



The President's Podium

Official newsletter of the Lincoln University president

April/May 2011

Mahoney's Missive

From the president's pen

Dr. Carolyn R. Mahoney

The spring 2011 semester has been full of events, visits, accomplishments, and challenges. And I wouldn't have it any other way. The packed calendar is an indication that Lincoln University is a vital presence in the community, the state, and the nation.

In addition to the Founders' Day celebrations highlighted in the March issue of this newsletter, I would also like to note that, on Mar. 19, Vice President Benecia Williams and I attended the Memphis Metro Chapter Founders' Day Luncheon. I was energized by the enthusiasm and interest of the alumni I met there. Mr. H.T. Lockard, class of '50, was honored during this event. As keynote speaker, I updated the chapter on the various programs and recent accomplishments of their alma mater.

Of course, spring also brings the annual President's Awards and Recognition Gala and Auction. The theme for this year's event was *Masquerade*. Over 400 guests attended, and all were given masks as they entered the banquet room at the Capitol Plaza Hotel on Sat., Apr. 2. There was definitely an air of mystery and excitement at this ninth annual gala.

The following week, I was pleased to welcome a group to campus for the third President's Circle Luncheon. This initiative, first described in the Feb. 2011 President's Podium, brings together LU staff and community leaders in an effort to provide a forum for engagement between the university and the community. This month, I was joined by Vice

President for Advancement Benecia Williams, LU Foundation Board President Victor Pasley, LU Foundation Board members Kevin Callaway and Brian Berhorst, and student representative Latrice Stringer as we welcomed the following guests to the luncheon: Betty Kemna, LU athletic director; Mike Jones, LU head football coach; Jefferson City Mayor-Elect Eric Struempff; Clyde Lear, chairman, Learfield Communications, and his wife, Sue; Dave Turner, president, Hawthorn Bank; Tami Turner, editor, Jefferson City Magazine; Gabe Hulsey, agency development director, MO Farm Bureau; Ryan Freeman, owner, Freeman Mortuary; Marc Ellinger, Cole Country presiding commissioner; and Jenne Parker, sales manager, Capitol Plaza Hotel.

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Sale of Freeman Farm Paves Way for Expansion of Extension and Research Programs

On Mar. 23, the Board of Curators recognized the need to expand the capacity of the university's land-grant mission to provide extension and research programs in plant and animal science when they approved the sale of Freeman Farm. The decision to sell this holding was not made lightly. It was first evaluated at every level, beginning with a committee whose task was to assess usage of all three LU farms and then recommend the best method whereby capabilities could be expanded to best meet the needs of limited resource farmers.

Lincoln has been fortunate to receive increases in federal funding for research and extension over the past five years, increases which have resulted in expansion of the land-grant programs and the hiring of new faculty to work within those programs, supporting the needs of minority populations and other underrepresented Missouri citizens. These groups are the historic beneficiaries of research and extension efforts, and the funding increases have allowed the institution to better serve their needs.

The majority of the newly-hired faculty conduct applied research so that results can be quickly adapted by farmers. These research projects require significant space on university farms, space utilized for the individual projects as well as for sites used for demonstration purposes. The committee charged with evaluating current use of the farms took all of the information into consideration and determined that Freeman Farm was the least-utilized of the three farms. It has been used almost exclusively for growing corn and soybeans. Very little productive research can be conducted at the site due to the fact that it lies on a floodplain along the Missouri River. Animal science research in particular is difficult to carry out in a floodplain location because infrastructures such as fencing, shelter, and water facilities which require a large financial investment are constantly prone to damage or complete destruction due to episodic flooding. The committee determined that the periodic need to replace structures siphoned funds that could be better applied to research and extension projects, and did not represent a responsible use of taxpayer monies.

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Mahoney's Missive

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During the luncheon, I updated the group on the state of the university. Thank-you gifts were given to all in attendance.

While we have marked many noteworthy events, there are still more to look forward to. The 2nd Annual Mid Missouri Lincoln University Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on June 13 at Meadow Lake Acres Country Club in New Bloomfield, MO. The purpose of this is to provide scholarships for mid-Missouri students attending Lincoln University. Organizers are still seeking sponsors, with sponsorship levels beginning at \$200. For more information, contact the LU Office of Advancement at 573-681-5096. The registration deadline is May 31.

