SIU Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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SIU Welcomes New Leader

After five years away from Carbondale, Brad Colwell has returned to Southern to serve as its interim chancellor. “For me,” he says, “this is coming home.”
Air Force Veteran Pays It Forward

A man who served his country for more than 20 years in the United States Air Force is giving back to his alma mater.

Terry Asher, a 1979 SIU engineering graduate, and his wife, Susan, are making a $1 million estate gift to the University to support SIU’s general scholarship fund for engineering.

"Giving back to SIU has been in the back of my mind for some time," he says. "My decision to attend SIU was a fork in the road for me. I was the first in my family to go to college. I liked the engineering program, the professors, and the campus. SIU welcomes everyone and opens its doors to people from lower-income backgrounds."

Terry and Susan are both retired USAF officers and have no children, so he says they had the resources to help young people succeed at SIU.

Terry, who currently serves as Adams County Treasurer in Quincy, Ill., chose SIU because of its engineering program. He also discovered the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program through a friend who was a recruiter.

"I joined ROTC in my junior year. This program and my engineering degree opened up some wonderful opportunities for me," he says.

Terry received an Air Force commission and evaluated foreign space systems in his first assignment as an intelligence analyst. He proceeded to ascend to leadership roles in various intelligence, space operations and engineering assignments, including serving on two national level committees in Washington, D.C.

Terry met Susan while both supported a special military project. In his last assignment, he led a division of 80 military and civilians in five branch offices. He retired as lieutenant colonel in 2002.

"Whether it’s the military or another large organization, an individual is more valuable as a part of a team effort," he says. "I had some great and challenging assignments. The Air Force was a great fit for me."

After his military retirement, the Ashers returned to his hometown area near Quincy and served in numerous volunteer positions. Terry was offered the chance to run for county treasurer when the previous treasurer decided to retire. He was elected in 2010 and is currently serving in his second term.

"My leadership background comes in handy when I’m dealing with the public," he says. "The broad education I received at SIU has been an asset throughout my career in the Air Force and now as county treasurer. I wouldn’t be in this position without the education I received at SIU. It’s only natural for me to make this gift so someone else can have the same opportunity."

If you would like to make a gift through your estate or some other gift-planning option, please contact Pat Moline at 618/453-4947 or patm@foundation.siu.edu.
CAMPUS WELCOMES NEW LEADER

Brad Colwell, former associate dean of the SIU College of Education and Human Services at Southern, returned to Carbondale Oct. 1 to begin service as interim chancellor. "Brad is a highly collaborative leader," SIU President Randy Dunn says. "I have confidence that he will engage the entire campus." Colwell offers a Q&A discussion in this edition of the magazine.

A CULTURAL INSPIRATION

An engineering background has served as a perfect complement for Allen "Uzikee" Nelson in his work as a sculptor. The engineering technology graduate says knowledge in his field of study makes perfect sense. "Most of my artwork is self-standing, outdoors, and requires a strong foundation," Nelson says. "Information acquired through engineering continues to serve me well as an artist."

SIU RESEARCH EXPLORES CYBER SECURITY

Computers of today are governed by the laws of classical physics — laws most people learn in high school — that describe the everyday, observable laws of nature. But the day is coming when that will no longer be true. Researchers foresee a day when computers will solve bigger calculations even faster than the fastest computer of today. With this advance, however, will undoubtedly come new threats to the way we securely transmit information.

BELOW: Gilbert Kroening '59, M.S. '60, former agriculture dean at SIU, was the grand marshal at the 2015 Homecoming Parade. He and his wife, Jean '60, are shown at the parade with SIU Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell. The College celebrates its 60th birthday this year.
n Veteran’s Day, I hope you were able to use the occasion to remember and honor those who serve this country. My own father-in-law, who passed away a few months ago at the age of 88, was one such person.

It was with him — and many others — in mind that I was especially pleased to see Military Times magazine recently rank Southern Illinois University Carbondale among the best in the nation when it comes to assisting student veterans as they return to the classroom.

The magazine ranked Southern 40th in the nation from about 300 four-year institutions that participated in the survey in its “Best for Vets: Colleges 2016” rankings. This honor is nothing new — SIU has been in the Military Times list in each of the five years it has been published dating to 2010.

“The survey gives us a chance to take a look at how we serve our students, and ultimately to compare SIU Carbondale with our peer institutions,” Paul Copeland ’83, the University’s veterans’ services coordinator, says. “We have a close relationship with Army and Air Force ROTC programs, the Veterans Administration Medical Center, and local veteran organizations which helps us provide a familiar and welcoming environment for military/veteran students.”

The net Southern casts to help our veterans is impressive. This fall, the University is serving 582 student military veterans on the Carbondale campus. In addition, it serves 365 active-duty personnel at 20 off-campus military base locations in 13 states, and 206 online distance-learning students.

During these challenging times, I hope we all embrace the countless accomplishments our alma mater generates. Continuing to be a sincere partner with the men and women who serve this country is certainly something to celebrate.

One of SIU’s true legends passed away in October, when former Saluki football player Dave Mullane died following a long illness.

An SIU letterman in the early 1960s and a graduate in 1966, Mullane was a larger-than-life character who had more exploits off the field than on. Fifteen years ago while Dave was battling bone cancer, former Association Executive Director Ed Buerger ’70 suggested we do a story on him to try an elicit some assistance to pay for his health care.

“He is someone who will connect with a lot of alumni,” Buerger said. “My former boss and friend, Executive Director Bill Cornell ’65, M.M. ’67, now retired and living with his wife, Rose, in Florida, knew Mullane well.

“One night he might appear to be a wild man, but the next night he was dressed up like the Easter Bunny giving candy to children,” Cornell says. “Dave was rough at times, but there are certainly more good things about him than bad. He had the softest heart of anyone you ever met.”

Mullane, who lived in St. Louis, was 77.
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siualumni.com/travel
The Campus Has Changed

I enjoyed seeing the 1940s photo of the campus in the Fall issue of SIU Alumni magazine. It would have been taken around the time I was born, and it is amazing how much the campus changed and expanded from just those few buildings to what greeted me when I enrolled in 1964.

I have fond memories of my student worker jobs, first in 1967 at Central Publications and then in 1968 at Stenographic Services. It was renamed Reproduction Services and relocated to Woody Hall in fall of 1969 as one of the first tenants soon after that building ceased being a women's dormitory.

Also housed in Woody Hall in those days was the Center for Vietnamese Study, which became a focal point for student protests. The protests became more violent in early 1970, as I recall going to work with National Guard troops surrounding the building to check everyone who entered. I graduated at the end of Winter quarter that year, just before campus closed for a full quarter due to the unrest.

I also worked off campus at Spudnuts, which many alumni may remember as a popular student gathering place.

There are so many great memories at SIU!

Patrick Milburn '70
Life Member
Marion, Ill.

Checking In From Paris, France

I received the Fall copy of the SIU Alumni magazine and must commend you on the professional publication. I always read it with interest and find that it is filled with dynamic staff. I would love to have attended Homecoming this year, but distance (I reside near Paris, France) prevents me from doing that.

Although I wasn’t there, I will always remember the beautiful autumn days in Carbondale.

Wayne Brinkmeyer V.T.I. '65, '69
Paris, France

The Origin Of Lake Ridgway

In the Fall issue of SIU Alumni I was interested in the view of the main campus 70 years ago. I also wondered if Lake Ridgway was named after the famous ornithologist and painter Robert Ridgway, whose bird paintings were at Old Main until it burned. He was from my hometown of Mt. Carmel.

Claudia Dant '74
Annual Member
Mt. Carmel, Ill.

Editor's Note: The former lake on campus was actually named for Thomas Ridgway, who in 1873 was elected as president of the University's original board of directors. At the time, Thomas lived in Shawneetown. It appears that Robert was his brother, which might speak to the appearance of his paintings in Old Main.

He Read Every Word

I want you to know that I really appreciate the wonderful publication that you edit. I received the Fall edition of SIU Alumni magazine and read every word in it. Every single alumnus is interesting to me, and your magazine is easy to read. You make it about people, and after 45 years in the ministry, I found that people are more important than any denominations, institutions, and programs.

I am 94 now and still try to keep up with my athletic events in cycling and swimming. I want to do both when I turn 100, although I stopped doing triathlons when I turned 91. I hope to be back at SIU for Homecoming next year with my wife, Sally. We plan to celebrate by going to the game, eating at Pagliai's, and seeing a few friends in southern Illinois.

John C. Taylor Ph.D. '96
Life Member
Atlanta, Ga.

A Flood Of Memories

Seeing this campus photo from 70 years ago in the Fall issue of SIU Alumni magazine brought back many fond memories about classes I attended in most of these buildings. The other thing that jumped out at me was that my wife and I lived in a private home just east of the railroad tracks—and that house is visible in this photo!

Thanks for publishing this wonderful picture.

William “Bill” McBay '58, M.S. '59
Life Member
Scottsdale, Ariz.

DEAR READERS...

Your SIU Alumni Association is always eager to hear from you. As with all magazines, we can only improve if we are being responsive to you, or readers. We encourage you to take a moment to comment on something you have read in SIU Alumni magazine, or to let us know what you are thinking. Letters are sometimes edited for length and style.

MAIL:
SIU Alumni
Coyler Hall
Mailcode 6809
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Ill. 62901

EMAIL: alumni@siu.edu.
I'll always love SIU-Carbondale, no matter the season...Some of the best, happiest, and most productive years of my life were spent there as an undergraduate. Now, I always feel better when I have a chance to visit.

**Brent McDaniel**
Via Alumni Association Facebook

I miss SIU. class of 2000.

**Azlin Rahman**
Via Alumni Association Facebook

Love SIU -- Love Carbondale, IL!!

**Donna Smith**
Via Alumni Association Facebook

I remember it well! My days at SIU 1965 through 1971 finished with a degree in Education and nearly finished a Masters in Special Education but moved to California and taught for 38 years!

**Sue Saiz**
Via Alumni Association Facebook

@SIU_SAC via Twitter
A few of us attended the @SIUAlumni Board Luncheon today! #Salukis #GoDawgs #Homecoming2015 @SIUC

@Beth_Scally Via Twitter
Fall @SIUC always beautiful!

@USA TodayMags via Twitter
Shout-out to @CarbondaleIL & @SIUC. Prepping for one of the longest solareclipse2017 views. usat.ly/1Nhnnna

@RodStickler via Twitter
I love the @issuu app in the @AppStore it allows me to read the @dailyegyptian just as if it was the print version I was back at @SIUC.
Happy Holidays from Southern Illinois University, where the Saluki statue in front of the SIU Arena keeps watch during a snowy day on campus.
Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell, center, enjoyed chatting recently with Brittany Hardaway and Mustafah “Mj” Abdullah Jr., members of the 2015 Homecoming Court.
Campus Welcomes New Leader

For Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell, a return to SIU is a journey back home.

