small universities in America.”

A bold vision such as ours requires exceptional expertise, imagination, courage, hard work and determination—all of which our faculty, led by Vice President for Academic Affairs Cynthia M. Patterson, demonstrated in creating *The Dialogues of Learning*. This new core curriculum is distinctly Lynn’s and one that, we believe, will enable our graduates to leave this university better prepared than others to write, analyze, speak and participate in a global economy and society.

In essence, our new core curriculum is all about value. *The Dialogues of Learning* are increasing the value of a Lynn education and, by extension, that of a Lynn degree. It is an achievement that is “timeline-worthy”—the latest of many proud moments in Lynn history and many more to come.

LYNN  
MAGAZINE

### Editor’s Note

## 26 trees and counting

Lining the road to the northern part of campus is a beautiful green canopy formed by some 20-odd oaks. I’ve long admired these stately trees, but more recently, they have served as a living reminder of an important step we’ve made at *Lynn Magazine*.

Beginning with our last issue, we began printing the magazine on recycled paper. Among the savings are 1,798 gallons of water; 548 pounds of greenhouse gases, 298 pounds of solid waste and 26 fully grown trees. *Our trees*, I think.

In another move to benefit the environment, we’ve eliminated the shiny coating on our cover. This, combined with our new recycled paper (appropriately named “Utopia”), has given the magazine a softer, more contemporary look.

We like it and hope you do, too. Word from our profession is positive. Recently, we earned an Award of Excellence and a Special Merit Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District III. We competed with institutions across Florida, Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi.

We are continually striving to improve *Lynn Magazine*. Soon, we’ll e-mail a random sample of our readers, inviting them to participate in an online survey. If you hear from us, I hope you’ll take a few moments to share your thoughts about your magazine.

Before I leave the topic of recycling, though, I’d like to urge you join in. Please recycle this issue by sharing it with your friends—especially parents and students considering their choice of college.

Liz

—Liz McKey, editor

# ( FEATURES )

## THE DIALOGUES OF LEARNING

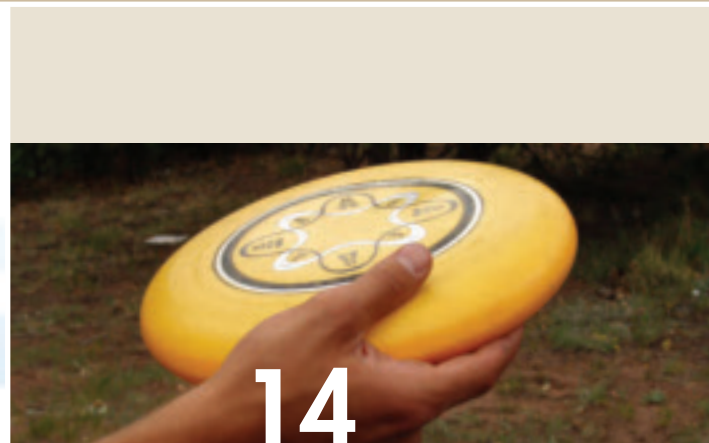
**8** Rigorous, relevant and innovative, Lynn's new core curriculum, The Dialogues of Learning, is drawing praise throughout and far beyond campus.

## BRINGING ULTIMATE FRISBEE TO BELIZE

**14** Peace Corps volunteer and Frisbee enthusiast Kyle Robert '06 is helping kids in Belize catch on to teamwork, fitness and self-esteem. Plus, meet two more Lynn alumni who have joined the Corps.

## KEEPING YUM

**18** Peanut butter, candy and nuts—who can live without 'em? That's what makes for a thriving business for Robert Nelson '94, owner of Edwards-Freeman Nut Co. in Conshohocken, Pa.



# ( DEPARTMENTS )

- 2** On Campus
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**On the cover:** Through Lynn's new core curriculum, The Dialogues of Learning, students examine the "big questions": Who am I, and who are you? What do we believe and why? And what is right, and what creates a just society?  
Photo by FJ Gaylor

SPRING 2009    VOLUME V    NUMBER 1

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Lynn Magazine is produced for alumni, parents and friends by the Office of Marketing and Communication at Lynn University, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton, FL 33431-5598  
e-mail: [lynnmagazine@lynn.edu](mailto:lynnmagazine@lynn.edu)  
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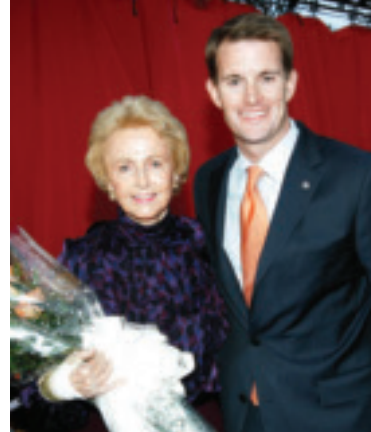
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Campus celebrates  
**groundbreaking**  
for new performing arts center

MARK FALCONE



GINA FONTANA

(From left) architect's rendering of the center; Elaine Johnson Wold and President Kevin M. Ross

**B**efore an enthusiastic crowd of friends, students and employees of the university, Lynn University broke ground on the future site of the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center Nov. 19, 2008, with a surprise unveiling and major gift announcement.

The assembled crowd heard from Lynn University President Kevin M. Ross, Conservatory of Music Dean Jon Robertson, Florida's "First Lady of Florida's Musical Theater" Jan McArt, and Boca Raton Mayor Susan Whelchel. But the final slot in the event's schedule was reserved for Elaine Wold her-

self, and the donors who had joined in her vision of creating a performing arts hub on Lynn's campus.

President Ross delivered on his October promise of sharing "big news" at the ceremony when he announced \$2.15 million in additional pledges to the university. The gifts were in answer to Wold's \$2.3 million challenge grant, which requires that fundraising for the \$14.3 million center be completed by December 2009.

Following a word of thanks and recognition for these donors, the several hundred attendees were treated to their first taste of what the future site will

look and sound like. On a 50-by-70 foot stage built specifically for the event, President Ross, Wold and the other donors pulled back the curtain to reveal the entire Conservatory of Music's Philharmonia in black tie, who gave a rousing six-minute performance in honor of the occasion.

President Ross then closed the event, saying, "Today we had the opportunity to come together to celebrate new beginnings and the unveiling of the future of Lynn. Thank you again, Elaine and all of our generous benefactors and everyone else, for making that future possible."

# The state of the university: How's our health?

Think of it as Lynn University's annual physical. Each year in the early fall President Kevin M. Ross reports on the state of the university in an annual address to the Lynn community. The good news: Lynn is in top form, fiscally and academically. Here's a look at our "chart":



## Core strength

Lynn's new core curriculum, *The Dialogues of Learning*, is "perhaps the most impactful enhancement of the year," President Ross notes. "We have made our courses more rigorous, practical and applicable to today's and tomorrow's challenges."



## Faculty

The number of full-time faculty at Lynn has increased by 11 percent over the past three years. Communication professor Erika Grodzki was awarded a Fulbright award to teach in Poland. She is the latest of four Fulbright scholars at Lynn.



## Fundraising

Lynn received \$7.22 million in pledges and cash gifts last year. Cash gifts totaled \$4.51 million, an increase of 43 percent over the prior year.



## Value

While college tuition nationally has risen by over 6 percent between 2007 and 2008, Lynn has capped its tuition rate increase at 3 percent. And while other institutions have increased student fees to counter budget deficits, Lynn has eliminated most fees.



## Financial Aid

More than 62 percent of Lynn students receive some form of financial aid. Last year, Lynn awarded more than \$15 million in scholarships.



## Enrollment

This year, when national SAT scores remained the same as in 2007, Lynn admitted one of its most impressive freshman classes, with a 26-point increase in mean SAT scores. The mean SAT score for honors program students increased by 57 points.



## Civic activism

Last year, students, faculty and staff gave back through the Make-A-Wish Campus Wish-Makers Program, Relay for Life benefiting the American Cancer Society, an outreach project to Haiti with Food For The Poor, and many more projects.



## Athletic achievement

The men's and women's tennis teams won the Southeastern Regional Championship and the Sunshine State Conference Titles in 2008. Coaches and student-athletes garnered a bevy of awards, and Fighting Knights "scored" an overall academic GPA above 3.3.

## Web bonus

Hear President Ross' address or download a transcript at [www.lynn.edu/stateoflynn](http://www.lynn.edu/stateoflynn).

ANDREW CARD



PAUL BEGALA



## Capitol Hill insiders pay pre-election visit to Lynn

On Oct. 31, just five days before the presidential election, Democrat Paul Begala and Republican Andrew Card faced off at the first of Lynn's 2008-2009 Dively Frontiers in Globalization Luncheon Lecture Series.

Begala, a political analyst on CNN's *The Situation Room* and former top aide to President Clinton, is the author of several *New York Times* best-selling books, including *The Third Term: Why John McCain is Really Just More George W. Bush*.

Card was chief of staff to President George W. Bush from Nov. 26, 2000, to April 14, 2006, the second-longest term by a White House chief of staff. Card now is a senior counselor at the public relations firm Fleischman-Hillard.

Weighing in on such topics as the economy, international affairs and experience vs. change, the two presented a lively exchange. Prior to the luncheon, Card and Begala took questions from Lynn students. Asked how history will view the presidency of George W. Bush, Card said, "I think of the word 'resolve.' I think of his resolve to follow through on his commitments to protect the country."

Begala countered, "While George Bush has been resolute, he has been resolutely wrong....Adaptability is one of the most important qualities of a president."

The Dively series is made possible by a generous grant from the George S. Dively Foundation, with additional funding provided by the R.A. Ritter Foundation.

**Learning about credit, for credit:**

Lynn was one of five universities highlighted in a CreditCards.com article, "More Colleges Offer Courses in Money, Debt Management." The article noted, "Professor James Kassar, math department chair, is out to make math relevant to daily life, and his class specifically studies the cost of credit and how to avoid credit card trouble.... Kassar wants his students to leave class understanding the difference between good and bad debt."



**Emerald Isle**

**playwright:** After David Fleisher, associate professor of English, had his short plays performed in Lismore, County Waterford, Ireland, the director of the Drama League of Ireland invited him to submit his work to the league's library. Now his collection of 15 short plays titled *Grave Concerns* belongs to the prestigious collection.

