

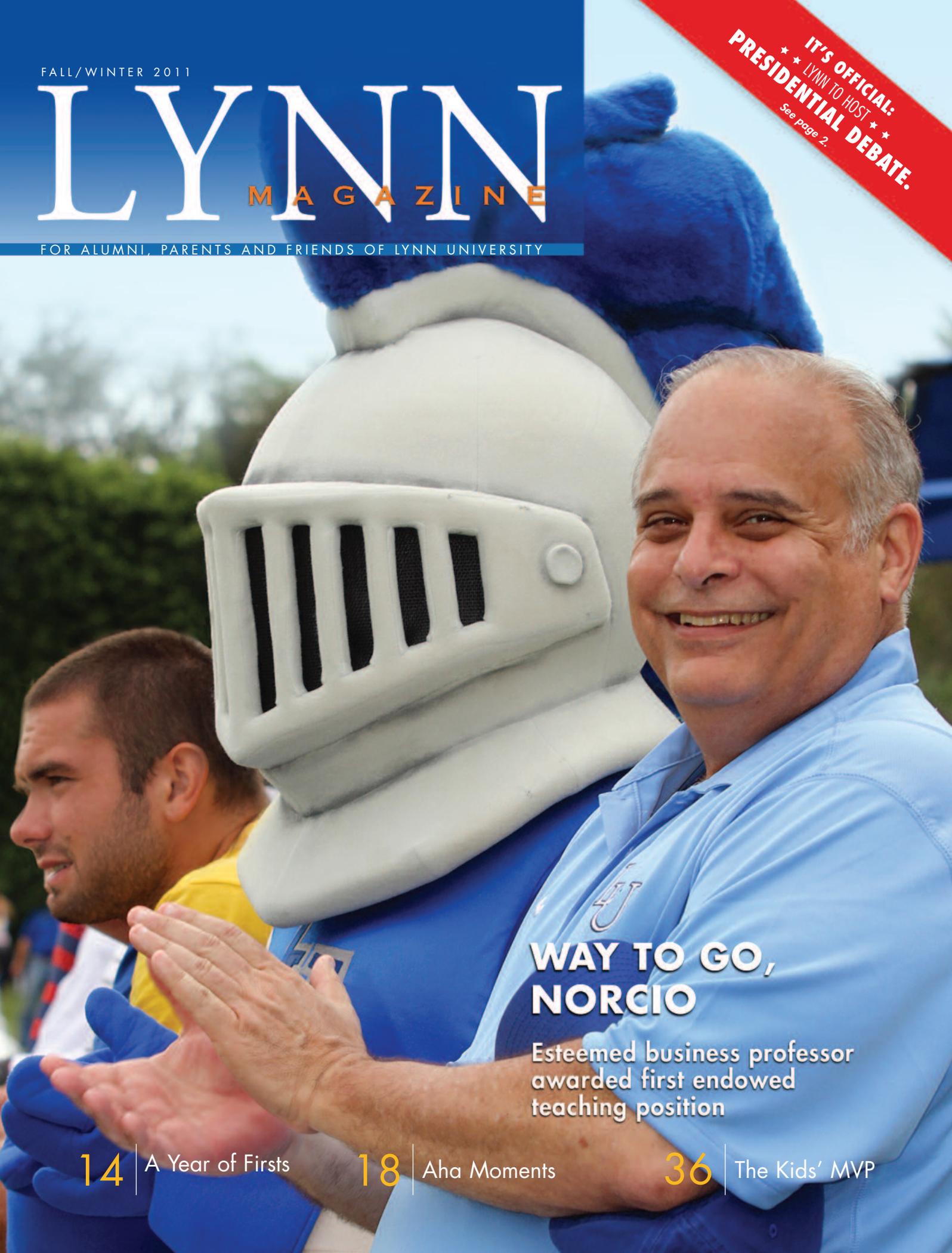
FALL/WINTER 2011

LYNN

MAGAZINE

FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LYNN UNIVERSITY

IT'S OFFICIAL:
★ ★ LYNN TO HOST ★ ★
PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE.
See page 2.



WAY TO GO, NORCIO

Esteemed business professor
awarded first endowed
teaching position

14 | A Year of Firsts

18 | Aha Moments

36 | The Kids' MVP

History in the making

Kevin M. Ross
President

The year 2012 is going to be a big one for Lynn University. We'll celebrate our 50th anniversary—a spectacular event in itself—and we'll host the third and final U.S. presidential debate of 2012 on Oct. 22. (See page 2.)



MARK FALCONE

Excitement is growing across the campus and throughout the community for this historic occasion. What more fitting way could there be to celebrate our five decades of achievement than by bringing Lynn center stage before the entire country and the world for this pivotal event? The actual stage will be none other than that in our spectacular Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center.

The arrival at this point in our history and this latest success is a testament to the dedication of so many of you—our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends. We used to speak of Lynn University as being one of higher education's best-kept secrets, but, as you'll read in this issue, word about us is spreading far and quickly.

I can only imagine the excitement our founders felt as they welcomed the first class to campus. As our golden anniversary and the presidential debate draw near, I and the entire university community share that same enthusiasm in welcoming the world to Lynn University.



LYNN MAGAZINE

Editor's Note

New beginnings and possibilities

There's nothing like the thrill of a new endeavor. That feeling of a fresh start—turning a page in your life—is energizing and inspiring.

This issue comes to you as we conclude the first semester of a new academic year at Lynn University. It's been an exciting time, as we've welcomed our largest class in four years. Not only are these students impressive in number, they are charged with an infectious energy and enthusiasm. Honestly, I don't know who's more excited—we staff and faculty members, or the students themselves. You'll find out why in our story, "Fresh Starts," beginning on page 14.

Our students aren't the only ones celebrating new beginnings. Our esteemed and much-admired professor Ralph Norcio has a noteworthy achievement—he's the inaugural recipient of Lynn's first endowed teaching position: The Homer and Martha Gudelsky Endowed Professorship in Business. I had the honor of speaking with him, his colleagues and family members for a profile story (beginning on page 10).

In our third feature, three of our alumni (Gregg McBride '83, Emily Lipman '08 and Felecia Hatcher '06) tell about turning points in their lives. Their determination and courage are encouraging and challenge any of us who may have become too complacent in our lives. As you'll read (beginning on page 18), a life-changing opportunity may be right before your eyes.

With a new year soon to come, I hope you'll be entertained, informed and inspired by this issue of new beginnings.

Liz

—Liz McKey, editor

(FEATURES)

- 10 THE HEAD OF HIS CLASS**
He exemplifies Lynn teaching at its best, and that's why business professor and associate dean Ralph Norcio was the perfect choice for the university's first endowed professorship.
- 14 FRESH STARTS**
When it comes to the excitement of new beginnings, nothing can compare to that first year of college. Read about Lynn's Class of 2015 and the J-Term and Mentor Program they are the first to experience.
- 18 AHA!**
Like a light suddenly dawning, a revelation can strike, inspiring an entirely new direction. Meet three alumni whose lives changed after experiencing "aha moments."



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On the cover: Ralph Norcio, associate dean and professor in the College of Business and Management, is the first recipient of The Homer and Martha Gudelsky Endowed Professorship in Business. (Photo by Gina Fontana)

Lynn University Mission and Vision Statements

Mission - to provide the education, support and environment that enable individual students to realize their full potential and prepare for success in the world

Vision - to be recognized as one of the most innovative, international and individualized small universities in America

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Lynn selected to host final presidential debate of 2012

The Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) has selected Lynn University as the site of the final 2012 presidential debate, to be held on Oct. 22, 2012.

The CPD is a nonprofit, nonpartisan corporation and has sponsored all general election presidential and vice presidential debates since 1988. Lynn University was one of 12 sites nationwide, and the only institution in Florida, under consideration to host a vice presidential or one of three presidential debates produced by the CPD.

“Being an undergraduate or graduate student here on our campus when such an historic event takes place will provide a singular and unparalleled educational experience,” says President Kevin M. Ross.

The university has already hosted a Congressional District 22 debate in October 2010 between then-incumbent Ron Klein and Allen West.

Lynn University submitted its application to the CPD in January 2011 and hosted its staff over the following summer for an on-site survey of the proposed debate venue, the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center, and campus.

Lynn University received overwhelming and nearly unilateral support for its application from government officials at all levels, including the



COURTESY NEWMAN ARCHITECTS. COPYRIGHT © 2011 ROBERT BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY

World stage: All eyes will be on the Wold Center for the third and final presidential debate.

entire Florida Congressional Delegation, the Florida Cabinet, the leadership of the Florida Legislature, former Governor Jeb Bush, former Governor and Senator Bob Graham, Palm Beach County officials, Boca Raton Mayor Susan Whelchel and many others.

Preparing for an event of this magnitude requires the campus and community to come together and organize for the arrival of the candidates, their campaign staff members, and thousands of national and international journalists expected to come to the area to cover the debate.

“It is a tremendous challenge, but Lynn University will be prepared to welcome the nation to Florida for the final debate before the 2012 general election,” says President Ross.

Ticket availability for the debate

itself will be extremely limited. In debates produced by the CPD in prior presidential elections, at most a few hundred tickets were made available to the host university in the days immediately prior to the debate. The campaigns control a significant portion of the tickets. Virtually all of tickets allocated to Lynn University from the CPD will be distributed to current students in the days before the debate, as recommended by the CPD and consistent with past practices of debate hosts. Tickets will not be available through Lynn University personnel, and tickets are not available through any means at this point in time.

For the latest details about the presidential debate at Lynn, visit the website, <http://debate2012.lynn.edu>.

President announces gifts for scholarships, capital projects in annual address

In his sixth State of the University address on Oct. 12, President Kevin M. Ross announced that Lynn has received \$5 million in new gifts to endow a scholarship and to fund two capital projects.

“To date, with these gifts, we have raised over \$30 million in cash and pledges for the projects outlined as priorities in Lynn 2020,” President Ross said, referring to the university’s strategic plan. “We are grateful for these wonderful friends whose generosity affirms their commitment to the mission and vision of Lynn University.”

Holli Rockwell of Boca Raton has established a planned gift of \$3 million to establish The Herbert and Holli Rockwell Endowed Scholarship Fund. She will fund the scholarship during her lifetime and through her estate—allowing her to enjoy seeing students receive the scholarship that bears her and her late husband’s name. She is a long-standing supporter of Lynn University, and she also has named the Herbert and Holli Rockwell Terrace Garden at the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center.

“With this continued growth of endowments for student scholarships,

we will be able to welcome even more deserving students to our campus who otherwise might not have been able to attend Lynn,” said President Ross.

A pledge of \$1 million from Robert Sheetz, also from Boca Raton, will fund the renovation and upgrade of the university’s main entrance on Military Trail. The new entrance will include a traffic light and five lanes for better traffic flow.

“This will be the first impression that potential students and their families have of our campus,” President Ross said.

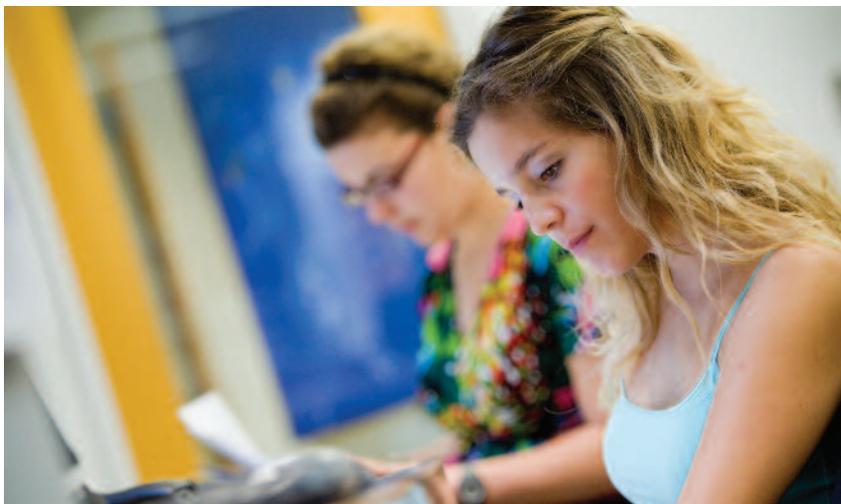
Benjamin Olewine III, a longtime benefactor to Lynn University from Harrisburg, Pa., and Boca Raton, has pledged \$1 million to create a new Potomac Road entrance and a back perimeter road; the project includes relocating the existing Benjamin Olewine III Preserve. The preserve, home to Florida scrub, will provide a living laboratory for the study of this imperiled ecosystem, including seven animals and 40 plants listed as rare, threatened or endangered. He also has funded the Olewine Culinary Laboratory as well as the Olewine Entrance Garden at the Wold Center.