Brad Colwell, dean of the College of Education and Human Development at Bowling Green State University and former associate dean of the College of Education and Human Services at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, returned to Southern Oct. 1 to serve as its interim chancellor. His appointment is effective through June 30, 2017.

"Brad is a highly collaborative leader," SIU President Randy Dunn says. "I have confidence that he will engage the entire campus community as he helps the campus address the challenges and embrace the opportunities ahead. He is highly respected at SIU, in the Illinois education community, and nationally in his field,"

Colwell replaced Dunn, who had been serving as acting chancellor in addition to SIU system president, since the November 2014 death of Interim Chancellor Paul Sarvella. Dunn notes that some top priorities for Colwell include working with faculty and staff to recruit and retain students, review and realign academic programs, and identify and implement new financial strategies and efficiencies. In addition, he says he hopes Colwell will build the university's outreach and service to the region.

Colwell had been at Bowling Green since 2010. Under his leadership, the college's new freshmen enrollment for fall 2015 was up 14 percent from the previous fall semester, and freshmen retention has risen to 85 percent.

At SIU, he served as associate dean for academic and student affairs for the College of Education and Human Services from 2008 to 2010. He was chair of the Department of Educational Administration and Higher Education from 2004 to 2008 and served as the department's director of graduate studies from 2001 to 2004.

Colwell came to SIU in 1996 as an assistant professor and was appointed associate professor in 2001 and professor in 2005. His wife, Mary, is a 1999 graduate of SIU with a Bachelor of Science degree specializing in early childhood education.

BY GENE GREEN
Soon after Colwell began his new duties at Southern, he sat down for a Q&A interview with SIU Alumni magazine.

SIU Alumni: What community did you call home growing up?
Brad Colwell: I was raised in the small town of Bluford, Ill., which is close to Mt. Vernon. I grew up in a small town environment, as my uncle was my high school superintendent and my father was my high school algebra teacher and driver’s education instructor. Everyone knew one another, did things together, and looked out for each other. It was a great place to grow up.

SA: You worked at SIU, but you did not receive your education in Carbondale. How did you arrive on campus as an employee?
BC: There has always been a level of comfort for me at SIU, as I was often on campus as a child. My uncle graduated here, my father took classes at Southern, and I always felt a connection and knew my way around. When I was looking for employment at the collegiate level, SIU just made sense to me. This is where I wanted to be.

SA: You were part of some impressive initiatives at Bowling Green State University. What appealed to you about returning to SIU?
BC: I felt like stepping in as interim chancellor was a way to give back, and I always knew that coming back to SIU would be something that would resonate with me. Sometimes you have to leave to come back home, as doing that helps you appreciate things more. I have always thought of Southern as a special place.

SA: What are some of things that make it special to you?
BC: It’s a great university. We rank in the top 100 public research universities in the country, a signal that our academic programs, faculty and research initiatives are very strong. We have a lot to be proud of.

SA: Did family play a role in your decision to return to SIU?
BC: Yes – I really mean it when I say that this is coming home for me. My parents are in their 80s now, and my wife and I can now easily assist with anything they need. Being so close now is a real comfort to me and to them.
SA: You will be working closely with SIU President Randy Dunn, a person you previously worked with on this campus. Does that earlier association bring with it a certain comfort level as you prepare lead Southern?

BC: There is a trust that is so important. President Dunn and I were in the same department in the late 1990s, and he was later my department chair. I trust him, and I want people on the Carbondale campus to trust me. Knowing that I can work well with the president has allowed me to hit the ground running. We get along, but we also have enough mutual respect for one another to push back when we disagree on something. When that occurs, we have the type of relationship that allows us to talk through anything.

SA: You obviously knew the state's fiscal challenges before you took the interim chancellor position, so what are some of the first things you can do to keep things moving in the right direction?

BC: We can't wait on the outcome of things we can't control, because who knows when and what will happen? What we can control is staying vigilant about recruitment and retention and working hard to make SIU a student's first choice.

SA: At Bowling Green, both enrollment and retention went up during your tenure. Does anything occurring there translate into initiatives that could work at SIU?

BC: Some of it is customer service and passion. I didn't go to any seminars about how to raise enrollment, but I was a part of a team that did countless little things to make the students feel welcome, safe, and involved. We worked hard to make BGSU an enjoyable place and stayed active in obtaining as much scholarship assistance as possible. Realistically, you can treat your students well, but if they don't have the ability to fund their education, it doesn't really matter whether it is a welcoming place or not.

SA: How would you define your management style?

BC: I try to be transparent. Nothing has changed with my core personality over the years, and people on this campus who knew me 15 years ago can attest to that. I have no problem holding people - including myself - accountable as we set new goals. My approach is to lead, provide direction and support, and then let good people do their jobs.

SA: We are facing some challenging times, not the least of which is the lack of a state budget half-way through the year. While awaiting state funding, what can the campus, its alumni, and its friends can do to help?

BC: "Pulling together" might sound like a trite expression, but it truly is critically important that we all move in the same direction. We must all have the common goal of helping SIU succeed. We all need to tell this institution's story - it's an impressive one - to everyone we meet.

SA: A team approach is important to you, isn't it?

BC: Without a doubt, and it takes the campus, the community, and the alumni to be partners if an institution is going to prosper. Carbondale Mayor Mike Henry and I have already started to discuss ways the city and SIU can work together more strategically, and I want our campus and its graduates to also be involved. We are all in this together.
Brad and Mary Colwell enjoy festivities during Homecoming Weekend.

SA: The common theme I am hearing from you is no matter the situation, SIU has to stay the course.
BC: That is correct. Everyone needs to realize that this university is not going anywhere. SIU will always be here, and we cannot stop investing in the campus. We have challenges, especially related to state funding, but there are still key initiatives, key hires and proactive decisions that must remain a part of the conversation. You cannot abandon a strategic plan and lose your head when things get challenging.

SA: If anything, do current state issues force everyone to take a hard look at how business is performed each day?
BC: That is exactly what is going on. Will we have to change the way we do things? Perhaps so. If there is a silver lining in all of this, it is that it challenges us to look inward to investigate how we can be better at what we do. With that comes the need to be open to new ideas, to doing new things and to think entrepreneurially while maintaining our focus on the mission, traditions and character of our university.

SA: Are you optimistic about SIU’s future?
BC: We will move this place forward on the right path. I would not have come back to Southern if I didn’t think we could. I have to make certain everyone has a level of trust in me to know that when a decision is rendered, that it was done out of necessity, thoroughly vetted, and made for the good of the institution. The alumni I have met have been loyal beyond words, and many have offered encouragement and thoughtful questions and ideas regarding how they can help SIU in the years ahead. That in itself makes me quite optimistic about SIU.

“We must all have the common goal of helping SIU succeed.”
Savannah McCord is the 2015 Lincoln Academy of Illinois student laureate for Southern Illinois University Carbondale. McCord, of St. Louis, is set to graduate with a double major in management and psychology in May 2016. She was honored with the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Award, which comes with a medallion, certificate of achievement and monetary award, during the annual Student Laureate Convocation on Nov. 7 in the Old State Capitol in Springfield.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois presents the award annually to a senior from each of the state’s four-year, degree-granting institutions of higher learning and this marks the 41st year for the awards.

"Ms. McCord is the best example of a Saluki. She sets the highest standards of character, dedication and accomplishment to which we want all of our students to strive," Jason Greene, interim dean of the College of Business and Henry J. Rehn Professor of Finance, wrote in a letter nominating her for the award.

McCord is remarkable in that she is not only earning a management degree in the College of Business and a psychology degree in the College of Liberal Arts simultaneously, but in so doing has "exelled in both areas by engaging in research projects in psychology and earning the highest recognition in her business studies," Greene says.

A University Honors Program scholar, McCord is a founding member of the campus chapter of the philanthropic sorority Delta Phi Epsilon, a feature twirler for the Marching Salukis and a resident assistant for University Housing. She served an internship with the Women’s Resource Center and also worked as a research assistant for University Housing and with the Southern Illinois Twins and Siblings Study.

She earned the College of Business Most Outstanding Student award in April and for each of the past two years, McCord earned the Most Outstanding Senior Award from the management department. McCord had achieved senior status by her third year at SIU because she had completed a number of dual high school/college credit classes while attending Mehlville High School in St. Louis.

She is also the recipient of the Caterpillar Excellence Scholarship and the Hanes Scholarship and was recognized among the top five percent of students by the SIU psychology department. In addition, she served as chairwoman for “It’s On Us,” a campus and community effort to end violence and sexual assault.

"Her impact on this University and the college will last far beyond her time here," Greene says. "McCord’s dedication to helping others and improving her community for everyone will persist through the organizations she has created or inspired to more actively impact the campus community. The common thread in her activities is that she is an advocate for the empowerment of others... and at a more personal level, we have observed Ms. McCord reach out to individual students in the college to offer a helping hand, a word of encouragement or a voice of reason."

McCord was excited to learn she was SIU’s 2015 recipient through an email from Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell.

“It is definitely an honor, and I’m so thrilled," McCord says. "I’m honored, grateful, humbled, and owe a lot of my success to the Honors Program and the College of Business. This award is special in that it acknowledges what was cultivated in me by the honors program directors and all of my mentors at SIU."

McCord notes she heard great things about SIU from her high school teachers and friends’ parents. When she visited SIU, she “fell in love with the beautiful campus and all of the opportunities I saw for me here. I felt like I wouldn’t be just a number but would get personalized attention and that’s what has happened. I’m just so incredibly grateful for every opportunity I’ve received at SIU."

After graduation, McCord plans to seek a position in human resources and is considering law school or going on to earn her master’s degree in business administration. She was accompanied to the ceremony in Springfield by her parents, Ross McCord of St. Louis and Laura Kennedy of High Point, N.C.
Southern Illinois University Carbondale moved up 36 spots — one of the largest jumps of any university — in U.S. News World Report's "Best Colleges Rankings For 2016," which were released this fall. Southern is tied at No. 153 with Adelphi University and St. John's University, both in New York. In the 2015 rankings, SIU Carbondale was listed at No. 189. This also was the biggest jump among the 10 Illinois universities listed in the top tier of the "National Universities" category.