**Meet the veep:**

Philip (Phil) Riordan is Lynn University's new vice president for student development. Before joining Lynn, he was associate vice president of student affairs at Millersville University (Lancaster, Pa). His more than 24 years' experience in higher education also includes student affairs positions at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, James Madison University, Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine and Heidelberg College. He holds a doctorate in educational leadership and policies from the University of South Carolina, Columbia, and B.A. and M.A. degrees from Bowling Green State University.



**Oprah and Ellen...what's next?:** Two young and very talented pupils in Lynn's Preparatory School of Music dazzled audiences on two top TV shows recently. Michael Province, a 13-year-old violin virtuoso, was featured in a "World's Smartest, Most Talented Kids" episode of *The Oprah Winfrey Show* Nov. 13. Seven-year-old violinist Brianna Kahane performed on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* Jan. 12. Both Michael and Brianna are pupils of violin faculty-artist Carol Cole in the Conservatory of Music.



**Multimedia marvels:** A team from Lynn's Office of Marketing and Communication recently earned top honors from the Society for New Communication Research for innovative multimedia work. Winning the New Media Creation award in the academic division were Jason Hughes, director of media relations; Anthony Bosio, Web designer; Laura Vann '08, media relations specialist; and former graduate assistants Ashlea Evans '07, '08, and Jena Zakany '07, '08. The team collaborated on content for Lynn's Web site, including multimedia stories, blogs and student videos, as well as social media projects including Lynn's YouTube channel and Facebook presence. Bloggers included Vann and Evans, along with students Morgan Anderson, Joey McNamara, Gene Proulitzer, Jana Fuson and Allan Jogiell.





## Former SGA president speaks at United Nations Week

His voice has been heard. A Lynn senior who endured a difficult childhood in the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) shared his perspectives as part of a United Nations panel addressing strife in the region.

Bernard Londoni, a senior who came to Lynn in 2005 from a refugee camp in Burundi, was invited by the United Nations to serve as one of three panelists discussing Emmy-winning filmmaker Lisa Jackson's documentary, *The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo*. The film was shot in the DRC's war zones and documents the suffering of untold numbers of women and girls.

The panel discussion took place last Oct. 22 in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with United Nations Week 2008. Londoni attended while

he was in Washington completing an internship at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, where he worked with policymakers in the Africa Program.

"The panel discussion was a great experience," Londoni says. "We all agreed that there is urgency to break the silence. We encouraged all players in the DRC conflict to reconsider their policies and to put an end to the war, which has inflicted pain and trauma on the lives of hundreds of thousands of women."

Londoni will continue to speak out. After graduating from Lynn this coming May, he plans to return to his homeland and combat corruption.



## LYNN 360

Seen and heard  
from around  
the campus

"When you start out, you'll encounter a lot of doubters. Mute them. Do your thing, and out-work the others," said Internet entrepreneur and Audiopoint CEO **Brian Lichorowic '84**, speaking on campus as part of the College of Business and Management's CEO Speaker Series. ● **Napa Valley** came to a Lynn hospitality classroom via a live teleconference last fall with Mark de Vere, the Robert Mondavi master of wine. Students in sommelier Charlie Arturaola's wine appreciation class learned about wine production, from grape growing to bottling. ● To raise awareness of African children's hardships, students in Lynn's Rotaract Club held a **"sit-in"** in their classes last Oct. 7, forgoing chairs for the floor. The symbolic act was tied to the Invisible Children Movement focusing on the civil war in Uganda, where rebels have abducted children and forced them to become soldiers. ● **The Game of Life** became life-size for students observing National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week last fall. Students thought about choices and consequences in their everyday lives as they navigated their way around the supersized playing board. ● Student-athletes are **supporting our soldiers** in Iraq and Afghanistan as part of the Any Soldier Inc. campaign by sending packages of food and personal care supplies to troops each month.



**Catching breakfast:** President Kevin M. Ross maneuvers for a perfect landing as flapjacks fly off the griddle at the Founders Day breakfast.

CAROLINA GONZALEZ ATIENZA

## Flipping for Founders Day

From flying flapjacks in the morning, to raucous canoe racing in the afternoon and a family picnic and “oldies” concert in the evening, Founders Day on Oct. 30 was a day-long celebration of Lynn.

Held for the third year, the event has become a favorite campus tradition. Following President Kevin M. Ross’ welcome address, students, faculty and staff lined up in Perper Plaza to catch their breakfast—flying flapjacks made by the company Chris Cakes. They also had a chance to savor the past by taking in a historical photo display documenting the university’s evolution.

In the early afternoon, all eyes were on the lake by the Lynn Residence Center, as teams of three, including President Ross and two of his cabinet members, raced for the fastest time around the lake. Bragging rights for the year went to the Roos’ Blue Bayou team comprising alumni affairs director Matt Roos ’08, wife and Lynn volleyball coach Lynze Roos ’08 and brother and Lynn athletics marketing coordinator Jon Roos ’08.

### Take the Founders Day quiz

In the spirit of Founders Day, test your knowledge of Marymount/CBR/Lynn history by answering the questions below. (Answers appear upside-down at the end. No cheating!)



4



7



10

1. What was the name of the university’s first men’s basketball team and when was it founded?
2. What species was in abundance after a heavy rainfall on the Marymount campus?
3. What was the name of the boys’ dorm at Marymount?
4. Which current faculty member has served at the university the longest?
5. What athletics team was the first to win a national championship?
6. How many years did Donald E. Ross serve as president?
7. What member of the Marymount College staff works at Lynn today?
8. Where was the university’s library originally located?
9. What is the official name of the Caf?
10. What Marymount graduate is shown in this photo? (Hint: He’s still at Lynn.)

**Answers:** 1. Blue Marlins (founded at Marymount in 1972). 2. Flying catfish. 3. Patton Hall. 4. Professor of History John Pickering. 5. The 1987 men’s soccer team. 6. 35. 7. Lynn archivist Kathleen Clunan. 8. The second floor of Founders’ Hall (today the Lynn Student Center). 9. Elmore Commons. 10. Greg Malfitano ’75, today senior vice president for administration.



# Ask the Professor

## Five-Minute Interview with a Lynn Professor

### TED CURTIS

Hospitality Management

A member of the Lynn University faculty since 1998, **Ted Curtis** is an assistant professor of sports management in the College of Hospitality Management. He earned a B.A. in English from Tufts University, an M.S. in Education/Sports Management from Nova Southeastern University, and a J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University. Prior to joining Lynn, he was an award-winning journalist and an attorney specializing in sports law. Known for his engaging teaching style and innovative courses, he was voted Outstanding Professor of the Year last spring by undergraduate students.

#### What led you to teaching and to Lynn University?

Former athletics director Dick Young asked me to teach a sports law class here. From the minute I walked into the classroom, it just clicked. I was hooked.

#### What do you like most about teaching?

It sounds corny, but it's when I see a student "get it." It's a purely magical moment.

**One of your hallmarks is hands-on learning. An example is The Final Four Experience sports management study tour you and fellow professor Chad Barr taught last spring. The four-week class culminated with six days in San Antonio, working with the NCAA to put on its Division I Men's Basketball National Championship. Why do you feel this kind of experience is valuable?**

As Chad says, "It's absolutely healthy to integrate fun with learning." That's what we try to do. The best way for our students to learn about the sports business is by taking what they have learned in the classroom and going out and doing it. That can be something as simple as having our students work at a PGA Champions Tour tournament—which we do each spring—or something as elaborate as our Final Four class.

#### Does that teaching philosophy go hand-in-hand with Lynn's new core curriculum, the Dialogues of Learning?

Absolutely. It's about expanding the way that students think, and this new core is doing that. Probably the No. 1 thing that I love about Lynn is that we'll try anything if it's for the betterment of the student. That's an incredible atmosphere to be in.

#### What would be your dream class to teach?

It's already happening. We have The Final Four Experience, and we offered a class this semester called The Super Bowl Experience, where students learned about everything it takes to put on the biggest event in sports—broadcasting, league relations, security, marketing, everything. That's part of the joy of Lynn. If I say, "Here's my dream class," the response is, "O.K. If it is a significant learning experience for the students, go make it happen."

#### What's your favorite sports team?

I'm a lifelong New York Yankees fan, and my students know it!

#### What type of music do you enjoy?

My iPod has everything from ska punk to opera. And Springsteen, of course. I mean, who doesn't love Springsteen?



#### If you weren't teaching, what profession would you choose?

Now, I cannot imagine doing anything else.

—Liz McKey





GRAPHIC BY ANDY HIRST

# THE DIALOGUES OF LEARNING

## Lynn University's Core Curriculum for the 21st Century

Remember the required courses you took in college—English 101, College Algebra, Biology 101 and the like? Chances are, you got through them by doing a lot of memorization and along the way, you wondered, “Why do I have to take this class? When will I ever use or need it?”

By Liz McKey

In the language of education, these required courses are known by another name—general education. In recent years, the value of this mainstay of undergraduate education has been questioned not just by dubious students (along with parents and employers), but also by leaders in higher education—including those at Lynn University.

Two years ago, Lynn’s leadership developed a strategic plan, titled *Lynn 2020*, to transform the university into “one of the most innovative, international and individualized small universities

in America.” The number one strategic priority for fulfilling this vision was to “recast, partially restructure and intensify the focus of [Lynn’s] academic offerings.”

Answering that challenge was Lynn’s faculty, led by Vice President for Academic Affairs Cynthia M. Patterson. Following 18 months of intensive work, they created a new and distinctive core curriculum titled “The Dialogues of Learning.” Blending liberal arts education with professional study, Lynn’s core is comprised of courses that are interdisciplinary and both

internationally and domestically focused.

The word “dialogues” captures the essence of the new core, Patterson says. “Dialogue, debate, discussion, questioning, multiple perspectives, discernment and reflection are all intrinsic qualities of the educational experience. The new core represents what the Lynn University community believes is essential to undergraduate education and defines the knowledge, abilities and habits of heart and mind that will define a graduate of Lynn University.”

President Kevin M. Ross underscores her thoughts. “The Dialogues are the cornerstone of the Lynn academic experience,” he says. “It is our hope and expectation that our graduates will leave Lynn better prepared than others to write, analyze, speak and participate in a global economy and society.”

