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Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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Thanks For Your Support!

The Annual Giving program is the primary vehicle through which alumni and friends of Southern Illinois University Carbondale can support various campus initiatives, including scholarships for students, funding of research efforts, and department facility and equipment enhancements.

Thanks to your continuing generosity, the SIU Foundation raises substantial funds in support of these objectives on an annual basis. This assistance is particularly pertinent due to diminished financial assistance the University receives from the state and federal government.

“The success of our annual fund program is a testament to the devotion SIU alumni and friends have for this institution,” says Rickey N. McCurry, vice chancellor for institutional advancement and chief executive officer of the SIU Foundation. “We are truly appreciative of their support, especially in lieu of challenging circumstances individuals face surrounding our economy. Tough decisions have to be made regarding our spending habits. Therefore, the University is grateful for any gift it receives—no matter the amount.

“Our staff’s primary goal is to urge alumni and friends to Invest in Saluki Futures. They continue to step up at whatever level they can and we thank them.”

Alumni and friends are contacted in a variety of ways, including regular mail, e-mail, and phone. A critical component of the annual fund operation is the call center located in the basement of the SIU Student Center. You undoubtedly have heard from our enthusiastic and friendly student callers, who serve as ambassadors in raising funds for the SIU Foundation. A team of about 75 student callers contacts alumni and friends every semester in an attempt to verify information, provide updates to prospects regarding the campus and other news, and also to solicit contributions.

“These students really are the foundation for the success of our annual fund efforts. They understand the significance of fundraising and the impact private support can have on student lives,” says Nanditha Balasubramanian, director of the annual giving program.

“This demonstration of commitment is critical because most people want to hear from someone who is happy and energetic. Our alumni and friends are responding favorably to our students. Their commitment to the annual giving program is much appreciated.”

We thank each and every one of you who have or continue to support the annual fund. For those of you who are considering making a gift or need further information, please contact Director of Annual Giving Balasubramanian at 618 453-4929 or Assistant Director of Annual Giving Amber Kinkelaar at 618-453-6096.

Southern Illinois University Foundation

“Investing In Saluki Futures”

www.siuf.org
Southern’s New Chancellor
Rita Hartung Cheng, formerly the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, officially began her duties at Southern on June 1. Earlier preparation, however, was fueled by several trips to Carbondale over the past six months to "listen, learn, and discover" as much as she could about the campus and the community.

A Shining Star
As one of Southern’s Most Distinguished Seniors, Michelle Restivo is extremely grateful for all the University has done for her. As a Presidential Scholar, she earned a four-year scholarship, noting "The University is paying for my education and I’m not going to let anyone down. I set out to demonstrate that I wasn’t taking this for granted and I was going to give back to SIU."

‘Project 50-50’
When Shay Kelley lost her job last year, the young Southern graduate could have filled her days with regret and despair. Instead, she decided this was the perfect time to help others. Through her “Project 50-50,” Kelley is traveling the United States helping the homeless and making a difference in the world around her.

The Old Rugged Cross
For many Southern graduates, one of the recognizable icons of the region is the Bald Knob Cross located in rural Union County. Although the cross has fallen in disrepair over the years, an effort to renovate what was once one of the biggest tourist attractions in the area is growing strong.
If you get back in life many of the things you put into it, Shay Kelley is destined for success. That notion might not have been apparent to her a year ago, however, when the 2007 Southern graduate lost a dream marketing job, had her car stolen the same week, and soon found herself homeless on the streets of Jackson, Miss.

This unnerving series of events served as a mind-numbing wake-up call for a person who describes herself as "optimistic by nature and full of love for everyone." Kelley remembers walking into the middle of a woods and yelling at God: "Tell me what you want me to do!"

The answer came a week later as she was writing a bucket list. At the top was an idea she called "Project 50-50," a bold initiative requiring her to use the next year of her life to meet and help homeless people in the United States.

To accomplish this, Kelley hatched a plan to travel to 50 states in 50 weeks, collecting food and clothing along the way for those in need. As you will see in the story on page 30, she is now six months into the journey. The last time I corresponded with her, she had already collected more than 5,000 cans of food and countless items of clothing that she has distributed to homeless shelters across the country. "My goal is 200 items per week, and I almost always make it," she points out.

With only an old blue truck she calls Bubba, and her faithful dog, Zuzu, at her side, this adventurous young Saluki refuses to fret about the $10,000 she estimates the year-long odyssey will require. Relying on online sales of photos taken during her trip - and the kindness of strangers - she is making the dream a reality.

In addition to taking photos, the SIU Mass Communications and Media Arts graduate is keeping a journal, recording audio and video footage, and plans to publish a book on her experiences when the journey is complete. Any money Kelley makes on such an endeavor will be given to charity - but by now you probably guessed that.

"My philosophy in life is that you get what you give," Kelley explained recently to Santa Cruz Sentinel reporter Romaine Fonsgrives. "People need so little to be happy, and these new encounters really feed my spirit. Try saying hi to people you've never met before - they'll change your life."
Enjoyed Stotlar Feature

You recently featured one of my all-time favorite SIU basketball players, Gene Stotlar, in the spring Saluki Pride newsletter. Having been best friends with Abe Martin’s son, Kenny, while growing up in Carbondale in the 1940s, Abe would take Kenny and myself to games and turn us loose so we could scramble for free seats. Stotlar impressed us as one of the most fabulous ball handlers we had seen. He did tricks with the ball that would have made “Pistol Pete” Maravich proud.

In 1950, the 1946 Southern team came back to play against the SIU varsity, a squad that was by now loaded with Pinckneyville players from the 1948 Illinois State Championship Team. That squad was led by a slick guard named Pud Gladson, but Stotlar did a great job on him and helped his team win.

Not only was Stotlar a tremendous athlete, but also a tremendous person. Thanks for the current information on what he is doing these days.

H.F. Maze ’74
Life Member
Las Vegas, Nev.

Story Brings SIU Graduates Together

I had the privilege recently to bring together two SIU alumnae, a meeting that sprung from the March issue of Southern Alumni that featured Velva Kelley, the 88-year-old weight-lifting Saluki. Angeles Torres Sinense, M.A. ’60, was inspired by the story and wanted to meet Velva. A retired guidance counselor with the Milwaukee Public Schools, Angeles had lived in the Milwaukee area since 1960, yet had never met another SIU alumnus during that time.

What a great experience it was to listen to these two SIU Alumni Association life members as they reminisced about the University, Carbondale, the effects of World War II, the state of education, and the numerous faculty mentors who helped them as students. The common ground between them is too wide to completely describe.

Angeles has a fascinating story. A native of the Philippines, she came to SIU for graduate school on the advice of a cousin. In just a year and a half, she completed two master’s degrees while also working, and even performed native Filipino dance on local television. Upon graduation, she donated her native dance costume to the University’s home economics department.

Much like the energetic Velva, Angeles also stays busy and active. The 80-year-old volunteers at a local hospital and enjoys international travel. Southern should be proud of them both. The new friends are classy examples of SIU graduates who are still making a difference in the world around them.

Paul McInerny M.S. ’74
Life Member
New Berlin, Wis.

Saluki Veterans Show Their Pride

I wanted to share this photo of myself and fellow Saluki Charlie Velino ’93, which was taken while we were deployed together in Uzbekistan. This was in regard to Operation Enduring Freedom, supporting the Afghan war. I am currently deployed at the Transit Center at Manas and keep running into SIU grads over here.

I thought SIU alumni might enjoy this picture and see it as a reminder of all the veterans and active-duty service personnel the University has graduated. I have great memories of my time at Southern and will always be grateful for the excellent education I received.

Mike McFadden, ’81
Manas, Kyrgyzstan

Charlie Velino (left) and Mike McFadden show their Saluki pride in Afghanistan.
Recent grad membership only $25!

www.siualumni.com/recentgrad
Be sure to enter the words, "Graduating Senior" in the source code box online to receive your free SIU Alumni laptop bag!

Recent grads treat yourself to the gift of membership!
Recent grad membership is only $25! • Members can take advantage of the benefit program with access to job search sites, SIU’s career services, and discounts on career prep services like résumé building & mock interview skills • Members receive a subscription to Southern Alumni magazine & invitations to members-only events
Two senior art students at Southern Illinois University Carbondale share the Rickert-Ziebold Art Award this year. The award, one of the most prestigious available from the School of Art and Design, honors the late Joseph Rickert, a prominent lawyer and state senator from Waterloo who was a patron of the arts. His family established the award in 1974.

This year’s recipients are Logan Hirsh, a metal and blacksmith student from Austin, Texas, and Beth Porter, a communication design student from Equality, Ill. They will split the $15,000 cash award.

Hirsh says he came to SIU specifically because of the metalsmithing and blacksmithing program, which he praises as not only tops in the nation, but also well placed geographically to put students in easy contact with leading professionals in the field. His own post-graduation plans include an internship at the National Ornamental Metal Museum in Memphis.

Porter’s two-part exhibit featured her design and marketing campaign for two fictitious companies, Coba Valley bath and spa products, and the Soothing System. She says one project began as a class assignment and the other is part of her thesis. Her exhibit demonstrated her ability to use a variety of media to create a recognizable brand. She hopes to enter the professional world of design upon graduation, and is presently looking at design agencies.

This year, more than 30 students submitted work as digital images, but only 16 became finalists. The finalists had a relatively short timeframe to check out their assigned gallery space and determine how they would set up their exhibit.

“This is the first exhibit event for many of these students, and they have a lot to figure out,” says Erin Palmer, associate professor in the School of Art and Design and coordinator of the event this year. “They have to anticipate how they will fit their exhibit into their space, how they will light it, how long it will take to install the exhibit — they only have one day to install it. They are learning what they need to do to present themselves professionally.”
Common Grounds

When Common Grounds opened its doors at 600 E. Grand Ave in Carbondale nearly five years ago, it could only have hoped it would be as successful as it is today. Whether you are an early riser or night owl, a coffee lover or an addict to their fruit smoothie bar, there is something sure to fulfill your sweet tooth in every possible way. If you are cramming for an exam, conversing with old friends, or just out to meet new ones, Common Grounds is the place to do it! Let the coffee delivering service cater your next event. Association members receive 10 percent off all purchases. Call 618-549-4180 for more information.

GreenRetreat

GreenRetreat, located at the top of the Shawnee Hills Wine Trail and just 4.5 miles from SIU, is a new Saluki family-owned and operated agribusiness with overnight accommodations. Whether you want to enjoy some rest and relaxation in the Wellness Center or your kids want to ride ponies, this "green" retreat destination will be sure to please. Including a rural setting of more than 97 acres, the ponds, cabins and Victorian bed & breakfast (opening this summer) will provide you or your group with beautiful, environmentally sound accommodations, and recreation. For more details, visit www.greeneretreat.com. Association members staying two or more nights receive a 10 percent discount.

New Life Members

- Jon Andrews
- Bobbie and Shawn Banks
- Tena and Shane Bennett
- Michael Bowers
- Richard Bradley
- Candace Brooks
- Steven Bryson
- Sarah Capie
- Matthew Chancey
- Elizabeth and Ryan Cheek
- Peggy Costello
- Maryanne Dalzell
- Richard and Joanne Davis
- Deborah and Michael Deaton
- Nicholas Deka
- J. P. Dunn
- John Early
- Judith Early
- Janie Edms
- Curtis Eichen
- James Elmore
- Steven and Susan Falkenhein
- Scott Giles
- Paul Gross
- Steven Grzanich
- Laura Halldonson and Thomas Bechtel
- Shane Hannah
- Susan and Charles Heater
- Janice Hines
- Melissa Houghland
- Elizabeth and David Hunter
- Martina Jacobs
- Maralice Jenkins
- Phyllis Jones
- Robin Jones
- Danny and Diana Kirk
- Donald Kristiansen
- Rodney Kroenlein
- Michael and Rosalina Lantrip
- Jerry and Barbara Lawrence
- Mario and Nadine Marcinczyk
- Bonnie Marx
- John Massie
- Jack Matsel
- Kevin and Nancy McNeely
- Danell Mott
- Pollyanna Neely
- Susan Perez
- Daniel and Sally Petrone
- Steven Petrow
- Donald and Jennifer Presley
- Richard and Jean Ratterman
- John and Kimberly Renik
- Gail and Bruce Ridgway
- Marion Rybarczyk
- Ennis Sullivan
- Shanmuga Sundaram
- Phillip Taylor
- Douglas Thompson
- Janet and Harry Treece
- Leslie Williams
- Janet Winter-Black
- Chyrese Wolf
- Cheryl Wolff
- Christopher Woodruff
- Robyn Worley
Check Out Our Benefit Program

INTERNATIONAL
- Choice Hotels (if participating): Clarion Inn, Comfort Inn, Quality Inn, Hospitality Inn, Econo Lodge, Rodeway Inn, Sleep Inn (up to 20%)
- European Auto and Travel: Access Destination Europe
- JSTOR: Browse thousands of scholarly journals through JSTOR's online database.
- Sherwin Williams: 10% off regular priced items.
- SIU Alumni Association Online Store: 15% off merchandise (membership number required)

NATIONWIDE
- Allied Van Lines/Federal Companies: 63% off on interstate moves
- Beautiful Displays.com: 15% off list prices of trade show exhibit kits and graphics
- Buy From Home: 10% off
- Carb Hub: 10% off
- Car Rental: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Hertz, and National
- Cord North American: Up to 60% off interstate moves
- Cruise One: 50% off regular subscription price
- Heartland Gifts: 10% off regular rates, 20% off for joint members
- Italian Village: 10% off for meal
- Lush Aveda Salon & Spa: 10% off services
- Makanda Inn: 10% off first night's stay
- MidWest Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic: 15% off
- Maberry Consulting: 10% off grant writing/evaluation service
- RE/MAX Realty - Dennis Sluga: 20% off fees when buying or selling a house anywhere in the continental United States
- Saluki Illustrated: 50% off subscription price for first year
- Ticketmaster: Opportunity for savings on select event tickets on-line
- Working Advantage: Discounts on theme parks, sporting events, online shopping, ski tickets, gift certificates, and more

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
- A Petal Patch Florist: Carbondale - 10% off
- Alongis Italian Restaurant: Du Quoin - Free desert with purchase of entrée (excludes banquet room & other coupons)
- American Flooring: Marion - 10% off any regular priced flooring plus 5% off standard installation.
- Angelo & Jan's Inn: Murphysboro - 10% off regular rate
- Barton House Bed & Breakfast: Carbondale - 10% off (valid for two nights in the same room)
- Bella Terra Winery: Cobden, Springfield - 10% off on wine purchases
- Bike Surgeon: Carbondale - 10% off new parts and accessories
- Buffalo Wild Wings: Carbondale - 10% off purchase
- Carlson Wagonlit Travel Agency: Herrin, Marion, 5% off all preferred cruises & vacations
- Coleman-Rhoads Furniture: West Franklin - 15% off accessories
- Common Grounds Coffee Shop: Carbondale - 10% off
- Enterprise Rent-a-Car: Carbondale - 10% off
- Fazoli's: Carbondale - 10% off
- Furniture King: Carbondale - 15% off accessories
- Gambit Inn: Vincennes - 10% off, and room off at Gambit Snack House
- Garfield's Restaurant: Carbondale - 20% off (not available on lunch specials)
- Gold's Gym: Marion - $109 enrollment fee waived
- Hampton Inn: Carbondale - 10% off standard room rate
- Harbaugh's Restaurant: Carbondale - 10% off
- Houlihan's: Carbondale - Free appetizer with purchase of two entrees (excludes sampler/combo)
- Huck's: Carbondale - 5.51 location only - 3c discount per gallon of gas
- Irish Inn: Ozark, Ill. - 10%- off regular rates, 20% off for joint members
- Italian Village: Carbondale - 10% off for meal
- Lush Aveda Salon & Spa: 10% off services
- Makanda Inn: Makanda - 10% off first night's stay
- MidAmerica Attraction Studio: Carbondale - 10% off services for annual members ($15 or more), 15% off services for life members ($15 or more)
- Marion Econolodge: Marion - 10% off room rate
- Marion: 10% off first night's stay
- Midwest Ear Nose & Throat Clinic: Herrin - 10% off hearing aids
- Mundale True Value: Carbondale - 20% off reg. paint, 5% off sale paint
- Niemann Flooring, Inc.: Carbondale - 10% off regular priced items
- Owl Creek Vineyard: Cobden - 10% off gift and food purchases
- Papa Mike's: Cleary - 10% dine in only
- Photography By Al Par: Carbondale - $2.00 off 2010 Campus Lake Calendars, 10% off matted prints featuring campus lake
- Purdue Tire & Rubber: Granite City, Mt. Vernon, and Springfield, Ill. - $3 off oil change, 5% off any 4 tires, 10% off repairs over $100
- Quatro's Pizza: Carbondale - free pitcher of soda with medium or large pizza
- Red Hawk Golf Course: Du Quoin - 18 holes with cart for $52
- Reppert's Office Supplies-Furniture-Machines: Anna - 10% off regular priced items
- Saluki Bookstore: Carbondale - 20% off for life members, 15% off for annual members on SIU Imprinted items
- 710 Bookstore: Carbondale - Illinois Ave. location only. 20% off for life members, 15% off for annual members discount on SIU Imprinted items
- Shawnee Winery: Vienna - 10% off merchandise
- Spinelli's Pizza & Pasta House: Carbondale - $2 off any food purchase of $10 or more (not valid on specials or with other offers)
- The Sports Performance Store: Marion - 10% off services, 10% off equipment.
- Super B: Carbondale - 10% off standard room rate
- Talent Education School: Carbondale - 20% off
- Wiggles-N-Tunes Pre-K music class
- Train Inn: Carbondale - 10% off advanced registration
- Tres Hombres: Carbondale - $1 off dinner entrée, $5.50 off lunch entrée
- University Inn: Carbondale - 20% off
- Visions Hair Studio: Carbondale - 20% off products, $10 off color services, 5% off haircuts (select stylists only)
- Vogler Ford: Carbondale - 10% off any car rental
- Walt's Pizza: Marion - 10% off

OTHER
- The Chuckwagon Restaurant at the Springfield Carriage Company: Springfield, Ill. - 10% off menu items
- DPR Realty, LLC: Glenwood, Ariz. - discounted real estate listing
- High Hand Designs: Newburgh, Ind. - 15% off all purchases
- Keller Williams Realty: Austin, Texas - ask for Steve or Judy Scott
- Mehta Motors: Elmhurst, Ill. - 10% off oil change and safety check
- Meyers O'Donnell Banners and Signs: Serious Saluki discounts for alumni events and SIU sports outings
- Ravelo's Country Club: Homewood, Ill. - $3 off greens fee
- Ten Pin Designs: Newburgh, Ind. - 15% off all purchases
- The Perfect Sign, LLC: Newburgh, Ind. - 15% off all items

CAMPUS
- McLeod Theater: 20% off for adult/senior citizen tickets (excludes Summer Playhouse)
- Morris Library: Enter to win at siualumni.com for details
- Old Main Restaurant: Student Center - 10% off
- SIU Career Services: Free access to Saluki Job Bank (job search system) and complimentary resume critiques
- Student Center: Bowling & Billiards: members receive SIU student rates, Free membership
- Touch of Nature: 20% off lodging at Little Grassly Lodge
- University Bookstore: Student Center - 20% off SIU apparel
- University Press Publications: 20% off

This list is subject to change. Present your membership card to receive your discount.