"The U.S. News rankings offer one perspective, and we know that prospective students and their families take them into account in the college selection process," says SIU President Randy Dunn. "This improvement sends a strong message about the quality of our faculty and staff and their commitment to student success."

Dr. Jerry Kruse will become the new dean and provost for SIU School of Medicine. The appointment is effective Jan. 1. Kruse, a professor of family medicine, has been executive associate dean for SIU School of Medicine and chief executive officer of SIU HealthCare since 2013. He first joined the school in 1984.

"alt.news 26:46," the long-running television magazine program produced by College of Mass Communication and Media Arts students at SIU, earned another honor in October with a regional Emmy.

"alt.news 26:46," the long-running television magazine program produced by College of Mass Communication and Media Arts students at SIU, earned another honor in October with a regional Emmy.

The program earned its 31st regional professional Emmy for a show produced during the 2014-15 school year. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Mid-America Regional Chapter held its 59th annual awards ceremony in St. Louis.

"I'm proud of what our students have been able to achieve in the professional world," Jan Thompson, a professor in the department of Radio, Television, and Digital Media, and the program's adviser, says. "Few, if any professional television shows, can point to 31 Emmys."

"That our students are competing with professional television stations and winning reveals a lot about the quality of education they are getting in our college, the talent and dedication that they have for the media arts, and the wonderful adviser who works with them," Dean Dafna Lemish says.

Dallen Detamore, a 2015 graduate in radio, television, and digital media from Germantown, Tenn., and Holden Jones, a senior from Jacksonville, who is a double major in cinema production and television production, were the program's executive producers for the 2014-15 season. Jones accepted the award on behalf of the group. To see an example of their work, go to vimeo.com/114450628.
Engineering Training Plays Key Role For Talented Sculptor

BY GREG SCOTT

It is hard to fathom that an engineering background could serve as a training ground for an aspiring artist. But for Allen "Uzikee" Nelson, these two disciplines are a perfect complement for his journey.

The 1965 SIU engineering technology graduate, an accomplished sculptor in Washington, D.C., says knowledge garnered in his field of study continues to be an asset.

"Most of my artwork is self-standing and outdoors. Therefore, it requires a strong foundation," Nelson says. "Information I acquired through engineering continue to serve me well."

A retired engineering technology professor of 24 years at the University of District Columbia, Nelson's art often pays tribute to his African-American heroes and others who have influenced his life. He strives to educate and inform the public about African culture and inspire others through the accomplishments of trailblazers who paved the way for future generations.

Nelson's freestanding work is comprised of weathering steel and stained glass. It is showcased throughout his Washington, D.C., neighborhood. His piece, titled "Real Justice," representing Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American Supreme Court Justice, is displayed at the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum in Washington's 8th Ward.

His sculpture, "Here I Stand," was inspired by the memory of political activist Paul Robeson.
"When I initially moved to Washington, I noticed there was very little outdoor art representing African-Americans," he says. "That was the inspiration behind Real Justice and subsequent work that followed."

The SIU graduate's artwork has been exhibited at Howard University, The Martin Luther King Library, the International Monetary Fund and the Industrial Bank of Washington. Additionally, Nelson and his wife, Januwa Moja, a fiber artist, coordinated a show titled "Celebrating the Spirit in Africa and the Diaspora," is on display through April 16 at the James E. Lewis Museum of Art at Morgan State University in Baltimore.

Nelson says he and his wife have traveled worldwide participating in art-related festivities. The Baltimore show is the first event they have coordinated together.

"Movable sculpture I've developed over the last 40 years is on display at Morgan State," he says. "It's basically artwork I've done since we have been married."
The Tupelo, Miss., native moved to Peoria, Ill., during his sophomore year of high school in 1955 to join his father, a traveling dentist, who had relocated to the city. When the time came to select a college of choice, Nelson's two older sisters, who had attended Bradley University, suggested that he attend SIU.

"They said I would be happier at SIU because a lot of black students were enrolled there," he says. "Therefore, my sisters thought the social aspect of my college years would be better in Carbondale."

Nelson says he lived with SIU football and basketball players, some of whom went on to play professionally. He also pledged into the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. And two younger siblings followed him to SIU.

His interest in art also started at SIU. While he majored in engineering technology, Nelson visited the University Museum gift shop and became fascinated by ebony artwork carvings that represented African culture.

"I bought a carving for my mother and became intrigued by African-American culture and history," he says. "I read books in Morris Library about the topic."

Nelson traced his own family lineage back to 1855 when relatives escaped slavery via the Underground Railroad to Canada. His mother was born in Canada and moved to Chicago during the Great Depression.

"A trip to Ghana and Nigeria some years later further inspired me," he says. "I lived with some African people and learned more about the culture. It was quite an experience."

After graduating from SIU, Nelson worked for Caterpillar in Peoria, where he created his first major artwork, a 15-foot steel sculpture that was commissioned by the NAACP.

He subsequently served a stint with McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing) in St. Louis, before accepting an internship at Florissant Valley Community College in the city.

Upon completing his six-month internship, he accepted the professorship at University of District Columbia. A sculpture he created – Saint Denard – was developed in honor of the gentleman who hired him at the university.

Nelson attended an Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity 50-year reunion last summer. He is planning on returning to Carbondale in for the next SIU Black Alumni Reunion, an event he has attended three times previously.

"I had a wonderful time at SIU and wouldn’t trade it for anything."

If you would like to view Allen Ukizee Nelson’s work, please visit uzikee.com.

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Every Saluki has a story. What’s yours?

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We often talk about "the economy," especially in presidential or gubernatorial campaign years. Kevin Sylwester's field is macroeconomics, meaning he looks at the big picture, not only geographically but also through a long historical lens. In the following interview, he explains how some of the themes that are common in discussions of the economy may be interpreted.

**WHAT DO WE MEAN WHEN WE SAY, "THE ECONOMY?"**

When we talk about the economy today in general terms, we mean household consumers and businesses, the millions of people who are interacting by buying and selling.

**HAVE WE GONE FROM A MANUFACTURING BASE TO A SERVICE INDUSTRY ECONOMY, AND WHAT DOES THAT INDICATE?**

Service is a big part of our economy, and fewer people are employed in manufacturing than 40 years ago. However, technology and automation make our manufacturing base more productive. Rising incomes have increased demand for services. We are more willing to pay others to do things such as change our oil or do our taxes. Some see lower employment in manufacturing and growth of services as a weakness, but it's nothing more than technological improvements and changes in what people buy.

**WE TALK ABOUT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND THE END OF THE RECESSION. WHY DOES IT SEEM LIKE SOME PARTS OF THE COUNTRY ARE STILL IN A RECESSION?**

Recessions often occur because booms are unsustainable. The areas of the country with greater housing booms a decade ago were often the ones the Great Recession hit hardest. Other areas are hit differently because of structural changes. North Dakota suffered little during the Great Recession because of the takeoff in fracking. Other states like Michigan fared worse because of long-run problems in the U.S. auto industry.

**HOW HAS THE GLOBALIZATION AFFECTED OUR ECONOMY?**

Globalization is nothing new; the economy was global during the 19th century. World War I, the Great Depression and World War II disrupted the global economy. The destruction in Europe and elsewhere led to little competition for U.S. manufacturing, but this didn't last as countries rebuilt their infrastructures. We perceive globalization as new today only because few people are alive who can remember the world before 1914.

**WHAT ABOUT THE STOCK MARKET? WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN WHEN THERE'S A SHARP DROP IN THE DOW?**

Crashes tend to come after meteoric rises and wipe out the gains. However, people who have invested in the stock market over many years are likely to make positive gains even if they have experienced a crash - so don't worry so much about one day's stock market report if you are a long-term investor.

**WHAT IS YOUR AREA OF ECONOMICS?**

My research is development economics -- looking at economic issues in lower/middle income countries. I focus on political economy issues within development. I also teach our macroeconomics courses. I want my findings to be used to design policies that can help promote economic growth and poverty reduction.
Hinson Excited To Start League Season

Barry Hinson says he has never been as excited as he is this year to coach the current group of Salukis. "I'm as excited - if not more excited - than the day I took the job," says fourth-year head coach Barry Hinson. "I've always said, if I'm not excited, if my battery's not charged, that will be the time to get out of it."

With three starters returning this season, the SIU men's basketball team has been picked to finish ninth in the 10-team Missouri Valley Conference. Wichita State was tabbed as the overwhelming favorite to win the 2015-16 title, gathering 42 out of a possible 43 first-place votes in a poll of league head coaches, SID's, beat writers and radio announcers.

During the past five seasons, Wichita State has recorded 151 victories. Only one team in the NCAA has more wins in that stretch (Kentucky). In that span, the Shockers have three MVC regular-season titles and two runner-up finishes, with an NIT title (2011), a Final Four trip (2013) and another Sweet 16 appearance (2015).

The Salukis return preseason standout Anthony Beane, who has scored 1,300 points in his first three seasons at SIU. Southern is coming off a 4-14 MVC showing last year, and the program has not been picked to finish in the top half of the league standings since being tabbed for fourth place in 2010.

"I'm as excited - if not more excited - than the day I took the job," Hinson says. "I've always said, if I'm not excited, if my battery's not charged, that will be the time to get out of it."

The Salukis had no seniors last year, but five players transferred after the season, including three of the top-five scorers. Hinson says he has addressed the situation with the returning players.

"We really wanted to find out who wanted to be here," he notes. "If guys wanted to leave or get out of here, we wanted to make sure we covered that before the season started. Last year was really difficult for me. It's a different era. 'I'm old-school, but I say that with pride. I know there are certain areas I have to change in dealing with today's athlete, but there are other areas that I will not change."

His biggest concern going into MVC play?

"I think the biggest concern with so many new guys is to get them to play together, form a chemistry, and make sure they embrace the culture here," Hinson says. "I want to make sure they want to be here, and I've challenged them harder than any team that I've ever coached."

SIU opens MVC play Jan. 2 hosting Northern Iowa. For the full schedule, go to siusalukis.com.

**MVC Preseason Poll**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School (First-Place Votes)</th>
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<td>2. Evansville</td>
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<td>3. UNI 336</td>
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<td>5. Loyola (1) 267</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Indiana State 218</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Drake 165</td>
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<td>8. Missouri State 127</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9. Southern Illinois 101</strong></td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Bradley 49</td>
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Derek Johnson Named Pitching Coach For Milwaukee Brewers

Former Chicago Cubs Minor League Pitching Coordinator Derek Johnson, who served as pitching coach for the SIU baseball team from 1995-97, has been named the new pitching coach for the Milwaukee Brewers. Johnson, 43, is generally regarded as one of the top pitching minds in the game.

