Lynn University dedicates the Mohammed Indimi International Business Center

Parents, families gather at University Home

Annual Gingerbread concert benefits student musicians
Lynn University dedicates Mohammed Indimi International Business Center—the new headquarters for business innovation.

With collaborative workspaces and the latest technologies, the international business center is ideally suited for student-centered, real-world teaching and learning.
“This is not just a gift but an investment in the future of students from around the world, some of whom are here today and many others who will benefit from your significant generosity … we are so excited to have this magnificent facility as the new home for our College of Business and Management.”

— Kevin M. Ross, president

Students, faculty, staff and special guests gathered on campus to dedicate the new home for Lynn’s College of Business and Management on Oct. 16, 2014.

The $14 million Mohammed Indimi International Business Center carries the name of the lead benefactor, who also put forth a challenge grant to prospective donors. Generous contributors met Indimi’s challenge and named various work spaces, classrooms and faculty offices.

Dignitaries, friends and family of Indimi traveled from around the world to partake in the celebration. Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush also attended.

President Kevin M. Ross welcomed guests and recognized Indimi. “This is not just a gift but an investment in the future of students from around the world, some of whom are here today and many others who will benefit from your significant generosity … we are so excited to have this magnificent facility as the new home for our College of Business and Management.”

Lynn professor Ibrahim A. Gambari, former foreign minister of Nigeria and former under-secretary-general of the United Nations, spoke of his longtime friendship with Indimi and his unwavering respect and admiration for him as a friend, “brother,” philanthropist and businessman.

Ameena Indimi ’98, ’00, who received both bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Lynn, is one of eight Indimi children to attend the university. She stopped to the podium and shared fond memories of her father—who received an honorary doctorate from Lynn in 2012—especially noting how overly attentive (and even a bit nervous) he became during the week his children were taking their final exams.

Following all remarks, President Ross invited everyone to join him in front of the business center’s doors for the ceremonial ribbon cutting. The green ribbon symbolized the pending LEED Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Green also is the primary color of the national flag of Indimi’s native Nigeria.

Currently, the 1,250 business students in this college represent 74 nations—from Albania to Zimbabwe. The 32,000-square-foot Mohammed Indimi International Business Center, with a real-world style of teaching and learning, includes 11 classrooms, 10 study rooms, 29 faculty and staff offices, and innovative spaces:

• Snyder Idea Lab—students acquire skills to transform their start-up concepts into ready-to-launch businesses.
• Peter O’Neill Investment Center—professors engage students through modern projection technologies that mimic professional and trading environments.
• Beyond the Classroom—four areas configured to promote hands-on learning and on-campus collaboration with partner companies.
• Arnold Goldstein Lecture Suites—three classrooms that can be combined into one large space for events to bring students and the business community together.
• Sabrina Simone Fashion Classroom—students learn the creative, business and management fundamentals of garment design and have a place to proudly display their creations.

Ameena Indimi addresses guests as Elaine Wold and Kevin Ross look on.

Ameena Indimi to her father:

“It is a great honor to see you invest in the future of Lynn students as well as our own children. My two precious children are coming to school here, and they will be so proud every single day as they walk to class to see your name, my name, on a building. I applaud my father for this momentous, astonishing contribution to my alma mater. We thank you, applaud you and cherish you for all time to come.”

Ameena Indimi to her father:
Donors stepped forward to meet Mohammed Indimi’s challenge grant and named various workspaces, classrooms and faculty offices.
“We planned this building for a long time, and it is a spectacular addition to our campus—it’s a game-changer. Our students and future generations of Lynn students are ensured a first-rate business education here.”

—Gregory J. Malfitano, senior vice president for development and administration
Snyder Sanctuary update

Raising the walls

(from left) Kevin Ross, Steve Snyder, Jamie Snyder, Barron Snyder and Donald Ross stand across the lake from the construction site of the Snyder Sanctuary during the week the seven wall panels were raised. Each panel is the equivalent of five stories high and weighs an estimated 260,000 pounds. The seven walls lean on each other to create a spiral form—showing the interdependence of all living things and giving a sense of movement and permanence. Snyder Sanctuary will welcome people of all faiths, never favoring one over another.
Parents, families gather at University Home

The annual event gave families the chance to share in the Lynn experience with students—from Lynn’s iPad “mini revolution,” to J-Term courses and study abroad opportunities.