NOTEWORTHY PROGRESS

Speaking before staff, faculty and students in the Wold Center, President Ross also reviewed other significant accomplishments, including:

- **welcoming** Lynn’s largest entering class in four years, with 538 day undergraduate students;
- **achieving** endowment growth from \$4,180,000 to \$21,131,000, from 2000 to June 2011;
- **keeping** Lynn’s tuition rate increase well below the national average for the fifth consecutive year (Lynn’s increase in 2011 was 2.7 percent; the average increase for a private, nonprofit four-year institution was 4.5 percent);
- **completing** one-third of Lynn’s strategic plan goals in only five years, including eight new endowed scholarships, restructuring the core curriculum and completing the Perper Plaza, the Perper Tennis Complex and the Wold Performing Arts Center, among others. Last summer, construction began on the Remembrance Plaza, which will honor Lynn’s six who were lost in Haiti’s 2010 earthquake: professors Patrick Hartwick and Richard Bruno, and students Stephanie Crispinelli, Britney Gengel, Christine Gianacaci and Courtney Hayes.

“Lynn University has earned its place in history—and Lynn is here to stay,” President Ross said. “We are making our mark not just in the realm of higher education, but in the world.”



FG GANTOR

Gifts like that made by Holli Rockwell to create an endowed scholarship fund help Lynn attract the most promising students, regardless of their ability to afford a college education.

U.S. News moves Lynn to national list, ranks us 4th for international students

U.S. News & World Report's annual "America's Best Colleges" issue moved Lynn University from its "Regional Universities" list to its "National Universities" list, ranking Lynn among its top 268 schools in the country.

Amid the stiffer competition, *U.S. News'* 2012 edition ranked Lynn among the top four schools in the United States for percentage of international students, with 17 percent of its student body coming from other nations. Lynn follows the New School, Illinois Institute of Technology and the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Students come to Lynn from 77 nations, and the school's percentage of internationals continues to increase. It has steadily risen from 15 percent in last year's rankings and 14 percent in 2010's rankings.

Lynn's leaders recognize the value of an international perspective among their student body, faculty and staff.

"Our large number of international students from diverse backgrounds contributes greatly to the differing types of experiences that can be brought into class discussions," says Gareth Fowles, vice president for enrollment management. "This enriches everyone's educational experience at Lynn since all students are exposed to other cultures and the unique views held by those from around the world. It can go a long way to building citizens of a globalized society."

U.S. News & World Report also recognized Lynn for its consistently small class size. Lynn was ranked 57th in its national list for "Highest Proportion of Classes Under 20" students, at 59 percent. Lynn's student to teacher ratio is 15:1.

Student leaders hold court in round-table government

Starting last fall, a new tradition in student government began at Lynn: the Knights of the Round Table.

Drawing upon Lynn's symbol of the Knight and King Arthur's legendary Round Table, the new structure replaces the former Student Government Association (SGA) and the traditional governance model led by a president. Because a round table has no head seats, everyone who sits there has equal status and so will Lynn's 12 "knights," chosen to represent their different "courts"—clubs, organizations and student interest groups.

The 12 courts include:

- Community Service (Knights in the Community, Students For The Poor, Relay for Life, Best Buddies, Students Working for Equal Rights)
- Religious (Hillel, Newman Club, Chabad, Campus Crusade for Christ)
- Special Interest (Gay Straight Alliance, Organization of Latin American Students, Black Student Union, Caribbean, International Affairs Society)
- Greeks (Tri-Sigma, Alpha Phi Delta, Zeta Beta Tau)
- Residence Life (resident assistants, community advisors, Shield)
- Student-athletes
- Academic (creative writing, fashion management, Honors Colloquium, hospitality, law and justice, pre-health professions, sports management, Kappa Delta Pi, Psi Chi, Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals)
- Knights Activities Team
- Recreation (video gaming, running, student alumni, grilling)
- Commuters, Graduate and Evening
- Communication (iPulse, Broadcasting Society, drama)
- Member-at-large (undecided students)

The new approach allows for more representation, says Phil Riordan, vice president for student life. "This will give 11 more students the opportunity to step up and the chance for all students to work together toward a common goal."





PHILIP SPEARS

Lynn College of International Communication Dean David Jaffe (center) was part of the team visiting Apple. Such discussions, he says, “are indispensable in this era of rapid changes in communications industries.”

LYNN AND APPLE explore ways to enhance students’ learning

Several members of Lynn University’s senior management team visited Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif., in the early fall to explore areas where the company’s technologies can enhance Lynn students’ learning.

Three outcomes have already resulted from the conversations: (1) a pilot with select faculty to use Apple’s Challenge Based Learning, (2) the launch of Lynn’s iTunesUniversity (iTunesU) and (3) a presentation by Apple experts on their assistive technology at Lynn’s Transitions 2012 conference on Jan. 27.

“We learned about their whole ecosystem of digital technology and explored ways to utilize their innovative suite of products to enhance our students’ learning experience inside and outside of the classroom,” says President Kevin M. Ross.

Apple defines Challenge Based Learning (CBL) as a “multidisciplinary approach to teaching and learning that encourages students to leverage the technology they use in their daily lives to solve real-world problems through efforts in their homes, schools and communities.”

Through the pilot program, 16 faculty members received an iPad, along with hands-on training in applications and CBL concepts. The goal is to engage faculty and students more fully during January Term, the 2½ weeks between the fall and spring semesters. The pilot will be used primarily in the J-Term for first-year students, known as The Citizenship Project, but it will be used in a few other J-Term courses as well.

“We expect the faculty in the pilot program to generate some creative challenges and solutions, connecting students with multiple community partners and beyond,” says Christian Boniforti ’02, Lynn’s chief information officer.

In Lynn and Apple’s second collaboration, the iTunesU distribution system will be used to deliver rich, layered, multimedia educational content into the hands of students no matter what device they are using, even PCs. Lynn is committed to populating its iTunesU not just with a professor’s address or a few papers, as some schools currently do, but with tailored content associated with Lynn’s academic units. For example,

all video associated with campus conferences and events will begin to migrate to iTunesU.

Lastly, Lynn’s Transitions 2012 conference will serve as the perfect setting for Apple personnel to present their cutting-edge assistive technologies. The conference is an international gathering of educators, parents and students that examines how to best move students with learning differences from high school to higher education.

Apple’s tools and technology can help students obtain content geared to the ways they process information. Their devices can process visual texts that help students with learning differences understand the words. They can also easily process and read whole books with a few swipes of the finger in voices that sound human and even incorporate breathing patterns.

Marsha Glines, dean of Lynn’s Institute for Learning and Achievement, is examining ways these assistive technologies can be leveraged to help her students.

“Accessibility features have been baked into Apple products forever,” she says. “There are so many applications being developed by the Apple higher education folks which will positively impact student learning.”



New business dean:

Thomas Kruczek is the new dean of the College of Business and Management. Kruczek formerly served as executive director of the Falcone Center for Entrepreneurship at the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. Under his direction, the center rose in national rankings and is now listed as the No. 3 entrepreneurship program by *Bloomberg/Business Week*, No. 7 by the *Princeton Review/Entrepreneur Magazine* and No. 8 by *U.S. News & World Report*. Prior to that, he was executive director of the Center for Entrepreneurship at Rollins College. He holds an M.B.A. from Notre Dame University.



Education dean appointed:

Craig Mertler has been named dean of the Donald E. and Helen L. Ross College of Education. Formerly, he served as a professor and director of the Doctoral Program in School Improvement at the University of West Georgia. Prior to that, he was a faculty member in the College of Education and Human Development at Bowling Green State University. He holds a master's degree in educational research and evaluation from The Ohio State University and a Ph.D. in educational measurement and evaluation from Florida State University.



A senior in

Greece: Zachary

Welsh, a senior photography major from Westminster, Md., just spent his last semester studying in Paros, Greece, after earning the Marie McKay Global Citizen Scholarship from Athena Study Abroad. Welsh's long record of community service began at a young age as a Boy Scout. At Lynn, he was active in Knights in the Community and spearheaded the first One Day Without Shoes, an international movement created by TOMS Shoes to highlight poor children's need for shoes.



Liberal education dean named:

Katrina Carter-Tellison, a member of Lynn's faculty since 2004, has been appointed dean of the College of Liberal Education. Since joining Lynn, Carter-Tellison has served as assistant professor of sociology, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, associate professor of sociology, and chair of the Dialogues of Learning core curriculum. She earned an M.S.W. at Barry University and a Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Miami.



Peer review: Lynn faculty honored two of their own last spring. Chosen as Faculty Members of the Year were Anna Krift, associate professor of international relations in the College of Liberal Education and director of the Center for Global Education and Citizenship, and Ralph Norcio, associate dean and professor of finance and accounting in the College of Business and Management. Krift has served on Lynn's faculty since 2005, and

Norcio has been a Lynn faculty member since 1990. Norcio also holds the Homer and Martha Gudelsky Endowed Professorship in Business. (See story beginning on page 10.)



The students have spoken: In keeping with tradition, Lynn's undergraduate students cast their votes for the Outstanding Professor of the Year last spring, prior to commencement. Earning the honor was Sindee Kerker, associate professor of criminal justice in the College of Liberal Education. She has taught at Lynn since 1999. (For more on Kerker, see "Ask the Professor" on page 9.)



Conservatory professor is first recipient of Cheek-Milby Fellowship

As a musicologist—one who studies the history, theory and science of music, Barbara Barry helps Conservatory of Music students broaden their understanding so that they can become well-rounded, educated musicians. As the first recipient of Lynn University's Kathleen Cheek-Milby Faculty Fellowship, she, too, has had the opportunity to expand upon her knowledge and experiences.

Created by and named for Lynn's vice president for academic affairs from 1999 to 2007, the fellowship provides funding every two years for a faculty member to teach abroad for up to six months. Barry spent a week in November 2010 in London at Guildhall School of Music and Drama and at the University of London Goldsmith's College, where she holds both B.M. and Ph.D. degrees. The following spring, she traveled to Jerusalem to teach courses in graduate musicology at Bar Ilan University and Hebrew University.

Both experiences enriched her professional development and allowed her to explore future partnerships for student and faculty exchanges between Lynn and those institutions.



A highly trained professional musician, Barry holds five degrees in music: two in piano performance and three in music theory and analysis.

Throughout, she's experienced both good and bad teaching, she says. "The good is productive, encouraging and inspires students to learn; the bad is highly critical and undermines students."

For Barry, the goal always is "to empower, not diminish the student."

She adds, "It's very important to be giving and generous in your teaching...to encourage students so that they can become strong, resilient, confident. That requires nurturing and support so that you give them strength of character as well as the intellectual tools to succeed."

No doubt, prestigious honors like the Cheek-Milby Fellowship will inspire her and future Lynn faculty members to do just that.

LYNN 360

Seen and heard
from around
the campus

Lynn has its first student from **Tbilisi**, the capital of the nation of Georgia: freshman Guranda Kurdgelashvili. • **Toy inventor** and former Hasbro marketing VP Gary Carlin is executive-in-residence in the Lynn College of International Communication. His latest creation is the Coffee Talk Game. • Users of iPhone and Android smartphones can download **Lynn's free mobile app** to access the latest news, photos, videos and tweets about university events. • More than 2,500 fish, including **a 47-pound Triploid Grass Carp**, were moved from a Lynn lake before construction began on the Remembrance Plaza, a permanent tribute to the Lynn students and professors who lost their lives in the 2010 Haiti earthquake. The plaza will be completed in early 2012. • **Jim Lehrer**, PBS NewsHour host and author of *Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates, from Kennedy-Nixon to Obama-McCain*, visited Lynn on Nov. 9-10 as the Dively Frontiers in Globalization Lecture Series speaker. Lehrer has moderated a total of 11 presidential debates.

Seeing Lynn through new eyes: It's an experience, not a tour

To the left is our state-of-the-art computer lab. ... Our library was built in 1991 and contains 270,000 print and electronic items. ... And on and on. It's enough to give even the most interested prospective students and their families droopy eyelids. But, no longer. The admissions tour of the past is long gone, replaced by a campus experience called Lunch at Lynn.

It's so named, says Taryn Hamill '09, '10, campus visit coordinator in Lynn's Office of Admission, because the visits will begin or end with the most signature of Lynn moments—lunch in the cafeteria, complete with a faculty member along.

"We threw away our old tour manual," she says. "Lynn is so much more than a set of facts, buildings and a gorgeous

The visits will begin or end with the most signature of Lynn moments—lunch in the cafeteria, complete with a faculty member along.

campus. We want our prospective students and their families to truly experience Lynn, and that means seeing our people up close—our students, our professors and campus community."