Before joining the Cubs in October 2012, he was a successful pitching coach for 11 years at Vanderbilt University, where he developed current Major League stars such as David Price and Sonny Gray. While there, Johnson wrote a book on pitching instruction titled The Complete Guide to Pitching, and helped turn the Commodores into a national power.

Johnson played for the late SIU Baseball Coach Dan Callahan at Eastern Illinois, and came with Callahan to Southern as a graduate assistant in 1995. He would later earn his Master's degree at SIU.

"I'm really excited about this opportunity," Johnson says. "I owe a great deal to those early days at SIU, and not a day goes by that I don't think about that and the influence that Cal had on me. The years in Carbondale are important to me - I wouldn't trade them for anything."

Saluki Women Selected 4th In League Poll

The SIU women's basketball team has been picked to finish fourth in the Missouri Valley Conference's annual preseason poll. A year removed from the largest single-season turnaround in the program's history, third-year head coach Cindy Stein returns all five starters.

In all, the Salukis return nine letterwinners who accounted for 92 percent of its scoring and 93 percent of its rebounding from last season's 17-13 squad.

"We are thrilled that people believe we will do better this year, but our main focus will be on winning the Valley Championship," says Stein. "We know how tough that will be since so many great players return, but we are confident in our work ethic and toughness and are excited to see where it all shakes out at the MVC tourney."

Missouri State was tabbed as the preseason favorite in the MVC’s race, with Drake second and Northern Iowa third. SIU was one of five schools to earn at least one first-place vote, the first time the Salukis have garnered a first-place vote since the 2007-08 season.

"I feel that our depth is going to be strong," Stein says. "We have tremendous pieces in places to be able to score at every position, and hopefully our defense will be better. We only averaged about 66 points last year and 15 turnovers, so obviously we want our point production up and turnovers down."

SIU opens MVC action Jan. 1 at Drake. For the full schedule, go to siusalukis.com.

MVC Preseason Poll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School (First-Place Votes)</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>3. UNI (1)</td>
<td>320</td>
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<td>4. Southern Illinois (1)</td>
<td>297</td>
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<td>5. Wichita State (1)</td>
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<td>6. Evansville</td>
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<td>7. Indiana State</td>
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<td>8. Loyola</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Bradley</td>
<td>126</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Illinois State</td>
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</table>
SIU Hall Of Famer
Harry Gallatin Dies

SIU Hall of Fame coach and former New York Knicks star center Harry "The Horse" Gallatin passed away Oct. 7 at his home in Edwardsville, Ill. He was 88.

Gallatin, who coached at Southern from 1959 to 62, recorded a 79-35 record at SIU. Among Saluki head coaches, only Chris Lowery won more games in his first four seasons. Gallatin's teams were the first in school history to make the small-college NCAA Tournament, doing so in 1959, 1960 and 1961. He led the Salukis to three 20-win seasons and three IIAC conference championships.

The 2015 Saluki Hall of Fame inductee was the NBA's original "Iron Man" during nine seasons as a Knick from 1948 to 1957. His most enduring legacy was his streak of 610 consecutive games played, a Knicks record that has stood unchallenged for nearly 60 years.

The basketball program was in the doldrums when he came to Southern, and he was a forward-thinking coach," recalls longtime SIU administrator Harold Bardo '62, Ph.D. '72, who played for Gallatin. "Everything they did with the Knicks, we did. I think our style of play was pleasing to the fans.

"The guy was a competitor. He'd play against us and teach us tricks that he'd learned in the pros. Harry got along well with people and always laughed and had smile on his face."

Pippen Honored With MVC Good Neighbor Award

Saluki volleyball senior Taylor Pippen has been recognized as one of ten student-athletes in the Missouri Valley Conference to earn the State Farm MVC Good Neighbor Award for the 2015-16 fall season.

The award honors exceptional student-athletes in the Valley that are in good academic standing, demonstrate good citizenship through good sportsmanship and significant community service, and have made contributions to their respective teams during the season of recognition.

Pippen, the only senior on the Salukis' squad this year, currently holds the SIU all-time records for career attack percentage and career block assists. She has helped lead the Salukis to a strong showing this fall, as Southern finished second in the MVC this season, and earned it's first-ever NCAA bid when this issue of the magazine went to press.

Pippen's success is not only on the court. She currently holds a 3.70 cumulative GPA as an accounting major, and has been named to the Dean's List six times. She is a two-time recipient of the MVC Commissioner's Academic Excellence Award, a two-time First Team MVC Scholar-Athlete honoree, and has made the MVC Conference Honor Roll every year in her career. She is also a two-time recipient of the Boydston Legacy Athletic Endowed Scholarship.

Aside from athletics and academics, Pippen is active in the community, volunteering for various events such as the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce Annual Fundraiser, the Autism Campaign, the National Girls and Women in Sport Day, and the Special Olympics Polar Plunge.
More than 3,000 alumni and guests enjoyed our Family Weekend and Homecoming tailgates this football season, complete with food, drinks, and entertainment.

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Alumnus Helping Students Receive Hands-On Training

Niles Media Group owner John Sprugel.

Thanks to an SIU graduate who still cherishes the "hands-on training" that Southern provided him almost two decades ago, the University's recent maiden voyage producing sports broadcasts on ESPN3 has been a rousing success.

A team of about 20 - mostly SIU students - has been producing Saluki sporting events using a new state-of-the-art production trailer donated by Radio, Television, and Digital Media graduate John Sprugel '87, owner of Niles Media Group in Kansas City.

The company, a Missouri corporation dedicated to excellence in media content creation, production, sales, marketing, and staffing, also assisted with the design, installation, and training of personnel on equipment purchased by SIU Athletics.

"Helping with this project was a way to give back to my alma mater," says Sprugel. "I worked with SIU and the Missouri Valley Conference to get the specs put together for the production truck, and then we took their equipment lists and designed an engineering plan."

The end result, with the trailer and engineering time factored in, was a donation of more than $25,000 to Southern.

"It's a great opportunity for students to learn the production business in an industry that is in need of well-trained professionals," Sprugel says. "It provides current students with what led me to SIU in the first place - a chance to have hands-on training combined with what is learned in the classroom."

Sprugel, a native of Liberty, Mo., started out at Kansas University, but soon realized the training he was receiving was not what he yearned for. After investigating programs at places like the University of Missouri and Northwestern University, a friend told him about SIU.

He took a trip to Carbondale and was hooked.

"I was blown away with what I saw at SIU," he admits. "They were blending hands-on training with book knowledge and theory - that was exactly what I wanted."

As a student at SIU, he tried to experience everything available, and eventually served as news director at WSUI as a senior. "I was in front of the camera, but also behind it some too," he says. "It was important to know what a producer does; what a director does. SIU allowed me to do it all."

The first broadcast on ESPN 3 occurred on Sept. 15, when SIU's volleyball match with Southeast Missouri State was aired on the network's web channel. Eleven undergraduate and two graduate MCMA students worked on the technical and production positions that night under the guidance of faculty member Dennis Galloway. Since then, there have been 25 opportunities during the Fall semester for students to produce a national telecast using the cutting-edge equipment.

"I want the experience that the students have with this production truck to not only be great training, but also serve as a recruiting tool for SIU," Sprugel says. "The University needs to continue to be known for providing this type of opportunity to its students. Not many schools do, and we need to proud of that."
Critical Acclaim
For Swedlund At New York Show

Charles Swedlund, who taught at Southern for 27 years and served as chair of the Department of Cinema & Photography in the 1970s, recently received glowing reviews for his exhibition, “Buy Photographs — Not Gold! And Other Works, 1970-1975” in New York City.

His playful images from the early 1970s offer an amusing trip back to a time when conceptually minded photographers were looking for ways beyond the modernist, black-and-white print. Swedlund, a Chicago native who now lives in Cobden, is 80 years old, and this is his first solo exhibition at a New York gallery.

This show presents photographs that have been turned into puzzles, games, stereoscopic pictures and flip books. Two bubble gum vending machines are stocked with plastic capsules containing little prints; purchase a $20 token from the gallery, and you can obtain a print for yourself. “Buy Photographs — Not Gold!” is a set of wooden coins painted gold with a small, circular print attached to each. “Do-It-Yourself Portfolio” presents 10 35-milimeter negatives, a print made from one of them and instructions to the buyer to produce his or her own photographs using the negatives.
Alumnus Donates 1930s Painting To University Museum

Frank Brinkerhoff '57, M.S. Ed. '65, a retired school administrator from Salem, Ill., has donated a WPA-era oil painting by Joseph Vavak to the University Museum. In the 1950s, the painting was part of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity house, which stood in the 500 block of South University Avenue in Carbondale, and where Brinkerhoff was a member.

Holden Hospital, another occupant on that block, had announced its intention to buy and raze the house for expansion, so Brinkerhoff rescued the painting from certain destruction. Today, Old National Bank occupies the site where the fraternity house once stood.

Brinkerhoff has been a life-long collector of southern Illinois Americana: books, photographs, post cards, etc. But recently, he felt it necessary to downsize his holdings. In accepting the painting, Dona Bachman, director of the University Museum, says, "The University Museum sincerely appreciates alumni like Frank Brinkerhoff who value history. By donating this artwork to the University Museum, he assures that generations to come can experience and enjoy this expressive painting and come to know something of our past."

Also present for the September donation of the painting to the museum was George Mavigliano, professor emeritus, and author of The Federal Art Project in Illinois: 1935-1943. He says Vavak was a highly talented artist and this work exhibits the strong gestural drawing and color typical of his work.

"The subject appears to relate to a tragedy of some sort as the figures are huddled together with agonizing expressions upon their faces. With some cleaning, over-painting and a compatible frame, this work will be a fine addition to the University's collection."
Vavak (1899 – 1969) was born in Vienna but left Europe for Chicago in 1904. He enrolled in classes at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he was a highly successful student from 1908 to 1916. His paintings were frequently exhibited in Art Institute of Chicago exhibitions from 1914 to 1945.

Brinkerhoff never knew how the painting ended up in his fraternity house, where no one regarded it highly enough to even hang it on a wall.

"When we were moving out of that old house, I decided that we should not leave the paintings that were in the third-story tower room," he recalls. The painting has remained unframed for the past 60 years, and Vavak's signature appears uncharacteristically in the upper left corner of the canvas with "'39" nearby, indicating its year of creation.

In the upper right corner of the painting is a curious dedication to the 75th Congress, which met in Washington from Jan. 3, 1937 to Jan. 3, 1939, during the first two years of the second administration of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A portion of a label survives on the back of the canvas suggesting the title of the work to be "American Family."