While the new core curriculum has been in existence for only one semester, it is already drawing praise—not only from students and faculty at Lynn, but also from the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), the leading national organization concerned with undergraduate liberal education. Said AAC&U President Carol Schneider, “Lynn’s newly articulated educational vision is inspirational.... Lynn has created a dynamic and coherent design for the college curriculum and for student accomplishment.”

### Asking the ‘big questions’

At the heart of Lynn’s Dialogues of Learning is the idea that learning requires questioning—thinking, asking, wondering why—along with robust discussion. Through the Dialogues, students examine the “big questions”: Who am I, and who are you? What do we believe and why? And what is right, and what creates a just society? Hence, Lynn’s new core centers on three

themes tied to those perennial questions:

- Dialogues of Self and Society
- Dialogues of Belief and Reason
- Dialogues of Justice and Civic Life

For each of the Dialogues, Lynn has published two sets of readings that every student will study and discuss in the first and second years—which Lynn calls the Foundational period. These six volumes, which constitute at least 50 percent of the course content, are the product of a meticulous selection process by the faculty and incorporate important writings from ancient to modern times.

**“Lynn’s newly articulated educational vision is inspirational.... Lynn has created a dynamic and coherent design for the college curriculum and for student accomplishment.”**

CAROL SCHNEIDER,  
AAC&U PRESIDENT

Explains sociology assistant professor and Dialogues chair Katrina Carter-Tellison, “We knew that we had to have our own material. An ordinary textbook merely surveys material and has very little depth. Our readers not only support the Dialogue themes, but also provide significant depth, encompassing the fundamental ideas and knowledge that span the ages and are

essential to a liberal arts education.”

For the third and fourth years, which Lynn calls the Transformational and Integrative/Capstone levels, the Dialogue seminars will be offered within students’ majors. This feature points to another distinction of Lynn’s new core: It is built into all four years of the undergraduate experience, not just the first two, as is the case at most colleges and universities.

### Engaged and interactive learning

The Dialogues courses are taught in a seminar format, as opposed to the lecture style, and they are taught by full-time faculty members. Lynn’s small class size is ideal for the kind of interactive learning that goes hand-in-hand with seminar courses.

“Because we are a small university, we are able to maintain a 17:1 student-faculty ratio, which allows our students to get the best-possible experience from the Dialogues,” says President Ross. “You cannot have every student in a large, overcrowded lecture hall participate in an interactive learning experience with a professor. That is why we do not have any large lecture halls at Lynn.”

By design, Lynn’s core is based on a learning-centered community, that is, one where faculty and students are equally important and mutually responsible participants in the learning process. The seminar format and small classes reinforce this responsibility; they demand harder work by both students and professors. Students must read and be prepared to discuss the material in class, and professors must be adept at engaging students in the learning process.

“It requires that professors not only know the material,” Carter-Tellison says, “but that they know how to stimulate and manage discussion in the classroom. That means asking the right



questions so that students get involved in their own learning. It also means being able to inspire students to such an extent that when they leave the classroom, they do the work required to continue the learning process.”

The dialogues/seminar approach also teaches students respect for others, the skills necessary to deepen their perspective and understanding, and the importance of reasoned discourse in making informed judgments.

### Beyond the basics

So, has Lynn tossed out English, math and science? Far from it.

As Carter-Tellison explains, “We haven’t sacrificed the content; we’ve just made it more relevant. The shift is to not less English, math or science, but *more* and in different ways.”

Instead of taking an English 101 composition class, for instance, students in the Dialogues courses read, write, analyze and debate ideas and issues in their readers and other works selected by their professors. One example is English associate professor Gila Aloni’s course, “The Myth(o)logical Hero,” in the Dialogues of Belief and Reason. Her students are exploring the notion of myth, heroes and belief systems through such wide-ranging works as Joseph Campbell’s *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, Roland Barthes’ *Mythologies*, George Lucas’ *Star Wars*, J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter* series and the John Wayne movie *El Dorado*.

Along the way, Aloni’s students are learning to read and think critically, to write—individually in the format of essays and journals, and collaboratively in a wiki (a Web page created and edited by a group)—and to deliver an oral presentation using PowerPoint. Throughout, students are becoming proficient in gathering and discerning information and in using technology.

Ultimately, Aloni says, the goal is for students to be able to judge information for themselves and to be able

to engage in a debate—governed not by emotion but by reasoning and logic. “It’s important for students to be aware of the information they receive, to filter it through their own minds and not just accept information because someone said it’s so. In other words, they need to ask, Is it myth or logical?”

Students on the one hand look at myth and belief systems at face value and, at the same time, use reasoning

“The Dialogues are the cornerstone of the Lynn academic experience. It is our hope and expectation that our graduates will leave Lynn better prepared than others to write, analyze, speak and participate in a global economy and society.”

PRESIDENT KEVIN M. ROSS

and tools of analysis to examine pre-conceived ideas, biases, prejudice and idealization. “I’m amazed by students’ rich use of rhetoric and depth of ideas,” Aloni says of the resulting discussion.

In total, the Dialogues seminars number more than three dozen and include such intriguing titles as “Everything I Know About Myself I Learned from Dr. Seuss,” “Digital Identity,” “The Journey Toward

Equality in America: From King to Obama,” and “The Emerging Self in the 1960s.”

### Science and math for the rest of us

In the realm of science, Lynn has given serious thought to what students need to know about the subject. Instead of single-focused biology, chemistry or physics, students now take the course “Introduction to Scientific Literacy,” which explores the methods, discoveries and theories of science from an interdisciplinary and historical perspective.

Leading that effort has been biology associate professor Gary Villa. “The truth is, the old watered-down science course for non-majors never really worked well,” he says. “We were just teaching students a lot of interesting facts that didn’t help them understand what science is, how it works or how it affects them.”

So to help students grasp those important concepts, Villa has replaced the old textbook for non-science majors with a book by popular author Bill Bryson, *A Short History of Nearly Everything*. “The focus isn’t on dry facts; it’s on how did we learn this and why was it important,” Villa says. “We’re covering a couple of chapters a week and discussing them in class. The freshmen are coming up with some fantastic ideas. I’ve been blown away by some of the points they make.”

And in place of College Algebra, Lynn students are learning math for the real world through an “Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning.” This course is all about how data, statistics and other mathematical information impact everyday life, or as mathematics assistant professor Michael Grigelis puts it, “becoming a better-informed consumer of quantitative information.” Students are gaining an understanding of loan agreements, the credit and mortgage industry, and other challenging and useful concepts. It does not get any more “real” than that.



Dialogues of Learning Steering Committee members (back row, from left) Lizbeth Keiley, Marcheta Wright, Rebecca André, Cynthia M. Patterson, Valerie Fabj, Shaun Exsteen, Gila Aloni, Joseph Hall, (front row, from left) Anna Krift, Gary Villa, Katrina Carter-Tellison and Maureen Goldstein

Lynn's new core requires four years of both Quantitative Reasoning and Scientific Literacy. After the first year, students can fulfill these requirements by selecting from courses within the Dialogues or in their major.

#### The 4th Dialogue...the J-Term

Lynn has left no stone unturned in its new core curriculum—including the 2-1/2 week period between the fall and spring semesters. Formally titled the Dialogues of Innovation, but more commonly known as the January Term, or J-Term, this mini-term is all about creative learning through special proj-

ects, study abroad and internships. While every student in the day undergraduate program must take a J-Term course each year, they have a vast array of choices—74 to be exact.

Leading the faculty collaboration behind all those courses have been Anna Krift, assistant professor of international relations, and Shaun Exsteen, associate dean of the Institute for Achievement and Learning.

Says Krift, “We asked faculty, ‘What is your passion? Maybe you design a course around that. Or, if you want to teach within your field, how would you do it differently?’ ”

“This was a time for faculty to think outside the box,” Exsteen adds, “and they amazed us with their ideas.”

From those ideas sprang such imaginative classes as performing an off-Broadway production in New York City; studying and attending the presidential inauguration in Washington, D.C.; and interning with the ESPN X Games in Aspen, Colo. Others, like Krift's course, “Talking Trash and Tracking Turtles,” were closer to home but no less impressive. In her environmentally focused class, students collected and analyzed trash from local beaches and met with biologists at

wildlife centers to learn about turtle migration, nesting sites and humans' impact on beaches.

Exsteen, a native of South Africa, taught an international relations course with scholar in residence Daniel Silke, a noted political analyst specializing in South African politics and global issues. Silke was one of three experts presenting their ideas in a Dialogues of Innovation Speaker Series. Futurist Andrew Zolli launched the series on Dec. 2, discussing "Excellence and Innovation: Exploring the Road Ahead," and Melissa Harris-Lacewell, associate professor of politics and African American studies at Princeton University, spoke Jan. 12 on "The Significance of Race in U.S. Politics."

Ideas for J-Term courses also came from Lynn students themselves. Says Dialogues Chair Carter-Tellison, "In an open forum with students last spring, we said, 'This is your J-Term, too. What kinds of things are you interested in?'" Among the courses resulting from students' input was a seminar on DNA evidence and the death penalty.

Beyond the fascinating topics, the J-Term offers something else—an exceptional level of focus and interaction, say Krift and Exsteen.

"It's a wonderful opportunity," says Krift, who benefitted from a J-Term in her own undergraduate education. "How often do you get the chance to immerse yourself in one topic or to study with a scholar in residence for an extended period?"

Adds Exsteen, "The interaction is so different from that in an ordinary class. Faculty learn so much more about the students and the students learn much more about each other."



**"The truth is, the old watered-down science course for non-majors never really worked well; we were just teaching students a lot of interesting facts that didn't help them understand what science is, how it works or how it affects them."**

GARY VILLA, BIOLOGY  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

### Measuring the learning

With any credible endeavor, there must be measurable results—and Lynn's new core curriculum is no exception. What are students learning, and how do we know they are learning? Here is yet another distinction of the Dialogues: progressive and measurable student learning outcomes.

"We can't simply proclaim everything is great and the core is working," says Carter-Tellison. "We have to go in with measurable components so that in every course, at every level, we can gauge students' learning."

And so, built into the design of every Dialogue seminar are specific criteria, or rubrics, by which each skill set—critical thinking, communication, and information and technological literacy—is measured. And especially noteworthy, these rubrics are developmental, meaning they require increasing levels of competency and ability, from the freshman through the senior year.