Consider membership as a gift!
Members receive:
• The Southern Alumni magazine quarterly
• Saluki Pride electronic newsletter twice annually
• Access to member-only areas of career and networking community
• 15% discount at the SIU Alumni Online Store
• Opportunity to attend events at member rates

* Denotes benefit code required. To access codes, please call us at 618-453-2408 or visit us at siualumni.com.
Association, Board Of Trustees
Honor Chancellor Goldman

Sam Goldman, who retired on May 31 as chancellor at SIUC, attended the SIU Alumni Association’s spring board meeting and was presented a certificate of honor by board president Randy Ragan. Goldman, who first came to the University in 1980, held positions at Southern that included professor, director, dean, professor emeritus, and member of the Board of Trustees.

The SIU Board of Trustees recently conferred on Goldman the title of “chancellor emeritus.” The resolution cited Goldman’s “exemplary” record of service to the community and noted the addition or modification of several degree programs during his two-year tenure as chancellor, including: online M.B.A. program, the master’s and doctoral concentrations in applied psychology and brain and cognitive sciences, the professional science master’s in advanced energy and fuels management, and the joint SIU Edwardsville and SIUC nursing program.

The resolution also stated that while serving as chancellor, “he worked with colleagues to broaden the University’s international reach in recruiting students, successfully negotiating agreements with universities located in many different countries, including China, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait.”

A native of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Goldman earned his bachelor’s degree in English and sociology from the University of Manitoba in 1955. He earned his master’s in educational administration/social science in 1958 and his doctorate in educational administration/social science in 1961, both from the University of Chicago. Prior to coming to Southern, Goldman served on the faculties of Ohio University, Syracuse University, New York University, and Oklahoma State University. At Syracuse, he also served as a director and department chair.

When asked by The Daily Egyptian what he felt his biggest accomplishment as chancellor has been, Goldman pointed to his quest to keep Southern moving in the right direction.

“When I first started, one of the goals that I had, among many, was making people feel good about the University,” he explained. “While there are so many difficulties that we are facing right now, I get the impression that our people are quite happy and proud of the University. I really worked hard at that, and did it by my own modeling.

“If you’ve heard me out there, I was always one of the leading cheerleaders of what was going on. It’s been a wonderful experience, and I’ve enjoyed every minute of it.”

School Of Medicine Turns 40

The Southern Illinois University School of Medicine is celebrating 40 years of excellence in health care, teaching, research, and community service. An open house marked the occasion this May on the Carbondale campus, as current and former faculty and staff, students, alumni, and friends, took part in the event. The actual 40th anniversary celebration is set for July 7 at the School of Medicine in Springfield.

The School of Medicine’s origins date to 1968, when an Illinois Board of Higher Education report, “Education in the Health Fields for the State of Illinois,” recommended the University create a medical school in downstate Illinois capable of graduating its first class of new physicians by 1978.

Here are some School of Medicine highlights:

- There are nearly 250 residency positions in 15 different medical specialty and subspecialty disciplines, and 14 fellowship programs that offer post-residency training opportunities.
- In addition to training medical students, more than 1,900 residents and fellows have completed postgraduate training.
- Continuing Medical Education (CME) offers a full range of educational experiences that enhance health care professionals’ knowledge base, provide updates and review, and expand professional skills.
- Members of SIU HealthCare, the multispecialty practice group associated with the School of Medicine, have more than 500,000 inpatient and outpatient visits a year, serving nearly 120,000 unduplicated patients.
- The state-of-the-art Simmons Cancer Institute will open to patients in July.

Many of the school’s multidisciplinary cancer clinics, now located in various hospital buildings, will move to the new building, along with clinical trials and outreach services. The building was dedicated in July 2008.
Clarence “Clancy” White and Patti Cludray are 2010 Excellence Through Commitment award recipients at Southern. White has been selected as the Outstanding Civil Service Employee and Cludray is the Outstanding Civil Service Teaching Support Employee.

White, who lives in Du Quoin, came to SIU in January 1998 and is arena technician for the Student Center. His duties include working all major sound events in the facility, including events that take place outside and off-campus. He is also the back-up technician for the SIU Arena, McAndrew Stadium, and Shryock Auditorium.

Tena Bennett, associate director of the Student Center, says White is, relatively speaking, similar to the Wizard of Oz and is the man behind the curtain. “Often going unrecognized and unnoticed by those at an event (unless something goes wrong), he is the part of the main reason events do go well.”

He and his wife, Kristy, are life members of the SIU Alumni Association.

Cludray, an office manager in the Department of Forestry, has been with the University since March 1998. In her job she is responsible for the daily office operation, including supervising student workers, maintaining department files and records, preparing the Forestry alumni newsletter, and many other activities. “Patti’s work is superior with an enthusiasm, friendly nature, sense of humor, and approachability that is genuine and commendable,” says James Zaczek ’80, M.S. ’82, interim department chair.

The SIU Alumni Association life member earned a bachelor’s degree from SIU in paralegal studies in May 1997.

Davidson Named SIU’s Outstanding Teacher

Henry J. Rehn Professor of Finance Dave Davidson is Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s Outstanding Teacher for 2010. The University-wide honor is part of the Excellence Through Commitment Awards Program, established in 2003.

Davidson is completing his 21st year at Southern, arriving in 1989 as a College of Business professor. Also the winner of the College of Business Outstanding Scholar award this year, he has won numerous awards at the university and national level, many for his teaching. He was also the College of Business 2008 Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher of the Year and Researcher of the Year.

“His courses are demanding, yet students consistently rank his courses among the ‘best’ courses they have taken,” says J. Dennis Cradit, dean of the College of Business. “He maintains high rigor in his courses, and his grading is demanding and fair, yet students seek out his courses. That speaks volumes of his teaching prowess.”

For 2009 “he is both the College’s Undergraduate and Graduate Teacher of the Year, which is a unique and striking achievement,” Cradit adds. “If not for the no-repeat clause for the Graduate Teacher award, he would probably be the college’s Undergraduate and Graduate Teacher of the Year each year.”

Vitt Selected As Outstanding Scholar

A researcher with a sustained record of scholarly excellence and research is this year’s winner of the Outstanding Scholar award at Southern. Dale Vitt, professor and chair of the Department of Plant Biology in the College of Science, is the winner of the award.

Hired at SIU in 2000, Vitt has a record of consistent research funding that sustains his ongoing laboratory research and fieldwork both locally and internationally. His efforts result in a significant number of article publications and presentations at professional meetings, placing Vitt at the forefront of article, book, and field manual citations and reflecting credit on the University, says Jay Means, dean of the College of Science.

David Gibson, professor of plant biology and a University Distinguished Scholar who previously won this award, says the SIU Alumni Association member’s publication and research records are impressive. “The scholarship exhibited by Dale is astonishing and wide-ranging,” Gibson notes.

Westerman-Jones Top A/P Employee

Carol Westerman-Jones ’92, M.A. ’97 is the 2010 Administrative/Professional Excellence Through Commitment Award recipient at SIU. As the academic adviser for the Department of Cinema & Photography, she coordinates advising appointments and registration activities for approximately 300 students, according to her biography.

Westerman-Jones began her University service in November 1993 as an admissions and records officer with academic support programs. She went to the unit’s new student admission services in July 1995. She became the cinema and photography department adviser in December 1997.
A Saluki Who Just Can't Get Out Of The Third Grade

BY HERB BENHAM

She makes you want to be 8 again. Eight or 86. Eight because it's a delightful age and 86 because she pulls it off so gracefully.

She is 1947 Southern Illinois University graduate Muriel Bowlin. The Bakersfield, Calif., resident is not much bigger than the third-graders she tutors in Loni Cohen's Norris Elementary class. However, to the 21 students who don't know she has a name other than "Grammy," she might as well be 10 feet tall and fly through the air as if she were the goddess of hope, comfort, and correct spelling.

Bowlin is like clockwork. Five days a week, from 9 to 11 a.m., she sits at a table strewn with papers, games, pencils, and books and quietly holds court. Students approach her desk for math and spelling help or sometimes for something more fundamental.

"Sometimes they'll come and show me their hurt finger," she says. She's volunteered for 14 years, and in that time, Bowlin has retired two teachers. Cohen looks healthy and like she has another 20 years in her, but I wouldn't count Muriel out for a possible hat trick.

Bowlin appears to be of sound mind, but an observer may be compelled to call for an independent psychological examination for this reason: She taught for 40 years in Mojave (and four years before that in Illinois), and that's enough for most people, without throwing in another 14 years in the second chair. If you've been a dentist for 40 years, do you want to peddle toothpaste when you retire?

"I love kids," she says with a smile that stretched nearly around her head. "Eight and nine are the perfect ages." Muriel said this as if
she had just sipped a Cabernet that had lost its unpleasant edge and was now all roundness and fruit.

Bowlin, along with three sisters, was born on a farm in southern Illinois. Naturally they walked to the one-room schoolhouse in rain, snow, and on beautiful days. The roads were dirt, there was no electricity, and no indoor plumbing. The family grew corn, wheat, and hay, and raised chickens and farm animals. They made their own clothes and the mothers quilted. Cows were hand-milked and the cream and eggs were taken to local stores for exchange for coffee, tea, and sugar.

In other words, they lived exactly the opposite of the way we do now, but probably were much happier.

After graduating from SIU, Bowlin traveled by train to Los Angeles to visit a cousin and found a school and a husband in Mojave. The desert was good for her asthma and the teaching good for her soul.

She married E.L. Bowlin, who taught in the California towns of Lancaster and Mojave, on June 16, 1950. They had three daughters: Jerri, Zanita, and Kelbi, and moved to Bakersfield in the late 1980s to be near their girls. Her husband died in 1996.

Two granddaughters attended Sandrini Elementary, so Bowlin volunteered in their classrooms. This eventually led to her present activity at Norris Elementary, and now she is retiring teachers faster than police chiefs.

This Southern alumna is old-school. Instead of workbooks, she prefers laminated cutouts of stars, doilies, locks, clothespins, plastic spoons, forks, knives, shells with math and word problems inscribed on them. It's a "spoonful of sugar that makes the medicine go down," approach.

"I have thousands of games," she explains, picking up one nestled in a clear sandwich bag. "I suppose I could go to the school store, but I like to make them, and the students like to play them." Her class is quieter than church, and recess couldn't have been this much fun.

Everybody is in hog heaven, including Bowlin. Her eyes shine like Chinese lanterns as the children walk to her desk with a question or for reassurance.

"The boys want a hug as much as the girls," she says.

When 11 a.m. arrived, Kyle, one of the third-graders, turns around in his chair and says, "Grammy, it's time for you to eat your lunch," as if he were concerned that she might pass out on the way to her car. Lunch is Rasmussen Center with 30 to 50 other seniors, a place filled with western music and camaraderie. Her life seems filled with warmth, much of which she supplies.

As she leaves Cohen's class, Nayley, another student, gives Bowlin her daily note, a tiny folded affair with a message. Today it is: "Thank you very much."

Granny says goodbye, looks around the room, and takes stock of the children as if they were lambs in her flock. "This is the beaten path for me," she says.

A good path to travel whether you are 8 or 86.

This story first appeared in the Bakersfield Californian.
LISTEN, LEARN, AND DISCOVER

New Southern Chancellor Rita Cheng Prepares To Lead The Carbondale Campus

by Gene Green

On Dec. 10, 2009, Rita Hartung Cheng's appointment as chancellor of Southern Illinois University Carbondale was ratified by the SIU Board of Trustees. Formerly the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Cheng officially began her duties at Southern on June 1.

Earlier preparation, however, was fueled by several trips to Carbondale over the past six months to "listen, learn, and discover" as much as she could about the campus and the community. During one of those recent visits, Cheng sat down with Southern Alumni to discuss her new position.

Southern Alumni: You have made it a point to be on campus frequently in recent months. What did those visits do for you?
One of the reasons Cheng is excited to be at the University is because “SIU is an institution of access that actually lives that mission.”

Rita Cheng: I tried to get back a bit each month since I was appointed chancellor, and have met with many people on campus. I would call them important listening sessions to assist me in being prepared to formulate a strategic vision for SIUC in my first six months on the job and beyond. It is important that I understand the culture and norms of this large and complex institution.

SA: What were your initial views of the campus and the Carbondale community?

RC: I was immediately impressed with the natural beauty of the SIUC campus. When I began to study the academic side of the institution, it became clear to me that Southern is a special place that truly lives the mission of being accessible to students. The campus should also be proud of strong academic programs enhanced by significant strength in research. The two together facilitate a real priority in student learning and success. I believe SIU is a leader among institutions who seek to find that special synergy between research and student learning.

SA: After listening, learning, and discovering as much as you could for the last six months, what do you feel will be one of the most important challenges you will face as you transition into the chancellor’s role?

RC: Obviously I need to work closely with President Glenn Poshard and the SIU Board of Trustees to insure that I understand the current state of affairs and our priorities. I also want to help everyone be proud of the wonderful work that we are doing on this campus and the mark we are making toward excellence as an institution.

SA: The Saluki Way project is starting to be quite noticeable to all, and I’m sure those are some of the improvements you hope to point to and build on.

RC: Each time I came back to campus during the last six months, I always made it a point to note the progress of time basis before earning my bachelor’s degree. Some of those educational choices were connected to following my husband’s career moves, so my educational path was anything but traditional. (See sidebar for Cheng’s background).

SA: Although you have been working in Milwaukee, Wis., for several years, you grew up in a small town similar to several communities in this region.

RC: I grew up in Elmwood, Wis., a community where families support one another and the fabric of what goes on there each day is intertwined with school, church, and social functions in the village. There are only about 700 people in town, and I still love to go back there and reconnect with my late parents’ friends and their children who were my schoolmates.

The irony is that when I first thought about the chancellor's position here at SIU, I wasn't sure it would be a good fit. I had been in an urban setting for a long time, but when I began to look into it a bit more, everything made sense. Having grown up in such a small town, several of those old feelings came back to me again. It just seemed right.

SA: The Saluki Way project is starting to be quite noticeable to all, and I’m sure those are some of the improvements you hope to point to and build on.

RC: Each time I came back to campus during the last six months, I always made it a point to note the progress of
the construction projects at athletics. I also engaged in conversation related to the new transportation center, as all of the upgrades tied to Saluki Way give us great reason for optimism. Budgets are extremely tight, but it is important for the future of SIU that we move forward with these needed improvements. Saluki Way will help bring the region and the campus closer together.

SA: You mention the challenging fiscal environment, but your background in finance should assist you as you face some difficult financial decisions.

RC: I know my way around the numbers, and I understand the business side of a university as well as the academic side. That gives me a platform for some conversations we will need to have, and decisions made will have sound business knowledge behind them. I believe my background certainly allows me to effectively think through the consequences of any decision, and that my training will help me judge the impact of the path we take.

My background in business and accounting should contribute to conversations on how we might do some things differently, more effectively, and more efficiently. I am not afraid to make a tough decision to invest in a given area if we can show that Southern and its students will get quality returns on those changes.

SA: And funding at the university level brings with it a political component that you must be aware of each day. Is this something you have dealt with before?

RC: Throughout my career, I have closely followed the politics and external conversations around higher education. It is important for the chancellor to be attuned to the state and national dialogue and understand what the impact may be in the institution.

SA: Although state dollars have dwindled recently, SIU has announced that tuition rates will not rise for 2010-11 (See sidebar story). Most other universi-
and find the most effective way for everyone who wants an education to be able to earn one.

SA: You mentioned community colleges, and allude to perhaps an enhanced collaboration in this area. Is that an alliance that you have some personal experience with?

RC: I do, and feel it is an area I can contribute to in helping to further develop such a partnership. The University of Wisconsin system has a structured relationship with the two-year institutions in the state, and UW-Milwaukee has the largest transfer rate of all the schools. We have worked on many different dual degree programs and I look forward to meeting with the community college administrators in this region to discuss closer collaboration.

SA: What are some of the immediate goals you have for the Carbondale campus?