And as the subject of the painting is a distressed and displaced family, it is believed the tragedy of the Ohio River valley flooding of 1937, which adversely affected southeastern Illinois – Shawneetown, Harrisburg, Cairo, etc. – was the genesis of the painting.

"One of the strengths of the University Museum's art collection are works by artists in the Illinois' Works Progress Administration/Federal Arts Program," Bachman says.

"These Depression-era programs provided employment for many talented artists. "The American public is richer because this art work was often done for public institutions such as post offices, city buildings, schools, and universities. We are particularly delighted to have a work by Joseph Vavak, as he fits in nicely with the other artists of the era represented in the collection."

Brinkerhoff feels the painting was simply lucky to survive its ordeal.

"I kept the painting on a shelf in my bedroom closet for a long time," he recalls. In May, I had emergency surgery, and as I was lying in the recovery room, my thoughts centered on my collections. What should I do with my 'stuff'?

"This painting was my first priority, and my first thought was to give it to the SIU Museum. It is a great wonder it has survived."

To find out more about items that are on display at the University Museum go to: museum.siu.edu/exhibits.

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For additional information, please contact:

Kathy Dillard
Director of Corporate Relations
SIU Alumni Association
Phone: 618/453-2408
Email: kathyd@alumni.siu.edu
Laura B., 8/06/2015, Philadelphia, Penn.

James V., Bert, TISON, 8/07/2015, Springfield, Mo.


8/10/2015, Louisville, Ky.

5/29/2015, Salem, III.

LACKEY, Rolland A., 8/07/2015, Berkeley, Mo.

DEWS, Sarah S., 8/15/2015, Dallas, Texas

STEARNS, Kati A., 8/20/2015, Buncombe, N.C.

COCHRAN, Roger P., 8/04/2015, Palm Harbor, Fla.

GILL, Robert D., 8/19/2015, Cumulus, Ariz.

WITTMAN, Donald W., 8/12/2015, Greeley, Colo.

BURGESS, Wade W., 7/22/2015, Rougemont, N.C.

Harms, Helmut H., M.S. Ed. '62

Lockwood, Richard D., M.S. Ed. '62

McAthy, Linda P., ex. '62

Schoen, John E., '51

Graeff, Robert E., M.S. Ed. '63

Rankin, Elmer E., '63

West, Hollis D., '63

Whitney, Judith A., '55

Gifford, Peter B., M.Ed. '71

Bachold, Richard W., Jr.

Riggio, Stephen J., '70

Truitt, John E., '69

Waterman, Sharon S., M.S. Ed. '60

Williamson, William R., M.S. Ed. '47

Lee, Virginia N., '69

Fletcher, Janet C., '66

Hulsan, Billie D., '66

Mullane, Daniel J., '66

Roderick, Margaret J., '66

Wagner, C.R., M.M. Ed. '66

O'Malley, O.J., M.S. Ed. '67

Williams, William M., '67

Cody, Robert E., '68

Daue, Jerry L., '68

Koike, Barry C., '68

Phelps, Blair P., Mo.

Leonard, Virginia A., '74

Ph.D. '76

7/28/2015, Urbana, Ill.

10/18/2015, Anna, Ill.

11/10/2015, Springfield, Ill.

12/1/2015, Evanston, Ill.

1/20/2016, Carbondale, Ill.

11/5/2014, Dallas, Texas

5/07/2015, Columbia, Mo.

5/10/2015, Ottumwa, Iowa

8/10/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

10/21/2015, Gilbertsville, Mass.

9/25/2015, Paxton, Ill.

7/23/2015, Germantown, Md.

12/16/2014, Pocatello, Idaho

8/15/2015, Covington, Ky.

9/11/2015, Pleasant Hill, Ill.

5/07/2015, Kansas City, Mo.

9/20/2015, Prophetstown, Ill.

9/10/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

10/18/2015, Staunton, Ill.

5/29/2015, Blue Springs, Mo.

1/18/2016, Monmouth, Ill.

10/2/2015, Peoria, Ill.


8/10/2015, Ada, Miss.

1/18/2016, Hoffman Estates, Ill.

11/15/2015, Evanston, Ill.

9/19/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

12/9/2015, Arvada, Colo.

11/3/2015, Fort Myers, Fla.

12/12/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

12/20/2015, Arvada, Colo.

11/13/2015, Chatsworth, Ill.

10/15/2015, East Carondelet, Ill.

9/30/2015, Prescott, Ariz.


9/12/2015, Fort Myers, Fla.

9/29/2015, Pulaski, Ill.

9/12/2015, Creal Springs, Ill.

8/23/2015, Mount Vernon, Ill.

9/2/2015, Fort Myers, Fla.

Ph.D. '89


1/22/2016, San Diego, Calif.

9/20/2015, Springfield, Ill.

11/7/2015, Bloomington, Ill.

1/24/2016, Mokena, III.

11/27/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

8/10/2015, Greenville, S.C.

10/30/2015, Denver, Colo.

11/22/2015, Gilford, N.H.

12/16/2015, Houston, Texas

12/10/2015, Greeley, Colo.

1/20/2016, Carbondale, Ill.

12/18/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

9/3/2015, San Diego, Calif.


8/10/2015, Ada, Miss.

12/18/2015, Bloomington, Ill.


12/18/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

11/27/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

8/10/2015, Dallas, Texas

11/2/2015, Springfield, Ill.

6/16/2015, Berkeley, Mo.

10/20/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

7/10/2015, Harrisburg, Ill.

2/10/2015, Philadelphia, Penn.

11/11/2015, Christopher, Ill.

5/14/2015, Monroe, Ga.

11/6/2015, Cambria, Ill.

1/25/2016, Las Vegas, Nev.

5/17/2015, Springfield, Ill.

8/17/2015, Indianapolis, Ind.

2/17/2015, Hewitt, Texas

2/28/2015, Springfield, Mo.

2/17/2015, Pleasant Hill, Ill.

2/28/2015, Pleasant Hill, Ill.

30 SIU ALUMNI WINTER 2015

continued on page 47
It has been more than a decade since Tom and Traci (Pulver) Macz were accepting diplomas for earning a degree in mortuary science at SIU Carbondale. At the time, they pondered how to start careers in the funeral service business, but fast-forwarding to 2015 paints a vibrant picture of expansion and success.

After graduating from Southern in 2004, the two SIU Alumni Association life members served their apprenticeship at Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg and Mason City, Ill. The next year, they moved to Tom's hometown of Watseka, Ill., to work for Knapp Funeral Homes, and in 2011, moved to Traci's hometown of Sandoval, Ill., to begin working for Day Funeral Homes.

They took over management of Day Funeral Homes in 2012, and a year later purchased the business with sites in Sandoval and Patoka, and changed the name to Day Macz Funeral Homes. In 2015, the couple's enterprise in south-central Illinois continued to grow when they purchased Irvin Funeral Homes in Centralia and Odin.

All of this has not gone unnoticed in the business community, as the South Central Illinois Growth Alliance (SCIGA) honored them this year as "Emerging Entrepreneurs of the Year."

SCIGA is a five-county (Bond, Clinton, Fayette, Marion, and Washington) not-for-profit corporation committed to establishing, promoting, maintaining and developing financial, industrial, agricultural, and tourism initiatives within the region.

The Saluki graduates say being business owners the last few years has been exciting, with a priority being to find creative ways to personalize funeral services for families. Their continued commitment to the area impresses Riley Barker of the Illinois Small Business and Development Center.

"One of the biggest concerns that rural communities have right now is losing population as young people move out and don't come back," he recently told the Centralia Sentinel. "Tom and Traci are a couple that returned, took over a business, flourished, and paid their dues to the community. They did everything the right way to get where they are."

Tom and Traci met at SIU while taking classes together, and both knew funeral service careers would not be easy. "The hours can be long and irregular," she says, "but we both feel we have been called to help others during the most difficult time of their life."

Traci says she and her husband take pride in doing just that. "We are there at the darkest moment of their life," she notes. "Truth be told, nobody wants to walk into these doors – it's nothing anyone wants to experience, but it's something we all have to experience. Our job is to be there for those who walk through those doors in every way we can."

"We were told early on in our careers that this is our ministry," Tom says. "It doesn't take much to go the extra mile. It's effortless because you are caring, helping, and serving. That's always been our goal."
Homecoming 2015

Light rain did little to dampen a glorious weekend in Carbondale Oct. 23-24. It was a winning weekend in more ways than one, as Southern Illinois University Carbondale celebrated “Respect the Royalty” Homecoming 2015. More than 2,000 alumni and friends enjoyed the SIU Alumni Association’s “Big Tent” tailgate prior to the game, as various University officials, including Interim Chancellor Brad Colwell, welcomed the gathering. In addition to the Salukis’ thrilling overtime victory against nationally ranked Youngstown State, Southern crowned a homecoming king and queen and awarded prizes in other competitions as well. Allen Shelton, a senior communications studies major was the 2015 king, and Taylor Johnson, a senior radio, television and broadcasting major, was homecoming queen. Delta Zeta sorority won the inaugural Spirit Competition, claiming a $400 prize and trophy for being the registered student organization with the most participation in homecoming festivities throughout the week. Organizers also announced the winners from the Oct. 24 homecoming parade. Alpha Gamma Rho and Alpha Gamma Delta won the overall parade competition for the float they built cooperatively.
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SAVE THE DATE:
Class of 1966 Reunion
Homecoming Weekend
Oct. 21-22, 2016

St. Louis Trivia Night Set Jan. 22
The St. Louis Chapter invites you to a night of fun and trivia on Jan. 22 at the Shrewsbury City Center. All proceeds will benefit the St. Louis Chapter Scholarship Fund, which raised more than $3,000 last year. Bring eight canned food items to donate to a local charity and receive a free mulligan. Put on your thinking caps, as doors open at 5 p.m. and the competition begins at 7 p.m. You are welcome to bring your own refreshments, and there will be a silent auction as part of the event. To register and find out more, go to siualumni.com.

Meet Us On Main Street
The Association’s St. Louis Chapter hosted the “Meet Us on Main Brewery Social” on Nov. 7 at The Main Street Brewery in Belleville, Ill. More than 30 alumni and friends from St. Louis, the Metro-East, and Springfield, Ill., areas attended the event. Brewmaster Tony Toenjes (right), a 1978 SIU science graduate, talked to those at the event and provided an informative brewery tour. Chapter leaders (from left) Anna Vani, Aimee Snavely, and Leslie Patterson assisted at the event.