### The work continues

Lynn's new core curriculum is remarkable in another aspect: it was written and implemented in just 18 months—a blink of an eye at academic institutions.

Says Carter-Tellison, "The officials at the AAC&U told us the places where this process [restructuring the core] works best are the places where leaders say, 'we're going to do this' and then they do it, rather than spend five years talking about it."

But, she is quick to add, Lynn's important work is continuing in refining The Dialogues of Learning. "This is an ongoing process. There is no end. Curriculum is living and breathing. It's constantly evolving."

Much like learning itself. [LYNN](#)





The January Term, or J-Term, was a time for creative learning at its best. Among the offerings were (clockwise) "ESPN Winter X Games," a course exploring the world's premier extreme winter sporting event in Aspen, Colo.; "Talking Trash and Tracking Turtles," a Florida coastal environmental course; scholar in residence and noted South African political analyst Daniel Silke; and "Witness to History: The 2009 Presidential Inauguration," an academic seminar in Washington, D.C.





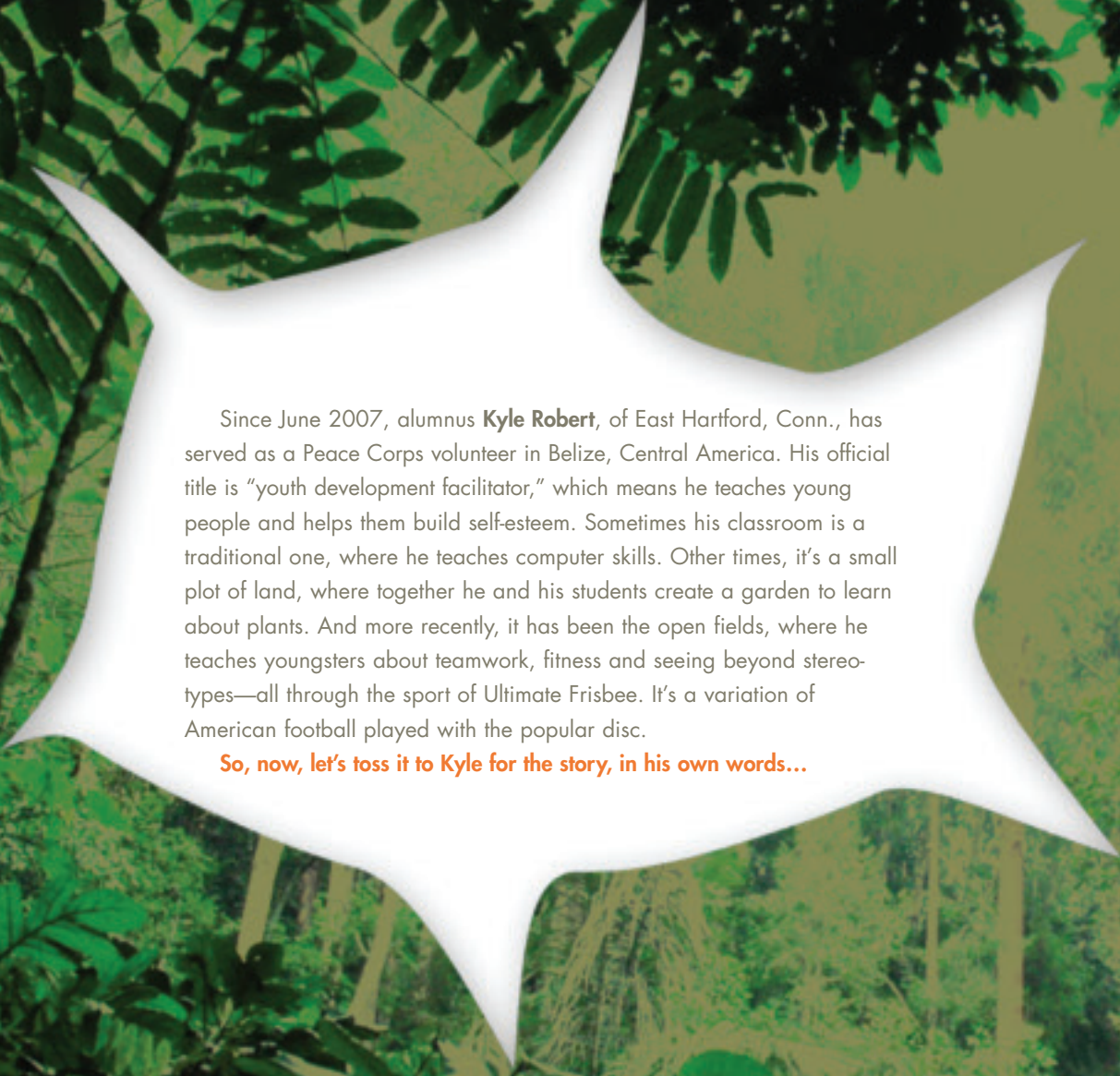
Peace Corps volunteer Kyle Robert '06 is teaching kids in Central America important lessons about life through the unlikeliest of "subjects."

# Bringing Ultimate Frisbee to Belize

By Kyle Robert '06







Since June 2007, alumnus **Kyle Robert**, of East Hartford, Conn., has served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Belize, Central America. His official title is “youth development facilitator,” which means he teaches young people and helps them build self-esteem. Sometimes his classroom is a traditional one, where he teaches computer skills. Other times, it’s a small plot of land, where together he and his students create a garden to learn about plants. And more recently, it has been the open fields, where he teaches youngsters about teamwork, fitness and seeing beyond stereotypes—all through the sport of Ultimate Frisbee. It’s a variation of American football played with the popular disc.

**So, now, let’s toss it to Kyle for the story, in his own words...**





Kyle Robert with young members of one of his Ultimate Frisbee teams. The sport has caught on at primary, middle and high schools in Belize.

## They call me Coach Kyle.

I'm a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer serving in Belize, Central America. I organize, train and coach sporting events and outdoor activities throughout the Cayo District. My main focus has been bringing

the sport of Ultimate Frisbee to my district in a sustainable way where it can naturally spread throughout the country.

I realized early on that youths here are open to learning any new sport, as long as people are willing to take the time to teach them how to play. The thing is, these youths really don't have much when it comes to after-school activities or organizations. Once school's out, a large percentage of them either go home to watch American television, or if they don't have TV, they walk around the side streets of town with an

aimless, bored expression on their faces.

I wanted to change that. I wanted to give them something positive, something that could teach teamwork, social skills, listening skills, the benefits of exercise, good health and fitness, and respect for one another—and raise their self-esteem. All these lessons can be taught through coaching any sport to youths, as long as you're coaching it in a positive way.

I began Ultimate Frisbee Belize simply by meeting some youths in town at a park near my house. I found that they came to the park on a regular basis and were all close friends. After talking to them, I had an idea: I decided to go back to my house and return to the park with a few Frisbees tucked away in my pack.

It all started with a young man who was interested in seeing how to throw a Frisbee. I threw him the disc, but I didn't just throw it to him. I threw it with the style, speed and accuracy that only a passionate Ultimate Frisbee player knows. He was impressed,

as was I, that he caught it. His friends took notice. And with that one throw, they caught the excitement for an organized team sport that has been played around the world for more than 40 years.

I quickly explained the rules of the game to the young group, and within a few days we were playing. Eventually, other people saw us playing and came to get a closer look. Some even joined in the fun. The kids asked me if I could introduce the sport to the primary schools and high schools around the area.

And so, I presented Ultimate to 10 schools, going from class to class, giving the general idea of the sport. For each school, the faculty and I set up practices once a week. The youths quickly learned how to throw the disc in different ways. They began to bring their teams together for practice on days that I wasn't scheduled to coach.

Within two months, we had our first primary school tournament with more than 60 participants. They competed with excellent sportsmanship and without any coaches or parents overseeing their teams from the sidelines. They accomplished all this because, like me, they understand that having something to do, being part of a team, and learning something new is not

I'll never forget the kids I've coached. They have given me a greater gift than I could ever return—the gift of having a purpose and a feeling of peace in this crazy world we live in.

## Two more grads enter Peace Corps

Two more Lynn graduates have begun two-year stints with the Peace Corps. They are **Kevin Wilkins '07** and **Jackie Munoz '08**. Both have a strong record of community service before and during their years at Lynn.

Last October, Wilkins became an agroforestry extension agent in the Kédougou, Tambacounda, Sénégal in Africa. He's helping farmers implement methods that will prevent further deforestation and enhance crop yield. "I was thrilled at the prospect of working in agriculture with the Peace Corps during these trying times and the ongoing food crisis," he says. "The work that I will be assisting with will provide more food for the mouths of the hungry and generate income for the hard-working farmers and their families."

Already in his young life, Wilkins has a wealth of experience. Before enrolling at Lynn, he was a member of the United States Marine Corps, achieving the rank of corporal. While at Lynn, he interned at The White House in the Office of Presidential Personnel and later worked as a staff assistant there. He also worked as a volunteer nursery school teacher with Cross-Cultural Solutions in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, and most recently was

Jackie Munoz in Cambodia



Kevin Wilkins with young friends in Sénégal

special assistant to the director at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency in Washington, D.C.

Munoz, a native of New York, N.Y., who has lived in Managua, Nicaragua, with her family since she was 6, began her service in February. Her lifelong desire to help others less fortunate was strengthened while at Lynn, especially after participating in a study abroad program in Cambodia her senior year. While waiting for her Peace Corps assignment, she continued her humanitarian work in Nicaragua, volunteering at a public hospital for children and serving as a helper/translator for Rotary International. For the Peace Corps, she will work in a community development program in Africa. It's one important step toward her ultimate goal.

"I hope to one day work for the United Nations," Munoz says. "For now, I want to experience helping others firsthand before I eventually do so from a desk or office."

*Editor's Note: Readers who would like to read about Wilkins' experience in the Peace Corps can visit his blog, "At Home A World Away," at [www.wilkins-kevin.blogspot.com](http://www.wilkins-kevin.blogspot.com).*

only so much better than doing nothing at all, it's fun. They just needed the opportunity.

Introducing Ultimate Frisbee to high school-level students is another matter. By nature, they aren't as open to new possibilities as the younger students. This challenge solved itself, though, because I coached a number of middle school-aged youths who entered high school this fall.