Once visitors arrive on campus, they'll have their own reserved parking spot. From there, they'll be greeted by Lynn students and meet with a campus stylist dedicated to personalizing their visit. Separate experiences are planned for prospective students and parents because they have different questions and concerns, Hamill says. "We want parents to connect with other parents and students with students," she adds. Each group will be led by a Lynn student because, as Hamill explains, "students are our best storytellers."

The experiences will take students inside classrooms, into the residence halls, into the recording studio, on stage, and more, depending on their interests. They'll even walk onto the athletic court in the gym, where it all begins and ends for Lynn students—from new student orientation to commencement. The goal: to keep prospective students and their parents talking about Lynn long after their visit ends.

If you or someone you know would like to visit Lynn, you may make a reservation by visiting www.lynn.edu, or contacting the Office of Admission at 1-800-888-5966 or 561-237-7900.



GINA FONTANA

What an experience: (from top) Jalissa Whitfield (right), a prospective student from Leesfield, Fla., and campus stylist Youcef Oudjidane review her custom tour; stepping out on campus with tour guide Cory Drucker and Whitfield's friend, Tequila Hepburn; trying out the recording studio; enjoying lunch with human services professor Jill Levenson.

Ask the Professor

A Five-Minute Interview with a Lynn Professor

SINDEE KERKER, CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Sindee Kerker is associate professor of criminal justice in the College of Liberal Education. She has taught at Lynn since 1999, and her teaching specialty is in the area of criminal law and procedure. To honor her late brother, Michael Kain, who was an avid baseball fan, and to meet a need of student-athletes, she donated funds to build batting cages at Lynn. The Michael Kain Batting Cages were dedicated on Feb. 8, 2011. She holds a B.A. from the University of Florida and a J.D. from Whittier College of Law. Last May, she earned the Outstanding Teacher of the Year award, which is voted by undergraduate students.

Where are you from originally?

Queens, New York.

What led you to study law?

I was always arguing against some type of injustice, and I wanted to save the world.

What brought you to Lynn University?

My children. They went to Pine Tree Camps, and I couldn't help but marvel at such a beautiful campus. I had taken four years off from my career to be a full-time mother, and I thought teaching would fill a void once my kids went to kindergarten. I wondered if Lynn University had a criminal justice program. They did not when I started in 1999. So I came on board and helped develop the program, and I have watched it grow ever since.

What keeps you here?

The satisfaction I get in motivating my students and instilling a passion for learning. I love being able to guide students down a career path or toward solving real-world issues. I also want my students to believe in themselves and to realize that they have the potential to accomplish their goals.

How would you describe your teaching style?

I use the Socratic Method that is common in law school, only with TLC [tender loving care].

Fondest or proudest moments at Lynn?

Watching my students graduate. Being voted by the students as Faculty of the Year in 2011. Dedicating the batting cages for the baseball and softball student-athletes in memory of my brother.

Describe yourself in three words.

Passionate, committed, empathetic.

What is something that people would be surprised to know about you?

I have run two marathons: the Marine Corps Marathon and New York City Marathon. I like to listen to rap music. I graduated high school at 16, college at 19, law school in 2.5 years, and I was the youngest prosecutor in Los Angeles County.

Biggest influences in your life and why?

My husband, Ira, for his continued support and guidance in everything I do. My students for making me a better parent. My kids, Matthew and Sami, for making me a better professor.

What's your favorite way to de-stress?

Running, working out at the gym, listening to music, watching movies and reading *People* magazines.

What are you reading now for enjoyment?

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay.

Your favorite musician?

Barry Manilow and Mac Miller.

If you had three extra hours in every day, how would you spend them?

Grading papers.

If you weren't a professor, what would you be?

A judge or legal analyst.

Your definition of living a good life?

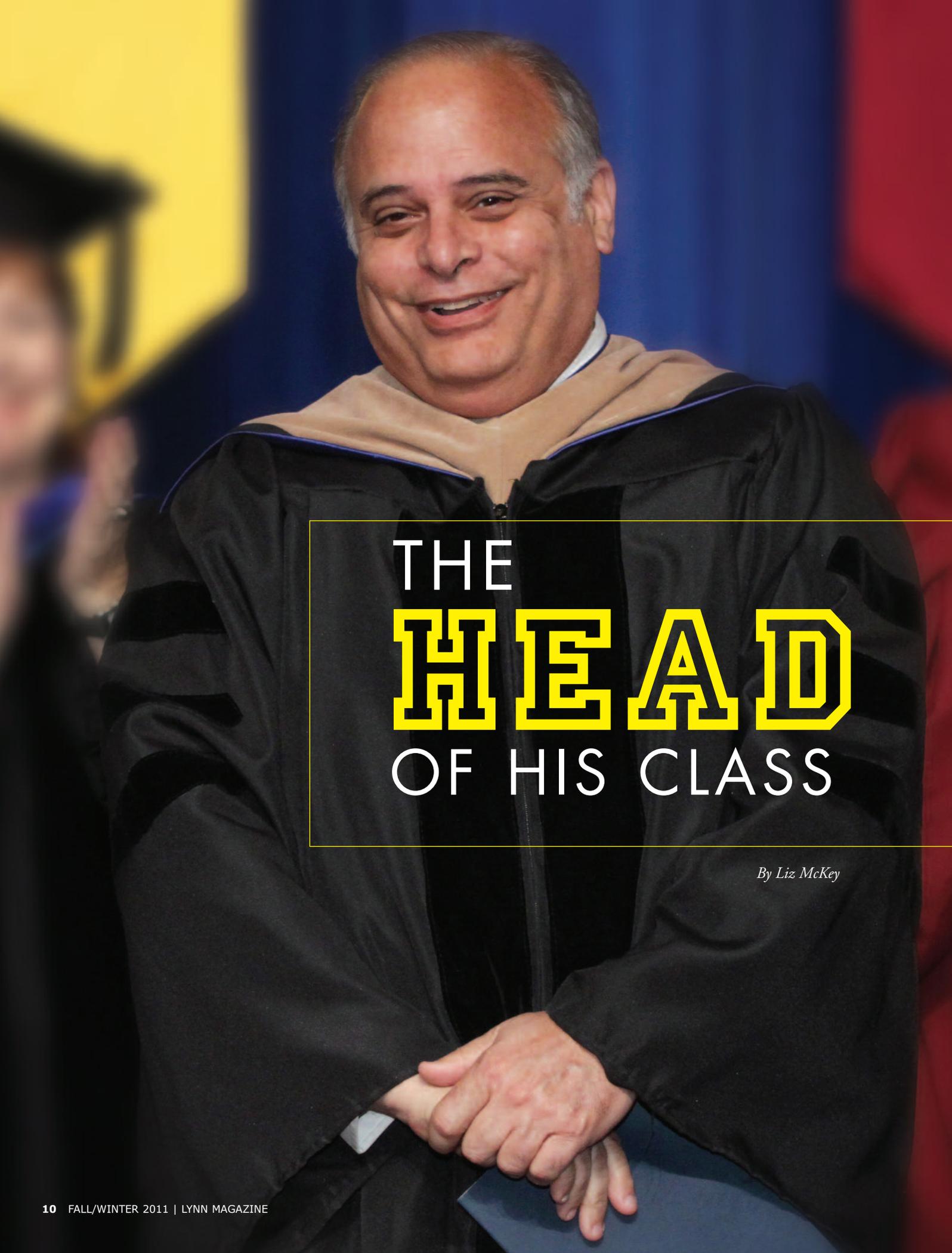
Being a great wife, mom, professor, colleague, friend...and making a difference in other people's lives.

—Liz McKey

Only online

Read more at
www.lynn.edu/magazine.





THE
HEAD
OF HIS CLASS

By Liz McKey



ask anyone about Ralph Norcio—his students, family, friends or colleagues—and you'll hear the same words: Kind. Loyal. Humble. Genuine. Caring. Fair. Intelligent. Diligent. Focused. Dedicated. Generous.

The list of accolades is practically endless, and it speaks volumes about the man who's become a pillar of the College of Business and Management faculty since joining the university in 1990. He's also led the college's faculty, as a former dean and now associate dean. In addition, he fulfills important duties as an academic advisor and the faculty athletics representative.

His talent and commitment have not gone unnoticed. Four times, students have voted him Outstanding Teacher of the Year, and his peers have selected him as Faculty Member of the Year. But perhaps his biggest honor came last May at commencement when President Kevin M. Ross announced Norcio had been awarded Lynn's first endowed professorship, The Homer and Martha Gudelsky Endowed Professorship in Business. (See sidebar on page 13.)

"Dr. Norcio has served the Lynn community as a dedicated and beloved mentor, scholar, professor and colleague," says President Ross. "He embodies all of the best qualities of the Lynn faculty and is the ideal recipient of the inaugural Gudelsky Professorship."

Of the honor, Norcio says, "What's especially gratifying is that I was recognized for my teaching and advising. ...The Gudelsky family recognized that's an important part of the fabric of this university, and they allowed the university to pick me."

Adds Gregg Cox, interim vice president for academic affairs, "By reputation, he is clearly one of the best, if not *the* best, teachers at the university. He's not only dedicated to students, but he's particularly dedicated to student-athletes. He's probably one of the most fair individuals I've known in terms of analyzing situations and trying to do the most he can for our students, while at the same time, being fair to all of them."

And yet, this most gifted of teachers almost didn't become one.

FROM BIOLOGY TO BUSINESS

Ralph Norcio grew up in a close-knit family of four in Washington, D.C. His father worked as an analyst at the Pentagon. Both parents were of Italian heritage. He was the firstborn, and his sister, Paula, came two years later.

"We were very different but always very close—still are. In school, I pulled C's and he pulled A's, but we were never competitive," she says. Her brother was the first to attend college, but surprisingly he didn't study business—at least, at first.

"In those days, everybody wanted their son to become a doctor," Ralph Norcio says. And so he enrolled at Georgetown University, where he obtained undergraduate and master's degrees in biology.

But, he says, "It just wasn't what I wanted to do."

Business was, and he earned an M.B.A. from Cornell University in 1975. "I thought I'd go to work in the corporate world," he recalls, "but the job market was tight. So, I took a job teaching at Northern Virginia Community College."

The person who hired him was none other than Jim Miller, today professor of management and accounting at Lynn and then the business division chair at Northern Virginia.

Along with Miller, Norcio met another lifelong friend at Northern Virginia, Tom Colucci, who taught business law there and today is an attorney in Arlington, Va. Colucci calls both Miller and Norcio "very dedicated educators." Of Norcio, he says, "If he has a mission



One of Lynn's most accomplished and admired professors, Ralph Norcio received one of academia's highest honors at commencement last May. He was awarded an endowed professorship—and Lynn's first—The Homer and Martha Gudelsky Endowed Professorship in Business.

"There's a sincerity, a huge commitment to making sure students are learning. It's not about the information he's giving out; it's about teaching his students."



Here, there, everywhere: Ralph Norcio is a familiar face across the Lynn campus: (clockwise) in the stands at a recent Fighting Knights soccer game, walking to class with one of his students, and sometimes on stage, such as when he played “Sonny” to Marsha Glines’ “Cher” during a fashion show produced by Lisa Dandeo’s fashion management class a few years ago. The skit brought the house down.

to do, he locks in on it and gets it done.”

Even when the three went their separate ways—Colucci to practice law, Miller to serve as business dean at Lynn (then the College of Boca Raton) in 1988, and Norcio to work in the corporate sector—they stayed in touch.

By 1990, Norcio realized that his true calling was teaching. As fate would have it, Miller was looking to hire a faculty member at Lynn, and he knew just the right person: Ralph Norcio.

Miller jokes, “The one good thing I did as dean was convince the university to hire Ralph.”

A SCHOLAR AND A PRACTITIONER

Four years after joining Lynn, Norcio earned a Ph.D. in business administration from The Union Institute. Today, his teaching specialties are finance and accounting—subjects in which he has considerable scholarly and practical experience. During his corporate years he was accounting manager at VSE Corporation, vice president and co-owner of P. S. & B. Enterprises, and partner in Walden and Norcio, CPAs. It’s that combination of expertise that, among other qualities, distinguishes his teaching.

“He applies theory to practice,” says Marsha Glines, dean of the Institute for Achievement and Learning and a Lynn faculty member since 1991. “He’s awfully good at helping his students understand the



“He’s a great teacher and receptive to students at any hour. And he’s always at the games.”

transition from book learning to career use.”

Linda Sarkisian ’10, who holds an M.B.A., agrees. “He’s worked in the real world, and he brings a lot to the table in that way. That’s why he has such a good connection with students.”

Says Glines, “I’ve watched him teach. I’ve spoken with his students. There’s a

sincerity, a huge commitment to making sure students are learning. It’s not about the information he’s giving out; it’s about reaching his students.”