RC: There are three that immediately come to mind. We must strive to stabilize our financial situation, enhance the student experience, and continue to grow research at the University. We must also find ways to increase access to our University and insure that once students enroll here that they stay at Southern and earn their bachelor’s degree. We have excellent programs, many with the capacity to add students without eroding any quality of education.

Access institutions such as SIU have more challenges with retention than selective institutions. Students face many challenges that factor in retention, and we have to do our part by making certain our programs are staying current with the needs of our students. If necessary, we must change or alter some programs if those needs change.

SA: What else can be done?

RC: I want this institution to be as helpful as we can to people who, because of life’s circumstances, need to step out of the educational experience and then come back. We need to be welcoming on the way out as well as on the way in. Students today have different challenges than decades ago, and we must be certain our services support that. Growing our online offerings is important to serving working adults.

SA: And it’s also a good idea to tell the world that there are some great things going on here.

RC: That is for sure. SIU has a worldwide reputation for quality research and boasts an exceptional faculty. I want to continue that growth to make sure that during my time as chancellor there is increased attention placed on the high quality of research and scholarly activity that is done here.

SA: You are taking the reins from Chancellor Sam Goldman, who has been a valuable part of this University for many years. President Poshard recently noted that Goldman “has been great for the University, and the respect he engendered from everybody is going to make it a better place for Rita Cheng to come in and take over.” I suspect you more than agree with that statement.

RC: Dr. Goldman has been helpful every step of the way, and has done so much to help me prepare for the challenges ahead. I can’t thank him enough for all he has shared with me and for his warmth and guidance the last few months.

SA: How do you see alumni assisting Southern in the years ahead?

RC: First and foremost we need SIU alumni to tell their stories and share with the world what it means to be a graduate of this institution. And I want them to do it over and over again. The SIU Alumni Association plays a major role for this University, as keeping Salukis connected is crucial.

Alumni can also assist with recruiting students better than anyone. Young people often want to talk with other young people who are a just bit older and already established. Alumni involvement can also help fund scholarships. Any kind of involvement meshes together and has a role. I’m looking forward to meeting with SIU alumni at various chapter and club events just as soon as I can.

I think there are some exciting days ahead.

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**SIU Freezes Tuition For 2010-11**

The Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees recently voted to freeze tuition for the 2010-11 academic year at the 2009-10 level. In addition, fees for students at SIU Carbondale will go up 1.8 percent.

Tuition for new SIUC undergraduates registering for 15 credit hours in the fall will be $3,645, or $7,290 for the academic year. The entering tuition rate is guaranteed to remain the same for all four years. Tuition for students from Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee is equivalent to Illinois residents’ tuition.

SIU President Glenn Poshard says the University “can’t continue to put the burden on the backs” of low- and middle-income families, noting that tuition increases totaled 139 percent in the past nine years. We are closing the door to a lot of kids who are qualified to come. It is time to get back in alignment with what families are capable of paying. The question is whether to increase tuition and shut the door to more and more of those families, or keep the door as open as possible.”

Poshard notes that tuition increases over the past nine years were in response to declining state support. Adoption of the tuition freeze for next year “is consistent with our historical mission of access,” he said, adding that the same philosophy applies to the decisions made about student fees.

Tuition for graduate students also is frozen for the next academic year. Students enrolled for 12 credit hours will pay $3,936 per semester.
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Online Store
Two Super Students Earn Scholarships

by Emily Hunsaker

Super Student is a fitting name for the two 2019 honorees chosen to receive an annual scholarship awarded by the SIU Student Alumni Council. Both recipients have donated countless hours to the University and the community, all while maintaining spotless academic records and advancing in their chosen career fields.

The $500 scholarships awarded each year by SAC, the student chapter of the SIU Alumni Association, seeks to honor students who have enriched the University with their involvement in various facets of campus life. The money used for the scholarships is raised solely by SAC members. This year's recipients are Bradley Bauer, a political science major from Gillespie, Ill., and Stephen Putbrese, a finance and pre-med major from Xenia, Ill.

While both agree that their biggest accomplishment is a perfect 4.0 grade point average, they have each taken different paths to success. Bauer has stepped into leadership roles in numerous campus organizations, and Putbrese has focused a great deal of time on community service and career advancement.

"I put a lot of hard work and self-determination into achieving my grade point average," Bauer says. "My greatest accomplishment aside from that is being president of two honor societies, and I'm proud of that, too."

Along with being president of the Golden Key International Honor Society and the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Bauer is vice president of the Pre-Law Association. He hopes to take what he has learned from his leadership roles on campus, and his involvement in the Vince Demuzio Internship Program through the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, and successfully complete law school.

"The quality education I've received from SIU helped make it clear to me that I want to pursue a career in law," Bauer says. "Southern has helped me gain leadership skills and learn how to be successful. I know my undergraduate education has prepared me for the next steps in the journey of my life."

Putbrese has dedicated countless hours to serving his community. In addition to raising money for charities such as the American Cancer Society, he also works as an education officer for Colleges Against Cancer and as a tutor for the SIU Athletics Department.

"Being a tutor is really rewarding. It's amazing to see their grades improve and know that I helped them achieve that," Putbrese says. "There is no greater thing a person can do than to give back to his fellow man. As long as I am blessed with what I have been afforded, I will try to give back what I can."

After graduating from SIU, Putbrese plans to attend medical school and has already had a chance to experience his future career firsthand after participating in externships with Mercy Cancer Center in Des Moines, Iowa, and the Prairie Heart Clinic in Carbondale. He credits Southern with giving him the tools he needs to continue down this challenging career path.

"After facing challenging coursework and exceeding the bar each time, I feel prepared for whatever endeavor I pursue," he says. "My education at SIU has brought an inner confidence that will allow me to do well down any path my life takes."
Graduating Senior Puts Priority On Helping Others

by Andrea Hahn

For Mackenzie Allert, a Galesburg native who graduated in May from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, fulfilling the requirements for the College of Liberal Arts’ Senator Penny Severns Making A Difference Scholarship also meant keeping up with family expectations.

The scholarship goes to a student of high academic standing, with proven leadership skills, who participates in extracurricular activities and becomes involved in community service. Though her family undoubtedly promotes all parts of those requirements, it’s that last part — the community service — that is particularly expected in the Allert family.

Helping out is nothing new to Allert. For example, a summer visit to an aunt in Baltimore, Md., turned into a chance to contribute manual labor on two large, old homes her aunt plans to use as a shelter for young women who find themselves needing a place to stay and to gain some sensible guidance. The facilities include an organic garden that will provide food for the shelter’s inhabitants.

As much as Allert learned about community service during her summer with her aunt, it was a heart-to-heart talk with her grandmother that inspired her to apply for the scholarship.

“My grandmother asked me if I’d thought of continuing my own community involvement, both for myself and because it’s something our family just does,” Allert says. “My grandmother’s question was similar to the prompt for the essay I’d need to write for the scholarship. It made me think about exactly what I was going to do to contribute to something greater than myself.”

The recent Southern grad’s particular area of interest is helping the women and children who are suffering because of the ethnic cleansing in Sudan and other African countries. Inspired by the difference other family members have been able to make in their communities, she promised her grandmother, documenting the promise in the essay she wrote for the scholarship, to devote her future community service efforts to these women and children.

Meanwhile, Allert has worked hard to make a difference in her University community and to forge her own path in the process. She majored in University Studies, with double minors in anthropology and museum studies, to create an undergraduate base that will pave the way for the next part of her journey — graduate school in museum collections curation. Her first step toward that goal was a six-month internship at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

“I was initially turned down for the opportunity because they didn’t have any open positions, but the internship coordinator, with whom I worked and became close, saw my ambition. When an extra help position opened, I managed to get it.”

Allert’s responsibilities included selecting items within the permanent collection for a year-long exhibit, labeling the objects for display and designing the exhibit, including the exhibit display cases. She also wrote publicity for the exhibit she helped design. At SIU, she assisted University Museum Curator of Exhibits Nate Steinbrink, acting behind the scenes with exhibits and events.

While at Southern, Allert was a member of the Women’s Music Fraternity, Sigma Alpha Iota — and yes, it is a fraternity for women, she says, noting that the Greek word “fraternas” is gender neutral.

“I’ve been president, vice president of ritual, and treasurer,” she says. “Because the end of the year is stressful, taking time out of our academic schedules can be a little frustrating. We had our senior farewell ceremony recently, and during the ceremony, I was reminded why I got involved in this fraternity in the first place. I have more roots here at this school because of my involvement, and I have bonds with amazing people who value music in the same way I do.”

Allert’s devotion to music led her from Carbondale to Carnegie Hall, in fact. Allert, a flutist, was a member of the SIU Wind Ensemble when the musical group debuted at the fabled New York City venue in March 2008. Christopher Morehouse, the group’s conductor, says the experience gave Allert and others a once-in-a-lifetime chance to represent the University at one of the world’s most famous venues.

“Once you’ve been there, you always have that; you can always say you performed at Carnegie Hall,” he said at the time. “And the University will always have that, too.”

As for Allert, she’ll have the memories and the diploma. And the future.
Michelle Restivo is flanked by her parents, Romie and Kelly Restivo, at the banquet honoring the 2010 Most Distinguished Seniors at SIU.

This Most Distinguished Senior is making an impact in the university and Carbondale communities.

By Greg Scott

It was three years ago, and Michelle Restivo still describes it as one of the most nerve-wracking experiences of her young life. She was interviewing for the Presidential/Chancellor Scholarship, and in her words: "I knew this interview would set the course for the rest of my life."

Despite feeling pressure, the SIU senior was confident. A native of nearby Energy, Restivo appeared to be a student most universities would covet. She was valedictorian and president of her graduating class at Herrin High School. In addition to being president of the National Honor Society, she was elected prom queen, and competed on the golf, basketball, softball, and volleyball teams.

"Growing up in southern Illinois as a Saluki fan, this University has always been near and dear to my heart. SIU was the only school I really applied to," she says. "My confidence derives from qualities instilled in me during high school, and I've always worked hard to attain goals."

SIU officials recognized Restivo's attributes. After a two-week wait, she received a congratulatory letter stating that she had been selected as a Presidential Scholar. The four-year scholarship covers tuition, fees, room, and board.

"My heart was pounding as I raced to the mailbox and returned inside to open the letter with my family. The first word I remember seeing was 'Congratulations,' and we all celebrated together," she says. "I am a first-generation college student and would have been paying for all of my expenses. This academic scholarship has changed my life and given me a plethora of opportunity."

Restivo vowed to extend her appreciation to the University by making contributions through community and school activities, an avocation she commenced in high school.

"Honestly, that is the reason I have worked so hard at Southern. The University is paying for my education, and I'm not going to let anyone down. I set out to demonstrate that I wasn't..."
taking this for granted, and I was going to give back to SIU." She has held true to her word.

Since arriving at Southern in the fall of 2007, Restivo has been a perennial Dean's List student, graduating in May with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. She completed requirements for her degree just three years after stepping foot on campus. Terri Harfst, academic scholarship coordinator, has known Restivo throughout her three years on campus. Harfst says her energetic attitude, professionalism, reliability, and commitment make her an asset to the University.

"She is an exceptionally dedicated and giving individual who is always prepared to lend a helping hand," Harfst says. "I have had the privilege to work with thousands of scholarship students during my career, and I consider her to be in the top 1 percent of the high-achieving students."

The Southern graduate also inspires others through community involvement. She has been a volunteer for the American Cancer Society and Multiple Sclerosis Society, in addition to the Poshard Foundation for Abused Children, an initiative initially established by SIU President Glenn Poshard.

She's drawn particular motivation from her involvement with the Inspiring Women Program, which honors women who have exhibited extraordinary leadership by making significant professional contributions and serving as role models in their communities.

Many of her community service activities occurred as a result of her leadership in the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA). She just completed her second year as president of the organization, initially vying for and being elected to the post her freshman year. In 2009, PRSSA received the University's "Outstanding Registered Student Organization" award, sharing top honors with the Student Alumni Council.

Restivo is quick to point out that the initial source of inspiration is her parents, Romie and Kelly Restivo. Her 14-year-old brother, Christopher, is following in big sister's footsteps as a straight-A student himself.

"My parents worked hard to provide a wonderful life for my brother and me; I wanted to make them proud. Also, I wanted to be someone that my younger brother could look up to. I talk to him about how hard work can really pay off and present him with a lot of opportunities in the future."

She has influenced others in the University community. Nilanjana Bardhan, associate professor in speech communication and longtime PRSSA advisor, says Michelle is motivated and dedicated to PRSSA's mission. "Michelle is a quick learner, a good team player, and responsible in fulfilling all her duties," she notes. "I have been teaching undergraduate students for almost 14 years now, and Michelle is clearly in the top 1 percent of that pool of students."

Another telling observation comes from Suzanne Daughton, associate professor in speech communication. The following is an excerpt from Daughton's letter recommending Michelle for the 25 Most Distinguished Seniors Award: "Michelle wasted no time in impressing me with her positive energy and attitude. Because I know Michelle Restivo, I have great hope for the future, as well. She will do us proud, and has already done so."

A plaque in Restivo's room motivates her each day. It reads, Live so that people will be better off for having known you. "That quote has inspired me so that I can somehow make an impact on those around me," she says. "Good deeds are contagious. If you're working hard, other people will think they can make a difference, too."
# 25 Most Distinguished Seniors/Super Student Scholarship Recipients

## Super Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name and City, State</th>
<th>Major(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Bradley Bauer, Gillespie, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts, Political Science, Pre-Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Stephen Putbese, Xenia, Ill. (double major)</td>
<td>Science, Pre-Med, Business, Finance</td>
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## Most Distinguished Seniors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name and City, State</th>
<th>Major(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Kathleen Carmack, Villa Grove, Ill.</td>
<td>Agricultural Sciences, Plant and Soil Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Anthony Colletti, Park Ridge, Ill.</td>
<td>Education and Human Services, Health Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Kristin DeFlorio, Round Lake Beach, Ill.</td>
<td>Education and Human Services, Rehabilitation Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Andrew John Denhardt, East Moline, Ill.</td>
<td>Science, Zoology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Alex Dover, Grand Chain, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts, Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Lisa Furby, Carbondale, Ill.</td>
<td>Engineering, Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Jessica Herring, Murphyboro, Ill.</td>
<td>Education and Human Services (double major), Elementary Education and Music Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Colton McNichols, Metropolis, Ill.</td>
<td>Science, Pre-Med, Physiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Jennifer Murray, O'Fallon, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts (double major), Economics and Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Audra Ord, Xenia, Ill. (double major)</td>
<td>Mass Communication and Media Arts, Journalism, Liberal Arts, Speech Communication, PR</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Shane Conway Peterson, Moline, Ill. (double major)</td>
<td>Science, Biological Sciences, Liberal Arts, Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Michelle Restivo, Energy, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts, Speech Communication</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Vance Sawyer, Metropolis, Ill.</td>
<td>Business, Accounting</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Richard Sloan, Harrisburg, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts (double major), Economics and Political Science</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>Jennifer Tanner, Marion, Ill.</td>
<td>Education and Human Services, Special Education and Elementary Education certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Kristin Timken, Waterloo, Ill.</td>
<td>Agricultural Sciences, Human Nutrition and Dietetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Kirsten Tussing-Palm, Normal, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts (double major), Theater and German Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Felipe Valdes, Constitucion, Chile</td>
<td>Engineering (double major), Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering</td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>Amanda Weaver, Springfield, Ill.</td>
<td>Business, Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>Jared Willard, Mahomet, Ill.</td>
<td>Engineering, Mechanical Engineering (double major), Science, Pre-Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>Britni Woodworth, West Frankfort, Ill.</td>
<td>Liberal Arts, Communication Design</td>
</tr>
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NCAA Bid Eludes Saluki Softball

The Southern Illinois University softball team did not receive an at-large bid to the 2010 NCAA Tournament, despite winning the regular season Missouri Valley Conference title and getting to the championship game of the league tourney. The Salukis were left out of the tournament for a third straight year after advancing to regionals in five consecutive seasons from 2003-07.

Despite not making the tournament, Southern had a standout year with some of the best performances the program has seen in years. SIU finished with more than 30 wins for the 14th straight season with a record of 38-20 and claimed the league title for the first time since 2005. The Salukis made it to the MVC Championship game for the first time since 2007, falling to Creighton 3-2.

Head coach Kerri Blaylock won her 400th game at SIU this season, while collecting the MVC Coaching Staff of the Year award alongside assistants Christy Connoyer, Jen Sewell, and Mark Cosgrove. “I am fortunate to be blessed with a good staff,” Blaylock says. “It’s another one of those things where when you earn an award from your peers it means something.”

Danielle Glosson was named MVC Pitcher of the Year, and Southern placed six student-athletes on the All-Conference team and three on the All-Tournament Team at the State Farm MVC Championship. Seniors Katie Wilson and Alicia Garza had outstanding campaigns, entering the record books in various categories. Wilson broke the all-time single-season RBI record, becoming the first Saluki to tally 50 RBIs in a season and Garza tied the all-time record for career RBIs with 132.

“I always feel good about all-conference awards because it shows how respected the kids are by the other coaches,” Blaylock notes. “Every player was deserving of the award.”

For the MVC All-Conference teams and final statistics on the 2010 Salukis, go to www.siusalukis.com.

Seven Baseball Salukis Honored As All-Conference

The SIU Baseball Salukis had several players honored by the league as all-conference selections. Sophomore first baseman Chris Serritella was the lone first-team selection, as he paced the club in average (.374), doubles (19), RBI (64), and total bases (143). He also was second in home runs (13). Serritella becomes the 20th first team selection under head coach Dan Callahan.