President Ross hosted a reception for parents at the University Home during Parents and Families Weekend last October. The annual event gave families the chance to share in the Lynn experience with students—from Lynn’s iPad “mini revolution,” to J-Term courses and study abroad opportunities. Families heard updates from President Ross and met with deans, faculty and advisors. They took tours of new campus buildings and facilities, enjoyed a good old-fashioned tailgate party before watching a men’s soccer game in the new Bobby Campbell Stadium; and bid on fabulous live and silent auction items in 16th Annual Blue & White Auction, an annual fundraiser for the athletics program.

Photos
1. Amy and Michael McGowan
2. John and Elise Thornton
3. Ralph and Lisa Pascucci, Karine Carrier Guillomet
4. Kevin M. Ross, Kathy and Ron Assaf
5. Jonathan Lopez, Greg Milliano
6. Cathy and Jay Bach, Christine Lynn, Joe and Nancy Battiloro
7. Lisa and William Jeffrey

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Annual Gingerbread concert benefits student musicians

In its 12 years, this community event has raised more than $650,000 for the conservatory’s most talented and deserving student musicians who hail from around the world.

Held for the first time on campus, the 12th Annual Gingerbread Holiday Concert took to the stage of Lynn’s beautiful Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center. To date, this community event has raised more than $650,000 for the conservatory’s most talented and deserving student musicians who hail from around the world.

What has now become one of the area’s most beloved annual holiday traditions, this family-oriented concert was the brainchild of Margaret Mary and John Shuff, along with Pat and the late Harold Toppel.

Serving as the concert’s first co-chairs, the Shuffs and Toppels created the event as a scholarship fundraiser, while also sharing the gift of music with the community during the holiday season.

The 2014 concert was chaired by Deanna Wheeler and Barbie Block and presented by the Friends of the Conservatory to benefit the Lynn University Conservatory of Music, one of the finest conservatories of music within a university environment.

Each year, this much-anticipated community event draws parents, grandparents and children together to celebrate the holidays and share a musical afternoon with friends and family.

Photos
1. Guillermo Figueroa, Lynn’s music director and conductor, led the musical program.
2. Yaniv and Chrissy Jacobson with daughters Ariella and Adriana
3. Elaine Wolf, Dr. Randy Schwen
4. Children with grandparents’ Ficka and Damien Carbone
5. L-R (standing): MaryAnn Milhous, Karyn Levinson (sitting): Barbi Block, Pam Coffey
6. Beverly Lowski, Mimi Sadler, Gloria Fiveson, Pat Thomas, Shari Marichard
7. MaryLou Kall, Mary Perpeti, Marilyn Swilling
8. Kathy Dickinson, Deanna Wheeler, Bob and Sally Painter

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Business class
Luis Miguel Gonzales Ocque received a B.S. in international business from Lynn's College of Business and Management. Originally from Caracas, Venezuela, he currently resides in Coconut Grove with wife Ana Cristina and three daughters: Anastasia, 9, Isabella, 5, and baby Federica, 2.

A 15-year veteran of the financial industry, Luis is managing director of private wealth management at Morgan Stanley in Miami, serving clients in Latin America, Europe and the United States. He says that attending Lynn with its mix of international students was a big help in this new global business world.

Luis is an avid snow skier since age 3, has practiced martial arts from ages 12 to 21, loves traveling and collects contemporary art.

Since graduating in 1999, Luis has remained very involved with his alma mater. A member of Lynn's Leadership Society since 2010 and the President's Alumni Advisory Council since 2011, He is an alumus who leads by example. He was the first alum to step forward to contribute to the Indimi Business Center by naming a study room.