Sarkisian adds, “You can’t just memorize a formula. He really gets you thinking.”

Norcio explains it this way: “I tell the students, ‘It’s about decision-making. How do you process the information so that you can make good decisions?’ I’m also fond of saying to them, ‘Here’s the answer: You get a number, but what does it mean? That’s what’s important. I don’t teach you to come up with answers; I teach you to ask questions.’”

A LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING

Norcio himself has never stopped asking questions and wanting to learn. Lynn’s first Fulbright scholar in 1999, he had never traveled outside the United States until that year, when he studied in Romania. He pursued the Fulbright after taking to heart then-Lynn President Donald E. Ross’ vision for an international university and faculty.

Ever since then, he has led academic study tours abroad, visiting 30 or so countries over the years. His favorite destination is Italy—in particular, Sorrento, reveals John Pickering, professor of history at Lynn for

more than 30 years who has joined him on seven academic tours. “Ralph is the one who organizes them, and he’s excellent at it,” Pickering says.

Cox, who was also part of Norcio’s tour in Italy, agrees. “He’s really been a proponent here of study abroad.”

Norcio has also supported another educational hallmark of Lynn’s—its nationally recognized core curriculum, the Dialogues of Learning, which emphasizes in-depth reading, writing and classroom discussion. “He was the first member of the College of Business and Management faculty to volunteer to teach in the Dialogues,” Cox points out.

Norcio says his first experience teaching a Dialogues course “was totally out of my wheelhouse, but I found it very interesting and enjoyable.”

He adds, “Earlier in my career at Lynn, I taught everything. It’s not like at a large school where you get pigeon-holed. I bet I’ve taught 30 or 40 different courses. ... I enjoy that because it keeps you in a learning mode.”

Marsha Glines admires his willingness to try new approaches. “Sometimes we get more conservative in our strategies as we get older—especially in higher education—which is not the way to go. Ralph epitomizes, ‘Hey, let’s give it a shot.’ That says something about his character—that he doesn’t believe he’s got every answer. That’s pretty cool.”

HIS FAVORITE HOBBY

Norcio likes to joke that his hobby is Lynn. Indeed, his other duties outside the classroom—associate dean, academic advisor and faculty athletics representative—require a serious time commitment. As faculty athletics representative, for example, he verifies student-athletes’ academic eligibility, administers the recruitment certification test to coaches, chairs the athletic council and meets with student-athletes regarding their athletic programs. And he’s done it for 10 years.

Business graduate Gabriela Canals ’10, ’11, who was a member of the women’s golf team, benefited from Norcio’s guidance on several levels. He was her undergraduate advisor, taught some of her graduate courses and was a loyal fan.

She says, “He’s a great teacher and receptive to students at any hour. And he’s always at the games. I don’t know how he does it all.”

“I’d much rather watch a competition with our students than a professional game in person or on TV,” Norcio says.

Lisa Dandeo, associate professor of fashion management at Lynn since 2003, says, “There’s not an athletic event that he misses unless he’s out of town, at a conference or in the classroom.”

“Ralph works every single day, Monday through Sunday,” sister Paula Hayes says. “Even when he takes a day off, he goes to campus.”

“I never come to campus that he’s not here,” says Miller. “He loves what he does. Really, he’s dedicated his life to Lynn—and his family.”

THE FINEST FATHER, BROTHER, COLLEAGUE

If there’s anything Ralph Norcio does better than teaching, it’s being a devoted dad and brother. Just ask his daughter, Jessica, who earned an M.B.A. from Lynn in 2009 and today works as a client advisor for the insurance brokerage and risk advisory firm Marsh in Palm Beach.

“I admire my father the most out of anybody—in terms of his success and in how important learning is to him,” she says. “It’s become somewhat of a passion of mine as well. He inspired that through his work ethic. He never complains about having too much to do. He just takes everything on and does a good job at it.”

Because he’s so humble, she heard about his receiving the Gudelsky Professorship not from him, but through the grapevine. “Jim Miller told my aunt, and we asked him, ‘What did you do?’”

Then, his daughter and sister watched the ceremony on Lynn’s website to see for themselves.

“The first person I thought of was our dad,” says his sister. “Both of our parents would have been ecstatic, but our dad in particular.”

“It gave me chills just to know how important Dad’s work is to him, how important that school is to him,” Jessica Norcio recalls. “I don’t think he’d want to do his job anywhere else.”

His colleagues wouldn’t want him to, either.

“He’s in a class all by himself,” Pickering says.

“He’s like a rock,” Miller notes.

But perhaps fellow Italian Dandeo says it best: “He’s the marinara that holds us all together.” LYNN

About the Gudelsky Professorship



A family’s generosity is making a lasting impact on educational quality at Lynn University.

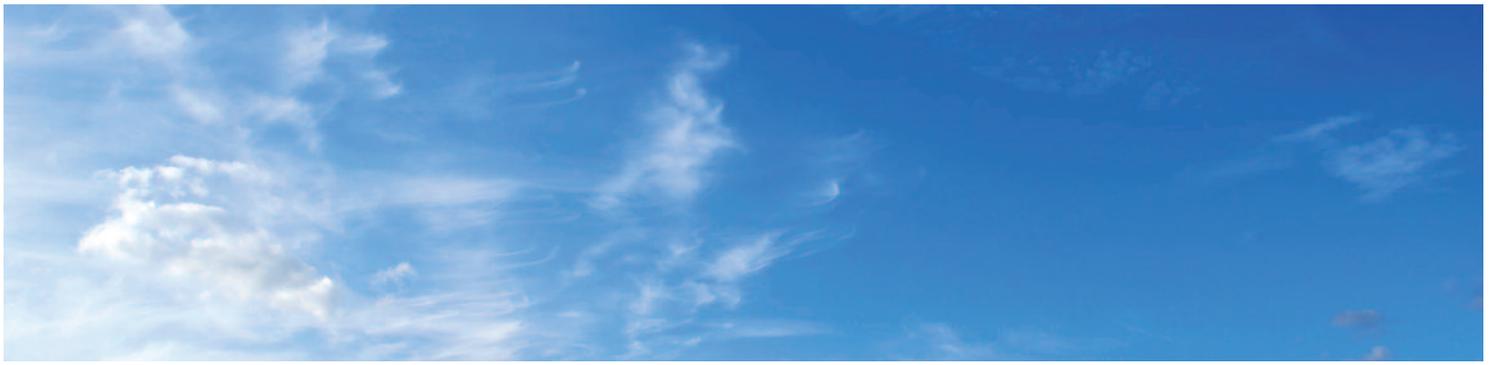
Before she passed away in 2007,

Martha Gudelsky established The Homer Gudelsky Endowed Professorship at Lynn University to honor her late husband. A native of Baltimore, Homer Gudelsky was president and CEO of the family’s aggregate businesses in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. He and his wife established The Homer and Martha Gudelsky Family Foundation, Inc. in 1968 to contribute to charitable programs devoted to improving health, education, the arts and the community.

After Martha Gudelsky’s death, her family completed the final funding of the endowment and renamed it The Homer and Martha Gudelsky Endowed Professorship in Business to memorialize her as well. Their \$1.5 million gift provides Lynn’s largest academic college, the College of Business and Management, with a permanently endowed faculty position.

In addition, the Gudelsky family donated \$300,000 to create an endowment for student scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to those students who demonstrate exemplary talent and leadership potential, but need financial assistance in order to afford an education at Lynn University.

Says Judi Nelson, vice president for development and alumni affairs, “Through these two endowments, this extraordinary family has helped secure Lynn University’s future success in two critical ways: helping the university attract and retain the most talented professors and by helping the university attract and educate the most promising students.”



ROBIN ROSLUND

STARTS

For Lynn's freshmen brimming with enthusiasm and potential, they've embarked on one of the most important beginnings of their lives—their first year of college. They're the Class of 2015, mighty in number, talent and motivation, and they're part of a year unlike any in Lynn history.

By Liz McKey



“Something’s happening here; you can feel it.”

Phil Riordan, Lynn’s vice president for student life, is grinning broadly and speaking of the 2011-2012 academic year. It’s only October, and already he’s excited about the freshman class and roll-out of new initiatives like the Mentor Program. It pairs members of Lynn’s administrative staff, including the president and cabinet members, with groups of first-year students to help them adjust to and thrive at Lynn.

“There are mentors from every department and division of the university,” he says. “The students see that we care about them, and the staff members love that they can make a real connection with students. It just adds another dimension to our individualized character.”

One of those mentors is Gareth Fowles ’99, ’01, vice president for enrollment management in Lynn’s Office of Admission. By virtue of his job, he gets to know the entering class early on—at the start of their college search. And right away, he liked what he saw.

“Through the applications,” he says, “we were definitely seeing a greater level of civic engagement among students at the high school level.”

Once they arrived on campus, these new students swarmed Lynn’s Student Involvement Fair, eager to get involved. Riordan reports a surge in membership of service groups like KIC (Knights in the Community) and Students For The Poor, and Lynn’s new student government organization, Knights of the Round Table. (See article on page 4.)

Stefani Silva, a freshman from Dallas majoring in international business, is embracing the opportunities. She’s enjoying KIC and the varied service opportunities it offers. “We just did KIC for Kittens, where we helped out with pet adoptions, and

now we’re working on breast cancer awareness,” she says.

Silva was one of the applicants with a strong record of service in high school. She was in ROTC all four years, rising to her school’s battalion commander, and served on student council. She values those experiences. “They helped develop my character, my leadership skills and, especially, my speaking skills,” she says.

At Lynn, she has already put those skills to good use. A resident in Freiburger Hall, she noticed a lack of nearby outdoor seating. “I saw students lingering out there, wandering around because they didn’t have anywhere to sit,” she says.

She mentioned it to her mentor, who just happened to be President Kevin Ross. Then, she met with Riordan, who liked her suggestions. As fate would have it, her father, who’s in the hotel renovation business, was overseeing a project in West Palm Beach, Fla., just to the north of Lynn, and donated outdoor furniture. She even helped move it to Lynn.

It’s a small step, but it’s given students another outdoor gathering space. And it’s inspired Silva to do more. “I feel that some students don’t think they have a voice. I want to change that. I want my class to be a productive one—since we’re one of the biggest classes in a while. I know there’s so much we can do.”

Her classmate and fellow KIC member Casie Binkowski agrees. A criminal justice major from Mattituck, N.Y., she’s already looking to serve on club boards and to one day work as a resident assistant. Like Silva,

Binkowski had a solid service background. “It just makes me feel good to help make other people happy.”

At Lynn, she has another reason to be happy. She’s made two of her closest friends through her mentor group and is making more. “All my friends here are pretty much international,” she says, ticking through a list of nations like Panama, Honduras, Brazil and the Dominican Republic.

One of them is Alejandra Berrio from Mexico City, Mexico—although she’s also lived in Panama City, Cancun, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic and Brazil. She’s enjoying the international dimensions she’s finding in her classes.

“Just today in Professor [Stephen] Aiello’s class, Emerging Self in the ’60s, we were talking about different cultures and what each thinks is right or wrong. There are students from all over—Haiti, Paraguay, Venezuela—with completely different perspectives. I thought, ‘Wow!’”

She also finds the class itself fascinating. “Exploring that one era is completely eye-opening for me because I’ve never lived in the States before.”

Academic excitement

The word from faculty about Lynn’s class is also positive. Says Gregg Cox, interim vice president for Academic Affairs, “Faculty are reporting that this year’s freshman class appears to be taking their education seriously, and it shows. They are prepared for class and therefore more engaged in the classroom, which makes class time more enjoyable for everyone.”

The university’s nationally recog-

WHERE THEY’RE FROM

Lynn’s incoming class numbers **538** and includes **405** freshmen and **133** transfer students. They hail from **54** nations and **37** states.

The top 5 countries include:

- Saudi Arabia
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Venezuela
- Italy

The top 5 states include:

- Florida
- New York
- New Jersey
- Massachusetts
- Maryland



Let's get busy: Stefani Silva (top photo, second from left) saw a need for outdoor furniture and, with her dad's help, made it happen. (Below, from left) new Knights in the Community members Casie Binkowski, Christina Carvatta and Alezandra Berrio love service projects like volunteering with pet adoptions.

nized core curriculum, *The Dialogues of Learning*, is a perfect match for these motivated students. Built upon three themes (Self and Society, Belief and Reason, and Justice and Civic Life), the core emphasizes reading, writing and in-depth discussion. The first-year class also is assigned a common reading, which is woven into coursework throughout the year. This year's book was the best-selling page-turner *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot (see sidebar on page 17).