Joining Serritella on the all-conference list were second team honorees, senior starting pitcher Nathan Forer, senior relief pitcher Bryant George, and junior outfielder Chris Murphy. Senior designated hitter Tyler Bullock, junior starting pitcher Randy Hoelscher, and freshman utility man Austin Montgomery were all named honorable mention.

Southern, which finished the season 28-29 overall and 10-10 in the MVC, was a fourth-seed in the league tournament. The team’s stay in Wichita, however, was brief, as they dropped two straight games. The Salukis lost to Evansville 11-5 in the opener, and then were jetisoned from the tournament following a 14-10 loss against Missouri State. Southern had a lead in both games, only to see the victory slip away.

Illinois State, which tied Wichita State for the regular season championship, emerged from the MVC series, blasting the Shockers 17-8 in the championship game and advanced to the NCAA Regional.

Football Stadium Construction, Arena Renovation Update

Construction on the new Saluki football stadium continues to be on schedule for the Sept. 2 opener against Quincy College, and the renovation of the SIU Arena is also on target for the start of the 2010-11 season.

To review current images of both projects, go to www.pso.siu.edu/webcams/webcamsPage.html.
Women's Track And Field Takes First, Men Second At MVC Outdoor Meet

The Southern Illinois University women's track and field team recently brought home its second straight Missouri Valley Conference Outdoor Championship, while the Saluki men finished second in action hosted by Illinois State University. Saluki head coach Connie Price-Smith earned her fourth Women's Coach of the Year award for the program's performance.

The women won four events and garnered 20 All-MVC honorees. Sophomore thrower Jeneva McCall won the hammer throw (206-07; 62.98m), shotput (53-01.75; 16.20m) and discus throw (186-01; 56.72m), breaking facility records in the hammer and shot and setting a new MVC Meet Record in the discus to be named the meet's Most Valuable Female Athlete, scoring 30 points for her team, the most in the meet by a single athlete. McCall was also named the meet's Most Outstanding Female Field Athlete, her mark in the discus ranking second in the country.

Along with McCall's wins, Meredith Hayes won the 100-meter hurdles in 13.73. Depth proved to be the team's strength scoring 37 places in 17 events. Women's throws scored 87 of Southern's 204 points, and the closest team to SIU was Wichita State with 159.5 points, followed in third by meet host Illinois State with 136. Indiana State (118), Northern Iowa (75) and Missouri State (53) finished fourth, fifth, and sixth respectively. Drake (47.5) and Bradley (24) rounded out the field.

The men's team won 10 events and earned 25 all-conference honors on its way to a second-place finish behind Wichita State by just 17 points. The Shockers depth proved to be too much finishing with 224 points, the Salukis with 207. UNI finished third at 123 and Indiana State fourth with 110 points. Illinois State scored 97 points for fifth and Drake took sixth with 49.

The Salukis won every non-hurdle running event from 200-meters to 10,000-meters, three throwing events, and the pole vault. Jake Deiters repeated as the men's discus champion throwing 178-01 (54.28m) for the win. Teammate J.C. Lambert won his third meet title this season. After taking both indoor throws titles, he won the hammer throw with a toss of 199-09 (60.89m). Joe Paradiso won his second MVC title, taking the shot title with a personal best toss of 57-09.75 (17.62m), seventh all-time at SIU.

Saluki sprinter Brandon Deloney swept the 200-meter dash titles running 21.15, while Sammy Biggs won the 400 in 46.77. Pole vaulter Cody Doerflein won his first MVC title clearing 17-03 (5.26m). Daniel Dunbar also won his first title in the 10,000. Middle distance runners Stephen Arvanis and Zach Dahleen won the 800 and 1500 respectively.

Southern sent 26 athletes to the NCAA West Preliminary Round in Austin, Texas in May, and at press time, six Salukis had qualified for the June national meet in Eugene, Ore. The Dawgs will be represented by McCall, Doerflein, Deiters, Lambert, Sasha Leeth (women's hammer), Gwen Berry (women's hammer), and Oiga Ciara (women's hammer).

To see national meet results, go to www.siusalukis.com.

Former Tennis Coach LeFevre Dies At 89

Dick LeFevre, a professor at Southern Illinois University from 1955 to 1993 who also coached the Saluki men's tennis team, recently passed away in Gainesville, Fla., at 89 years old. He graduated from Oberlin College in 1942, and after serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II, earned his master's and doctorate at Columbia University. While at Oberlin, the former SIU coach earned nine varsity letters in football, basketball, and tennis.

LeFevre wrote the fundamental rules for NCAA tennis competition, and created the U.S. Tennis Coach of the Year award while writing for Tennis USA magazine. He is in three Halls of Fame; the SIU Athletics Hall of Fame, the Oberlin College Heisman Hall of Fame, and the NCAA Tennis Hall of Fame.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel, two daughters, and a grandson. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Southern Illinois University Foundation, Mail Code 6805, 1235 Douglas Drive Carbondale, IL 62901 for the Dick LeFevre Memorial Fund.
Karim Becomes First Saluki Drafted Since Jacobs In 2004

Deji Karim, Southern Illinois University running back from 2007-09, was selected earlier this spring in the sixth round with the 180th overall pick by the Jacksonville Jaguars in the 2010 National Football League Draft.

Karim becomes the 21st Saluki selected in the NFL Draft and the fifth running back. He is the first SIU player taken since 2004, when the New York Giants selected running back Brandon Jacobs with the 110th overall pick in the fourth round.

“This is an exciting time for Deji and the Saluki football program,” Southern Illinois head coach Dale Lennon says. “We’re extremely proud of the recognition that he has received as a draft choice and look forward to his continued success as an NFL player.

Karim came to Southern Illinois after two seasons at Northeast Oklahoma A&M Junior College. Karim broke the SIU single-season record for all-purpose yards (2,339) and showed his versatility by averaging 30.9 yards on 14 kickoff returns with one touchdown.

Karim, a native of Oklahoma City, was a Putnam City North High School teammate of Sam Bradford, the No. 1 overall pick in this year’s draft. He joins former Salukis Bart Scott (linebacker - New York Jets) and Jacobs in the NFL.

1990 Baseball Champs Have 20-Year Reunion

Sixteen members of the 1990 SIU Baseball Salukis returned to campus in late April to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their Missouri Valley Conference championship season. That squad was the last Southern baseball team to win the league title and advance to NCAA Tournament play.

The group, which also gathered five years ago for a similar event, was joined this time by former head coach Itchy Jones, who guided the squad to a 49-14 record that season. They watched two games of the Saluki series with SIU-Edwardsville, and played golf Saturday morning at Crab Orchard.

“This is really a special group,” Jones says, “that never thought they would lose a game that year. You always hope you have someone on a team that can emerge as a leader, but the 1990 group had several who filled that role. It’s also wonderful to see these guys now as husbands, fathers, and success stories in the business world. That means a lot to me.”

Softball Alumni Return To Carbondale

The Southern softball team held a reunion April 10, welcoming back players from the 1960s through the 2000s. Approximately 80 former Salukis returned.

“We were excited to have these former players back to celebrate over 60 years of Saluki softball,” head coach Kerri Blaylock says. “These alums were the building blocks for where the program is now and I hope they take tremendous pride in that.”

Alumni were recognized between games of a doubleheader with Indiana State. Those attending were: Tracy (Remspecher) Almond, Judy Auld, Karen King Baker, Gwendolyn Basinger, Andrea (Harris) Beran, Becky Beville, Chiara (Calvetti) Boenitz, Lindsey Bonnell, Marla Boyer, former head coach Kay Brechtelsbauer, Marty (Calcaterra) Cameron, Samantha Carter, Erin (Stremsterfer) Civey, Jeanne Clayton, Amanda Clifton, Carol Cole, Kim (Johannsen) Cook, Lisa Dennis, Jen Doehring, Krystal (Stein) Emrick, Clare Ford, Karrie Fortman, former assistant coach Buddy Foster, Lori Greiner, Amy Harre, Christine (KNOTTS) Hoecker, Kim Holder, Pat Hollida, Elissa Hopkins, Julie Illner, Maura (Hasenstab) Ingle, Angela Ingram, Karrie (Irvin) Jackson, Haley (Viefhaus) Karayiannis, Vicky King, Jennifer Klotz, Wendy Knucha, Katie (Kloeis) Kramkowski, Katie Louis, Maria (Damico) Marrs, Pat Matreci, Nancy Maxwell, Marta (Viefhaus) Mazzola, Katie McNamara, Jami (Koss) Melton, Renee Mueller, Carol Neff, Tahira (Saafr) Pervan, Chelsea Petty, Jamie (Campbell) Poteete, Betsy Prater, Amanda Rexroat, Nancy Rist, Lauren Roney, Katie Schmidt, Cassidy Scoggins, Katie (Jordan) Seversen, Theresa Shields, Toni Smith, Adie (Viefhaus) Smith, Bethel Stout, Dee Stull, Tifanlie (Dismore) Terry, Katie Wagner, Shelly (Gibbs) Webb, Becky Wegmann, Julie (Meier) Weite, Darlene Wenner, Brook (Hatterman) Williamson, Carisa Winters, and Dede (Darnell) Zupanci.

Members of the 1990 Salukis who returned for the reunion, from left: Al Levine, Bob Geary, Jeff Nelson, Gene Green (sports information director), Dale Meyer, Doug Shields, Mike Van Gilder, Itchy Jones, Tom Strabavy, Tim Davis, Ed Janke, Kent Wallace, and Bob Finder. Three more alumni arrived the next day, and are inset in this photo. From left, Matt Giegling, Darrin Barton, and Boyd Manne.
Life Member Sinclair Named Top NJCAA Volleyball Coach

by Bonnie Marx

Growing up in Barnhart, Mo., Sue Sinclair '89, M.S. Ed. '90, a self-described "gym rat," spent a lot of time around the gyms and athletic fields at Windsor High School where her father, Lonnie, "coached almost every sport" during his 39 years as a teacher.

But even though Sinclair excelled in three sports – volleyball, basketball, and softball – she arrived at Southern in 1984 (on a volleyball scholarship, although she was recruited for basketball as well) with the intention of earning degrees in health education and then moving on to do teaching and research at a university.

That was before Illinois Central College in East Peoria made her an offer she couldn't refuse, asking her to be head coach of the volleyball program at ICC. In her earliest years there, Sinclair also served as assistant softball coach.

Today, 20 years later, she is both athletic director and head volleyball coach, winning honor after honor through the years.

In 2009, Sinclair was named the Two-Year College Coach of the Year, a first-time honor, by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. Also in 2009, Sinclair took Illinois Central to new heights, directing the Cougars to their first NJCAA Division II National Championship. That team finished the year with a 33-7 record.

During her 20 years at the helm, there's only been one losing season, and the team has qualified for national tournament 13 times. Entering the 2009-2010 season, Sinclair has coached 19 All-Americans and sent 58 athletes on scholarship to play for four-year institutions. Her career record is 694-322 (.683).

While there have been plenty of offers to coach at a four-year institution, Sinclair isn't much interested. "ICC is a great place to be," she says, adding that administrative support has been exemplary. She's also looking forward to the completion of an $18 million addition to the college's athletic facility.

At a two-year school, she says, you have the opportunity to "cross paths and touch more lives. What you can grow in a student athlete is very rewarding."

The SIU Alumni Association life member says, "SIU is a big reason I had a successful start in life. They did right by me with five years of athletics, being a teaching assistant in health education, both athletically and academically. That's enough reason to give back."
Arnold is Greek Alumnus Of The Year

The 2010 Greek Alumnus of the Year award, presented by the Intergreek Council and the SIU Alumni Association, goes to Matt Arnold '00 of Indianapolis, Ind. The award was created in 2008 to acknowledge the impact alumni have on current Greek students' success.

Arnold is currently director of member advancement and expansion for Alpha Tau Omega, the fraternity he became a member of at Southern. In that job he directs the group's expansion program, administers risk management, insurance, and member records programs, and also develops member initiatives and educational programs.

The Southern grad, who earned a degree in mechanical engineering, was ATO president at SIU from 1998-99, and the chapter was awarded a "True Merit" designation by ATO during his time with the organization.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale center where hundreds of driving instructors and motorists learned their stuff turned 50 recently. Known simply through most of those years as the Safety Center, it began in a small, one-story house on Grand Avenue, then moved to a corner of the University's physical plant before settling in at its current location, a long, low building with an adjacent 200-foot by 1,000-foot paved driving range just south of campus lake.

"The center got approval in March 1960 from the SIU Board of Trustees to set up a program aimed at preventing injuries and promoting safety, primarily in highway and traffic areas," says Dale Ritzel '65, M.S. '66, who, as a college math major in 1964, took some safety classes in the little house, changed career focus as a result, and became the center's second director.

"Over the years, we've offered training in driver education for high school teachers and courses in motorcycle safety, advanced driving techniques and child passenger safety. We've also conducted outreach programs in workplace safety, both on and off the job, and in-home and community safety.

Today, the Safety Center is well known for its motorcycle program, which provides free instruction at various state locations in safe riding techniques for both newbies and old pros. "We started it in 1968; we were the first in the country to offer a motorcycle rider course," Ritzel notes. Perhaps closest to his heart, however, are the driver education programs designed to teach high school teachers how to impart driving skills to raw beginners.

"Injury from motor vehicle collisions is the leading cause of death for people 34 and younger, he says. Traffic injuries account for the majority of cases of paraplegia and quadriplegia and are the single leading cause of severe brain injury, severe facial lacerations, and fractures."

Illinois began requiring schools to provide driver education in 1957. That provided the fledgling Safety Center an obvious niche. In 1999, Ritzel expanded the center's reach, developing electronic instruction materials and taking the driver education and safety courses online.

"At the time, I was the only one in the country doing it. And more than 10 years later, our enrollments in these courses continue to be good," adds Ritzel, who, though "retired" since 2006, maintains his professorial persona online. In looking back on his long association with the center, he feels real pride in the number of undergraduate and graduate students who trained there and went on to forge careers in the field.

"That's the thing we have done the best," he says, "helping people to become successful later on."
Everything is bigger – half again the normal size in fact – at the newest restaurant on the campus of Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

But you won’t be placing large orders there because Walt’s Diner, inside Quigley Hall, is actually a giant replica of a 1950s diner made entirely from corrugated cardboard and brown paper. The grand opening of the diner was on April 7, in the south entrance of Quigley Hall.

The students used about 5,000 square feet of cardboard and 800 yards of brown craft paper to sculpt every component, including the giant jukebox, the wall pay phone, cash register, pies, and even a busboy tub complete with dirty plates and cockroaches. Wearing her poodle skirt, the roller-skating, pony-tailed waitress Betty seems to have tripped. Giant cardboard French fries and burgers with all the fixings fly through the air as she starts to fall. There’s a custom logo for the diner too, showcased on signs and on the 63-inch high counter, some 28 linear feet long and all meticulously “tiled.”

A 1957 Cadillac crashes through one wall of the diner, too. It’s an amazingly realistic scene, albeit in tones of brown. The details are intricate, right down to the holes in the salt and pepper shakers, the delicate stack of pancakes and the assorted bristled cleaning equipment.

The exhibit, named in honor of Walter Wendler, director of the architecture school, wasn’t just for fun though. Students spent hundreds of hours on the assignment as they learned important lessons about scale and re-creating objects, first on paper as drawings and then as detailed three-dimensional cardboard depictions.

The process of creating a detailed drawing of the front end of “Caddy” and seeing it progress to “looking like it does now” has been both fun and a great education, says Ryan Henry, a freshman from Gurnee. Henry and Alan Cation, a sophomore from Springfield, were helping set their car in place, pointing out the accuracy, right down to the bullhorns on top.

All four freshman design classes collaborated on the project, with two students from each group coming together as the “team of eight.” The team of eight served as the steering committee to orchestrate seamless completion of a cohesive project.

Noel Harvey, of Chicago, and Sarah Larsen, of Bloomington, move a giant cardboard jukebox into place at Walt’s Diner in Quigley Hall. The architecture students are both student members of the SIU Alumni Association.

“It’s been a lot of fun but a lot of work,” says Peter Smith, associate professor of architecture. He and Dave White, associate professor of architecture, are the faculty directing students in the diner project. “This has been a scale and transition problem. We just made it more fun. They had to measure, translate into dynamic drawings with shade and shadow, and then figure out how to recreate it on a bigger scale and in a site-specific way. They also had to work together in small groups and as a whole team and they did it very well. This diner is absolutely beautiful.”

For more information about the SIUC School of Architecture or Walt’s Diner, call 618-453-3734 or e-mail smithpbs03@yahoo.com.
At 24, Shay Kelley is at that certain stage of life — old enough to understand it, but still young enough not to be too tied down by it. And she's not. Not by a long shot. Kelley is on a 45,000-mile drive, with everywhere to go and absolutely no place to stay.

“I've always figured that in life, you give and you get, and you get what you give,” says the 2007 Southern Illinois University graduate. Her story has all that, too. With her dog, Zuzu, a Ford pickup truck with almost 200,000 miles on it, lots of courage, a sense of adventure, a strong faith in God, and a simple belief that we're here to help others, she is doing something crazy, dangerous, admirable, inspirational, wildly unusual, and way cool.

Christopher Columbus, move over. Shay Kelley is discovering America and being a bit like Mother Teresa, too.

In a journey that began Jan. 1 in South Carolina and won't end until this December when she wheels back into central Illinois, it's become a mission (“Project 50/50” she calls it at www.shaykelley.com). Her goal is to travel across 50 states (48 at least; Hawaii and Alaska remain questions) in 50 weeks, along the way collecting nonperishable items to donate to food pantries. It is her small way to help the homeless and also try to be their voice.

“I'm an idealist and always have been,” admits Kelley, “and I live with the thought that if everyone just gave a little, a lot could happen.”