Veterans Enjoy Dinner, Tailgate
The Saluki Veterans Alumni Group held its military reunion the last weekend of October. The weekend began with a dinner at The Haven on Crab Orchard Lake, and Harvey Welch (shown here with Veterans’ Service Coordinator Paul Copeland) was the special guest and speaker. The Veterans also enjoyed a tailgate sponsored by the Marine Corps League prior to the Military Appreciation football game.

Join Us For Arch Madness
Want to stay with other Salukis and enjoy MVC men’s basketball action? Plan now to book your room at the Hilton at the Ballpark in St. Louis so you can visit with fellow Salukis during the conference tournament set March 3-6 at Scottrade Center. A block of rooms has been reserved at a special rate at the Hilton, and you can book online by going to siualumni.com/mvc.
Alumni Band Group Reunion

The Alumni Band Group had their 26th annual reunion during Homecoming Weekend, as more than 100 came back to be a part of the festivities. They began with a lively Friday evening reception at the Student Center, where they were entertained by the current Marching Salukis. The group practiced and later performed under the director of band director emeritus Mike Hanes with the Marching Salukis at a halftime show Saturday at Saluki Stadium.

Alumni Meet In Malaysia

130 people attended an SIU alumni gathering in Sabah, Malaysia on Nov. 2. SIU Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Susan Ford attended, and presented an SIU Alumni Association flag to Sitti Amin, the chief organizer of the event. Among the alumni attending were Assistant Culture, Tourism, and Environment Minister Datuk Kamarilin Ombi, former Director of Education Datuk Panglima Hasbullah Taha, and current Director of Education Datuk Jame Alip.

CONTACT A CHAPTER, CLUB, OR A GROUP

Learn more about SIU Alumni chapters, clubs, and groups at siualumni.com/connect, or call the Association office at 618/453-2408. See if there is one near you, and find out how you can connect with other Salukis in your area.
SIU Awareness Featured At Route 66 Road Festival

In late September, the 2015 International Route 66 Mother Road Festival was held in Springfield, Ill., and the Association's Prairie Capital Chapter and the SIU Automotive Technology Department had a presence at the event to build awareness about what SIU is all about. More than 80,000 spectators and more than 1,000 cars from 20 states converged on historic downtown Springfield that weekend. In the photos are chapter leader Tim McCarthy speaking to the crowd, and SIU Automotive Technology Department Chairman Mike Behrmann with some of the SIU students at the festival.

Class Of 1965 Restoring Paul And Virginia Statue

Members of the SIU Class of 1965 knew their 50-year reunion would be a special time, but they also wanted the event to provide a lasting mark on the Carbondale campus. With that goal in mind, the class began to raise funds to restore and provide ongoing upkeep to the Paul and Virginia statue between Shryock Auditorium and Davies Gymnasium.

The original statue, donated by the Class of 1887, was moved to the Stone Center years ago following the burning of Old Main. A duplicate, cast in bronze, was placed in the same location and has been there for more than 45 years. The plan is to restore the original, replace the replica, and fix and maintain some of the cracks and wear in the fountain.

Patti Borgsmiller Elmore, Mike Hanes, and Phil Pfeffer, co-chairs of the Class of 1965 Half Century Club celebration during homecoming weekend, spearheaded the effort. More than $30,000 has been donated for the project's estimated $50,000 expense.

“We wanted to do something that serves as a legacy for our class and be something on the campus that would last,” says Hanes. “About half of the funds will go toward the renovation, and the rest will be used to maintain the area for years to come.”

The group is hoping the project is complete by Homecoming 2016.
Computers of today are governed by the laws of classical physics—the laws most people learn in high school—that describe the everyday, observable laws of nature. But the day is coming when that will no longer be true. Even now, researchers working in the subatomic world of quantum mechanics foresee a day when computers use the strange properties found there as the means to solve bigger calculations even faster than the fastest classical computer of today. Many scientists, including a physics researcher at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, believe it's only a matter of time before this theory of quantum mechanics-based computers “uploads” from the blackboard to the proverbial motherboard.

“We're on a technological brink here,” says Eric Chitambar, assistant professor of physics and winner of a prestigious National Science Foundation CAREER grant in 2014. “For the past 50 years, we've been developing computers that are faster and smaller. Over time, we're going to get down to the point that we have to deal with chips on a quantum-mechanics level. “We're not there yet, but it's going to happen; it's an inevitability. We need to understand these things.”

With this massive advance, however, will undoubtedly come new threats to the way we securely transmit information every day. Key breakthroughs in this area already have occurred, such as researcher Peter Shor’s success more than 20 years ago in creating an algorithm for quantum computers that would, in theory, factor numbers exponentially more quickly than any of today's classically based computers, potentially defeating a common means of securing data today. It’s a sure bet that keeping data in all computing devices—cell phones, tablets, computers and so on—safe from hackers armed with powerful quantum mechanics-based hacking tools will be an even bigger challenge in the future.
Some of the problems I’m working on now haven’t even been asked before because no one really thought of them.

Quantum mechanics itself, however, may offer a solution to this future problem in the form of new security paradigms that are based on both quantum and classical information principles. The details of these solutions may already be residing on the blackboard in Chi Tambar’s office or in one of his notebooks he uses to work out complex mathematical proofs while sitting at his dining room table. And during the next few years, he hopes to answer many such questions.

GRANT FROM NSF

Chitambar last year received a prestigious CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation. The five-year, $500,000 grant is part of the foundation’s Faculty Early Career Development Program aimed at supporting the early research and education activities of researchers who effectively integrate research and education within the context of their organization’s mission.

In Chitambar’s case, the grant will support his research into information theory and finding mathematically provable ways to ensure secrecy in data transfer. His work is based on complex, even esoteric, theories that seek to meld certain aspects of classical and quantum mechanics into a unified system. Such a system might tell us more about nature, as well as provide the most important computer security upgrade of the future.

For Chitambar, it’s all about the mathematical proofs. “Information theory is a subject that uses mathematics to describe how information is manipulated and transferred,” Chitambar says. “Within this framework, you can rigorously define the notion of secrecy and mathematically prove the security of certain tasks, such as sending an email from one computer to another.”

What intrigues Chitambar is the apparent interplay between the worlds of classical and quantum theory, as both relate to information theory. In classical information theory, “secrecy” can be characterized in terms of correlations that are shared between two parties and kept independent from any eavesdropping third party.

It turns out that the mathematical theory describing these correlations looks extremely similar to the mathematical theory within quantum mechanics that describes the phenomenon of quantum entanglement. This strange coincidence may hold the key to future computer and information security.

“My research investigates the formal connections between secrecy and quantum entanglement,” Chitambar notes. “Researchers have already developed a number of analytical tools to study quantum entanglement, and I am currently discovering how these can be applied to the study of secrets and secret correlations. An underlying goal is to unify secrecy and entanglement under a single theoretical framework.”

Quantum entanglement describes two or more quantum systems in a state where it becomes impossible to treat each system independently. Subsequently, the only way to describe this new “entangled” system is as one, conjoined system.

ESTABLISHING BETTER SECURITY

Entanglement can provide a way of establishing security between two spatially separated parties. Entangled “packets” of polarized light known as photons can be used to encode and carry secret messages through fiber optic networks. Once the message has been sent, the two parties must classically communicate on a secondary channel, such as a common phone line or with email, to verify certain aspects of the process. This is where tools of classical information theory are needed so that the overall process can be proven secure.

Chitambar also is working in the opposite direction, seeing if phenomena observed at the quantum level can be applied to questions at the classical level. “We’ve developed all these analytical methods to understand entanglement, so let’s apply them to classical problems and view these in a different light,” he says. “Can we use the tools developed in quantum information to solve similar problems in classical theory of secrecy? How deep is the relationship? Is it just mathematics or is there something physically deep there?”
In some cases, he’s breaking new ground just asking questions.

“Some of the problems I’m working on now haven’t even been asked before because no one really thought of them,” he says. “But the reason we’re asking now is that we found them to be interesting in the study of quantum entanglement. We found unexpected things, so we’re looking at whether similar or analogous things happen in the classical secrecy. In some cases it does; in some cases we don’t know yet.”

THE KEY TO ANSWERS

The key to finding answers to such questions Chitambar sums up thusly: “Read a lot, talk a lot, and write a lot.” In other words, communication and networking, coupled with his own ideas on the subject, will hopefully lead him into new, productive areas of thought and theory. He will travel to conferences and seminars, as well as visit other researchers both at SIU and abroad.

In the end, success would mean proposing new security paradigms or solving important open problems in the subject. He also hopes to discover more efficient ways of extracting information from quantum cryptography messages.

Chitambar looks at the problems as challenges he enjoys on a deep and personal level, as well as a scientific level.

“I like to know why things are the way they are. I want to understand what some things mean and how the universe behaves. It’s a curiosity I have,” he says. “Like a lot of theorists, I find a beauty in it and a level of satisfaction when I find a solution and it’s clean and makes sense. It’s its own little rush.

“Information theory itself is extremely fascinating. It’s a fundamental expression of the universe.”
1960’s

RUTH WHITE ’65 was recently inducted into the Iowa AfricanAmerican Hall of Fame. “I am grateful and humbled,” White said of her induction. “It’s very nice to know what I try to do is being recognized.” White grew up in Rantoul, Ill., on an Air Force base. Her father was a hospital pharmacist, and they were the first black family in Rantoul. White attended Southern and met her first husband, Tom, while teaching in Gary, Ind. The couple moved on to Kankakee before they and a few other colleagues were recruited to the Cedar Rapids Community School District.

JAY BOULANGER A.T. ’68, M.S. ’71 has been named the Highland (Ill.) Chamber of Commerce member of the year. He was born in Highland and raised by parents who were highly dedicated to the community and taught their son to be the same. He joined the family’s funeral business in 1974 and is the owner of Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home. Boulanger has now been at the helm of the business for 40-plus years and has become a leader in the industry, serving on many local, state and national boards. He and his wife, Cathy, have five children and 13 grandchildren.

The Saint Louis Planned Giving Council recognizes a past or current member with the Founder’s Award, and this “lifetime achievement” award was recently given to MARILYN CHAMNESS RAPHAEL ’69. Progressing from buying to training and then working in human resources, Raphael’s career began at Famous-Barr, now Macy’s, and she also taught retailing and merchandising at the community college level. She next moved to the financial services industry and spent the last 20 years in fund raising and development in the non-profit sector. She and her husband, BOB ’71, live in St Louis where she enjoys community volunteering, quilting, and genealogical research.