To further satisfy their intellectual and service yearnings, freshmen will have their own January Term for the first time in 2012. Titled *The Citizenship Project: Commitment to Community* and taking place the 2½ weeks between the fall and spring semesters, the J-Term was created as part of Lynn's reaffirmation of accreditation process with the Southern Association of Colleges and

Schools (SACS) last year. Riordan and Associate Professor of International Relations Anna Krift co-chaired the effort, which was endorsed in full by SACS.

"The goal and focus is active citizenship," Krift says. "We know a lot of our first-year students are very service-minded. This is our chance to take that energy and focus it on the issues that are present for us here in South Florida and engage in our community."

Krift says the J-Term will include courses on environmental stewardship, sustainability, and poverty. Examples include "The Ocean as Environmental Crime Scene," "From Bad to Beautiful: Turning Bullies into Good Citizens," "One for All and All for One: America's Poor and Why We Should Care about Them" and "Organizing a Food Campaign via Social Media."

The Citizenship Project will kick off on Jan. 4 with a visit and keynote



AND THEY ARE ONLY FRESHMEN...

Some of Lynn's first-year students have already achieved claims to fame:

- **Jessica Bradley** – a golf player on full athletic scholarship from Bishops Nympton, United Kingdom, and the first in her family to attend college
- **Stephen Goldsmith** – a sports photographer from Princeton, N.J., published in *Sports Illustrated*
- **Alex Katz** – a Porsche Club of America pit crew assistant from Livingston, N.J.

- **Muratcan Koluk** – an Alpine skiing champion from Istanbul, Turkey
- **Energy Maburutse** – from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, who hasn't let poverty or brittle bone disease stand in his way of attending college in the United States. Featured last fall in *The New York Times*, he wants to one day work as a human rights advocate.

- **Jennifer Murillo** – TV hostess for Channel 7 in Costa Rica
- **Gary Pelletier** – the youngest firefighter in his town of Rocky Hill, Conn., and a member of the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Response Team
- **Philip Schloss** – a guitarist for a popular rock band in Beijing, China



Catching up: Vice President for Enrollment Management Gareth Fowles meets with one of his mentees, Alysha Virzi, over snacks at Christine's.

address by former Florida legislator, governor and U.S. senator Bob Graham. The namesake of the Bob Graham Center in Public Service at the University of Florida, he wrote *America: The Owner's Manual*, a book detailing case studies of citizens' successful efforts to influence the political system. Students will hear more on how one person can make a difference in panel discussions on Jan. 10 and 18.

"Our students have brought the passion and commitment to serve with them here to the university," Krift says. "Now, we're putting our 'South Florida/Lynn stamp' on that by getting them involved here with the local community."

It takes a university

Across the board—from recruiting the new class, to new initiatives like the Mentor Program and The Citizenship Project J-Term—campus-wide involvement has been key.

Fowles points to scores of faculty members who have led campus tours, written notes and met individually with prospective students. Staff members have supported Admission efforts such as Lynn's first Admitted Students' Experience held last spring. The three-day, two-night campus visit gave prospective students a sense of what it's like to live and learn at Lynn. And alumni have helped by attending college

fairs and hosting prospective students and their families.

"They're great recruiters for us," Fowles says. "Who knows better as to whom the right student is for us than our alumni?"

The J-Term's focus on citizenship resulted from input from the entire university community, including alumni. A university-wide committee contributed to the development of the project.

And the Mentor Program thrives because staff members volunteer extra hours every week to help new students flourish at Lynn.

More and more, word about Lynn is spreading. *U.S. News & World Report's* 2011 "Best Colleges" issue moved Lynn from its regional institutional ranking to its national university ranking. Moreover, it ranked Lynn as 4th on its national list for having the highest percentage of international students and 57th for having the highest proportion of classes under 20.

"That takes us to an entirely new level," Fowles says.

Riordan adds, "And soon we will be hosting a presidential debate. People are asking, 'What's going on at Lynn University?' When I first came here in 2009, I felt that if all the right things fell into place, Lynn was going to explode onto the national scene. Now that's happening." [LYNN](#)

THEIR JOURNEY BEGINS WITH A BOOK



Lynn's common reading for the 2011-2012 freshman class is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

An award-winning science writer, Skloot tells the story of the HeLa cell line, which was taken from an African-American woman who died of cervical cancer in 1951. Skloot herself became fascinated with the subject while a freshman in college.

The freshman common reading fulfills an important purpose at Lynn, says College of Liberal Education Dean Katrina Carter-Tellison. "It is the first common intellectual experience that our students have. At many institutions it will be one of the only common intellectual experiences that they have. For us, it is the beginning of that experience. It signals to our students that this is where they'll begin their intellectual journey at Lynn. It is a theme and a thread that we'll carry throughout our Dialogues of Learning core curriculum."

Like many of Lynn's new initiatives this year, it reflects the entire campus community. "A common reading is an indicator of what an institution values—what we are wrestling with and what we think our students will be wrestling with as they pass through our corridors," Carter-Tellison says.





Aha!

Today is the first day of the rest of your life. ... It may be a cliché, but there was a day for each of these Lynn alumni that contained a **defining moment** that led to a new beginning. Taking one path and then another, they followed their hearts, not their heads.

By Debbie Stern

Gregg McBride

They say life begins at 40—or 30 or 20 (depending on your milestone age). For Gregg McBride '83, it wasn't the age, but the pounds. For him, life didn't necessarily begin—but it did blossom—at 175 pounds.

That's because after being a fat kid, an obese adolescent and ballooning to a whopping 450 pounds in college, he finally was able to shed the weight and has kept it off for the past 12 years. It took a lot of hard work and determination, but started with one aha moment from a one-sentence piece of advice given to him by a co-worker.

He got the courage to go up to a slim man and asked how he managed to stay so trim. "He turned to me and basically said, 'Just stop eating so much!'" says McBride.

Now it sounds like a simple and obvious statement, and McBride admits he was angry at first. But after thinking about it, he took it to heart. And that advice led to the dramatic weight loss and ultimately a book, a TV appearance on *The Today Show* and most important, a whole new lifestyle.

McBride, a military brat, attributes his weight issues to his parents' strict eating rules.

When he started to put on weight, "my parents initiated martial law and banned all junk food," he recounts in his blog. "Suddenly there were no chips, cookies or candy of any kind to be found in our military base apartment..."

Always the class clown in high school, "I compensated with humor," he says, "and food was my drug of choice."

He has happy memories of his time at Lynn University—the College of Boca Raton then—where he received his associate's degree. Though his major was liberal arts, he dabbled in communication and did lots of theater.

"I've always been a total ham, no diet pun intended," he says with a laugh.

Though he was admittedly nervous when he first got to Lynn, even forgoing the cafeteria and ordering his meals in, it didn't take long for him to feel at home and comfortable.

"It was such an accepting place, a real melting pot of different people and personalities," he says of Lynn's diverse community. He felt at ease with the idea that "what makes us different, bonds us," he says.

Lynn was so accepting that he found his self-esteem

"[Lynn] was such an accepting place, a real melting pot of different people and personalities. . . . I had two of the greatest years of my life at Lynn and am so grateful; it fostered my creative ability and even played a role in my decision to lose weight."

growing, and he even lost some weight while here.

"I had two of the greatest years of my life at Lynn and am so grateful; it fostered my creative ability and even played a role in my decision to lose weight."

From his warm experience at Lynn, he went to Florida State University (FSU), where he was a little fish in a big pond. He didn't get the same kind of feeling or attention, so the weight came back on. By the time he graduated from FSU, where he got his bachelor's degree in organizational communication, he found himself tipping the scale—and actually thought he broke it when the window read "error"—at 450 pounds. No wonder: he was consuming 9,000 calories a day.

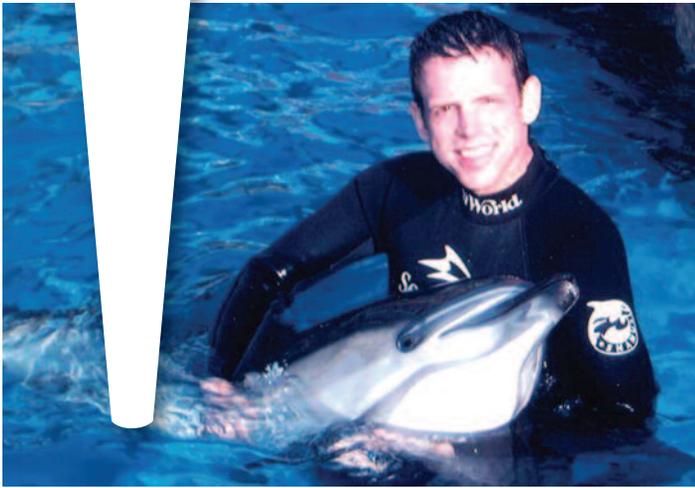
His weight affected the way he was treated on job interviews. People didn't make eye contact, and he'd be out of breath just talking on the phone.

"The perception of you is so difficult; you have your armor on when you walk outside." But he landed a job at Macy's in New York, writing fashion ads. "There's a lot of judgment in that business," he says.

So he moved on to the West Coast to an ad agency in San Francisco and then to Hollywood, Calif., where he switched to freelance work so he could spend more time on his real passion—writing screenplays. He remembers selling his first screenplay, *Epicenter*, "which was a disaster," he says, in more ways than one. "I imagined Jennifer Lopez in the lead role and ended up with porn star Tracy Lord."

He wrote for MTV and Disney, and has sold several screenplays, many still in development. He does advertising work as well.

But it was his experience with the weight loss and that phrase, "just stop eating so much," that inspired McBride to write "a skinny book about a skinny subject." Titled after the phrase, the book is filled with his advice, recipes, his trademark humor and common sense approach that led him to lose 275 pounds through exercise and 1,700 calories a day.



Lighter side: Greg McBride today (above) and (left) at Lynn



So, though his life did blossom at 175 pounds, there were a lot of things to get used to. “My body was thin, but my brain was still fat,” he says.

His writing and communication experience have served him well. He started a blog (<http://juststopeatingsoomuch.com>) in September and is included in an upcoming book featuring the most inspirational stories from *The Today Show’s* Joy Fit Club segments.

“I love getting the word out,” he says. “Everyone can do it. It’s an extreme fresh start, but you have to believe in yourself. People do crazy things to lose weight. I ‘get’ that Oreos taste so damn good,” he says, “but it’s all about balance and small portions.”

Emily Lipman

Take this job and shove it!

Well, she didn’t exactly say that, but it was how Emily Lipman ’08 felt the day she quit her job at a sports marketing company selling packages to major sporting events.

“I was miserable and hated it,” she says. “You had to fib to your customers. So, after the Final Four was over that year, I just quit.”

These days the shoe is very much on the other foot. She is the owner/proprietor of her own business, a boutique store called Raw Denim, in Atlanta.

Though she admits she really didn’t know what she wanted to do when she started college, she eventually gravitated to Lynn University’s sports management program.

“I was clueless when I started,” she says. “Like what does the word ‘major’ even mean?” But she loved Lynn. “I miss it!” she exclaims. “My professors were amazing. Professor Ted Curtis was my favorite. He really cared and wanted us to

experience sports.” And she got her job in the sports field because of her hands-on experience with Curtis’ Final Four course.

But her first love was minor league baseball. She worked with the River Dogs in Charleston, S.C., for a summer while she was still at Lynn, and when she graduated, with the River Bandits in Iowa. “I was very lucky to have a job right out of college,” she says, “especially with the economy the way it was.”

But after working in the minor leagues for two years, she discovered there was no future and not enough money in it. From there, she went to the sports marketing company, where she eventually got tired of the cold calling. It especially hit home that this was not what she wanted to be doing when fellow Lynn student and good friend Courtney Hayes perished in the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

“It hit me hard. They [the Lynn students and professors in Haiti] were doing something they loved, and I was sitting behind a desk and hating it,” she recalls. And I know I would have gone [to Haiti] also since I’m so into charity.”

So, what to do? She and her friend Jessica Lowman always talked about owning a boutique, so Lipman called her and said, “Let’s do it.” Lowman already owned a boutique in North Carolina, so they went into partnership and Lipman opened the store in Atlanta.

“It was a huge process that took months, but I put my hands on everything.” She liked the name “raw denim” because it was both masculine and feminine and they wanted to sell to men and women.

This venture was her new beginning. “Holy moly,” she says. “It’s not easy.” Though Lipman says she was nervous about opening the store and is “nervous every day,” she “wakes up loving life.”

She followed her bliss and plans to make more fresh starts.

“I want another boutique,” she says, “maybe in Mizner Park in Boca Raton.”



Setting up shop: Emily Lipman in her Atlanta boutique, Raw Denim



Treat-mobile: Felecia Hatcher drives up ice cream sales at an event

Felecia Hatcher

If you love ice cream and are a dessert freak like Felecia Hatcher '06, it's really "cool"—pardon the pun—to have a business that serves up such amazing, tempting treats as she does from her Feverish ice cream truck.