A CHANG IN PLANS

A 2004 graduate of Dee-Mack High in Mackinaw, Ill., she graduated with honors from Southern less than four years later and landed a job out of college with a marketing firm in South Carolina. She did well, and in fact, was soon promoted to a managerial post in Mississippi.

All was well … until the economy was not. Kelley's company soon bellied-up. “I learned I was out of work by a text message,” she recalls. To add insult to injury, her car was stolen. Not wanting to go home again – an idealist in defeat – she had no place to go.
Opposite: Shay Kelley and Zuzu prepare to leave on their long journey. Above: Kelley, takes some of the material she gathered to a local church that feeds more than 600 people a week, sorting the products using boxes in the back of her truck. She has recorded images of some of the homeless Americans she has encountered along the way, and considers the photograph at right to be one of the more imaginative signs she has seen.

except friends' couches at night.
Meals got to be a challenge. Heck, life too. She had basically become homeless.
Eventually taking a job waiting tables, Kelley slowly saved enough to get a truck and, in time, accumulate a little savings. And that is when – at the edge of adulthood but still young enough not to have

HELPING THE HOMELESS

After 10 weeks out, she had already dotted 10 states, parking her truck each night at the nearest Wal-Mart ("Sam Walton was a strong supporter of the homeless," she notes). The first few months taught her many things. "Big cities can be a hassle, and snowstorms aren't fun," she says. "And when you're homeless and going door to door seeking food donations for charity, it is a task.

"On average, for every 10 doors I knock on, five people will come to the door. From that, two or three will give me stuff."

Although wanting to be low-key, the SIU product has already garnered attention from others who've discovered her odyssey. A Greenville, S.C., television station did a story on her, as have various newspapers during her current journey. At the Co-Op, a neighborhood pantry in Columbia, S.C., a clerk told the television crew they were thrilled "when this cute young thing walked in and gave us sacks of food – for no reason other than to help."

And even if you want to be low key, there are still police to convince along the way.

"When you live in a truck," says Kelley, "you get questioned constantly. But I'm not doing anything wrong and not hurting anybody. I try to explain that to them, but understand their concern and have learned when it's time to move on."

And that, in a nutshell, may be her life theme thus far ... moving on to just explore it some more.

"Something Shay once said," says her mom, Jennifer Murphy, "really touched me. She said, 'I want to die empty because I gave it all away.' If only more people felt that way, what kind of a community, what kind of a country, would we have?"

Southern Alumni

kelley, who has been featured on CNN during her Project 50-50 journey, takes a moment to enjoy a sunset in Arizona. "Every day is an adventure and I'm trying to take it all in," she says.

Kelley, who has been featured on CNN during her Project 50-50 journey, takes a moment to enjoy a sunset in Arizona. "Every day is an adventure and I'm trying to take it all in," she says.

HOW TO SUPPORT PROJECT 50/50

Shay Kelley has created a Web site (www.shaykelley.com) to document Project 50/50. The Southern Mass Communication and Media Arts graduate sells photographs she takes throughout her journey, with any earning helping her with gas, insurance, and other costs. You can donate money electronically through her site, or simply send a check to her at P.O. Box 225, Mackinaw, Ill. 61755 if you want to help.

You can also follow her progress through her Project 50/50 fan page on Facebook.
While it may not qualify as tribulations of Biblical proportion, it has nevertheless been a long, bumpy road for those struggling to save the badly deteriorated Bald Knob Cross of Peace, the 111-foot tall iconic monument in nearby Alto Pass that has been a part of the southern Illinois landscape for more than 50 years.

At the forefront of the effort to renovate what was once one of the biggest tourist attractions in the region is the Friends of the Cross Board. Composed mostly of SIU alumni, the board, founded in 2007, has one purpose - fundraising and soliciting donations.

Most southern Illinoisans probably know at least some of the cross' history - an idea conceived by Wayman Presley Ex '19, a rural mail carrier, and the Rev. Bill Lirely (two-year degree in 1892), a rural preacher, some 75 years ago. Although Bald Knob's first Easter sunrise service took place in 1937, the giant steel and porcelain cross wasn't completed until 1963.

Board member D.W. Presley '05, who is, not coincidentally, Wayman Presley's grandson, says curbing vandalism has been a constant battle. There are tales of his late grandfather fighting that battle too, sometimes lying in wait near the cross at night, armed with a gun, to scare vandals away. The elder Presley died in 1990 at the age of 93, when his grandson was just nine years old. The Southern graduate hopes the recent renovation activities will garner the interest of another generation. "I want to get younger people involved in this," he says. "I'm the youngest on the board by 30 years."

Today the cross is a skeleton of its former self, stripped bare of its white porcelain panels that allowed it to be seen for 7,500 square miles.

In the beginning, the board set a goal of raising $300,000 in three years. While the board exceeded that goal by about $75,000, it is now estimated that the final price tag for the project will run about $550,000.

It's not that they've spent money unwisely. In fact, there have been substantial savings thanks to in-kind donations and generous contributions, but the renovations have been more extensive than previously anticipated. And now the push is on to raise the money to complete the project by the end of August.

Board member Malcolm Todd '86, M.S. '89 says it cost $180,000 to restore the framework alone. Thanks to community support, the board got about $250,000 worth of labor and materials for a $100,000 expenditure.

Once the panels had been removed, workers discovered a lot of rust on the steel, caused by a condensation build-up in the cross' interior that had caused it to "rain" inside. Some of the steel had to be replaced; all the rust needed to be sandblasted, then painted. Presley says the paint comes with a 30-year warranty, and the new cross should require less maintenance.

Other members of the Friends of the Cross board are: Jackie Grammer, Alto Pass; Helen Holderfield, Alto Pass; Jeff Lingle '78, vice president; Cobden; Ruby Lingle M.S.Ed. '84, treasurer, Cobden; Debbie Nash '71, secretary, Cobden; Jim Nash, Cobden; Carol Nebughr '60, M.S. '69, Cobden; Ben Sirles '63, Alto Pass; Rev. Pastor Bill Vandergraph, president of the Friends of the Cross Board, stands near the Bald Knob Cross of Peace as it looks today, after renovation of the framework.
BALD KNOB
CROSS TIMELINE

- From 1948 to 1951 Wayman Presley secured 116 individuals willing to commit $100 each to purchase the land where the cross sits. The 116 individuals were the first members of a newly formed not-for-profit organization and were from 34 communities in five states.

- By 1953, funds had been raised locally to construct the foundation of the western hemisphere's largest cross. The cross began receiving national support when the General Federation of Women's Clubs took on the challenge to raise funds and received another boost when Wayman Presley was featured on the wildly popular nationally syndicated program, "This Is Your Life." Even though contributions to the effort increased, it was still not enough. Wayman took leave of absence from his postal service position to throw himself completely into fundraising. A strategy was devised to challenge people to raise pigs, sell them, and turn the profits over to the cross. A staggering $30,000 was raised through the campaign.

- The formal groundbreaking ceremony was held in conjunction with the 1959 Easter Sunrise Service. The framework of the cross stood for several years until enough money was raised to cover the superstructure. It was completed in 1963 when the last of more than 900 heavy gauge steel panels with a bright white porcelain veneer was affixed to the framework creating a spectacular night sight that could be seen for 7,500 square miles after it was illuminated with 40,000 watts of lighting.

- The cross began deteriorating physically as interest in the organization waned and in the early 2000s disputes began arising between board members resulting in legal litigation. In 2006, the court ordered the properties be locked down until the proceedings were concluded. The cross soon fell even further into disrepair as the dispute continued.

- In the summer of 2008 a settlement that was supported by both sides of the conflict began taking shape. The final legal settlement became official on Christmas Eve 2008. The seven-member transitional board met in the middle of January 2009 for the first time. The balance of the 2009 year was spent aggressively attending to the needs of restoring the monument itself. Approximately $150,000 was spent in demolition of the original panels and the repair of the superstructure itself, which was completed in the fall.

- On Feb. 9, 2010, new bylaws were passed unanimously with significant representation and support from both sides of the litigation that divided the previous board. An aggressive membership drive was immediately launched after the meeting and is currently underway.

---Information in part from www.baldknobcross.com. See website for details on how to support the current renovation efforts.

Former SIU President Delyte Morris interviews Wayman Presley during groundbreaking ceremonies for the cross on Easter Sunday 1959. Morris called the start of construction a "significant event for every citizen of the area."

Bill Vandergraph, president, Alto Pass; and Janet Witmer Ex '63, Pinckneyville.

The cross' governing board, called the Transition Board, is also heavy with SIU connections. Its members are: Rev. Ralph Brandon '71 (vice president), Christian Covenant Fellowship, Carterville; Rev. Doug Cherry '80, Victory Christian Center, Carbondale; Rev. Steve McKeown A.A.S. '86 (president), Christian Life Center, Herrin; John Musgrave '91, M.A. '01, (secretary) former executive director of SI Tourism Development; Rev. Mark Roath, Anna Heights Baptist Church; Bradley Rogers '79, M.Acc. '94, (treasurer) past president, Christian Motorcycle Association; and Rev. Gerald Wright, Spirit of Life Christian Church, Du Quoin.

Plans for the original cross are being used to guide the way for the renovations. "We want to retain the traditional look," Todd says, "and restore it as best we can. It's a change for the better."
Student Caller Makes A Difference At Southern

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t is often difficult to find a rewarding part-time job while attending college, but several SIU students have found just that at the SIU Foundation.

As telefunders for the Foundation, students have the unique opportunity to reach out to alumni and solicit support for their University. The money they raise for the annual fund is used for numerous campus initiatives ranging from scholarships to facility upgrades.

“Having the opportunity to communicate with alumni makes my job as a telefunder enjoyable,” says Eric Caldwell, a sophomore from Pawnee majoring in psychology. “I have a lot of pride in SIU and I love hearing old stories about the University.”

Caldwell says these personal interactions have already helped him in his future career.

“When I talk to psychology majors on the phone, I always ask them about their experiences at Southern and about their careers,” he says. “These alumni have helped me find direction in the psychology career field.”

While connecting with SIU alumni is an important aspect of his job, Caldwell’s main focus is garnering financial support for the University. He recently surpassed a fundraising milestone after raising more than $45,000 for the Foundation.

“It is no secret that the economic downturn and lack of funding from the state has made private support essential at SIU,” Caldwell says. “Being able to help the school I love when it needs it most is definitely the most enjoyable part of this job.”

Nanditha Balasubramanian, director of annual giving for the Foundation, says students like Caldwell and his peers make the telefund program a success. Callers are selected from a large pool of applicants based on an interview. Student callers are typically chosen for their energetic attitude and devotion to their University.

“These outstanding student callers demonstrate the skills needed to be true ambassadors of this University. They really are the foundation for the success of our annual fund efforts,” Balasubramanian says. “They understand the significance of fundraising and the impact private support can have on student lives.”

Caldwell knows his efforts have made a difference at Southern, but he also admits that his position as a student caller has been beneficial to him as well.

“Working at the Foundation has given me a number of lasting friendships with fellow employees,” says Caldwell. “It really is like a family. Working with people that you love makes it seem less like a job and more like a mission we are all working toward together.”

SIU Students Raise More Than $40,000 For St. Jude

A student-led philanthropic program at Southern Illinois University Carbondale raised more than $40,000 this year for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

More than 500 students participated in the “Up 'til Dawn” program at the Student Recreation Center. In preparation, they sent letters to family members and friends, increasing awareness about childhood cancer and requesting donations for St. Jude. They brought their donations and pledges and met for an evening of music, food, fun, and prizes.

Members of fraternities and sororities performed the Ebony and Ivory Step Show and local bands also played. Donations continued to arrive after the event, bringing the grand total to $44,101. The donation was presented to Southern student and former St. Jude patient Ross Heern, of Thompsonville, and his parents, Debbie and Kenneth Heern. They accepted the money on behalf of the hospital.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

ALSAC • Danny Thomas, Founder
Greater Michigan Alumni Dinner

The Greater Michigan Chapter hosted 56 alumni, faculty, and students in March at Dave & Buster's in Utica, Mich. Jack Greer, recently retired chairman of SIU's Automotive Technology Department, and Terry Owens, dean of the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, were the guest speakers. Chris Micha, on behalf of the Greater Michigan Chapter, presented retirement plaques to Greer and college development officer Michael Ellis and gave a short speech about Greer's contributions to Southern. Dale Hall, Chad O'Brien, Kent Wilson, and Micha coordinated the event.

Serati To Become Association President

Ray Serati, a Springfield, Ill., resident who for many years worked in the Illinois Capitol Press Corps covering all facets of state government and politics, becomes president of the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors on July 1, taking over the duties from Randy Ragan.

Serati earned his degree at Southern in 1959 and was named the University's "Outstanding Journalism Graduate." He won the Bell Ringer Award in a Copley News Writing Contest and was recognized for his coverage of the birth of the Fisher quintuplets in South Dakota while working for United Press International. He is now retired after serving as a spokesman for the Springfield Police Department. He and his wife, Margaret, have three children and five grandchildren.

A feature story on the new Association president will appear in the December issue of Southern Alumni magazine.

Austin/San Antonio Holds Spring Picnic

The Austin/San Antonio Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 36 alumni and friends in May at a picnic at Landa Park in New Braunfels, Texas. Lunch was catered by Granzines, a local establishment that specializes in BBQ. After lunch, Director of Off-Campus Events and Chapter Development Zack Sapienza presented a charter to Austin/San Antonio Chapter President Donna LeCocq. A raffle and balloon toss were enjoyed by all. LeCocq, Claudia Ogrin, Bill Szelag, and Tim Kirby coordinated this event.

Cubs vs. White Sox In Las Vegas

The Las Vegas/Greater Nevada Club welcomed approximately 25 alumni and friends at a Cubs-White Sox Spring Training Game at Cashman Field. Prior to the March preseason game, alumni tailgated in the parking lot where hamburgers and hotdogs were served. Brian Wolfe coordinated the gathering, and served as the tailgate chef. SIU Alumni Association Director of Communications Gene Green helped host the event.
SIU Day At Wrigley
Tickets Still Available

Tickets for the 33rd Annual SIU Day at Wrigley Field event on Aug. 7 are still available. The 12:05 p.m. game will feature the Chicago Cubs and Cincinnati Reds. A pregame gathering will be from 10 a.m.-noon at the Cubby Bear Lounge. To find out more information or to order tickets to this event, go to www.siualumni.com.

The 26th Annual SIU Day at Busch Stadium, set for Aug. 15 between the Cardinals and Cubs, is sold out.

Central Florida Picnic

The Central Florida Chapter hosted 20 alumni and friends at a potluck picnic in April at Fort De Soto State Park. Prizes were raffled off to all attendees, and despite bad weather, everybody had a fun time. JoAnn Chamberlain coordinated the event.

Saluki Football
To Play At Illinois

The SIU Alumni Association invites alumni to cheer on the Football Salukis when they play the Fighting Illini at Memorial Stadium in Champaign on Sept. 11. Enjoy a pregame meal at our hospitality tent before the game and connect with other Salukis. Each person will also receive an SIU football rally rag to wave as the Salukis move down the field to score. Tickets are limited, and went on sale June 15. Please check www.siualumni.com for more information and to see if tickets are still available.

Dallas Meet-N-Greet

The Dallas/Ft. Worth Club hosted 16 alumni and friends recently to lunch at Cobb Switch BBQ in Carrollton, Texas. After lunch the group discussed possible future events. Catherine Ursprung and Paul Piche coordinated the event.

Save The Date For Homecoming!

Say goodbye to McAndrew Stadium from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Sat., Oct. 9, when the SIU Alumni Association’s “Big Tent” moves to the stadium turf for a farewell event. Everyone is welcome for complimentary food and beverage. Then take the short stroll over to the new stadium as Southern hosts Northern Iowa in the 2 p.m. SIU Homecoming game.

SIU Alumni Association
Seeks Award Nominations

The SIU Alumni Association presents an Alumni Achievement Award for Service each year at its Board of Directors Homecoming luncheon. This award is given for outstanding service to the Association and, therefore, the University. Nominees may be graduates, former students, or friends of the University who have demonstrated their commitment to alumni by their service. The current president or current board members may not receive the recognition while serving on the board.

A five-member committee studies the information given for all nominations and determines the recipient. Members of the Association are asked to submit names with resumes and background material of those whom they feel qualify for this honor. Send the material to SIU Alumni Association, c/o Tina Shingleton, Colyer Hall, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901. Nominations must be received by Aug. 16.

Contact A Chapter Or Club

Want to know more about an SIU Alumni Association chapter or club event near you? Contact the Association at 618-453-2408 for more information, or go to www.siualumni.com/chapters to contact a chapter or club leader near you.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
Register for the All Greek Reunion today at www.siualumni.com/greeks.
We will see you there!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Registration
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.  Meet and Greet Social at Tres Hombres

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Registration
Campus Tours via Saluki Tram
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.  Chapter Open House - Students & Alumni Connect!
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.  Winery Tour
7 p.m. - 12 a.m.  Reunion Launch Party at the Holiday Inn

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2010
9:30 a.m.  SIU Homecoming Parade
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  Alumni 'Big Tent' & Greek Tailgate
2 p.m.  Saluki Football vs. Northern Iowa
After Game - 7 p.m.  Post Game Party!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2010
Current SIU Greek chapters will be planning individual chapter activities for Sunday. For more information on what your chapter will be doing, please contact your chapter's alumni representative.
July

9-11  Drowsy Chaperone, McLeod Theater, Fri.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.
15   Meet the Cast Review, McLeod Theater, 7:30 p.m.
16-18 Drowsy Chaperone, McLeod Theater, Fri.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m.,
     Sunday at 2 p.m.
24   10th Annual Detroit Picnic, Detroit, Mich.
29-Aug. 2 Wizard of Oz, McLeod Theater, Thur.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m.
Sun. at 2 p.m. & Mon. at 7:30 p.m.