1970’s

LARRY KULCHAWIK ’71 has retired after 44 years of providing design and trade show marketing expertise to the industry. He has served as president of International Federation of Exhibition and Event Services and Exhibit Designers and Producers Association. Recently he completed, Trade Shows From One Country To The Next. This book outlines venues, top shows, rules, regulations, labor issues, and cultural differences when exhibiting in 45 countries.

The 61st Annual Conference of the National Association of Student Affairs Professionals honored the contributions of MELVIN CLEVELAND TERRELL PH.D. ’78 with its 2015 C. W. Grant Presidential Award. Tenell exemplifies those who have devoted their careers to the “whole” student experience, while playing a significant role in the dialogue of advancing the profession. He has written more than 30 publications, and he is the co-editor of Creating and Maintaining Safe College Campuses: A Sourcebook for Evaluating and Enhancing Safety Programs.

LIZ FITZSIMMONS ’81 was named executive director of the Office of Tourism Development for the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. After a move to Maryland, her career highlights have included managerial positions at retail destinations Market Center and the Brokerage in downtown Baltimore, and serving as public relations manager for the Pride of Baltimore II as it sailed to Northern Europe and Russia.

1980’s

RUTH ALLIBAND M.S. ’81 is spending her golden years as a garlic mustard buster in Minnesota’s Twin Cities. The fast-growing, non-native garlic mustard can invade a variety of natural environments, including undisturbed forest areas. Alliband and a team of volunteers – they call themselves the Garlic Mustard Busters – have logged hundreds of hours in their eradication efforts.

MATT MCCANN ’81, a nationally known expert on long-term health-care planning, has been listed among the top 10 Long
Jackson Unveils Davis Statue

His work has been previously detailed in this magazine, but PRESTON JACKSON '69 was again the focus of a media firestorm with the unveiling of his statue of jazz icon Miles Davis, in Davis’ birthplace of Alton, Ill. Though three statues of Davis exist in Europe, this is the first statue of the musician to have been commissioned and executed in the United States.

The statue was unveiled in September in Alton amidst a number of concerts and musical celebrations. Event organizers hope that such events and the statue itself will boost the city's tourism and kindle an annual jazz festival, celebrating the music of Miles Davis, who died in 1991. The sculpture is made to replicate Davis' classic pose with his knees bowed, leaning back with a trumpet. Jackson, a professor emeritus from the Art Institute of Chicago who now lives in Peoria, was chosen over 10 other artists for the job.

"At Southern, I played with a jazz group," the SIU Distinguished Alumni recipient says. "Miles was like our mentor. We walked like him ... just his whole demeanor was something we wanted to be."

Term Care Specialists by a national trade and consumer organization. The American Association for Long Term Care Insurance announced their annual list of the top specialists in the country. Every year they honor the best of those who help people plan for the high costs of long term care.

Odeon Capital Group LLC has announced that RICK SNYDER '81 has joined the firm as an equity analyst. Snyder most recently worked at Maxim Group LLC as a research analyst covering the retail sector. "Rick has earned a great reputation for his uniquely relevant industry views and investment theses," says Mathew Van Alstyne, co-founder and director of research at Odeon.

SANTIER has announced the appointment of MANSOOR MOSALLAIE '82, M.S. '83 as vice president of operations. The company is a leading custom thermal management solutions provider with a full range of heat sinks for electronic packaging. Mosallaie has 25 years of experience in manufacturing and operations.

Marcus Hotels & Resorts has announced that GERALD RAPPAPORT EX '82 has been appointed general manager of the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City. With more than 24 years of hospitality experience, he is an accomplished hotel operations leader and most recently served as general manager of the Hotel Phillips in Kansas City, Mo. The Skirvin Hilton Hotel is the sixth hotel he has managed for Marcus Hotels & Resorts.

RICHARD CVIJANOVICH '89 has opened Arizona's third Porsche dealership. The new dealership reflects both an upturn in the Arizona economy and a growing demand for the famous German marque. A life-long car lover who at age 9 began working for his father's auto dealership in Johnston, Pa., he also owns a Subaru Superstore in Chandler, Ariz.

In August Carbondale's Neighborhood Co-op Grocery celebrated its 30th anniversary. General Manager FRANCIS MURPHY '89, M.S. '92, M.B.A. '94 described a small building that in 1985 was far from the modern facility it is today. In the early days, shelving was
made of smoke-damaged doors and two-by-fours. Carbondale’s first natural food store was Mr. Natural’s, which was in operation from 1969 to 1984. "I guess people did not get all their needs met by Mr. Natural’s," Murphy says. A group of friends got together and formed a “buying club,” and they placed an order from North Farm Cooperative in Madison, Wisc., and the Neighborhood Co-op was born.

1990’s

BRIAN SCOTT ‘90 has been named Deputy Chief of Operations and Fire Prevention for the city of Evanston, Ill. Scott will direct and lead fire suppression operations and manage the department’s fire prevention bureau. He joined the department in December 1999 as a firefighter/paramedic. In 2006, Scott was promoted to fire captain/paramedic. Since a promotion in March of 2014, Scott has served as Division Chief of Operations and Training.

Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation has announced that KELLY MEDLIN '91, M.S.W. '94 has joined the behavioral health department at Bethalto Health Center in East Alton, Ill. Medlin provides a variety of therapy services for patients of all ages with a special focus on postpartum issues, ADHD and grief counseling. “My goal as an advocate for our patients is to give them hope again,” says Medlin.

“Having that outside person to talk to without the fear of judgment makes a huge difference for anyone facing a difficult time in his or her life.”

SHAWNA CONNOR '93 has been named interim director of marketing and communications at the University of Wisconsin-Richland. Connor is responsible for developing and implementing the campus marketing plan, overseeing all media communications and media relations, development of campus publications, advertising, social media, budgeting, photography and more.

Herrin attorney ANGIE KOCHAN '94 was unanimously approved in September to serve as Williamson County Circuit Clerk. "It is something that is still connected to the court system. I will be working with the judges and the people I know. It’s a new kind of adventure that I can give back to Williamson County, work with the people of Williamson County and get back to more of my accounting background," Kochan says.

RALPH MOORE '71 is an international leader in the area of supplier diversity. He has transformed the practices of hundreds of businesses across the world. As a child, his mother worked for the U.S. Postal Service, and his father was a railroad worker. Growing up in a family that valued education, he graduated from Southern with a degree in accounting. Immediately after graduation, Moore worked with the accounting firm Arthur Andersen LLP. In 1979, he founded RGMA, a supplier diversity and minority business – development consulting firm that has counseled more than 1,000 MBEs in the United States alone.

Prominent among his accomplishments is the development of the “Raising the Bar” supplier diversity strategy. In the 1990s, through sponsorship of the National Minority Supplier Development Council, Moore conducted workshops in South Africa to assist in the development of strategies for previously disadvantaged businesses in the country and has since conducted similar workshops in various countries throughout the world.

He has written for the Harvard Business Review and Minority Business News. He is a member of the board of trustees of City Colleges of Chicago and the University of Chicago Medical Center. Moore has been recognized as Entrepreneur of the Year by Inc. magazine and Ernst & Young LLP.

RAISING THE BAR

DON SVANDA '96 of Murphysboro, Ill., has retired as a financial representative in Modern Woodmen of America's Illinois South Region after 28 years of service with the organization. Svanda joined Modern Woodmen in 1987 and has earned several accolades from the fraternal financial services organization. He and his wife, Alice, were chapter activities coordinators for Modern Woodmen’s Chester and Murphysboro chapters.

STEVE VASICEK '96, a Downers Grove native, was recognized as the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Officer of the Year in July in Springfield. "He's a caring
individual," says Captain Tim Daiber, who oversees Vasicek's work in southern Illinois and recommended him for the award. "He has a true concern not only for the natural resources of the state, but also for the safety and welfare of others."

2000's

JOE DIERKS '00 has been hired as the new assistant principal at Washington (Mo.) High School. "The ironic part about me being here now is that I made a wish list 12 years ago of where I might want to work, and Washington was No. 1 on the list," he says. "People I trust thought this would be a good fit for me." He has worked in education as a teacher and coach for the last 15 years.

MIKE GENO M.F.A. '01 proudly displays cheese paintings and bacon drawings. Cheese paintings have been his specialty since his first encounter with fellow cheese enthusiasts. "Bread has been good, too... I need to make more time for it," says Geno. His cheese art has been featured in the New York Times, Cheese Connoisseur Magazine and various gallery shows.

ELIZABETH EBERSPACHER NOHREN J.D. '01 has been recognized for 15 years of invaluable contributions in her field. Nohren parleys her knowledge into her role with Dove & Dove, Attorneys at Law in Shelbyville, Ill., which provides representation to clients with traffic, criminal and juvenile charges, including felony and misdemeanor defense. In addition to her work with the firm, she speaks at local public schools each year regarding the law on sexual abuse and sexual assault, and she acts as an appointed guardian ad litem to represent minors and disabled adults in pending litigation.

MAJOR MICHAEL PERRY '02 and former student body president at SIU reports that members from the 333rd Special Operations Group, along with members from the 36th Airlift Squadron, conducted multinational and bilateral training during Joint Chief of Staff Exercise Teak Mint 15-1 in Kuala Lumpur and Kuantan, Malaysia, in May and June. "This exercise has been a great opportunity for our Airmen to learn," says Perry. "For the past two weeks, we had the opportunity to build a mutually beneficial relationship between U.S. and Malaysian Air Forces. I was happy to see how both countries took full advantage of building partnerships and learning from each other."

Effingham County State Attorney BRYAN KIBLER J.D. '04 has been named the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority by Gov. Bruce Rauner. Kibler, who was elected state's attorney in 2012, heads an office that prosecute 250 felonies and 500 misdemeanors a year. The office also advises the county on legal issues. Kibler lives in Effingham.

Beaumont (Calif.) Police Commander SEAN THUILLIEZ '04 has been named interim police chief in that Southern California city. He joined the Beaumont Police Department in 2007 after working for the Redlands (Calif.) Police Department for eight years. He has worked in patrol, narcotics/vice, gang enforcement, quality of life, community policing, and served as a field training officer.

Gov. Bruce Rauner has appointed ANGELA MASON '01, M.S. '06 to the Illinois Workforce Investment Board. She brings more than 11 years of management and leadership experience to the board. Currently, Mason works as the Associate Vice President, Urban Agriculture/Windy City Harvest of the Chicago Botanic Garden. In this role, she oversees the development and management of the program including budgeting, fund raising, staff and business development.