Even though she always had an idea to start an ice cream truck business, she never imagined that one day she would literally "fall" into it.

It was shortly after being laid off from a job she loved, marketing the video game *Wii Fit* for Nintendo. "Who wouldn't love that? My job was playing video games all day," says Hatcher.

But the economy rained on her parade, and she received the dreaded pink slip.

Not long after, she was at a pool party. "It was so hot, I thought, 'Wouldn't it be amazing to have ice cream here?'" she says. And as if on cue, an ice cream truck came rolling down the street.

"Without thinking, I picked up and ran after it in my stiletto heels and fell flat on my face," she remembers. "That day, I thought to myself, 'I'm way too old for this.'" (She was 25.) "And I wondered, 'Why hasn't anyone come up with a cool way for adults to have ice cream like kids?'"

So, she put all her nontraditional marketing experience and ideas together, and came up with ice cream targeted toward adults.

Hatcher was no stranger to marketing or starting her own business. The former Lynn University student had already started a business by the end of her freshman year with fellow student James Taylor '05, '09.

"I loved it at Lynn, and the best gifts from there are the people I met," she says of her good friend.

So, it was at Lynn that she and Taylor started an educational consulting business. Since she had received a full scholarship to Lynn, she wanted to help others who needed financial aid. Through her time at Lynn up until a year later, she visited community organizations to talk about preparing

for college. She now has written a book, *C Students' Guide to Scholarships*, based on that business.

"It's a guide to financing school when your grades are not up to par and you need financial help," she says.

Hatcher says she's not the type to sit in an office. "I'm an 'outside person' and love to travel," which she did going from city to city promoting community service and giving free health screenings for an experiential marketing company's Walgreen's Wellness Tour.

After that came her job marketing the Wii and her subsequent pink slip, which thrust her into unemployment.

"When you walk into college, you think you can rule the world and make a million bucks when you graduate, but that's not the case," says Hatcher.

But Hatcher very well may rule the ice cream truck world these days.

She started out small, buying an ice cream tricycle on Craig's List and filling it with fresh fruit bars with lots of different flavors like pine nut, mango, chili, pineapple and Tabasco.

"They were all fun flavors with big pieces of fruit, like an explosion in your mouth," she says.

But it was her first private event for the company Tyco where she realized the potential of private events. She brought creative ice cream like Japanese mocho balls and Curti Wurty pops which taste like orange Creamsicles, along with wine flavors like cherry merlot and chocolate cabernet.

With the proceeds from the event, she bought an actual ice cream truck and really "pimped" it out, she says. "We went to craft fairs and school events, mostly at night and even parked outside nightclubs. The traditional ice cream truck doesn't go out at night and certainly isn't upscale. We would set up a mini lounge area, play music and even take pictures."

People loved it, along with the alcohol pops she now began making at the request of an engagement party client.

And then came the call every food-related business hopes for. The Cooking Channel was looking to do a segment on fruit, found Feverish on the Internet and filmed a segment of *Unique Sweets* last July. The next day Hatcher's phone was ringing off the hook. "It was like the Oprah effect," says Hatcher, referring to the popular talk show's Midas touch on businesses and products it features.

Feverish started shipping popsicles all over the country and around the world, and even attracted offers from franchise companies.

As the company expands, Hatcher says, "I love it! I never imagined popsicles would be my passion."

She had no culinary or food experience, just a love of ice cream. Because popsicles are "the new cupcake" and food trucks are so popular now, her timing couldn't be better. She uses social media almost exclusively to grow her business. "You get immediate feedback, which is priceless," she says.

And you get to meet Tom Cruise. ... When *Rock of Ages* was being filmed in Fort Lauderdale, Cruise treated the crew to Feverish ice cream. Wife Katie and daughter Suri liked it so much they asked Hatcher back the next time they were in town.

Now that's cool. [LYNN](#)

Influx of new Knights brings challenges, excitement, coaches say

Lynn University welcomed 80 new student-athletes in 2011-2012, the largest group in the last six years. Baseball has the most new faces with 13 new players, followed by men's and women's soccer with 11 and 12 new student-athletes, respectively. Women's basketball has the largest percentage of newcomers at 67 percent (eight of the 12 team members). Second is volleyball and men's tennis, each with 61.5 percent (eight of 13) new student-athletes.

What does such a large influx of new student-athletes mean for the programs, players and coaches? Here's what Lynn's head coaches had to say about the phenomenon:



LYNZE ROOS, volleyball: "It's exciting because the new players bring unique perspectives, while the veteran players are able to fill in the gaps about what to expect regarding travel, behavior and opponents. Sometimes, practice can feel slow, since we've had to make sure all of our new players understand our terms and systems, but it's also incredibly rewarding to be able to bring a group together and in a short time, have a cohesive team. We've spent the past five years working hard to establish Lynn volleyball's place in the conference and in the country, so for us to have players who are honored to be a part of that is really something special."

MIKE PEREZ, men's and women's tennis: "The most challenging part is for new players to understand the culture of Lynn tennis and the all-out effort that is required every practice. The pros are the new faces and enthusiasm, and the con is the learning curve that has to be closed in such a short period of time."



RUDY GARBALOSA, baseball: "Having 13 new student-athletes brings a lot of new life to the program. As coaches, it is our goal to bring in that energy to create a greater passion for the program. But with this many players, there is a lot more teaching about the workings of the program that has to go on. This helps us as coaches stay sharp and keep our skills honed. It is easy when you have the majority of the team coming back to fall into the 'everybody knows what to do' scenario, but with so many new players, that never happens, and you have to stay sharp."

CHIP DUTCHIK, women's soccer: "The pros of having so many new student-athletes are the energy and excitement they bring. They have been waiting all their lives to compete in college. Then they get the opportunity to play at Lynn with such nice facilities, a beautiful campus and a supportive university. Their pros also can be their cons. Their youthful energy is wonderful, but they don't always realize the standard and level of play. You can tell them how competitive it is, but until they experience it, they just don't know."



Alumni: make your nomination for the Athletic Hall of Fame

Lynn University's Athletic Hall of Fame was founded in 2002 to honor the sports traditions of the university by recognizing former student-athletes, coaches and administrators. Since the creation of our Hall of Fame, 32 inductees

have brought distinction, honor and recognition to the Fighting Knights, having excelled at the highest levels while maintain the uppermost standards of conduct.

Lynn's Hall of Fame Committee is looking for the next inductee.

If you know of someone worthy of receiving one of the highest honors a former LU student-athlete can receive, log on to www.LynnFightingKnights.com/HallofFame and cast your nomination.

KIRSTIE SCHULTS is getting a kick out of Lynn

Freshman Kirstie Schults from Merritt Island, Fla., is one of 11 new players on the women's soccer team. Recently, she sat down with Sports information director Chad Beattie to discuss the adventures of being an NCAA Division II athlete.

What made you decide to come to Lynn?

It felt right when I came for my visit. The campus is very beautiful and just the right size, but getting to meet the girls and coaches was really the deciding factor. Everyone was so friendly and welcoming.

What has been the most difficult transition for you at Lynn?

Getting used to being away from home and being on my own. I really had to get used to doing my laundry, but it's getting better.

What has been your most enjoyable moment so far at Lynn?

Our big win against the University of North Alabama. We were down 1-0 and were able to come back for the win. From that moment, I just had a whole new feel for the team and what we would become.

How well have you and the other 10 new players been able to acclimate yourselves to the team?

We have definitely been able to become one big family. Having 11 newcomers didn't seem to faze us off the field because we all got along great. We just had to take steps to getting used to each other on the field more than anything.

What type of team activities have you all done to strengthen the team bonds?

Many things—from singing contests to Minute to Win It games. My favorite was where we had to stack five pastries on our foreheads in under a minute.

What was your experience like on your first road trip, and where did you go?

Our first road trip was a four-hour bus ride to Lakeland [Fla.] where we played Armstrong Atlantic and Belmont Abbey. ... It definitely helped build some bonding, especially since it was early in the season.

What adventures do you and your teammates hope to take part in during your time at Lynn?

Since we have three international team members, we are hoping to take them to their first American football game, along with trips to Disney and Universal.

What have you been able to learn from the older student-athletes?

How to manage time between school and soccer. They've always been there to show me around campus and tell me things I need to know about Lynn, like where and when is the best place for laundry or what classes to take.

High-five: Kirstie Schults (right) and goalie Kelsey Butler at practice



GREETINGS

Beginnings bring possibilities



When we, in the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, think about “beginnings,” we are reminded of the generosity of alumni, friends and parents who have made so much possible at Lynn University.

The creation of the university’s first-ever endowed professorship is one such beginning. (See story on page 10.) This prestigious honor, given to professor Ralph Norcio, also shows support in perpetuity of the outstanding excellence of Lynn’s College of Business and Management.

This Connections section carries news of other beginnings as well. Alumni happy hours and regional clubs in Boston, the D.C./Maryland and New York areas keep alumni in touch with each other and their alma mater. Also, the Institute for Achievement and Learning received a generous gift to conduct marketing research.

The research findings helped the university develop data to compare and benchmark the institute with other programs in the United States. The positive feedback has encouraged

the university to share the strengths and values of the institute.

Speaking of beginnings, we want to know about you—our alumni, parents and benefactors. Please keep us informed about the meaningful benchmarks in your lives.

We look forward to seeing you at Alumni Weekend, March 30-31, 2012.

Judi Nelson
Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs

Gift to IAL keeps on giving



The IAL’s Melissa Knight (right) tutors Ana Lopez.

For the second year in a row, Lynn’s Institute for Achievement and Learning (IAL) received a generous gift from the Hahn-Block Family Foundation. This year’s gift funded research that compared IAL with other programs of its kind in the United States.

SRA, an independent research company, conducted individual interviews and a web-based survey among

alumni, parents, educational consultants and high school counselors to receive feedback that determined those qualities that make Lynn’s program unique.

From that research, the university learned that it is “considered the ‘Rolls Royce’ of learning differences universities,” according to many

counselors and consultants. Lynn also learned that the IAL tops the list in all attributes rated as important among consultants and counselors in their referral process.

“Lynn does a great job with students whose learning style requires some creativity on the part of faculty and the administration. We all need folks who celebrate differences,” says

educational consultant Cathy Henderson.

And that includes students outside Lynn. The institute now offers any local student the same high-quality, research-based testing it offers Lynn University students—suggesting strategies that will positively affect classroom performance from pre-K to post-graduate work.

The foundation also subsidized travel throughout the East and West Coasts for Marsha Glines, IAL dean, to present the institute’s values at conferences and schools.

“I was happy to hear of the success of the Hahn-Block Foundation’s sponsored travels. It is very impressive how many places/schools were visited. The exposure is amazing. I am pleased to hear that this model will continue to be used because of its efficacy,” says Liz Block, who facilitated the gift.

Alumni stay connected, close to home

Regional clubs are sprouting up across the Northeast, encouraging alumni to stay connected to each other and their alma mater while being close to their homes.

These self-sustaining area clubs offer opportunities for alumni to rekindle old friendships, make new ones, network and remain active in the extended Lynn University community.

Members organize and sponsor social, athletic and professional events that bring together alumni from throughout their regions. Currently, clubs are active in the Boston, New York and D.C./Maryland areas.

Following a tailgate fit for a Knight, the Boston club kicked off the summer with an outing to Gillette Stadium to watch the New England Revolution. A couple of days later, nearly 40 New York alumni and friends hit Yankee Stadium to take in America's favorite pastime.

In July, alumni from Philly gathered at Triumph Brewing Co., while D.C./Maryland alums met at Mike's Crab House before boarding Matt '99 and Betsy '02 Jaeger's boat for a cruise along the South River in Maryland.

Participation in regional events builds camaraderie and enhances Lynn's presence and reputation in your community. We welcome new contacts from alumni and friends, and urge you to get involved. For more information, contact Matt Roos at mroos@lynn.edu.