August

7  33rd Annual SIU Day at Wrigley Field, Cubs host the Reds;
   pregame 10 a.m. at Cubby Bear, game time 12:05 p.m.
15  26th Annual SIU Day at Busch Stadium, Cardinals host the
   Cubs; pregame at 11 a.m. and game time 1:15 p.m.

September

2  Saluki Football vs. Quincy University; tailgate at 4 p.m.,
   game at 7 p.m. (First game in the new stadium)
11  Saluki Football at Illinois, Champaign, Ill.; tailgate time TBD
   and game time 6:30 p.m.
13  24 Hour Play Day, performance at 7:30 p.m. at Christian H.
   Moe Theater; free Admission
18  Saluki Football vs. Southeast Missouri; tailgate at 3 p.m.,
   game at 6 p.m.
25  Saluki Football at Youngstown State, Youngstown, Ohio;
   game time 3 p.m.
25  Angels host the White Sox; baseball tailgate in Anaheim,
   Calif.; game time TBD and tailgate will begin two hours prior
   to that start.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 8-9, 2010  Homecoming
Oct. 16, 2010  Family Weekend
Dec. 4, 2010  "A Saluki Christmas" in Austin

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Friends, Colleagues
Remember John Guyon

John Guyon, former chancellor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, died at his home in Carbondale March 17. He was 78. He led the University from 1987 to 1996, the second-longest tenure after Delyte Morris.

Chancellor Samuel Goldman extended condolences on behalf of the University community to Trish Guyon, John’s wife, and his children.” John’s commitment to improving our University and our region spanned decades,” Goldman said. “He guided the University with a steady hand, overseeing growth in enrollment as well as expansion of the campus physically.”

Guyon arrived at Southern in 1974 as a professor in chemistry, and later became the first dean of the College of Science. He became associate vice president for research and dean of the graduate school in 1976, followed by posts as acting vice president and then vice president for academic affairs and research. His term as president began in July 1987, nine months after being named acting president. At the time, the president was the top administrator for the SIUC campus and the chancellor led the entire SIU system.

SIU President Glenn Poshard’s relationship with Guyon dates to when Poshard served in the state senate. He said Guyon “always carried himself with a great deal of dignity. He made an outstanding contribution to the University, especially in the area of diversity, and built a much more diversified student body than we previously had. Over the years, that diversity has really helped the University in many, many ways.”

Guyon was honored in August with the dedication of the 200-seat John C. Guyon Auditorium in the expanded and renovated Morris Library. The John C. Guyon Scholarship annually provides financial assistance to a freshman student pursuing a career in science at Southern.

Ben Shepherd, who served as an associate vice chancellor, vice president for academic affairs and research, and also provost under Guyon, believes he ranks second to Morris among the University’s leadership. “The institution, in my opinion, matured from a fledgling high enrollment state university to a mature state university with a substantial research mission and a commitment to excellence in undergraduate education,” Shepherd said. “He was a visionary, and had an uncanny ability to build consensus among the various university constituencies, including students, faculty and staff.”

During his tenure as chancellor, the University became the first American university offering an off-campus program in Japan in 1988. Classes at the Nakajo, Japan, campus mirrored American programs and a year later, a new $7 million campus was dedicated in the seaside community. The University also launched a distance-learning initiative, allowing students in the health care field to attend classes via interactive video linkages with the region’s community colleges.

The Carbondale NAACP presented its first Image Award to Guyon in 1989, recognizing him for making a positive impact on the region’s minority residents. The Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education also honored Guyon in 1989 for bringing African Americans into policy-making and administrative positions.

Association Board Member Schlechte Dies

Howard Schlechte, an executive committee member of the SIU Alumni Association, passed away recently at the age of 78. The Strasburg, Ill., resident began his involvement with the Association in 1994 as a College of Technical Careers representative, and was elected to the board of directors in 2005.

The 1958 Southern graduate served in the U.S. Air Force and Illinois Air National Guard from 1952-1979, retiring as a colonel. He worked at IBM Corporation from 1958 to 1991 and held various technical and management positions. He is survived by his wife, Ina. Memorials may be given to Strasburg Community Improvement Fund, c/o Howe and Yockey Funeral Home, 415 N. Broadway, Shelbyville, IL 62565.

Former Board President Shafter Dies At 85

Albert Shafter, 85, recently passed away in Carbondale. He served on the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1970-78, and was the president of the group from 1974-75.

Shafter ‘48, M.A. ‘49, served as an adjunct professor at SIU, superintendent of the Enid State Schools in Oklahoma, superintendent of the A.L. Bowen Developmental Center in Harrisburg, Ill., and assistant zone director for the Illinois Department of Mental Health.

A veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Army 1160th Engineer Combat Group, he is survived by his wife of 64 years, Lynette. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to SIU Foundation.
more than $1 million in scholarship assistance to high school graduates in the area.

After retiring from the practice of law, Don Lucas '57, M.S. Ed. '59 opened Lucas Brothers Honker Hill Winery in late 2009, followed by an official grand opening this spring. The winery is located in rural Williamson County. Lucas had planned to open the business in the spring of 2009 but the May 8 storm thwarted those plans. "It blew the building away," Lucas says. The "brothers" in the business' name refers to Don's brother Wally, a retired professional engineer, who died in November 2008. Don and Wally began the new business together.

Rich Haney '59 is the new vice president for educational affairs at the College of Lake County in Grayslake, Ill. He previously served as assistant vice president for workforce education affairs and dean of business and industry services. Haney has also held administrative positions at Belleville Area College, Parkland College in Champaign, and for the Regional Office of Education in Mount Vernon.

1960s

Bob Brimm '61, a retired copyeditor, is the author of three collections of poetry: Chance of Rain (2003), Hollyhocks (2007), and Wood Smoke (2008), all published by Finishing Line Press. He's twice been nominated for the Pushcart Prize — Best of the Small Presses series.

Robert Russell M.A. '63, artist and emeritus professor of painting and drawing at Pittsburg (Kansas) State University, was the judge in October 2009 at the Thomas Hart Benton Art Competition and Show in Neosho, Mo. The works of Russell, who taught at Pittsburg for 35 years, were featured in a one-person exhibition at the Jack Meirer Gallery in Houston, Texas.

Sheila Emmett '64, M.S. Ed. '65, a biology teacher at Nazareth Academy High School in La Grange Park, Ill., has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for showing dedication, leadership, and excellence in all aspects of secondary education.

Troutt's Horse Wins 2010 Kentucky Derby

Ken Troutt '71 has found plenty of success in his career, but in May, he added an entirely new distinction as owner of the horse — Super Saver — that earned the blanket of roses at the 136th running of the Kentucky Derby, the world's most prestigious horse race.

Super Saver rode to victory with jockey Calvin Borel, who has twice before (2009 with Mine That Bird and 2007 with Street Sense) piloted horses to victory in the Derby. A second Troutt-Casner entrant in the race, American Lion, finished seventh.

Troutt and his partner, Bill Casner, own WinStar Farm in Versailles, Ky., where they've bred and/or trained several winning thoroughbreds over the years. But 2010 marks the first Derby crown for the two.

Troutt, a native of Mount Vernon, Ill., has been a horseman for more than 20 years and an entrepreneur for most of his life. In 1988 he founded Excel Communications, a long distance telephone service company, which integrated the growing demand for telecommunications service with the unprecedented power of relationship marketing.

As founder and chairman of Excel, Troutt's innovative business and marketing strategies resulted in the meteoric rise of the corporation and its subsequent success as a publicly traded enterprise in 1996.

Currently Troutt serves on the board of trustees of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association and on the board of directors for the Breeder's Cup.

He lives in Dallas with his wife, Lisa, and their three children.
Above Self Day” last October. To date, Lacey has volunteered more than six years of collective time to fight polio, for clean water, in testing for HIV/AIDS, to prevent discrimination against women, and to teach English and improve children’s lives in Ghana, Ethiopia, Egypt, India, Malawi, and Sierra Leone. A retired community health systems professor in the SIU School of Medicine, Lacey is one of only 150 Rotarians out of 1.2 million worldwide awarded the designation for her volunteer service.

Bob Lorinskas ’64, M.A. ’66, chair of the Jackson County Board’s health and safety commission, visited Lithuania – his ancestral homeland – last fall in an attempt to help the Lithuanian government develop a system of emergency preparedness and response. Lorinskas distributed the designation for her volunteer service.

Floyd Sandford M.S. ’64, a biology professor emeritus at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, continues to perform his one-man play, “Darwin Remembers,” across the country. He wrote the play in 2000, based on Darwin’s biography and letters. Sandford taught biology at Coe for 33 years.

Ken Celmer ’69, M.S. ’71 retired Jan. 1 as senior vice president for the Davey Tree Expert Co. in Kent, Ohio. Celmer had been senior manager in charge of the company’s residential/commercial services since 2000.

Preston Jackson ’69, professor of sculpture at the Art Institute of Chicago and one of America’s most renowned African-American sculptors, was a keynote speaker at the 19th Annual Association of Black Culture Centers conference last November in Cleveland, Ohio. Remarks focused on the conference’s theme, “Centers and Negotiations of Cultural Politics of a Black Presidency.” While at SIU, Jackson played jazz guitar with his group, Preston Jackson and the Rhythm Aces.

Tim Kelley ’69 was one of four people recognized in December for outstanding service to agriculture by the Missouri Farm Bureau. Kelley served as state executive director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency for nearly eight years, leaving the position in early 2009.

1970s

With more than 30 years of community organizing, fundraising, and not-for-profit administration, John Colgan ’70 is the newest member of the Illinois Commerce Commission, appointed by Gov. Pat Quinn. A consumer advocate who lives in Springfield, he is a founding director of the Illinois Hunger Coalition.

Terry Buhs ’71, president and chairman of the board of Wegman Electric Co. in East Alton, Ill., was grand marshal for Alton’s 93rd annual Halloween Parade. He earned the honor after saving a five-year-old girl from drowning in Briarwood Lake in June. He also earned a lifesaving/heroism award for civilian “home-town heroes” from the Marine Corps League.

Dennis Patton ’71, M.S. Ed. ’76, who served as principal at Columbia (Ill.) High School for 22 years, is involved in a project to renovate and restore a one-room schoolhouse just outside Columbia as a historical site. It’s a subject he’s quite familiar with – both his master’s and specialist degree theses were on the subject of one-room schools in Illinois.

Vicky Kruckeberg ’74, M.S. ’75 has been named executive director of the Dedham (Mass.) Historical Society’s board of directors. She was most recently the director of the John Adams Courthouse “Discovering Justice” program at the historic Pemberton Square courthouse in Boston. After moving to Massachusetts in 2003, she became director of the Textile Conservation Center at the American Textile History Museum in Lowell.

Harvey Wells ’72, a fixture in Chicago radio for almost 35 years, stepped down as vice president and group station manager for Newsweb Radio in February. Wells had been with Newsweb for six years, but was best known for his decades-long association with WXRT-FM 93.1. In 1970, Wells helped launch WIDB, the campus radio station. He broke into Chicago radio as a weekend overnight disc jockey at WXRT in 1975.

Russ Meier Ph.D. ’74 and his wife, Diane, have opened the Center for Contemplation and Healing in Abilene, Texas, where they aspire to provide insight into the “mystical paths to spiritual enlightenment” and provide holistic information on health and healing.

Debbie Wilson ’74, M.F.A. ’86, who taught art classes at Woodland High School in Mount Vernon, Ill., for 33 years, now works at Cedarhurst Center for the Arts instructing after-school programs and working as a docent at Mitchell Museum at Cedarhurst.

Sherry (Frost) Runco ’75, who was born with the genetic disorder osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bone disease), spent 30 years as a reading specialist and teaching special education at schools in Pleasant Gap, Brenner, and Bellefonte (Pa.) elementary schools. Today she’s a newlywed, living in a home she and her husband designed to accommodate her special circumstances.

Timothy Stout ’75, a tech writer and logistics management specialist with the U.S. Army for 21 years, retired in 1998. He’s been an avid wheelchair basketball player since 1969, including his years at Southern. He and his wife of 20 years, Joline, are the parents of a daughter, who is a college freshman.

John Ellerman ’79, M.S. ’80, formerly with the Ohio Farmer’s Union in Columbus, Ohio, volunteered in April 2009 to serve a one-year U.S. Department of Agriculture assignment in Iraq to help rebuild that country’s agricultural sector. In November, Ellerman and two other USDA Provincial Reconstruction Team members, helped celebrate the grand opening of the Iraqi Farmer Cooperative, which they created.

Thomas Hawes ’79 is special project manager for Professional Service Industries’ Devon Energy Headquarters special project. PSI is a leading independent engineering and testing firm and one of the
largest consulting engineering firms in North America, with about $250 million in annual revenues. PSI is headquartered in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.  

Daniel Klem Jr. Ph.D. '79 is professor of biology and Sarkis Acopian Professor of Ornithology and Conservation Biology at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa. Much of his research over the past 35 years has involved birds and windows, or specifically, avian mortality resulting from collisions with clear and reflective sheet glass and plastic. Klem says billions of birds worldwide have died from such accidents.

1980s

Dave Kane '81, a sports writer for the State Journal Register in Springfield, Ill., was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame (media category) in April. He's been with the newspaper for 26 years, covering small-school area sports since 1991. 

Dr. Bryan Warner '83 has opened Missouri's first BodyLogicMD practice in St. Louis, specializing in bioidentical hormone replacement therapy, fitness, and nutrition. Warner, a bioidentical hormone expert, is devoted to addressing the demand of women and men in their 30s and older seeking relief from the symptoms of hormonal imbalance, perimenopause, menopause, and andropause (male menopause).

Dr. Fernando Bonanni '84 is founder and director of the Institute for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery at Abington Health Center in Warminster, Pa., which is his hometown. Bonanni, who has practiced at the hospital for 14 years, lives in Ivyland.

Jody Gleason '84 has been named first assistant to the Kane County state's attorney. As second in command, Gleason will supervise the Priority Prosecution Unit, all felony prosecutors, and the traffic and misdemeanor divisions. She's been with the state's attorney office for 17 years.

Alan Johnson '84, associate professor of English at Idaho State University, won a Fulbright scholarship to teach and study at the University of Mumbai, India. Johnson, who was raised in India and speaks Hindi well, specializes in post-colonial literature and theory, with a focus on South Asian literature, primarily Indian.

Al Haeussler '85 has spent the past 24 years as the voice of Streator and Woodland (Ill.) sports on WSPL (formerly WIZZ) in Streator. In April he was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. "Big Al" has been a fixture on the area sports scene since beginning his radio career in 1986, and delivers three early morning sports reports every day on WSPL — before he reports to his full-time job as a mailman in Marseilles.

Kimberly Fredericks '86 has joined the Ridgewood, N.J., office of Terrie O'Connor Realtors as a full-time sales associate.

Dr. Jill Russell '86, M.S. '88, M.D. '92, a board-certified physician in family medicine, opened Pickford Medical Clinic in November in Suwanee, Ga.

Eric Horton '87 is chief of industrial operations in the Midwest Operations Center of the U.S. General Services Administration. Horton was hired into the position by an SIU grad (Frank Hoeft '73), and has himself hired at least seven Southern industrial technology graduates.

Debut Novel Looks At Despair And Forgiveness

The career of Naseem Rakha '83 has taken many turns. She's been a teacher and consultant for Native American tribes; a mediator in the clean-up of the nuclear site that created the Nagasaki bomb; and a reporter for National Public Radio.

One of her responsibilities during her tenure as a reporter was covering state-run executions in Oregon, where she lives. The experience led her to write her first novel, The Crying Tree, which is set in southern Illinois and central Oregon. Rakha tells a story of a mother who must overcome the hate, grief, and secrets that surround the murder of her 15-year-old son, and defy church and family as she attempts to stop the execution of the man who killed her boy.

It's already racking up awards — including the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association 2010 Book Award, best seller status at the San Francisco Chronicle, and as one of Barnes and Noble's Discover Great New Writers picks. Published by Broadway Books, a division of Random House, the book has also been translated into 10 languages.
Chuck Stuhrenberg ’87 opened Big Muddy Brewing out of his manufacturing warehouse in Murphysboro. The microbrewery’s first beer, “Kinkaid Wheat,” an American wheat-styled beer made with water from Lake Kinkaid, is available at several local restaurants and taverns. Its second, “Saluki Dunkel Dog Ale,” will soon be in production. The company aims to add some local pride to the area—all of its beers will be named after regional places and entities.

Lane Feezor ’88 has been named business banker for First Atlantic Bank in St. Augustine, Fla. Prior to his new position, Feezor was responsible for creating revenue streams for First Atlantic by building relationships with mortgage and commercial brokers and various secondary lending markets. He also has worked as a loan officer at Barnett Bank in Jacksonville, Fla.

Adam E. Stone ’89, J.D. ’01 is hard at work on his fourth novel, set in the Cache River region of southern Illinois, while his third book, The New Harmonies, was released in late 2009. His first two novels were Xamon Song (2006) and Kingston Fugue (2007). Now living in Mount Vernon, Ill., Stone served 10 years in the U.S. military, eventually becoming a military attorney.

1990s

Short story writer Donna Deines ’90 has released a children’s book, The Remarkable Red Rock, a story of how one child’s faith can change the future. It’s available in bookstores nationwide and can also be ordered through the publisher, Tate Publishing and Enterprises, at tatepublishing.com/bookstore.

Trish Jones A.A.S. ’91, ’93 calls herself a “recycled” dental hygienist. After 10 years in private practice, she went to work as a technical adviser, helping teach dentists about dental lab communication at a postgraduate teaching facility. She is currently assistant manager of the lab in Las Vegas, Nev.