DONNA PAGE '04, a teacher at Rochelle Township High School, was recently selected as recipient of the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Excellence in Teaching Award. Page, who grew up on a grain and cattle farm near Pinckneyville, says, "It's an honor to be named the Excellence in Teaching Award winner, and I'm still in shock, quite frankly. This is probably the peak of my teaching career as of yet."

TALITA GORDON '06 has published her first novel, 91 Miles to Mapleton, which features the interactions of characters Thomas Miles and Teagan Thompson. Family, racism, love, sex and heartbreak, 91 Miles to Mapleton is about two people learning to deal with anything or anyone put in their path. The book is available from www.amazon.com.

SAM WHEELER PH.D. '08 was the speaker at a Lincoln Legacy dinner in Anna, Ill., last September. Wheeler is a research historian at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, and was formerly an assistant to John Y. Simon with the Papers of Ulysses S. Grant program at Southern. He has served in a number of public history institutions, including the Old State Capitol, the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office and the Sangamon County Historical Society.

JEREMY BLECHLE '07 has become the new dean of students at Chester High School. He attended CHS as a student and has taught there since 2007. "I plan on striving to create a better learning environment here at CHS,"
Follett One Of ‘The Best Under 40’

BRITTEN FOLLETT '02 has been named one of “The Best Under 40” by the Northwest Herald. She is the director of marketing and communications at Follett School Solutions. “The skills I learned in my first career as a television news reporter, including attention to detail and tight deadlines necessary to produce successful news stories on a nightly basis, influence my role in marketing each day,” she says.

The SIU Alumni Association board member is currently focusing on e-commerce, digital offerings and text rental in addition to its core areas of expertise. Today, Follett is a $2.7 billion, privately held company that provides products, services, and solutions to the educational marketplace. The company, which serves more than 5 million students at its more than 1,600 physical and online stores, employs approximately 10,000 associates throughout the United States, Canada, and other parts of the world.

Through her work with child abuse-prevention advocacy efforts, she sits on the board of Prevent Child Abuse Illinois. Through her work leading and marketing these programs, she is using her time and talents to help others grow both personally and professionally.

MATT ZAHORA '08 was recently the focus of an article in the Chicago Tribune. In 2010, Zahora founded Chicagoland Aviation as a flight school. Since then, the private aviation company based at the Chicago/Romeoville Airport has grown to include not only flight training and certifications, but aircraft rentals, sales, and aircraft management, along with charter flights for business and pleasure. “Chicagoland Aviation is not just a place to go for an airplane ride,” Zahora explains. “The goal is to help people recognize how private aviation can enhance their lives.”

RUSSELL NEU '09 never dreamed he would end up working with his favorite brand of equipment — John Deere — every day. But that's exactly what happened. He is one of three instructors in the John Deere Tech program at Lake Land College. He was in that program at Lake Land College, and then enrolled at Southern. He plans to make a career out of teaching students how to care for those big green machines. “My overriding theme is to have them use their own talents and figure stuff out on their own,” he says. “I want them to think outside the box.”

NICK MCMILLION '14, is the new editor of the Chillicothe Times-Bulletin. He graduated from Stanford Olympia High School in 2009, but it was writing for that newspaper that sparked his love of journalism. After graduation, he attended Illinois Central College, where his passion for journalism switched to broadcasting. Interning at a radio station, going to school full time, and working full time were passions that continued with his entry to Southern in 2012.

CODY DAILY EX '15, a Granite City native, was signed this summer by the Chicago White Sox. Through 20 games and 82 at-bats in the Arizona instructional league, he hit .390 with three home runs and 15 RBI with a 1.135 OPS. The 6-foot-3, 220-pound first baseman was second team All-Conference in the Missouri Valley last season, and in 2014, Daily hit .333 in 56 games.

SLOANE LYNCH '15, a native of Dalton City, Ill., has been selected by the University of Tennessee's College of Law to become a Tennessee Law Scholar as part of the college's prestigious scholarship program. She was one of only five students named, and was selected from more than 1,000 applicants. As a recipient, Lynch will receive a full-tuition scholarship and a stipend for three years of legal study at Tennessee. The SIU Chancellor/Presidential Scholarship winner served as a student ambassador, an undergraduate assistant in the SIU Writing Center, and as a peer mentor for the University Honors Program.

Alumni listed in maroon are SIU Alumni Association members.
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SHASTEEN, Perry R., '86
9/19/2015, Manassas, Vir.
BRAY, Oliver R., '79
8/10/2015, La Plata, Md.
PULLEY, Darren L., '88, M.S. Ed. '98
8/08/2015, Marion, Ill.
KINDLE, Wilma J., '89
8/22/2015, Bloomington, Ill.
DAVIS, Kevin S., FRMR '90
8/10/2015, Jacksonville, Fla.
OLSON, Wendy S., '91
10/09/2015, Moline, Ill.
BAKER, Archibald H., '93
10/22/2015, Augusta, Ga.
BAHL, Kelly M., '94
8/10/2015, Plymouth, Mich.
CLINE, John J., '94
7/15/2015, Boise, Idaho
DEBRUHL, Melvin L., '94
1/17/2015, Rydal, Ga.
BUNTE, Alison B., Ph. D. '95
8/06/2015, Plateville, Wisc.
FLETCHER, Eric A., '95
5/05/2015, Mount Vernon, Ill.
MCCOY, Catherine R., M.S. Ed. '96
8/15/2015, Makanda, Ill.

TUPPER, June M., Ph. D. '66
8/10/2015, Edwardsville, Ill.
BEDARD, Erica C., '98
4/22/2015, Palo Alto, Calif.
JACKSON, Caroline L., '98
6/22/2015, Grapevine, Texas
KEENER, Christopher M., '98, M.S. '02
10/08/2015, Murphysboro, Ill.
ROENQUIST, Kell C., '99
10/03/2015, Cambridge, Ill.
DELATORRE, Steven E., '93
8/15/2015, Chicago, Ill.
JARVIS, Amber T., '98
9/10/2015, Herrin, Ill.
BAILEY, Abby N., '94
7/12/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

FACULTY/STAFF

CRESS, Thomas J., '81, M.S. Ed. '83
SIU Faculty, Visiting Assistant Professor
ASA Off-Campus Academic Programs
8/23/2015, Chester, Ill.
FRICKE, James L.
Civil Service, Painter
Physical Plant
10/21/2015, Murphysboro, Ill.
HULETT, Angela J.
Civil Service, Medical Office Associate
Pediatrics Clinic – SMS
7/30/2015, Sherman, Ill.
JACKSON, Donald R.
Civil Service, Extra Help Skilled Crafts
Physical Plant
10/18/2015, Marion, Ill.
LIRELY, Charles E.
Civil Service, Extra Help Skilled Crafts
Physical Plant
9/08/2015, Murphysboro, Ill.
OM, Byung R.
Faculty, Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology
Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic
9/07/2015, Springfield, Ill.
PHILLIPS, Christopher E.
Civil Service, Extra Help Service/Maintenance
Touch of Nature
10/01/2015, Colorado Springs, Colo.
PERCELL, Guy W.
Civil Service, Supervisor, Security Guard
Capital Planning and Service Operations
8/16/2015, Springfield, Ill.
ROGERS, Mary K., '74
SIU Admin/Prof Staff
Evaluation and Development Center
7/15/2015, Carbondale, Ill.

The 2015 Chancellor’s Academic Scholarship Golf Outing generates funds that make it possible to honor students who excel academically and serve as outstanding ambassadors on campus and in the community. This year’s outing raised over $75,000. The Chancellor’s Office extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported the Chancellor’s Academic Scholarship Golf Outing on Friday, Sept. 18. Thanks to the following sponsors:

Gold Sponsors ($10,000+)
SIU Alumni Association
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Magna Cum Laude ($2,500)
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Seven Ten
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Changing Seasons Landscape
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SMITH, Duncan T., J.D. '88
Civil Service, Extra Help Technical/paraprofessional
Education and Curriculum
9/22/2015, Tamms, Ill.
WIGGINS, Shawn D.
Civil Service, Extra Help Service/Maintenance
Physical Plant
10/05/2015, Du Quoin, Ill.

WITBRACHT, Billy D.
Civil Service, Extra Help Skilled Crafts
Physical Plant
7/24/2015, Steeleville, Ill.
WOHLTANN, Christopher D., MD
Faculty, Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery
Surgery
10/27/2015, Springfield, Ill.

YEARACK, Michael E., A.A.S. '84
Civil Service, Extra Help Skilled Crafts
Physical Plant
7/28/2015, Marion, Ill.

Correction: The Fall issue of SIU Alumni incorrectly listed William Tally ’71 as deceased. The retired SIU Audio Visual Services Manager is alive and well and resides in Carbondale. The data glitch appears to connect to his uncle, Marion “Bill” Tally ’50, M.S. Ed. ’58, who did pass away earlier this summer. We regret the error.

If you would like to assist the University in recruiting the best and brightest young people to SIU, please visit: www.siuf.org/priorities/ and click on the “Campus Wide” option. Select “Chancellor’s Fund for Excellence” to make a gift, or call 618/453-4900.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION
Then-Vice President and Republican presidential candidate Richard Nixon addressed a crowd estimated at more than 12,000 at McAndrew Stadium on Oct. 28, 1960. He was proposing a new plan to aid parents in paying for their children’s college education and was speaking from the same platform used by Democratic candidate John F. Kennedy, who appeared at SIU on Oct. 3 that year. Kennedy would defeat Nixon the next month in one of the closest popular vote totals in presidential history.
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NEARLY $10,000 RAISED IN 2015 BY MORE THAN 50 MEMBERS

The SIU Alumni Association established The Tradition Fund this past year as a means of allowing members the opportunity to contribute - above and beyond membership dues - additional money toward the Association's mission to support SIU.

The Tradition Fund generates additional support for:

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#miysiutradition – Walking into the WRONG auditorium in Lawson Hall and not realizing I was in the wrong class for at least five minutes.

- Patrick Hart
  Via Facebook

#miysiutradition – Painting the cannon in front of Altgeld.

- Cathy Stranc Vano
  Via Facebook

#miysiutradition – justin Glass
  Via Instagram

#miysiupride

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#miysiupride

- Jennifer Holt Meyer
  Via Facebook

#miysiupportunity – has been incredible. I never imagined that I would be able to grow so much through my experiences in Carbondale. I have started youth guidance programs, started a business, assisted in opening another, created marketing strategies, worked with wonderful people at the best job I ever had at the @siualumassoc, and became a proud father of twins. The support I have gotten and continue to receive is amazing. As a part of the External Marketing Advisory Board I hope to do what has been done for me and more.