1

Boston

- 1. Julie Gibbons '82 and daughter Julie Radoccia, Alyssa Greenwood '98, Mike Levitz '05 and guest
- 2. Mike Levitz '05, Brandy Gill, Jay Brandt '99, '01

D.C./Maryland

- 3. Cindy Langan, President Emeritus Donald E. Ross, John Langan '81, Helen Ross, Maureen Noonan '68
- 4. Matt '99 and Betsy '02 Jaeger

New York

- 5. Jackson Peddy '08, Adger Ellison '06
- 6. (Front) Ryan Feigenblatt '09, '11; Jessica Kenney; (back) Noah Rosen '06; Cory Nick '06

Philadelphia

- 7. Matt Roos '08, Dennis Adams '73, Jim Everett Chamberlin Jr. '86
- 8. Megan Wechsler '97, Joseph Pucci '11, Dorothy Adams, Paul Robino '74



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

Sylvia Kim takes center stage at the Wold

Sylvia Kim started learning the violin at age 2½, and began studying with Carol Cole at age 5. Her parents took the serious approach, making practice a part of her daily routine. But, Kim recounts, there was no specific professional goal in mind—playing was simply one of her childhood activities. The turning point for her came just before her teen years. While attending the Indiana University String Academy, she realized that playing actually required thought and effort, and began to consider whether she should pursue performing professionally. Her studies continued with Sergiu Schwartz from her early teens through college. She earned her B.M. at Lynn University in 2005, and then studied at the Curtis Institute of Music with Pamela Frank. In 2008, Kim joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

A winner of numerous local, national and international competitions since age 11, Kim returned to the Lynn campus to perform Tchaikovsky's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 35, with the Lynn Philharmonia Orchestra on Sept. 17. Vibrant and articulate, Kim was eager to share her thoughts on Lynn, life and the future.

How does it feel to be back at Lynn?

It's amazing to see how much has changed. The road is still the same—but now there is so much more between the front and back gates. The Wold Center is beautiful. It's a perfect size, and it's wonderful for the Philharmonia to have its own home. When I was student, we always had to go someplace else to perform.

What about your Lynn experience helped you?

First and foremost, there were so many "real world" performance opportunities, like the Performance Forum. I had to learn how to speak about a piece of music to the audience, which I hated at first. There are so many times—not in concert halls, but at fundraising and community events—when this is expected, so it's an important skill, and it takes some thought and experience to do it well. Second, I was very grateful to receive scholarships at both Lynn and Curtis; I could not have afforded the training otherwise. It's daunting for musicians who graduate with student loans—it's hard to get a career started and still find gigs to pay off the loans. So I consider myself very fortunate.

What is your life like with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO)?

I was very lucky to land my position with the PSO. We travel a lot, which I love. In three years, I have been to six new countries. One of the coolest parts is playing in all these amazing concert halls. My favorite, I think, is the London BBC Proms: It seats 5,000, with standing room for another 1,000. People wait in line starting at 9 a.m. to get one of those standing room tickets. It's like no other place in the world—the closest thing to a rock concert for a classical orchestra. Everyone is very quiet during the performance, and then the audience erupts with cheers and chants at the end. Very cool. Another is playing at the Musikvereinshaus in Vienna—the PSO performed there in May 2010. The sound is so

fantastic, it makes everything you play sound good.

Musically, it's interesting and challenging to play new music via the PSO's composer of the year series, where we perform multiple pieces of a single contemporary composer throughout the year. I also love revisiting non-orchestral or chamber works that I performed when I was younger. At age 13, I played it at one level, but each time I go back to that particular piece, I hear more layers and find now it's harder because I have learned more.

What advice would you like to share with current conservatory students?

Pamela Frank at the Curtis came to say hello and good luck before one of my performances, and I told her I was really nervous. She said,

"Why? It's not like you've never made a mistake before and not like you'll never make one ever again, so just go out and make some music." That's what I'd like to pass on.

As you look ahead, what are your thoughts of your future?

I have no idea where life is going to lead me. I'm fortunate to not be struggling while playing music, something I love, and that affords me the possibility to explore different interests outside of music. Anything from skydiving to pursuing my inner yogi to reading *The Economist* and everything in between. There is so much to learn about the world, and any topic I'm unfamiliar with is fascinating to me. I don't foresee the curiosity going away anytime soon.

—Susan M. Harrington



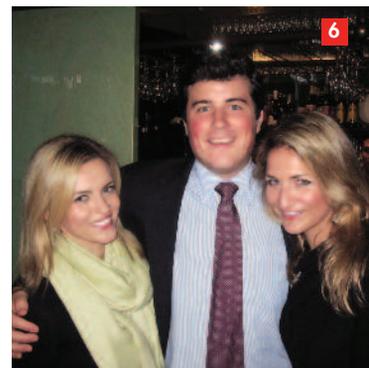
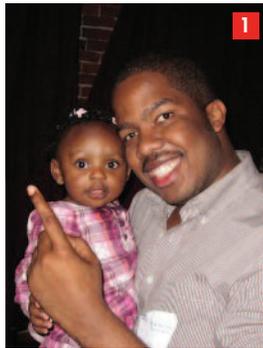
BOSTON BOSTON

Knights unite on the road

Alumni reconnected at Lynn on the Road receptions in the Northeast.

First stop: Boston's historic North End, where Chef Jose Duarte '95, '98 opened his restaurant, Taranta, to fellow Beantown alumni on Sept. 20. Duarte received the 2010 MassRecycle Award and the 2011 Chef of the Year in Massachusetts by The Massachusetts Restaurant Association. He also is a member of the President's Alumni Advisory Council and the Leadership Society of Lynn University.

1. Jean Nezivar '08, '09 and little friend
2. Jay Brandt '99, '01; Jeffrey Winnick '05, '06; Sarah Greco '06; Noah Rosen '06; David Everett '04
3. Greg Woodbury '09, Jeffrey Winick '05, '06, Jesse Redstone '08
4. Shirley Remy, Dayrims Fleites '10, Jean Nezivar '08, '09, Sabrina Klein '10
5. Jose Duarte '95, '98; Angelo Maiuri; Sandra Maiuri '85, '86
6. Mikaela Shea, Daniel Hennessey '11, Britta Konary '08
7. President Kevin M. Ross, Maureen Hennessey, Britta Konary '07, Daniel Hennessey '11
8. Danielle Hanoud '01, David Gill '00, Sabrina Klein '10
9. Matthew Schena '08, Matt Roos '08
10. Cianna Winnick '06; Nalini Maharaj '05, '11; Nicole Roy '05; Sarah Greco '06
11. Andrew Frawley, Juli Frawley, Troy Paul '11
12. Thomas Shaffer '11, Wilson Onu '06, Kyle Hall '10



CONNECTIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C./MARYLAND WASHINGTON, D.C./MARYLAND WASHINGTON, D.C./MARYLAND

Next stop: Washington, D.C./ Maryland, where hosts Matt '99 and Betsy '02 Jaeger greeted fellow alumni at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md., just north of D.C. on Oct. 4. Founded in 1924, the members-only club has hosted two U.S. Opens and a PGA Championship. The Jaegers are members of the President's Alumni Advisory Council and The Leadership Society of Lynn University.



1. Paul Hersh, Jennifer Hersh '11, Lauren Hersh
2. Andrew Hess, Susan Hess, Matt Jaeger '99
3. Ana Maria Edwards '11, Brittany Hutchinson '10, Jeff Davis '09, '11, Elissa Trindle '11
4. Jennifer Freedman, Jephtha Nguherimo
5. President Kevin M. Ross, President Emeritus Donald E. Ross, Judith Nelson, Betsy Jaeger '02, Matt Jaeger '99
6. David Leone '98, Gregory Sullivan '89, Matt Roos '08
7. Ashley Ilenfeld '08, Betsy Jaeger '02, Lauren Wiley '08, Laurel Gates '07
8. Edgar Nunley, Edgar B. Nunley '08, Seema Kumar '99, '01, Karen Nunley

Last stop: New York City, where alumni gathered at Hudson Terrace to enjoy a magnificent urban vista at this all-season rooftop venue on Oct. 6. Alumni from the city and surrounding boroughs shared cocktails and conversation in temperature-controlled, glass-enclosed cabanas while reminiscing about their years at Lynn.

To view more photos from events, see the Photo Gallery at our.lynn.edu.



1. Ashley Ilenfeld '08, Lauren Carr '08, Allison Kastner '09, Christina Laube
2. Betina Rodriguez '09, Jackson Peddy '08, Josh Kerner '11
3. Juan David Ospina '10 and guest
4. Heather Glassberg '06, Matthew Landis '06, Laurie Foster '06, Kerri Sternberg '06, Sara Foster '06
5. Justine Eaglin '04, Thomas Swindell
6. Stacey Chando '04, Ana Segura '04
7. Matt Roos '08, Jay Brandt '99, '01, Cliff Bollmann, President Kevin M. Ross
8. Jessica Tuck '08, Katherine Gale '09, '11, Cory Nick '06
9. Lorence Dippolito '02, Kate Johnson '02
10. Michele Jacobacci '03, John Fitzsimons '05, Rob Cullen '03, Colleen Fleischmann '04
11. Brittany Rieker '09, Josh Kerner '11, Patrick Nurthen '10, Ashley Royce '10, Lindsay Ploshnick '10



From South Florida to South Africa, here are updates from Lynn alumni worldwide.

1966

Ines E. Gizzarelli, RSHM is being sent to Mexico by her religious community to minister to the Mexican people there for a few years.

1981

Gordon C. Glassey has worked in management with the State of Florida for 20 years. After earning his degree from Lynn, he received a degree in radio and television broadcasting from the Brown Institute and a degree in certified public management from Florida State University. He resides in Weston, Fla.

1988

Paul R. Bowdre is assistant professor of criminal justice at the State University of New York (SUNY) Canton.

1991

Mary Lindgren Carter is the owner of M Carter Placement Specialists in Eagan, Minn. Established 3½ years ago, her business serves recipients of workers' compensation by helping workers get back into the workforce or attend school for retraining. "It is the most rewarding job, both personally and financially," she says.

1994

Eiji Hagiwara (right) reunited in Sweden with fellow alumni (from left) **Jarkko Ollikainen '93**, **Teresa Ohrn '98, '01** and **Therese Ekerholm '98**. Not shown is **Staffan Wage '94**.



Dan Martinez is chief of the Operations Management Division for the United States Army, Program Executive Office (PEO) Enterprise Information Systems (EIS) Logistics Modernization Program (LMP), based in Washington, D.C. Dan also holds a Master of Professional Studies degree from Lynn ('97).

Mark S. McDowell serves full-time as the associate minister at Margate (N.J.) Community Church and has begun a pastoral care internship program at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

1996

Heather L. Logrippo owns *Distinctive Homes Magazine* and a PR firm, Expose Yourself Public Relations. She resides in Shrewsbury, Mass., with her husband, Jason, and children, Madison and Brock.



1997

Kristen Moraz Migliano and husband Andrew Migliano welcomed a son, Samuel Andrew, into the world March 15. Kristen is Lynn's athletic director and also holds an M.B.A. ('00) from Lynn, as well as a Ph.D. from Capella University.



Daniel S. Shapiro works at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Baltimore. He and wife **Jen (Rose) '98** have a daughter, Rebecca Rose, and son, Erik Teague.

1999



Gulsah Akkaya, a former member of Lynn's women's basketball team and an All-American, is playing professionally. She has played on the Turkish National team, which won the silver medal in the European Championship recently.

2000

Keith Havalotti is a financial advisor with Baystate Financial Services of Boston, one of New England's oldest and largest, privately owned financial services firms.

2002

Farley Rentschler recently moved to Palm Beach. She represents artist Daniel Bottero as his art director and serves on the board of trustees for the Wild Dolphin Project.



2004

Masha Bayser and Derrick Acklin were married on March 19, 2010, in Boca Raton, where they now reside. They both work in Delray Beach, where she is a customer support executive at ProPayroll, and he is manager at Eurotech Auto Motorsports. Masha also earned an M.B.A. ('06) from Lynn and now serves as vice president of the LU Alumni Association.



Daniel Belton is assistant director of activities at the Atlantis resort, Paradise Island, Bahamas, where he has worked for seven years. His primary focus is corporate/group functions such as fun days and team-building exercises along with special events the resort puts on during major holiday weekends. He and wife Linzi have been married for three years. In 2009 they renewed their vows underwater at the resort's Ruins Lagoon. They recently became parents of a baby girl.

Noah B. Hershey and Jennifer Meyers were married May 30, 2010, in Youngstown, Ohio. They now reside in University Heights, Ohio. Noah is an independent distributor for Mac tools, and Jennifer is a legal assistant.

2005

Andrew M. Blyth and Pamela Massa were married in December 2010 in Staten Island, N.Y., where they now reside. Andrew works as a coffee trader with Royal Coffee New York, Inc., and Pamela is a ultrasound technician with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, N.J.

Andrea Bruno is executive director of Gateway Health Clinic, Inc., in Muncie, Ind. The nonprofit clinic provides primary medical care, work-related physical exams and school and athletic physical exams and immunizations for eligible low-income residents of Delaware County, Ind. Andrea also holds an M.B.A. ('06) from Lynn.

Reggie E. Jackson and Neshada Powell were married on June 19, 2010, at the Atlantic Resort and Spa Hotel in Fort Lauderdale.

Lori Anne Reid is principal of Bayshore Elementary School in Port St. Lucie, Fla. She is pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University.