This past summer, I held training sessions once a week, with practices, scrimmage games and discussions about strategy and the spirit of the game. I also showed some movie clips on champion Frisbee games.

In all of this activity, the most important thing is that kids are coming

together who wouldn't have otherwise. In the process, they've overcome many stereotypes—for example, that kids are disobedient, dumb or dangerous just because they come from a particular area. When they have a chance to spend time with one another, playing a game that they love to play, everything else just fades away. They forget the negative stereotypes—thoughts that, if not dealt with now, could get them into trouble later on.

In the next primary school tournament, we anticipate more than 90 youths from eight or more schools to join in the competition.

I'm also going to train at least one teacher from every school how to coach Ultimate Frisbee. This will not only

make the training aspect of my job a lot easier, it will also allow me to focus on expanding the sport by making the leagues more organized and the tournaments larger. My hope is that we'll continue to spread this great sport around the world.

Most important, though, are the kids. All it takes is one positive role model to make a difference in a kid's life. I'll never forget the kids I've coached. They have given me a greater gift than I could ever return—the gift of having a purpose and a feeling of peace in this crazy world we live in. [LYNN](#)


*Editor's Note: for more about Kyle Robert's work, visit his blog at [www.kyleinbelize.blogspot.com](http://www.kyleinbelize.blogspot.com).*





ILLUSTRATION BY ANDRÉIA BRUNSTEIN/CAROLINA GONZALEZ ATIENZA





# With a premium peanut butter, and candies and treats galore, life is sweet for alumnus Robert Nelson, owner of the Edwards-Freeman Nut Co.

By Debbie Stern

Robert Nelson '94 is not only “just like a kid in a candy store,” he owns the store. The former Lynn University hospitality major (hotel and restaurant management) is the president and owner of Edwards-Freeman Nut Co. in Consohocken, Pa., a company that dates back to 1899, when it was owned by the American Peanut Corp. of Suffolk, Va., to process and distribute Virginia-grown peanuts.

Originally from the Philadelphia area, Nelson spent one more year in Boca Raton after he graduated from

Lynn, weighing his options and soaking up the rays. He was reluctant to leave sunny South Florida.

“I loved it,” he says. “If I had it my way, I would still be going to school. I especially miss Spanish River Park (his favorite Boca Raton beach), and all my friends.” But he keeps in touch, and his parents live in Highland Beach, giving him ample reason to visit several times a year.

But candy—and peanut butter—called from up North.

“When my uncle retired, I decided



JONATHAN NIMERFROH



Robert Nelson has transformed the company store into a charming, old-time nut and candy "landmark." As president, he reserves the right to sample the merchandise occasionally.

to buy him and his family out and continue this great tradition of a business," Nelson says. And that he did.

The company, its products and store have a long history (see sidebar), and its legend lives on. Under Nelson's watch, the factory outlet store was converted into an old-fashioned nut "museum" and candy "landmark." Artifacts and memorabilia relating to the peanut industry decorate the walls and aisles, and are savored by scores of browsing customers each day.

Nelson also has successfully maneuvered the 1800s company into the 21st century with a huge mail order and online business. He does very little advertising. "People aren't reading papers anymore," he says. "It's all about the Internet now."

But regardless of its modern presence, the store is a throwback to the days of wooden floors, penny candy and personal service. Items range in price from 10-cent gum balls to elaborate gift baskets, and there are even Radio Flyer Little Red Wagons filled with goodies for sale.

Filling the large, warehouse-like building are rows and rows of candy—old favorites such as Sugar Daddy Pops, Mary Janes, Candy Buttons, Wax Bottles, Licorice Laces, JuJubes, Jawbreakers, Good & Plenty, Chuckles, and Rock Candy Crystals; traditional fare like Reese's Pieces, Jolly Ranchers, Tootsie Roll Pops, Malted Milk Balls and Nonpareils; decadent Ghirardelli chocolate and chocolate-covered pretzels; and even sweet treats from other



“IT’S like being a kid in a candy store, the most awesome job I could do.”

lands, like Belgium, Spain and Peru. And for the more health-conscious, the company markets dried fruit, pretzels, snack mixes, spices and more. There are even baker’s and confectioner’s supplies for those who make their own products.

Then there are 600 varieties of nuts: cashews, mixed nuts, walnuts, pecans and of course, the trademark peanut butter, almond butter and cashew butter made on the premises that brings tour buses and school field-trips from far and wide. The Old Dominion peanut butter trademark of 1905 is considered to be the oldest registered product in the industry.

Local TV channels and the national Food Network channel have filmed segments about the store. And a local weatherman even has a mix of nuts named after him for sale at the store.

Nelson likes to give back to the community that Edwards-Freeman has been part of for more than a century. As just a few examples, the company donates peanut butter to children’s hospitals, the Ronald McDonald house and nursing centers during Peanut Butter Lover’s Month in November, donates candy to the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia’s largest fundraiser, ushers in the Little League baseball season with its Baseball-Peanuts Kids Day, and even offers its patrons the opportunity to “cure a curse” by walking over a bed of peanut shells on Friday the 13th.

Before he wandered into candy land, Nelson toyed with a lot of possibilities when he graduated from Lynn. “I thought about doing other things, but felt this was the most beneficial,” he says. He grew up in retail, and that’s what he says he does best.

“I’m a great salesman. If you can sell, you can sell anything,” he says. With 300 to 400 customers a day (some of them very well-known, although he won’t divulge names—the candy cravers can rest in their anonymity), he must be doing something right. He’s a hands-on president, “I’m always working, running around, buying new products, going to shows, talking to importers, exporters.”

And he keeps a watchful eye on the inventory.

“I like things done my way. I like my store to be stocked, and full to the top,” he says.

He doesn’t “eat” into the profits, but there are certain perks, like the caramel apple he was munching for breakfast.

“It’s like being a kid in a candy store, the most awesome job I could do,” he says. “I love coming into work every day.”

Nelson is a happy guy. “I have a thriving business, a great manager, great employees, I went to Lynn University, and have lots of friends,” he says, summing it up.

After all, he owns the “coolest place on earth.” LYNN



## IT ALL STARTED WITH PEANUTS

- 1899** The American Peanut Corp., predecessor to Edwards-Freeman Nut Co., was established in Suffolk, Va., to process and distribute Virginia-grown peanuts.
- 1902** The company began producing peanut butter.
- 1905** The company received the Old Dominion peanut butter trademark, considered to be the oldest registered product in the industry.
- 1930** Edwards-Freeman Nut Co. began as a branch of the American Peanut Corp. (under the name of Wm. T. Millikin Co.). Located at 234 S. Front Street in Philadelphia’s Old Dock Street produce area, the company was engaged in the sale of peanuts and coconuts.
- 1935** Two employees of the Millikin division, William Edwards and Eldridge Freeman, purchased the Philadelphia outlet.
- 1959** The Front Street property faced demolition as a result of the construction of I-95 (Delaware Expressway), and Edwards-Freeman moved to its present Conshohocken location.
- 1990** Wrigley Nut Products Co. purchased Edwards-Freeman to “perpetuate the historic aspect of the peanut industry.”
- 1997** Robert Nelson bought the Edwards-Freeman Nut Co. and serves as president.



## A KNIGHT'S DAY

Eve Skardzinska, women's basketball



### Former tennis standout among finalists for "Woman of the Year"



Alexandra Schunk, the 2007-08 Lynn University women's tennis team captain, was among the 10 finalists in Division II for the NCAA Woman of the Year

award. She is the first female athlete to earn such an honor at Lynn.

The award acknowledges student-athletes who have excelled in academics, athletics, leadership and community service.

Schunk, a native of Eggolsheim, Germany, graduated from Lynn last May with a degree in hospitality management. She is currently completing her graduate studies at Lynn in the M.B.A. program.

For three years (2005-08), Schunk was a letter-winning member of Lynn's women's tennis team, earning ITA All-America honors in singles in 2006 and in both singles and doubles in 2008. Schunk was president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, a member of the Sports Management Club and an honors student.

Schunk has been widely recognized for her talents, both on campus and off. In her senior year, she was named a CoSIDA/ESPN the Magazine Third Team Academic All-American, earned her second consecutive ITA Southeast Region Arthur Ashe Jr. Leadership and Sportsmanship Award, and was selected as the 2008 Lynn University Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Meet Eve, a 6-foot-2-inch senior and international business major from Wasilkow, Poland, who plays center for the Fighting Knights. We catch Eve during the preseason, when her days are filled with classes and practice.

**6 a.m.** My alarm rings. I am really tired because I stayed up late last night finishing my take-home test. I get dressed and make sure my roommates—who are also my teammates—are up before I leave.

**6:15 a.m.** I'm at the gym. The team is upset and tired because we had to wake up so early just to shoot for an hour. Practice goes by really fast.

**7:45 a.m.** I have a one-on-one meeting with Assistant Coach Niki Washington. She likes to check on us to make sure everything is going well at school and in life. I catch up with my teammates at the Caf for breakfast; this is our favorite meal of the day—an omelet with peppers, tomatoes, onions, mushrooms, ham and cheese.

**9 a.m.** I have just enough time to take a nap before my first class.

**10 a.m.** I'm drowsy and sitting in my International Monetary Systems class, trying to understand what "Options Markets Hedges" are. On the way back to my room, I grab a Venti Latte from Christine's; it's going to be a long day.

**11:30 a.m.** I'm in my room for about 10 minutes to pick up my books and practice stuff before I run to the cafeteria for a quick lunch.

**Noon** I'm in the locker room around 30 minutes before practice. Quickly scanning through our schedule, it seems it's not going

to be that bad today. I say out loud that I'm happy we're not doing a drill I really don't like. Oh no—bad timing! Right when I say this, Coach Nikki Sullivan passes by. I hope she did not hear what I said!

**12:30 p.m.** We start practice, and it was harder than I had thought because we had lots of running. At the end, we have to shoot 100 free throws. I'm upset because I only make 82 shots. My goal is 90 percent.

**3:30 p.m.** We're done with practice. A fast shower and icing of the knees and I'm off to my next class, International Studies in Business.

**4 p.m.** Dr. [John] Cipolla collects our tests and goes over the questions. It's hard to judge how I did, but I am pretty sure I did well.