After finishing his degree in aviation management and flight, Clark Pollard A.A.S. ’91, ’93 went on to fly Sea Stallion helicopters with the U.S. Marine Corps Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463, based out of Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. He has been involved in transporting a former president and heads of state, and was part of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and 2004. He served his fourth deployment to Afghanistan in 2009.

At Halloween every year for the last seven years, Scott Thorne M.B.A. ’91, Ph.D. ’03, owner of Castle Perilous Games and Books in Carbondale, guides residents and visitors around the city’s most horrific landmarks as part of his business’ all-day Halloween celebration. The tour includes six to 10 haunted houses, the most notorious of which is Hundley House on Main Street, where a former mayor and his wife were murdered in 1928, a mystery still unsolved. Donations from tour participants this year went to the Jackson County Humane Society.

Jonathan Woods ’91 is minister of music at the Delaney Street Baptist Church in Orlando, Fla. He previously served with Baptist churches in Lakeland and Apopka, Fla., and is working on a master of music degree from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

Elizabeth Scott M.A. ’93 is an educator, community leader, and aspiring state legislator in Washington state’s 21st district. Scott has taught English as a second language to students in Illinois, South Carolina, and Washington, as well as in China and the United Arab Emirates. She has also worked as a research and policy analyst at Evergreen Freedom Foundation in Olympia, Wash.

Mark Wiebe M.A. ’93 is the new public affairs director at the Wyandot Center in Kansas City, Kan., the designated community mental health center for Wyandotte County. He’s a Kansas City native who worked for 14 years as a journalist for The Kansas City Star, covering Wyandotte and Leavenworth counties.

Stacie Craig ’94, M.F.A. ’98, formerly a public school teacher in south central Los Angeles, has been in the entertainment industry for more than eight years. In December she was named as one of three fellows for the 2009-2010 year for the Nickelodeon Writing Fellowship, which is aimed at integrating young and diverse writing talent into its Nickelodeon network productions.

Angie Bailey ’95, M.S. Ed. ’97, director of health education at the Jackson County Health Department, observed her third anniversary of writing a column for local newspapers. As a member of Jackson County Healthy Communities Coalition Southern Illinois Behavioral Health Team, Bailey works to educate the community to enhance the mental health and emotional well being of Jackson County residents.

Dan Williams M.F.A. ’94, assistant professor of technical theatre and design at Pittsburg (Kansas) State University, celebrated 20 years in theater with a photo exhibit at Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium. His most recent project was creating an abstract forest fairyland for a production of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

April Troemper J.D. ’98 has been sworn in as an associate judge in the 7th Judicial Circuit and is seated in Sangamon County, Ill., the fourth female judge in the six-county circuit. Troemper, who was first in her family to earn a degree beyond high school, previously practiced with the Sorling, Northrup, Hanna, Cullen & Cochran law firm in Springfield. Since 2002, Dennis Strouhmatt M.A. ’99, a specialist in North American Creole and Cajun language, music, and culture, has traveled the world as a solo artist, with his band, Creole Stomp, and with many Louisiana-based bands playing Louisiana Creole Zydeco, Cajun blues, and New Orleans swamp pop. Strouhmatt plays fiddle and accordion.
2000s

Glass artist Hiram Toraason ’00, owner of Toraason Glass Studio in Peoria, Ill., created his third annual hand-blown holiday ornament as a fundraiser for the Quincy area branch of the Alzheimer’s Association. Proceeds benefit the Quincy chapter to help fight the disease.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Jon Hart ’01 was named the 2008 Air Education and Training Command Manpower Officer of the Year in 2009. He also won the Blue Suit Award from the Air Force Association’s Alamo Chapter. Hart, who is stationed at Shaw AFB in South Carolina, leads a staff of 23 personnel in a group of complex issues involving manpower and organization actions.

Micki Poole ’01 is a receptionist at Ulrich Medical Concepts, a medical software firm, in Paducah, Ky. Poole, who suffers from cerebral palsy, found employment after participating in a program, Preparing Adults for Competitive Employment, a program that won a statewide award in 2008 for employing disadvantaged people. She also participated in an independent living program in Carbondale.

Thomas Sedlacek Jr. ’01 is a recent graduate of the Prince William County Justice Basic Law Enforcement 26th Session in northern Virginia. Sedlacek served in the U.S. Navy before joining the police department. He is assigned to work patrol in eastern Prince William County.

He, his wife, and their two children live in Fredericksburg.

Michael Barrett J.D. ’02, executive counsel at the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, has released his first novel, The Keeler Principle, a story that plays out around a theme of how political agendas can mire the justice system.

Ilia Radoslavov M.M. ’02, who teaches piano at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, is the gold medal winner in the professional category for the 2009 Seattle International Piano Festival and Competition. As the winner, Radoslavov will be invited to judge this year’s contest; will perform as a guest artist in the Cornish College of the Arts concert series; and will record a solo album with Emergence Records, a Seattle-based label. A native of Bulgaria, Radoslavov has been performing professionally for 20 years.

Jarran Riley ’02 is the newest Illinois state trooper for District 17 in LaSalle. Riley completed 25 weeks of training at the Illinois State Police Academy and is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. After completing a 14-week field training program, Riley is assigned to general patrol duties in LaSalle, Bureau, and Putnam counties.

Sandra Collins ’01, M.B.A. ’03, assistant professor in health care management, won the 2009 Outstanding Article Award along with co-author Denise Vaughn Ph.D. ’09. The article addresses potential labor shortages within the health care industry.

Derek Anderson ’04 is staff photographer for the Independent Weekly, covering Durham, Raleigh, and Chapel Hill, N.C. He also works as a freelance photographer for clients that include Time, The Wall Street Journal, MERGE Records, AARP, and ESPN. While at SIU, Anderson was named student photographer of the year for three years running by the Illinois Press Photographers Association.

Following the birth of her son Luke, Erin Murphy M.S. Ed. ’04 will return to work as a counselor at Carbondale Community High School in the 2010-11 school year. She previously worked for the Nature Conservancy in Chicago, served in Morocco in the Peace Corps, and was a middle school counselor in Montrose, Colo. Her husband, Steve Murphy M.S. Ed. ’06 is principal at Carbondale Community High School.

Christopher Walls ’04, M.P.A. ’07 is the new executive director of the Murphysboro Chamber of Commerce. Walls...
Recent Grad Refused To Let Near-Fatal Fall Derail His Dreams

When Bret Beherns '10 graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in May, he knew he would face the future with the same determination that enabled him to overcome a near-fatal accident almost four years ago.

The College of Mass Communication and Media Arts product was working a rope line in 2006 during a summer job for a cell phone tower company when he was catapulted about 80 feet. The fall left him with numerous injuries, including fractures in his ankles and back, both legs, and a torn aorta. His left leg required amputation about six inches below his knee.

"I feel like God has given me the tools to be a hard worker and to reach for the stars," he says. "I've got some big goals and dreams and I was certainly not going to let this stop me."

After graduating from Parkland College, Beherns transferred to SIU's award-winning radio-television program. He was recently named the Department of Radio-Television's 2010 Overall Outstanding Student.

Jim Gee, news director for WSIU-TV Channel 8's River Region Evening Edition, says students are encouraged to not pay attention to market size when looking for their first jobs, but they also are not discouraged from pursuing jobs in large markets. "Bret is one of those who we think could be successful," he says. "He could get his dream job right off the bat and be one of those rare ones who is the exception to the rule."

In addition to his work with Evening Edition, Beherns was a weekend producer at WSL-TV Channel 3 in Carterville. He was an intern at the station last fall and worked as a sports photographer for a few months earlier this year.

Beherns has been "probably the best intern that we've had," says Darren Kinnard '93, the station's sports director. "He's different than a lot of graduates, and understands where he's at and what it's taken for him to get there. He appreciates it and he has a different drive than a lot of people — that has to be a contributing factor."
For nearly 100 years, this location was considered the main entrance to Southern Illinois University’s Carbondale campus. The 1954 photo shows what this access point looked like during that era. Although part of the original iron gate still exists, many features—including the Old Main building shown above—are no longer physical pieces of SIU’s campus. The beauty of Southern, however, still prevails.
After Four Decades, Sautter Says Adieu

After nearly four decades at Purdue University, John Sautter '67, M.S. Ed. '69, vice president for housing and food services, will be stepping into retirement mode at the end of June, but there's one duty he'll be holding onto – acting as official host to visiting coaches for Purdue men's basketball.

Prior to each home game, Sautter meets Purdue's opponents and stays with the head coach until the team leaves campus after the game, making sure any needs are met and any problems solved.

"It's fun and challenging," Sauter says, "and I get a great seat for every game."

In his official duties as vice president for housing and food services, Sautter is leaving giant shoes to fill. He oversees university residences, food stores, the Purdue Memorial Union and its 192-room Union Club Hotel, Boiler Television, Elliott Hall of Music and Hall of Music Productions, Loeb Playhouse, Fowler Hall, and Slayter Center for the Performing Arts.

Along the way, Sautter's efforts have brought national recognition to the university, although he says he always relied heavily on student input for designing and renovating facilities.

His efforts have been noticed. Purdue's president, France Cordova, had this to say: "His wisdom and his deep understanding of students and the people who serve them have been invaluable assets for the university. On-campus living at Purdue goes beyond wonderful housing and dining opportunities. Thanks to John, it is an experience that prepares our students for life when they leave Purdue."

But Sautter won't be leaving his full-time position to become a full-time couch potato. On July 1 he'll report to work at the Purdue Alumni Association to become a part-time staffer there, "doing things for them, visiting chapters and such," he says. "I value the impact that alumni can have and also my interaction with them."

He gives at least some of the credit for his successful career at Purdue to his five-year stay at SIU's Thompson Point, which he says provided a solid foundation for knowing students' needs.

A longtime life member of the SIU Alumni Association, Sautter believes membership is key to staying in touch. "It's an easy way to stay in touch with classmates, with what's happening on campus, and sometimes even former instructors," he says. "College days are meaningful ... and we need to keep those memories alive."
ONCE A SALUKI, ALWAYS A SALUKI

Recent grads check out page 4!
FIRST IMPRESSIONS

2010 State of the University Address
Chancellor Rita Cheng

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Delivered Sept. 30, 2010
Today, I want to share with you my first impressions after four months here; my perspective on our mission, values and challenges; and directions I believe we need to move in to become an even more vibrant institution.

Before I joined the campus community, I did my homework. I spoke with alumni, faculty, staff and parents who were very positive about SIUC – and with very good reasons. This University has a strong reputation for research that impacts our future; for collaborations in the form of interdisciplinary research that is changing academics; for instruction that transforms lives; for technology that is changing the way we teach, learn and work; and for being an economic engine for Southern Illinois – indeed, the single largest contributor to the economy. What I have found since arriving on campus is that your passion, energy and spirit are inspiring and contagious. Your scholarly endeavors and cutting-edge research earn recognition nationally and internationally. Your commitment to outreach is highly valued by the communities we serve. Diversity and inclusiveness are far more than words here; they are essential attributes of who we are and the lessons we wish to share.
Your many achievements reflect the culture of excellence on our campus. Clearly the Higher Learning Commission also recognized that excellence. I am pleased to announce that the Commission has extended the University’s accreditation for a full 10 years. The consultant-evaluators who reviewed our extremely thorough self-study, and spent several days on campus last spring, concluded that the progress of the past 10 years reflects our commitment to the next 10, and beyond. Just like our self-study, their report and recommendations will help guide us in our planning and decision-making in the weeks, months and years ahead. I will discuss some of those recommendations with you a bit later.

I want to thank Professor Jim Allen, who chaired our accreditation effort, and the more than 100 people who directly contributed to the self-study. I know that all of those people agree with me that this accomplishment occurred because of the passion, dedication and loyalty of thousands of current and former University employees and students. And I applaud all of you.

Consider, also, some of our student, faculty, staff and alumni accomplishments of the past year:

- A record-setting $73 million in externally funded grants. In just the first two months of this fiscal year, grant awards are running more than $6 million ahead of the same period last year. Among our new grants is $1.8 million from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to the Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center to assess commercial possibilities for Asian carp. We also received a $1.4 million interdisciplinary NSF grant in the important area of climate change, hydrology and landscapes of America’s heartland.

- We are quite pleased with the results of a study of the quality of doctoral programs at more than 200 institutions that was released this week by the National Research Council. Many of our programs were ranked most highly in the measures of student support and outcomes, including time-to-degree and job placement. Our doctoral programs also earned high marks for faculty and student diversity.
• This summer, the journal “Annals of Internal Medicine” recognized the School of Medicine as one of the top 15 medical schools in the nation for social mission.

• Student retention in the College of Agricultural Sciences has improved by 8 percent, to 78 percent, over the past five years.

• The NSF-supported retention programs for students in the College of Engineering continue to show positive results -- so much so that the NSF released all the remaining funding for the program. After three years, the retention rate for freshmen is up 10 percent and the retention rate for sophomores is up 8 percent.

• The master of architecture degree program earned its initial accreditation, launching us into the national arena of quality accredited programs.

• Graduate programs in rehabilitation counseling, workforce education, communications disorders and sciences, and social work earned high marks in U.S. News and World Report.
2010 U.S. News & World Report:
PERCENT OF FACULTY WHO ARE FULL-TIME (2009)

99.0%
90.2%
89.6%
95.5%
91.7%

UIUC  UIC  ISU  SIUC  NIU

2010 U.S. News & World Report:
CLASSES WITH UNDER 20 STUDENTS (2009)

38.4%
32.9%
30.7%
50.4%
41.0%

UIUC  UIC  ISU  SIUC  NIU

2010 U.S. News & World Report:
CLASSES WITH 50 OR MORE STUDENTS (2009)

19.9%
18.5%
11.4%
4.7%
12.3%

UIUC  UIC  ISU  SIUC  NIU

Diagram A
Last spring, our education programs rose dramatically from a ranking of 100 to 71. It is important to note that the magazine ranks nearly 300 such programs.

- Our University also received recognition in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Colleges 2011" rankings that were released last month. Quite frankly, I believe that's worth celebrating. I want to show you graphs that compare our standing in a couple of key categories with other public universities in Illinois that the magazine includes in its Tier 1 listing.

The red bar represents SIUC. *(See diagram A)* As you can see, they demonstrate strengths in the number of full-time faculty, second only to the University Illinois; the very large percentage of small classes, which are conducive to a positive learning environment; and our low percentage of large lectures. What these very positive results tell me is that we have an incredible base on which to build.

- Collaborative efforts across the campus continue to generate national and statewide praise for the educational opportunities we provide to active members of the military and for veterans.

In fact, just this week, Military Times EDGE magazine released its first-ever rankings of what it calls "Best for Vets." The magazine invited more than 4,000 colleges and universities to participate. Our University ranks second in the nation in the listing of 100 top colleges and universities for services provided to student veterans.

- In keeping with our longstanding commitment to access and diversity, we again earned recognition this summer from the magazine Diverse: Issues in Higher Education. The University moved from 44th in the 2009 rankings to 33rd for all degrees awarded to African American students, and from 26th to 20th for traditionally white institutions conferring bachelor's degrees in all disciplines to African Americans. And a remarkable Number 1 ranking for the number of African American students earning a bachelor's degree in education. These — and the other positive results included in the rankings — indicate that we are on the right track and encourage us to make even greater progress.
In fact, our University is attracting notice from many sources. The September/October issue of Washington Monthly includes that magazine's 2010 college rankings. Universities are ranked on the basis of social mobility, research and service. And you will find SIU at number 153 out of a listing of only 258 national universities. But, among public universities, SIU ranks 85th.

Also, you may be interested in results of a study that Payscale.com posted on its website last month. It compares the amount of money an average bachelor's degree is worth at various universities. The study shows how much more money the average graduate will earn over 30 years than a non-graduate who has worked for 34 to 36 years. It subtracts all college costs, meaning the final number is net profit. The result of their calculations is ROI – Return on Investment. And the ROI for our graduates is $292,000.

And, you may recall results of a poll conducted of registered voters in Southern Illinois last spring by our own Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. In assessing voters' views of groups and
institutions, SIU emerged with a rating just shy of 70 percent, second-highest among the institutions or groups included in the survey.

- Following a four-year-long process of self-study and on-site visits, the Department of Computer Science received its first accreditation from the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology. This would be a worthy accomplishment in and of itself, but the accreditation is for six years, compared to the three-year accreditation many other schools receive.

- The School of Art and Design received a $500,000 matching grant from the Windgate Charitable Foundation to support scholarships and research.

- The law school established a "Women in Leadership" program to help address the lack of female leaders in the legal profession.

- The University Museum is the site of Illinois' share of the extensive contemporary art collection assembled by Herb and Dorothy Vogel of New York. The couple donated the entire collection to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., which helped the Vogels create 50 collections of 50 pieces each intended as a gift for one museum per state. Our museum was selected because of its importance as an educational and cultural institution in Southern Illinois. The exhibit is on display through Dec. 11, and if you haven't taken advantage of this wonderful opportunity, I encourage you to do so.

- In athletics, 15 of 18 sports earned a team GPA of 3.0 or higher. And, though I doubt you've forgotten, the football Salukis won the conference championship, went undefeated in conference play and made the playoffs for the seventh straight year. Our softball and women's outdoor track teams also won conference titles, and women's outdoor track and field finished ninth in the nation out of 319 programs.

- For the second consecutive year, three students were named to USA Today's All-Academic Team.
• Photojournalism students captured three of the top 10 awards in the Hearst Foundation National Photojournalism Competition.

• A team of engineering students won a national design contest that helps people with disabilities gain access to jobs or advance at their place of employment.