Yi Zhang and **Douglas Goldberg '03, '04, '06** were married March 13 in West Deptford, N.J. They have settled in Texas, where Douglas works as a graduate advisor at the University of Houston Moores School of Music, and Yi is a piano faculty member at Lamar University and teaches private piano lessons.

2006

Andrew B. Carrabis graduated from the University of Florida Levin College of Law with honors and passed the Florida Bar Examination.



Justin Cohen is a staff writer for *World Tennis Magazine*. A former member of Lynn's men's tennis team, he writes a weekly tennis business column and has

interviewed top ATP and WTA Tour athletes including Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Maria Sharapova and the Williams sisters.

Michael C. Fisch is a multimedia journalist at WFMY-TV in Greensboro, N.C. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling and spending time with friends.

Lutrica Y. Hankerson has established a business, Conquering Excellence Inc., to assist women and young girls in furthering their education and learning job skills. She resides in Fort Lauderdale and also holds an M.S. ('08) from Lynn.

Daniel B. Horowitz is a commercial specialist at Plastridge Insurance in Boca Raton.



Megan S. Osmer is director of basketball operations for the women's basketball team at the University of Washington in Seattle. She resides in her hometown of

Bellevue. Formerly, she was an assistant coach at San Jose State University.



Jorge Saca started his own business, Maspur Marine (www.maspor-marine.com), with his colleagues Jose Ortiz from Panama and Mauricio Solórzano from Nicaragua. They represent Pursuit Boats and Rampage Yachts for Central America. In 2007, they won top 10 dealer worldwide for Pursuit. In 2008, 2009 and 2010 they won Pursuit's top dealer worldwide. In 2009 and 2010, they won Rampage's top dealer worldwide.



2007

Julian Palma served in Colombia's Foreign Service from March 2009 to March 2011 and was posted at the Embassy of Colombia to South Africa. He

worked as the ambassador's personal assistant and carried out a political dialogue between South Africa and Colombia to strengthen South-South Cooperation. In May 2011, he joined the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria. There, he conducted research for a Human Rights and Foreign Policy project. On a personal note, he won a *GQ* South Africa photography contest and has been appointed the magazine's street style photographer. He is applying to master's programs in international relations and plans to return to Colombia in

2012 to work with a humanitarian assistance agency to help the internally displaced population of almost 4 million (second only to Sudan).

Thomas N. Tickenoff is an industry relationship manager for Just Almonds International. He purchases almonds for shipment to faraway destinations such as Hong Kong, Spain and Dubai. "I speak with international clientele on a daily basis and truly enjoy my job," he reports.

2008

Giampaolo Mammoli opened Caoba restaurant in Madrid last May.



Jonathan S. Roos and wife Andrea became parents of a daughter, Emily Bryn, on Sept. 13, 2010.

Laura Vann and Josh Stephens were married June 4, 2011, in Delray Beach, Fla. Laura, who also earned an M.S. in communication and media in 2010 from Lynn, works as a public relations specialist in Lynn's Office of Marketing and Communication.



Lynze L. Roos and **Matt Roos** became parents of a son, Loren Richard, on Jan. 23. Both parents work at Lynn; Lynze is head volleyball coach, and Matt is director of alumni affairs.

2009

Joel Biedrzycki was appointed to the percussion section of the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra in Hyogo, Japan. After earning a Master of Music degree from Lynn, Joel earned a Professional Performance Certificate from the Conservatory of Music in 2011.

Janlou Borges works for Global Wines Distribution as a wine consultant in the Miami/Fort Lauderdale area. Also a professional deejay, he is chief party rocker at his company, Souzn Of Steel.



Ryan S. Feigenblatt, who also earned an M.B.A. from Lynn in 2010, recently launched a new business venture. The Boca Ratonian, owned and operated by RSF Holdings,

LLC, provides marketing services to local businesses by integrating traditional and new media. The Boca Ratonian specializes in local advertising and distributing commercial print products. Details can be found at facebook.com/thebocaratonian.

Michael Griffith has moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he works as a news photographer/editor/truck operator for KCRG-TV9, an ABC affiliate. Formerly, he worked as a master control operator for WMDT 47 in Salisbury, Md.

Bernard R. Londoni was accepted into the Ph.D. program at the Institute of Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University.

Nikola Nikolovski is pursuing an Artist Diploma at Oberlin Conservatory (Oberlin, Ohio). In addition to her B.M. degree, she also holds an M.M. from Lynn.



Vir Philip (left) is the district Rotaract representative in India, heading 22 Rotaract clubs in District 3010. Rotaract is an international youth organization that strives to bring about positive change. He was president of Rotaract while attending Lynn.

Scott G. Plumb is an online client services coordinator at Sandow Media in Boca Raton. He also holds an M.S. in communication and media ('11) from Lynn.

2010

Anthony R. Altieri and Stephanie Jackson welcomed into the world a son, Kyle Anthony, on May 25. Anthony is assistant dean of students at Lynn, and Stephanie is an assistant professor in the Lynn College of International Communication.

Kristin M. Grey is the guest services concierge coordinator for the Philadelphia Eagles. She is responsible

for overseeing the luxury suites, the suite clients and the staff who serve them at the Eagles' Lincoln Financial Stadium.

Christine Johnstone is attending Lincoln Memorial University School of Medicine in Harrogate, Tenn. Her current interests are pediatrics and sports medicine.

Zachary Reece Smith is pursuing his M.B.A. in investment valuation and finance at Lynn. He also is employed full time in product management for Jarden Corporation's Consumer Products Group. Zach resides in Boca Raton.



Jonathan Weitz is currently the multimedia producer at Pratt Institute in New York City. His work at Lynn University has earned him two 2011 Telly Awards.



2011

Mohamed G. Abdalla is an admission counselor at Lynn University.

Jeffery J. Karlson is pursuing a Master of Music degree at the Manhattan School of Music.

Jonah Kim is assistant principal cello of the San Francisco Ballet. Formerly, he was principal cellist with the Miami Ballet.

Billy Rueckert is pursuing a Master of Music degree at The Boston Conservatory.



Get happy

The 2012 Alumni

Happy Hours

are set for Miami, Atlanta, West Palm Beach, California and Long Island.

Check our.lynn.edu for updates, mark your calendars and meet us there!

ALUMNI WEEKEND

March 30 & 31, 2012

RELAX and enjoy South Florida's balmy tropical weather.

REMINISCE with friends who knew you when.

RECONNECT with classmates and faculty members from your college.

Come back to the beautiful
Lynn University campus in
Boca Raton.



all styles welcome



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Remembering our alumni and friends

Maria Elvira Azua '76 of Miramar, Fla., passed away May 30.

Jonathan Hershey Beck, a former student at Lynn from Pepper Pike, Ohio, passed away on Oct. 21.

David Danny Cohen '99 of Coral Springs, Fla., passed away May 16. After attending Lynn and working as an associate at various computer companies, he became president of ITDS Computer Company in Coral Springs. At the university, he was known as "Gadget" for his love of electronics.



Michael Rocco DeFruscio, a former student from Greenwich, Conn., passed away Aug. 11. He was an Eagle Scout and a mem-

ber of the Order of the Arrow, the national honor society of Boy Scouts of America. During his senior year at Lynn, he was the president of Alpha Phi Delta fraternity.



Juliette Dively of Delray Beach, Fla., passed away June 7. A longtime friend and benefactor of Lynn University, she was best associated with the

Dively Frontiers in Globalization Lecture Series. Through the George S. Dively Foundation, she and her husband established an endowment to create the series, which brings to the Lynn campus and the community exceptional speakers to share their expertise and engage in important dialogues. She was also a generous supporter of student scholarships.

Ellen Mary Doran '66 of Boca Raton passed away on June 16. She began her career with the FBI in Washington, D.C., and then worked in the congressional office of Rep. Paul G. Rogers. She was employed locally by IBM Corporation and affiliated companies.



Wilma Anne Elmore of Gulf Stream, Fla., passed away Oct. 22. With her husband, George, she was a devoted friend of Lynn University. Active

in numerous community organizations, at Lynn she was founder and president of the Excalibur Society and helped create an endowed scholarship fund. In 1995, Lynn presented the Elmore's Boca Raton Award, in recognition of their community service and dedication to education.

Barbara Gordon, of Boca Raton and a friend of Lynn University, passed away Jan. 4.

N. Richard Kimmel, of Boca Raton and Rockville, Md., and a friend of Lynn University, passed away Aug 1. He was a general contractor until 1989 and served as vice chairman of Citizens Savings Bank.

Edna Lutz of Boca Raton passed away Feb. 12. A friend of Lynn University, she was a member of the Leadership Society and Theatre Arts Guild.

Charles Marqusee, of Boca Raton and a friend of Lynn University, passed away Feb. 20.



Ray "R.C." Osborne of Boca Raton passed away March 3. A loyal and generous friend of Lynn University, he served as a member of the board of

trustees from April 1973 (when Lynn was known as Marymount College) until July 2006. He was very active in the community and served on numerous boards. He earned his bachelor's degree at North Carolina State University. From 1955 to 1957, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army before obtaining a law degree from the University of North Carolina. He then was elected to the Florida Legislature

and eventually served as the state's first Republican lieutenant governor. After departing public service, he formed his own law firm, Boca Raton-based Osborne & Osborne, P.A., where he worked with his nephew and current Lynn trustee, R. Brady Osborne, Jr.



Shaun Pendleton, head men's soccer coach at Lynn University from 1991 to 2008, passed away in Boone, N.C., on Sept. 6. While at

Lynn, he led the Fighting Knights to two national championships and six conference championships. In 2008, he joined Appalachian State University as its men's soccer coach. He was a native of Sheffield, England, and a two-time All-American at the University of Akron, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees.



Maxwell Richards '11 of Pepper Pike, Ohio, passed away July 19. At Lynn, he earned a degree in hospitality management and was a member of Alpha Phi Delta fraternity.

Raymond T. Saxen of Boca Raton passed away March 14. He was a former adjunct professor at Lynn and, prior to that, taught science for 29 years at Pope John Paul High School.

Danielle (Humphrey) Seute '75 of Vienna, Va., passed away May 30.

Anne M. Schiff of Boca Raton passed away Oct. 24. A loyal volunteer for the Conservatory of Music, she had just celebrated her 100th birthday in September.

Eleanor Zaccagnini, of Hillsboro Beach, Fla., and a friend of Lynn University, passed away Sept. 15.



She's still a champion—but now for kids

Christine Richardson '97 almost didn't make it to Lynn University, much less become its greatest women's basketball player.

The Fort Lauderdale native and Deerfield Beach High graduate briefly attended three colleges before enrolling at Lynn in 1993. After they toured the campus together, her mother told her, "If you come here, you can't leave."

Christine not only put down roots at Lynn, she blossomed. She was a two-time team Most Valuable Player, a three-time All-Region Selection and an NAIA All-America Selection. She still holds seven game and career records. In 2003, she was inducted into the Lynn University Athletic Hall of Fame.

She's also in another rare company: She was a member of Lynn's first women's basketball team—the first to play in the new gym. "I remember saying, 'We can make history,'" she says.

She credits her success to her solid upbringing by her mother and grandmother.

Richardson is the middle child—she has a brother two years older and a sister 15 years younger. Plus, she has a slew of uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces; her mother is one of 10 children. The family ties are strong, with regular reunions and what she calls "family meetings."

Richardson explains, "We talk about what's going on and help solve each other's problems. It's sometimes hard for us to get together, but we make it happen."

The other constant, positive influence in her life has been sports. She started with her neighborhood's favorite sport, flag football, and branched out to practically every sport—softball, track, volleyball and, finally, basketball.

"By high school, I realized basketball could get serious," she recalls. "I started playing in traveling leagues, training, meeting new people and taking in what they were teaching me about life in general. It was a huge learning experience."

Big takeaways for her were how to communicate, trust others and work as a team—skills that have served her well in her 11-year career with the Boys and Girls Clubs. She took a year off in 1998 to play pro basketball in Portugal, but "the kids" drew her back. She has since worked her way up to club director at the Reitman Boys & Girls Club in Fort Lauderdale.

She loves helping young people get a strong start in life, just as she was fortunate to have. Many of them stay in touch with her into adulthood. One, a 30-year-old man, recently asked for her blessing before getting married. "I said to him, 'What are you asking me for? I'm not your mom,'" she recalls with a smile. "He said, 'But I look up to you.'"

What's her secret to winning their respect? "The one thing kids want is the truth. For them to trust you and open up to you, you have to be honest with them."

—Liz McKey

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CLASSY CLOWNS: Students (front to back) Elisa Cristina Rodezno, Joya Cox and Thalia Baigorria added a splash of color to the Canoe Challenge on Founders Day, Nov. 1. (Photo by Helena Suba)