**5:15 p.m.** Class is over, and my teammate who had this class and I go to dinner at the Caf. The rest of the team is already there. Before my next class, I meet a couple of classmates to review material for our weekly quiz.

**6 p.m.** My Entrepreneurship, Ethics and Creativity class starts with a quiz on four chapters. I think I aced it. Following the quiz, Dr. [Eldon] Bernstein shows a video about entrepreneurs and their journey to success.

**7:15 p.m.** Class is over, but it's not time to relax yet. I meet with my group in the library to discuss our



IT CAN'T BE  
6 A.M. ALREADY!

YUM! NO ONE DOES OMELETS  
BETTER THAN THE CAF.



I THINK COACH JUST  
OVERHEARD MY COMMENT  
ABOUT DRILLS.



project. We need to come up with a new product or service and write a business plan. We decide on a wine delivery service. I'm responsible for advertising.

**7:45 p.m.** I'm back at the gym ready to shoot. Three of my teammates are already there, but leave soon because they've been shooting for an hour. Since I'm by myself, I use the "gun" to work on my shots. It's a catch-and-shoot machine that collects shots and automatically passes the ball.

**9 p.m.** I'm back in my room, with homework still to finish.

**10 p.m.** Finally, it's time to relax. I decide to go hang out with "my volleyball girls" because I haven't seen them in a while. I get tired soon, though, since my day was long and hard.

**Midnight** I'm ready to sleep. I'm excited about sleeping in tomorrow. I don't have to get up until 9 a.m.  
*Dobranoc!*—Good night!

ONLY 95  
MORE TO GO.



GREAT TEAMWORK - OUR CLASS  
PROJECT IS GOING TO BE A  
WINNER.

PHOTOS BY CAROLINA GONZALEZ ATIENZA

## Can't make the game? Catch all the Fighting Knights action online

Want the latest news on your favorite Fighting Knights teams? Check out [www.lynn.edu/athletics](http://www.lynn.edu/athletics) for the latest sports news, scores, statistics and schedule information.

And if you can't attend a game, no problem. Lynn athletics has you covered with the best in-game services

around. Listen or watch the game live on the Web through our partnership with Stretch Internet Radio, or follow along with our interactive live stats courtesy of CBS College Sports Network. Go Knights!

## GREETINGS

### Bridges and benchmarks

We seek to build bridges to our community. In the university's endeavor to stay connected with our alumni, parents and friends, we continually ask ourselves how to communicate and stay in touch with you. Lynn's alumni receive communications not only through publications, but also over the Internet, through e-mails, text messages and blogs. We want to stay in touch in ways that work for you!

Another way we stay engaged with our constituents is through personal visits. Whether these visits occur at an event,

reception or in a home or office, these are opportunities to really get to know one another and to share the stories of Lynn University. We are delighted to meet new Lynn University alumni, parents and friends and always look forward to your involvement.

We measure our growth by benchmarks—just as a parent observes the growth of a precious child, we carefully watch for progress and development. And we stop to celebrate when there are moments to bring attention to the university's advancement. The ceremony

to dedicate the new Diamond TwinStar aircraft at the Burton D. Morgan School of Aeronautics in October was such an occasion. In November, the entire campus joined with dignitaries and benefactors to enjoy an awesome groundbreaking ceremony for the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center (see story on page 2).

We have great reason to build bridges and to stay connected with you so that together we will watch this university continue to thrive.



Judi Nelson  
Vice President for Development and  
Alumni Affairs

### Raising friends and funds for Lynn

Two annual events—the 17th Frank A. Robino Jr. Golf Classic and the Sixth Gingerbread Holiday Concert—raised significant funds for scholarships for Lynn students. Sponsored by Gerrits Construction and held Nov. 3, the Robino Golf Classic contributed more than \$82,000 for student-athletes. The Gingerbread Holiday Concert, presented Dec. 14 by the Friends of the Conservatory of Music, with Bank of America as title sponsor, generated more than \$50,000 for student-musicians in the Conservatory of Music.

(Above) Robino Golf Classic participants President Kevin M. Ross, Jeff Poirier, Board of Trustees Chairman Christine E. Lynn, Gary Lambert, Mike North and David Gerrits; (right) Santa hears little ones' wishes at The Gingerbread Holiday Concert



PHOTOS BY GINA FONTANA







(From top) Lynn students alight from the new Diamond DA-42 TwinStar; student Nathaniel Short with grandfather Anthony Short and Christina Salisbury; student Alex Quinn with parents Amy and Andy Quinn; students at Model United Nations; Cerryn Lytes, student JePaul Jones and mom Cerralda Jones



From a Model United Nations to celebrating a new airplane, Lynn's Parents and Families Weekend 2008 offered an event for nearly every interest. Held Oct. 24-26, the weekend drew hundreds of parents and families to the university for student and faculty presentations, campus tours, receptions, an airplane dedication and more.



The festivities began with an all-day Model U.N. event featuring student debates on international issues. Parents also heard from faculty members at presentations on topics ranging from technology in the classrooms to U.S. presidential debates.



That evening, parents who have supported Lynn with an annual gift of \$2,500 or more were treated to a presidential reception before heading over to the popular Blue & White Auction, which raised more than \$41,000 for Lynn athletics.

The following day, the entire aviation student body, Lynn parents and other university friends welcomed a

new addition to the Lynn fleet, a Diamond DA-42 TwinStar. The twin-engine, complex aircraft, says Jeff Johnson, dean of the School of Aeronautics, "will allow our students to be fully certified as commercial pilots after graduating from Lynn University."

Also on Saturday, students and their families gathered for coffee with President Kevin M. Ross; an afternoon barbecue, a golf cart parade and men's soccer match, and a reception at the Boca Raton Museum of Art. The weekend drew to a satisfying close on Sunday, with a delicious brunch.



A Stars and Stripes-themed entry in the golf cart parade

PHOTOS BY GINA FONTANA



# SNAPSHOTS FROM LYNN ON THE ROAD

Lynn on the Road was *the* invitation to receive in fall and winter 2008, bringing together longtime and new friends at receptions in South Florida, D.C., New Jersey, Boston, Chicago and New York City.

**South Florida** opened the series Sept. 18, with more than 100 alumni gathering on campus poolside—which was transformed into a chic night spot, with towering tents and luminary candles. The following week, on Sept. 23, dean emeritus and trustee Irving R. Levine and wife Nancy hosted an elegant evening for alumni, parents and friends at the Cosmos Club in **Washington, D.C.**

On Oct. 4, alumni, parents and friends flocked to the **Jersey Shore** for a seaside reception underwritten and coordinated by Mike Sirchio '04, '05. "Hosting this event

and participating in the development of a regional chapter continues to be personally rewarding," Sirchio says. "I've already decided to host this event again next year."

Next up was a "captivating" reception on Oct. 16, at the once-Charles Street Jail, The Liberty Hotel, in downtown **Boston's** Beacon Hill neighborhood. Three weeks later, on Nov. 6, Lynn blew into "The Windy City"—**Chicago**—to wind down with parents and alumni at the Cru Café & Wine Bar in the Gold Coast district.

The series drew to a grand close on Dec. 5, in **New York City**, as scores of alumni converged on Providence in Midtown. Grads from Marymount College, College of Boca Raton and Lynn traded tales and made plans to form regional groups in the Northeast.

1. Vincent Vesce '95, Shannon Viard '93, Larissa Witherspoon '08 and Christopher Papandrea '92 in New York City
2. 2008 Alumni Council members at the South Florida reception
3. Seema Kumar '99, '01 and Lynn's Judi Nelson in Washington, D.C.
4. Tiffany North '94, '97, '03, Jennifer DeFalco '07 and Sharon Bobowski '05, '07 at the South Florida reception





5. Lindsay Raphael '00, Matt Olivar '99 and Rachel Alexander in New York City  
 6. College of Boca Raton alumni with Lynn's Greg Malfitano '75 (second from right) and President Kevin M. Ross (right) in New York City  
 7. Lynn's Marsha Glines, Justin Joseph '03, Jamie Brownstein '04 and Emily Bluestein '04 in Chicago

BACKGROUND PHOTO BY GINA FONTANA



## Alumni holiday reception in South Florida closes the season

The alumni holiday reception, a perennial favorite, broke new ground this year. Thanks to the hundreds of alumni who made their way to the Boca Raton Resort & Club, Lynn set record attendance with more than 350 guests. Alumni admired the recent renovations to the resort, had a chance to catch up with each other and plan for the upcoming Alumni Weekend, March 27-28, 2009.



PHOTOS BY GINA FONTANA

1. Beau McMillan '04, Mackenzie Moravec '06 and Brittany Bialowas '06  
 2. Karline Altemar '06, Ashley Nelson '06, '07, Clay Sapp '06 and Spencer Howell '06  
 3. Tiffany McDaniel '97, Nancy Jacob '98, Emi Hanado '96, '00 and Raul Roca

4. Paul Muir '99, '01, Jeff John '00, '02 and Ryan Barker '01  
 5. Connor Irwin, Amanda Sabitoni '08, Clay Sapp '06, Veronica Adams, Ashley Nelson '06, '07, Jason Touw '06, Josie Artymovich '07 and Matt Ginsberg



## Write to us and get your very own Little LU bobblehead

He's fiercely loyal, utterly optimistic and brand spankin' new. Cast from the same mold as Napoleon, Mini Me, Scrappy Doo and even concentrated laundry soap, this little guy is all muscle, all effort, all nodding... all of the time. And right now, he's itching for a visit with you.

Known as "Little LU" to his friends, this smaller sidekick to Lynn mascot "Big LU" wants to know where Lynn University has taken

you. E-mail us ([news@lynn.edu](mailto:news@lynn.edu)) about where you and your Lynn degree have gone together and, if you're one of the first 50 alumni we hear from, we'll send you one of our limited issue LU bobbleheads. Our only request: give him a good home. Oh, and send us some pictures of you and LU at work, on vacation, in the backyard, etc. We want to see where LU has taken you—and where you, by extension, have taken LU.

The little big man is already covering some ground. Find and friend "Lynn Knight" on Facebook to see Little LU surfing in Hawaii, going sleeveless at the presidential inauguration and jaywalking in Buenos Aires.