• The Flying Salukis finished fourth in the nation out of 28 teams competing in the national tournament.

• This past May marked the one-year anniversary of the wind storm that caused significant damage to our campus. The ongoing restoration of roofs, buildings, grounds, the woods and the campus lake area reflect our commitment to providing a positive living and learning environment. Thanks to Phil Gatton and his team at Plant and Service Operations for their outstanding dedication and effort.

We are building for the future, because we are confident in our future. As you all know, the new home for our football Salukis opened on schedule and the renovated Arena will open on schedule this fall.
Construction is under way on the Transportation Education Center, which will house our nationally renowned aviation and automotive programs. Completion is scheduled for 2012. (See diagram B)

Soon, we will see development of our Student Services Building to better serve our students. Plans also will soon move forward for an Alumni Association/SIU Foundation building in the McAndrew Stadium area. We have RAMP requests for new academic buildings: Communications, Agriculture, Science Research, and a classroom building. (See diagram C)
And, we plan to complete the top two floors of Morris Library.

• We continue to see positive trends in the Graduate School, where enrollment increased this fall by 111 students. Between 2006 and this year, graduate enrollment has increased 4 percent, and over the last three years, it has grown by 4.8 percent. The percentage of students enrolled in doctoral programs stands at 30 percent this fall, a 3 percent increase since 2006.

• New and innovative programs, such as the Professional Science Master’s in Advanced Energy and Fuels Management, and IGERT, the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship, will continue to attract excellent students. Both cohorts began their studies this summer.

• As you may recall, the Professional Science Master’s is the first of its kind in the country to focus on energy and fuels, and will provide a trend-setting experience for participants. The program trains graduates with backgrounds in science, technology, agriculture, and engineering to apply their theoretical training to real-world management issues.
IGERT is a very prestigious doctoral program that trains up-and-coming watershed scientists. How prestigious is it? Ours is one of only 20 funded by the National Science Foundation last year from a pool of more than 400 applicants. The initial group of six students is studying the Cache River Watershed and is organizing a symposium next month to learn more about this vital resource and discuss its future.

We are becoming more international, with 1,222 students from 100+ countries on campus this fall, with an increase in the number of study abroad opportunities for our students, and many international collaborations among faculty.

• And, even in the face of difficult economic hardships, our alumni and friends continued to support the University in 2009-10. That support totaled nearly $24 million.

And that, my friends, is but a very, very short list of the past year’s accomplishments. As I said, we should never lose sight of the great talent and commitment on our campus. There is much to take pride in and to draw inspiration from as we plan for our future.

We are all aware of the budgetary issues facing Illinois. We appreciate the state’s investment in higher education in general, and in our University in particular. But the economic recovery in our state and throughout the nation is painfully slow, and it will likely remain that way for the foreseeable future. We also know that the conversation in our state could change dramatically five weeks from now.

The National Governors Association this summer warned that the current fiscal year will be as difficult as fiscal 2010. (1). Key challenges facing not only Illinois, but all states, include the end of federal stimulus funds, revenues remaining below pre-recession levels, and increasing demands for many services - notably health and education. (2). Nationally, state appropriations to higher education fell by 6.9 percent in 2008 and 2009. State and local real appropriations to universities classified as high research - which includes SIU -- across the country have fallen from $8,050 per student in 1987 to just under $7,300 in 2007 (3), and at SIU our state appropriations are the same today as they were in 1999.
As you know, we have adopted a multi-faceted strategy to cover a budget shortfall this fiscal year. We developed these approaches in the spirit of shared governance with the input of the revitalized Chancellor’s Planning and Budget Advisory Council. They are designed to insure academic quality and effective operations, while minimizing the impact on our employees.

I want to show you where we were financially at the beginning of the fiscal year, what has taken place, and where we stand. (See diagram D)

You have made, and continue to make, significant sacrifices, sacrifices that have helped considerably. Purchasing, contracts, travel and other expenditures have been dramatically reduced.

Our hiring freeze, which through attrition reduced the number of FTE employees by 132 between May 2009 and May 2010, will remain in effect. We will continue to make limited, but strategic faculty hires. Key academic leadership positions, including the provost and deans, must be filled on a permanent basis. It is imperative that we continue to make the hires that we can afford but cannot afford to be without. I have asked all non-academic units to cut an additional 1 percent. We will begin discussions with all bargaining units about unpaid administrative closure days with the goal of achieving unity, saving jobs and ensuring quality. We also are exploring a new budget model creating internal incentives through which tuition revenues would be shared with units showing growth in credit hours.

Public universities across the country are facing significant challenges. As is the case with many of our peers, the current situation demands that we closely examine some of our practices to create new opportunities.

We must be honest about what more we can do to tighten our belts and where we need to improve.

We must continue to advocate for student financial aid and new state dollars to support our mission. We must continue to communicate our strengths and importance to the region and the state. We then must marshal the considerable talents on this
## Contributing Factors to the Budget Shortfall

### Revenue Reductions

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<th>Factor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY10 Enrollment Decline - FY11 Impact</td>
<td>$(4.8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduction in Federal Stimulus Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elimination of Illinois Veteran's Grant Funding</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### Revenue Additions

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<tr>
<td><strong>Net New Revenues</strong></td>
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### New Expenditures

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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal - Structural Deficit</strong></td>
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<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Budget Reduction 4%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Structural Deficit (FY11 &amp; FY12)</strong></td>
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### Additional FY11 Budget Savings Strategies

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<td>Proposed Unpaid Administrative Closure</td>
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<td><strong>FY11 Budget Shortfall</strong></td>
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Diagram D
campus to achieve the positive results we all seek. There is a deeply imbedded will to succeed on this campus, and that gives me great confidence in our future.

Just what is the future we envision for our University? What are the steps we need to take to reach those goals? Turning around undergraduate enrollment and retention is job one. And despite a 1.5 percent drop in our fall enrollment, I believe we are headed in the right direction. The significant increase this fall in transfer student enrollment demonstrates the positive impact of this renewed focus. We simply cannot wait to address the undergraduate enrollment situation and we know that we must sustain this effort over the long term.

You know about some of the steps we have taken in enrollment and retention, and there are important indicators that I will share with you in a moment. First, however, I want to make sure you are aware of a project that started out quite small, that is gaining momentum, and that has the potential to generate significant improvement in student success, and therefore, student retention.
We all recognize two key challenges in higher education today revolve around access – both financial: the ability to pay tuition and fees, and preparation: how well students are prepared for college. If we are going to help meet the tremendous need for college graduates, particularly in the STEM fields, we need to think about more preparation in mathematics and help students bridge their gaps in preparation from high school to college.

By changing the traditional equation on our campus, we are seeing significant improvement. The philosophy – and the practice – at work here is that by understanding how students learn, we can greatly enhance their chances of success.

Over the past three years, math faculty members have championed a hybrid model of college algebra that is clearly outperforming traditional approaches. A key element of this approach is the extensive use of software for improved student learning outcomes. But, more importantly, it provides students with learning aids, including video and animations, and assignments and study plans customized to the needs of each student.
Where we are heading is self-paced mastery learning. Students will proceed at whatever pace is comfortable to them and take as much time as is necessary to master and complete a course.

Also critical to this effort are the upper-level undergraduates who mentor new students in the evenings, 15 hours per week, in a satellite facility in Trueblood Hall. Since the facility was established two years ago, there have been 3,000 visits. We hope to create a similar facility in Lentz Hall to serve Thompson Point residents.

Although space constraints have severely limited the number of students who could benefit from this creative approach, that is changing. This fall, thanks to Dean David Carlson, a computer lab has been established at Morris Library that can accommodate 40 students. When you think about the fact that this semester there are 800 students in those two core algebra classes, and 90 percent of them are freshmen, it is clear we must expand what we are doing.

As you can see (diagram E), planning is under way for improvements to that temporary lab in the library. Even such a small investment will translate into big dividends as we continue to enhance the learning environment for our students.

Let me share with you some Math 107 results from last semester. All sections were taught using a model similar to the Math 108 lab model, which included extensive use of technology. The overall median score on the common final exam was 140 out of 200 possible points. By way of comparison, medians on the Math 107 final the previous two semesters were 93 out of 200 for spring 2009 and 101 out of 200 for fall 2009. We have seen a 20 percent increase in pass rates in algebra among business students, thanks to the collaboration between the College of Business and the mathematics department.
It is difficult to argue with that kind of success. It is difficult to argue with the impact on our students' confidence and learning. And it is obvious this can greatly enhance student retention and persistence to graduation. This model must be expanded to ensure success in other first-year courses.

Let me turn now to recruitment and admissions. Under the leadership of Dr. John Nicklow, we are developing a comprehensive, aggressive and intentional student recruitment program that has many components. I will highlight just a couple of those today. What we are already seeing is a stronger organization that works more efficiently and with greater impact. Dr. Nicklow and his team are tearing down silos, both within Enrollment Management and between that division and our colleges. People are working more collaboratively, and there is a focus on cross training, with all staff being asked to be student-centered and service-oriented.

There is now a Campus-Student Relations Group, using existing staff members. Its goal is really quite simple: help students or parents who need answers -- who haven't been able to find the
office that could best solve their problems. Dr. Nicklow recognizes one of Enrollment Management’s chief challenges has been the perception of customer service. They plan – in very short order – to set the standard for excellent customer service, eliminating long waits in line and on the phone in the process.

There also is an intensive search and fulfillment campaign under way. The division is maintaining a strong focus on Southern Illinois. But it also is aggressively focusing on our border states, the Chicago area, and parts of Texas, California and Florida. The financial struggles in California are well known, and universities there are capping enrollment. Florida and the southeastern United States are projected to have the fastest growing population of college students. We are also continuing our aggressive recruitment of international students.

The Alumni Association is a strong partner in this new effort, helping Enrollment Management to connect with key alumni in those areas. The plan does not entail searching in every corner of those states, but where there is a high frequency of our alums, hopefully they will be willing ambassadors and talk to students for us.
An honest appraisal of our strengths and weaknesses also demands that we understand why we are not making the grade with some students. Every student we admit must have our full attention to ensure their success. That includes students who do well here, but then leave. Are we offering the right programs? Are we offering all the necessary services?

Enrollment Management is surveying those who left our university in good standing, prior to graduating and who have not enrolled elsewhere. We need to know the reasons so we can improve. These students will receive a personalized letter inviting them back. We know that we care about our students' success; we know we want to be responsive to their needs. Do they?

This very focused effort will also include students who left our University because of poor academic performance. We have a second-chance program already in place; we want these students to know about this opportunity so we can have another opportunity to help them succeed.

We are placing a much stronger emphasis on our service centers located at community colleges in the region. They will be strengthened through training, on-site technology and better communication. Dr. Nicklow has created a Transfer Student Services unit in partnership with the service centers to help orient and support transfer students as they transition to SIU. (See diagram F)

Our recruitment efforts will be bolstered through strategic marketing and advertising initiatives. The consulting firm Lipman Hearne met with a variety of faculty, staff
and students during a campus visit last month. It is important that we distinguish ourselves among our peers and re-focus our branding and marketing on our remarkable academic programs. We have "pride points" that help separate us from our peers. Our challenge is to cut through the clutter and be consistent and clear in our messaging.

Another priority this year is the creation of a robust distance learning initiative. Here is another example of where we must be honest with ourselves: To put it simply and directly, we are behind the curve in this area, and distance learning must be a fundamental part of our mission. This will enhance our ability to meet students where they are, whether that is in Southern Illinois or around the world, and provide them with the high-quality programming we offer on campus.

At the moment, we have just a few very specialized online degree programs. We offer a number of Core Curriculum courses online, along with web-based standard courses, and Individualized Learning Program courses. The goal of our new Distance Education Council, led by Associate Provost Susan Logue, is to develop full online programs that lead to degrees. We want the colleges to develop the curriculum appropriate to the degrees they grant.

The Council includes representatives from each of the colleges, Library Affairs, Enrollment Management and Off-Campus Programs. This will be a complete approach that includes the necessary support structure to meet the needs of our students. The Council also will explore a model through which tuition revenues will be returned to the colleges, which can then decide how best to utilize those funds.

Our goal is to have this new distance learning initiative finalized by the middle of the spring semester, with implementation planned for next fall. I want to again publicly thank Susan Edgren and the staff of Continuing Education for their hard work over the past several years in pioneering the University’s distance learning efforts.

Certainly one of the ongoing success stories on our campus is the concerted effort to help freshmen and transfer students successfully make the transition to University life.
As a result of our new Saluki First Year program, and due to the hard work of multiple faculty, staff and students, we now have a common platform and learning objectives for Saluki First Year 101 courses and corresponding faculty development programs, a common programming theme centering on the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina with more than 20 programs scheduled, assessment protocols and processes for gauging the effectiveness of our first-year student initiatives, a speaker series, a common reader program, orientation learning outcomes and the new extended orientation program, Saluki Startup. All of these programs were designed to assist our first-year students transition, connect, engage and succeed at SIUC. Saluki First Year is succeeding because of the outstanding collaboration between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs under the leadership of Mark Amos and Julie Payne Kirchmeier.

Last year, the Faculty Senate passed a resolution endorsing the development and implementation of student success courses required of all incoming students. A number of new, college-specific student success courses are now being offered in Engineering and Liberal Arts, with plans to expand so that by fall 2011, all freshmen will be required to take these courses that will carry Core Curriculum or degree credit.
Perhaps the change most apparent in the lives of our incoming students has been the institution of an extended orientation for freshmen. This fall’s Saluki Startup featured college-specific discussions about academic expectations and fun events designed to welcome our students into the Saluki family. I participated in many of the events, and I can tell you they were well attended and well received by our new students and their families.

This focus on our first-year students played a key role in the decision by the private Suder Foundation to choose SIUC as one of our four universities to develop best practices for the retention of first-generation students. We have always been proud to welcome first-generation students, and 43 percent of our incoming class this fall fits this description. In addition to developing programs and approaches that will enhance the success of this significant population, the Suder Foundation awarded the University $1 million in student scholarship funds over the next four years.

With these efforts and successes in mind, I have convened a committee to explore the creation of a University College, which would be dedicated to the success of our undergraduate students. The very positive steps we have taken over the past year represent a solid
beginning. There is a broad consensus on the campus that unless we do things very differently, we will not see the growth in numbers that we need. An alternative organizational structure – details of which have not been worked out -- would help all of us more effectively meet the needs of our first- and second-year students.

SIU’s dual mission to be a premier research university with a thriving, diverse undergraduate student body is one of the things that attracted me to this institution. A research university is distinguished and ranked by the amount of funded research it generates. On a practical note, because public funding is decreasing, funded research -- like enrollment -- is critical not only for the new knowledge that is created but also for the financial support. Growing funded research benefits the entire campus.

Results of our research climate survey will provide data for improving the research structure on the campus. In addition, we plan to use an Academic Analytics tool that compiles comparative data on research and graduate programs to further assess ourselves. We must review how research indirect dollars are spent, strengthen our research support network, provide stronger technology transfer services, and find additional ways to support graduate students.

It also is time for us, as a campus community, to re-examine Southern at 150. This document was designed to guide strategic planning by units throughout the campus. In its recent accreditation report to us, the Higher Learning Commission was complimentary of the very extensive effort that went into creating Southern at 150, and of the plan itself, where none had existed 10 years ago.

We must ask ourselves: How do we achieve an enrollment growth? How do we become a premier research institution? How do we leverage the best of SIU? How do facilities and student scholarships fit into our strategic plan? Are these realistic goals? Should our strategies, and our goals, be different today and in the years ahead because of changes in our circumstances, most notably our economic situation? That is, in fact, the charge we have been given by the Higher Learning Commission.

In its final report, the Commission’s evaluation team said that Southern at 150 “has served the campus well as a guide to initiate
and catalyze change." The report also notes that our self-study makes it clear "that excellent progress has been made toward a number of the overarching commitments and many of the goals stated within the commitments." (4)

However, the final report also says: "...it is also evident that the university has failed to make progress with respect to several of the priorities and now finds itself nearly rudderless during these turbulent economic times." (5) The rather blunt, but honest appraisal must capture our attention. To quote the final report: "Southern at 150 has reached a point where its vision, priorities and goals must be re-evaluated to ensure that the university not only maintains unambiguous alignment with its mission, but also establishes realistic and attainable goals consistent with changed times." (6)

The evaluation team felt so strongly about this, and the Higher Learning Commission agreed, that we must complete this process by 2013. The Commission will schedule what it calls a "focus visit" to assess our long-range planning. The final result, according to the Commission, must address our budgetary situation, student access, enrollment management, our research mission, marketing and branding, and employee relations. (7) Three years is not a long time to complete what must be an undertaking that involves the entire campus as well as our many stakeholders.

It is time for all of us to engage in immediate and serious introspection; productive discussion; and action -- in all of the areas I have mentioned today -- as we chart our University's course. We don't have the luxury of complacency. As Eleanor Roosevelt stated so simply, yet so eloquently, "Tomorrow is now." (8)

Yes, we have challenges. But in my four months here, I have become keenly aware -- and deeply appreciative -- of the talent, resiliency, and dedication of our faculty, staff and students. I feel privileged to be a member of this University community, and I am confident in the future that we can achieve together.

Thank you,

 Chancellor Rita Cheng, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
1. “Findings of Biennial Fiscal Survey Show States Lag Behind National Economic Recovery,” National Governors Association news release, June, 3, 2010. http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga/m.6c9a8a9ebc6ae07eee28aca9501010a0/?vgnextoid=c8d7013f326d8210VgnVCM1000005e00100aRCRD&vgnextchannel=6d4c8aaa2ebbf00VgnVCM1000001a01010aRCRD

2. Ibid.


5. Ibid, page 22