## Help us preserve Marymount/CBR/Lynn history

You left your mark when you attended this university; here's your chance to leave your mark again. Alumni Affairs is collaborating with Lynn University Archives to reach out to Marymount, College of Boca Raton and Lynn alumni to enrich Lynn's archives.

We cordially invite you to donate items that represent your experience as a student at Lynn. We welcome photos (with IDs, please), scrapbooks, yearbooks, other school publications, programs from events, and the like.

For details or to identify people in the photo above, contact Matt Roos, director of alumni affairs, at [mroos@lynn.edu](mailto:mroos@lynn.edu).

### Whoa!

Recognize anyone in this billboard? Remember when it was taken? Let Matt Roos know at [mroos@lynn.edu](mailto:mroos@lynn.edu).





## Blue and White and read all over...

News, photos and happenings from alumni around the world

### 1971

**Jeanine (LaFlamme) Frantsen** resides in Livonia, Mich., with husband Dale. Their son, Allen, attends Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Jeanine has worked in the insurance industry since 1979, when she moved to Michigan. Today she is an account manager with an insurance agency servicing business accounts.

### 1986

**Charles Patterson** of Parkland, Fla., has been busy since graduating from Lynn. He is married and has four children. He earned a master's degree in education and is pursuing a doctoral degree in management. He has been a professor at Miami-Dade College and a college director at Florida Career College. As president/CEO of Charles Patterson Enterprises, he now works in property management and real estate investments.

### 1989

**Russell Porter** is dean of graduate studies and continuing education, and professor of business administration at Shepherd University in



Shepherdstown, W. Va. Formerly, he was associate dean of Health Sciences at Ferris State University, chair of Health and Public Administration at Midwestern State University, and program director of the Master of Health Administration at Clayton State University. In addition to his M.P.S. from Lynn University, he received his Ph.D. from the Medical College of Virginia – Virginia Commonwealth University, and his Ed.D. from the University of North Texas.

### 1990

**Adam Bell** runs and owns the Web design/marketing business dataTV in Santa Clarita, Calif. Formerly based in Metairie, La., he relocated after Hurricane Katrina devastated the region. He has won three Macromedia (now Adobe) Site of the Day awards. An Adobe Community Expert, he runs the Los Angeles Adobe User Group.

### 1991

**Bryan Bourgeois** is resident manager with Tiara Hotels and Resorts in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

**James Mury** played baseball and was a resident assistant at Lynn. He now is a business development manager for U.S. Security Associates in Boca Raton.

### 1993

**Daniel Ilias** is general manager of the new Delta Burnaby Hotel and Conference Centre in Vancouver, Canada. The four-star property includes a casino, several restaurants and bars, along with 14,000 square feet of convention space.

### 1994

**Daniel Martinez** resides in Tacoma, Wash., and is managing director of a real estate holding company. He earned a Master of Professional Studies from Lynn in 1997.

### 1995

**Jose Duarte**, owner of Taranta restaurant in Boston, earned two awards recently. In June he received the Waterford Crystal Chef of Chefs Award at the Food and Wine Rendezvous Grand Tasting & South American Chef Showcase. In April, his restaurant earned a Green Business

Award from Boston Mayor Thomas Menino for promoting and implementing sustainable practices. Duarte also holds an M.S. (1998) degree from Lynn.



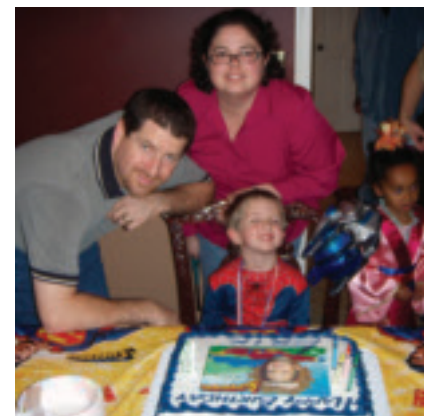
**Peter Gallo** and wife Meredith became parents to a son, Lucas Christopher, on May 22, 2008.

### 1997

**Nathan Fischer** and Alison Geck were married May 17, 2008, at the Bahia Mar in Fort Lauderdale. Nathan, who also earned an M.B.A. from Lynn in 1999, owns a digital copier company.



**Dan Shapiro** and wife **Jen (Rose) '98** reside in Damascus, Md., with their son, Erik, 5. Jen is a staff development teacher at a middle school in Gaithersburg, Md., and Dan is a program/project manager for an IT consulting company supporting the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Baltimore.





**1998**

**Jassen Todorov**, a prominent violinist who has appeared with major orchestras throughout the United States and Europe, has been appointed director of the School of Music and Dance at San Francisco State University. He also holds a master's degree from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

**1999**

**Diane (Clancy) Anton** of Hawthorne, N.J., is employed by BMW Group's Corporate Communications department, where she is responsible for employee communications, corporate philanthropy and media services. She married Derek Anton in April 2008. He is a product specialist in BMW Group's motorcycle division.



**Aline Kokis-Slatery**, husband John and 2-year-old daughter Sophie Rose are enjoying their new home in Dublin, Ireland. Aline met John while she was working for American College Dublin. Before moving to Ireland, they lived in New York City, where Aline was employed by Saatchi and Saatchi, and in Old Greenwich, Conn.



New York City, where Aline was employed by Saatchi and Saatchi, and in Old Greenwich, Conn.

**Jonathan Prebich**, formerly circulation director/business manager at *Luxury SpaFinder Magazine*, is now director of circulation and audience development at Louise Blouin Media in New York City. The company's titles include *Art + Auction*, *Modern Painters*, *Culture + Travel* and *Gallery Guide*.

**Asis Reyes** has a music group, Eden Ensemble ([www.edenensemble.com](http://www.edenensemble.com)), that performs light classical and jazz music, Broadway compositions, and music from Brazil and Argentina.

**Daniel Walder** is an assistant principal at an elementary school in Maryland. Wife **Courtney (Barrett)**



**Walder '98** is a kindergarten teacher. They have two children, son Cooper, 4, and daughter Avery, 9 months.

**2000**

**Cindy (Braggs) Downing** and husband Ian live with their dog Gizmo in the Cayman Islands, where Cindy is a human resources manager with Dart Management Ltd. Cindy and Ian were married April 29, 2006.



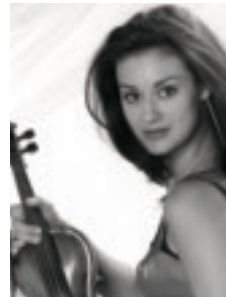
**Jackelin Rodriguez** is a project manager with Garcia Stromberg Architects in Boca Raton. During the last three years she has been involved with the firm's renovation project for the Boca Raton Resort & Club. After Jackelin earned her bachelor's degree from Lynn, she studied architecture at Broward Community College and Florida Atlantic University.

**2001**

**Craig Campestre** married Nicole Lynn Incognito of Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., on Aug. 25, 2006. They reside in Lyndhurst, N.J. Craig is head of business development at State Street Global Markets, an institutional investment firm in New York, N.Y.



**Liana Koteva** is a violinist with the Rochester (N.Y.) Philharmonic Orchestra. Liana, who holds a master's degree from the Eastman School of Music, is also a founding member of Duo Supernova, the Magnolia Trio and Argos Trio ([www.ArgosTrio.com](http://www.ArgosTrio.com)). Her CDs can be found at [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com).







**Jamie Pierce** is a certified life coach based in Boynton Beach, Fla. ([www.coachingwithjamie.com](http://www.coachingwithjamie.com)). She also works with the company Tiny Toes to teach children creative movement and dance.

**Jarred Weisfeld** and wife Melissa live in East Hanover, N.J. Jarred works with Objective Entertainment, a multimedia literary management and production company in New York City.

## 2002

**Susanne Babbington** works as an activities assistant at Carriage Hill in Bethesda, Md.

### Stuart Henderson

established his own production company, Clear Shot Media Group, last year ([www.clearshot.tv](http://www.clearshot.tv)). He produced a documentary, *Saving the Earth One Business at a Time*, that premiered last spring as part of the Palm Beach International Film Festival. He also launched [www.fade2green.com](http://www.fade2green.com), a guide to green living. Stuart also earned an M.B.A. degree from Lynn in 2004.



**Nicholous Varel** is managing principal of Elephant Oil and Gas, an independent oil and gas firm focused on drilling and development properties as well as producing properties in Texas. Recently he was appointed to the advisory board of Pantera Petroleum, Inc., an oil and gas exploration company headquartered in Austin, Texas.

## 2003

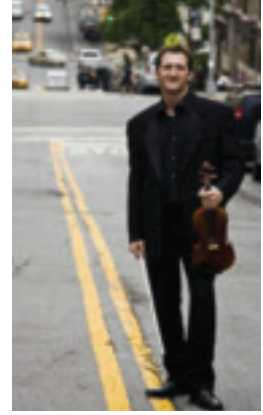
**Paula V. Perez-Duque** worked in the creative department of an ad agency in Madrid, Spain, for three years after graduating from Lynn. She now resides and works on a freelance basis in Miami, Fla.

## 2004

**Paul Amelchenko** is the author of *The Da Vinci Dog*, inspired by his yellow Labrador retriever, Brinks. (See [www.thedavincidog.com](http://www.thedavincidog.com).) The book earned a Ben Franklin Award from the Independent Book Publishers Association as the top humor/comedy/satire of 2007. It also won ForeWord Magazine's Book of the Year award in the Pets category. Paul is the associate creative director at bwf Advertising in Boca Raton. His work has earned more than 40 creative awards and has appeared in print and on television and radio nationwide.



**Patricia (Fiterre) Garcia-Pedroso** and husband Gonzalo both work at South Kent School in South Kent, Conn., where she teaches Spanish and he is the associate director of admissions. On April 14, they became parents of a son, Alejandro Javier.



## 2005

### Daniel Andai

was appointed concertmaster of the Miami Symphony Orchestra. After receiving his B.M. degree from the Lynn University Conservatory of Music, he earned M.M. and Professional Arts degrees from the Manhattan School of Music's Orchestral Program. Last fall he began pursuing a Doctor of Music degree at the University of Miami Frost School of Music.

**John Tamasi** moved to Reno, Nev., after earning his M.B.A. from Lynn. He accepted a job with the U.S. Department of Justice as a federal law enforcement officer with collateral duties as an inventory management specialist and contract specialist. In his spare time, he enjoys flying and playing soccer.

**Shelby Vollmer** lives in Fort Myers, Fla., where she is an admissions representative at Southwest Florida College. While at Lynn, Shelby was a member of the volleyball team.

## 2006

**Mitchell Albert** earned an M.B.A. degree from Lynn last May. He is a high school business and computer teacher and also tutors college students in accounting, finance, marketing and management.

Brinks, the inspiration for Paul Amelchenko's book



**Michael Fisch** is a news photographer with WSET ABC News in Lynchburg, Va. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling and spending time with friends.



**Dru Forster** is a reporter/producer with WBTW News 13 in Myrtle Beach, S.C.



**Lutricia Hankerson** is a sergeant with the Broward County Sheriff's Office. She earned an M.S. in Administration with a specialization in Emergency Planning and Administration from Lynn last May.

**Charles Magale** resides in New York City and works on the investment desk for JP Morgan Chase. He also earned an M.B.A. from Lynn in 2008.

**Ashley Nelson** is the sales and marketing manager for the Executive Women's Golf Association in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. She also earned an M.B.A. from Lynn in 2007. During her undergraduate years at Lynn, she was a member of the women's golf team.



**Brooke Rider** earned an M.Ed. degree from Lynn last May. Last year she taught English to grades 6-8 at the Boca/Delray campus of American Heritage School. Last fall she began teaching at the Palm Beach School for Autism in Lantana, Fla.

## 2007



**Amanda Cartwright** earned an M.Ed. degree from Lynn last May. She is a teacher and second grade team leader at Seminole Trails

Elementary School in West Palm Beach, Fla.

**Caroline Robino** resides in New York City and is general manager of Financier Patisserie, a gourmet pastry shop in downtown Manhattan. She also holds an M.B.A. from Lynn (2008).

## 2008

**Lori Barbarosh** is a preschool teacher at Kidstop in Boynton Beach, Fla. She teaches math, reading, writing, social studies and science to 3- and 4-year-olds. "Teaching these children gives me the greatest joy in my life," she writes.

**Stephen Boyd** is a teacher at Clewiston Middle School in Clewiston, Fla.

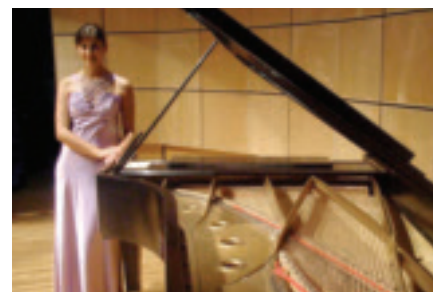
**Alexandru Briscaru** earned his M.M. degree from Lynn last May and is now pursuing a Professional Performance Certificate from the Lynn University Conservatory of Music. A violist,



he has performed with the Steve Lawrence and Edye Gorme tour, Anne Murray tour, Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Southwest Symphony Orchestra, Florida Lakes Symphony Orchestra, Miami City Ballet and other groups. He plans to audition for major orchestras in the United States and Europe.

**Heather Butler** and husband Randy reside in Lake Worth, Fla. Heather earned her Ph.D. from Lynn last May, with the focus of her research on online distance education and learning styles. She is an administrator for the Palm Beach County School District. She writes that she is "a proud step-mother to Amanda and step-grandmother to Brook-Lynn."

**Inara Ferreira** appeared as soloist in a J.S. Bach Concerto with the Orquestra de Camara Ars Musicalis in Campinas, Brazil, last June. She studied piano with Roberta Rust in the Conservatory of Music.



**Jeffrey Fossen** is a business education teacher at Park Vista High School in Lake Worth, Fla. He and wife Jennifer are parents of a son, Taylor John, born June 10, 2008.



**Christina Ginfrida** is pursuing an M.A. in British and American literature at Florida Atlantic University. She also is a teaching assistant there and teaches two English 101 classes.

**Patrick Godfrey** was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force last May and has begun pilot training, a lifelong dream of his. He also married his college sweetheart, Charissa Wong, on May 10, 2008.



**Michael L. Graham** received his master's degree from Lynn last May. He also holds a bachelor's degree in legal studies and a paralegal certificate from Nova Southeastern University. He has worked in law enforcement for 25 years and is now employed with the Broward Sheriff's Office, Office of Homeland Security.

**Charles Livingston** has been a police officer with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department for 15 years. For the last eight years, he has been assigned to youth services at Fort Lauderdale High School. He is a G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education And Training) instructor for fifth-grade students and sponsors a Youth Crime Watch and drug-free program for high school students. He also coordinates a crime prevention summer program for at-risk youth.

**Thomas Scott** is a sergeant assigned to road patrol with the Charlotte County (Fla.) Sheriff's Office. He plans to pursue a master's degree at Lynn.



**Jennifer Stedman** is applying to medical schools. While at Lynn, she was a biology major, in the honors program and vice president of the Science Club for two years.

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## Remembering our alumni and friends

**Leon J. Carman** of Boca Raton passed away on July 3, 2008. Born in Springfield, Mass., he began his career with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company in 1939 and went on to earn all the accolades of the industry. A generous philanthropist, he supported many causes and organizations including Lynn University, where he was a member of The Leadership Society of Lynn University.

**H. Lawrence Cowan**, former associate vice president for development and alumni affairs at Lynn University from 2003-2007, passed away on July 17, 2008. In August of 2007, he joined the University of Central Missouri (Warrensburg) as vice president for advancement and executive director of the UCM Foundation. He was a graduate of Ithaca College and Syracuse University.

**Elizabeth K. Dodson** of Boca Raton passed away Jan. 14. She and her late husband, Harry, supported numerous charitable causes in Florida and in her home state of Pennsylvania. A graduate of Catholic University School of Nursing (Washington, D.C.), she was chief nurse with the Veterans Administration before retiring and moving to Boca Raton. In 2005, Lynn received \$500,000 from the Harry and Libby Dodson Foundation to support its theatre arts program. In recognition of the gift, Lynn renamed its entertainment series the Libby Dodson Live at Lynn Series.

**Christine Brinkworth Hartwick** of Boca Raton passed away on Sept. 27, 2008. She is survived by her husband, Patrick Hartwick, dean of the Ross College of Education, and their two children, Allie and Jonathan. Prior to moving to Boca Raton in 2007, she was an elementary special educator at Windom Elementary School in Orchard Park, N.Y., for 10 years.

**Edward Kowalchick**, vice president of admissions at Lynn University from 1996 to 2002, passed away on Jan. 15. He worked for more than 30 years in independent education, most recently serving as associate headmaster at The Phelps School in Malvern, Pa. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Pat, and two sons, Matthew and Michael.

**Jane Nathanson Morningstar** of Boca Raton passed away on May 20, 2008. A native of Boston, she was a pioneer in women's philanthropy and a pillar of the community. Her generosity extended to Lynn, where she was a member of The Leadership Society of Lynn University.

**Kevin O'Toole** '74 of Long Beach, Calif., passed away on Aug. 19, 2008. He, along with his twin brother Brian '76, played on Marymount College's first basketball team, the Blue Marlins.

**Harold Toppel** of Boca Raton, Fla., and Montecito, Calif., passed away on Oct. 12, 2008. A native of Franklin, N.J., and a World War II veteran, he made his name in the grocery business, founding the National Grocery Company, Pueblo Supermarkets and Xtra Super Food centers. He was a philanthropist and community activist in Boca Raton, having served on the Boca Raton Community Hospital board of directors, among other civic activities. He and wife Patricia created the Toppel Family Foundation, which is oriented toward educational philanthropy. Generous, longtime supporters of Lynn University, the Toppels are members of The Leadership Society and the benefactors of the Harold and Patricia Toppel Endowed Scholarship for the Conservatory of Music. They also have supported a variety of youth, early childhood and higher education programs throughout Palm Beach County, including the Champs After School program.

### Stay Connected

Whether it's a job change, promotion, marriage, birth/adoption, travel or other news, we want to hear from you and share your news with your fellow alumni. It's easy:

Go to [www.lynn.edu/alumni](http://www.lynn.edu/alumni) and click on the Tell Us About You link on the left-hand side of the page.

Fill out the fields and click Submit. That's it!

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BECKY MATTESON

## A legal blow to bullies

It's a sad fact: most of us have witnessed or been a victim of bullying in school. But author and educator **Rande Matteson '03** wants parents, students and school officials to know that there are laws to protect people from this abuse.

Matteson, a criminal justice professor and retired law enforcement officer, has written *Bully Beware! How to Fight Back with Florida Law on Your Side*. While the book focuses on Florida law, it is a valuable tool for all, with insights into bullying behavior, a checklist for documenting facts and evidence, case studies, and more.

"The book outlines all the related Florida criminal statutes, and many states have similar statutes," Matteson says. "The question is, What do we do? Do we not hold these [bullying] children accountable? The law says we do."

And because bullying has spread from school playgrounds and corridors into cyberspace, knowing about protective laws and effective action is even more vital. All-too-disturbing reminders are the recent cases where young people were severely harassed, beaten or driven to suicide as a result of bullying messages and videos on social network sites.

Matteson writes with authority, having served 32 years in local, state and federal law enforcement investigative agencies and now a professor and criminal justice department chair at Saint Leo (Fla.) University. While he remained on the job working as a federal agent in the Miami office, he enrolled in Lynn's doctoral program in the corporate leadership track so that he could teach at the college level upon retiring from federal service. For his dissertation, he conducted a pioneering study on bullying in the workplace—specifically, in federal law enforcement. Under the mentorship of his dissertation chair, Professor William Leary, he designed a study that focused on leadership skills and how they enhance performance.

"That energized me and made me even more excited about the subject," he says. In addition to the book, he's since written numerous articles on bullying as it relates to leadership.

"So much of bullying is interrelated, whether it's in the workplace or in schools," he says. Childhood bullies tend to grow up to be workplace bullies and, as parents, teach their children to be bullies.

Matteson's book may well be one important key to breaking this troubling cycle, by not only empowering victims, but by also informing bullies that there are serious legal consequences to their behavior.

—Liz McKey



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**YOU AND LITTLE LU:** From Times Square to Facebook, he's making the scene. Find out how to get your own Little LU bobblehead on page 29.

PHOTO BY MATT ROOS