Although it is nearly five months in the future, excitement is already building for the Gateway Football Classic, a match-up between Lincoln University and Missouri Southern State University. Scheduled for Sept. 24, this game will be held in the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis. Our goal is to fill the dome with Lincolnites! Tickets can be purchased at the LU Cashiers Office or by calling 573-681-5055. The host hotel will be the Renaissance Airport. I hope to see many of you there.

Yes, there is much going on at Lincoln University. While I have highlighted a number of events, I also want to shine a light on some of our many fine programs. For this issue, the focus is on our land-grant mission. Through this mission, we reach out to provide expertise and assistance to traditionally underserved populations such as small family farmers around the state and urban families in areas such as Kansas City, St. Louis, and the Missouri Bootheel. In the pages to follow, you will read about a number of efforts in this respect.

The calendar is full. It reflects the combined efforts of an exemplary faculty and staff whose goal is to provide first-rate learning experiences for our students, cutting-edge research that benefits the wider community, and extension services that reach out to those who most need our assistance. I am proud to be a member of this Lincoln family.

Sale of Freeman Farm Paves Way

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The committee's recommendation to sell Freeman Farm was made over a year ago. Subsequently, a second committee was given the task of locating an alternative farm that would allow for more effective utilization by research and extension faculty. The search for such a site, one that meets the needs of the programs and is a reasonable distance from campus, has been challenging. One issue that emerged was the fact that LU researcher Dr. Nsalambi Nkongolo had received a five-year grant award from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (see related story, p. 7). It was critical that the research associated with this grant continue on Freeman Farm because Dr. Nkongolo had already collected three years of preliminary data from this location.

The committee looked at all pertinent criteria and subsequently located a farm that met research and extension needs. Early this spring, the university made an offer for the property, contingent on the sale of Freeman Farm. This offer was based on comprehensive discussions within the university and with realtors about how to obtain the best price for Freeman Farm and how to reserve ten acres of that site necessary for the continuation of Dr. Nkongolo's research. After extensive study, it was recommended that an auction, to begin with a minimum purchase price and include the stipulation to lease the ten needed acres at the cost of the corn and soybeans harvested from this research plot, was the best way to proceed. In this manner, the university received top dollar for the sale of the land via auction on Apr. 20. Details of the agreement between the institution and the buyer, Mr. Kelly Forck, will be finalized by legal counsel.

"After studying all pertinent facts, the Board of Curators wholeheartedly supported the sale of the farm," noted LU President Carolyn R. Mahoney. "During a conference call, they expressed their understanding that we move in a timely fashion to set an auction date. The experience and expertise of Board members in crucial and relevant areas enhanced their collective understanding of the nature of real estate sales as well as the need of area farmers to plant their spring crops. The Board's timely approval contributed to our success in getting a record price for the farm."

According to Dr. Steven Meredith, dean of the College of Agricultural and Natural Sciences, the sale of Freeman

Farm and the transferral of operations to the new location will result in improved productivity of the research and extension programs. "It will allow Lincoln University to expand its ability to provide cutting-edge, research-based information and assistance to our historic stakeholders," Dr. Meredith said.

New Aquaculture Facility Planned

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), aquaculture is one of the fastest-growing segments of the U.S. and global agricultural economies. During the last two decades, the value of U.S. aquacultural production rose to nearly \$1 billion. This is no surprise to Mr. Chuck Hicks, LU assistant professor of research and principal investigator, animal science and aquaculture. Fish, he relates, is the most digestible protein source available and contains sufficient amounts of all the essential amino acids required by the body for growth and maintenance.

Lincoln University understands the importance of fish production to the world's food supply and has taken a leadership role in aquaculture in the state of Missouri. To maximize the research already underway, the university took an important step recently when the Board of Curators approved a contract for over \$100,000 for the construction of a new aquaculture facility at George Washington Carver Research Farm. The facility will consist of a one-story, 9,000 sq. ft. building to be used primarily for fisheries research and teaching. The building will house a wet lab, a mechanical room, a commons area, a fish processing room, a water quality room, and other necessary components.

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Site of planned aquaculture facility on Carver Farm

New Aquaculture Facility Planned

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Located on Bald Hill Road several miles from campus, Carver Farm is a field laboratory that supports extension, research, and teaching in the areas of plant science (herbs and sweet potatoes), environmental science (GIS/greenhouse gasses), and animal science (sheep, goats and aquaculture). According to Hicks, the new aquaculture facility's water quality lab will allow for microscopic work to be conducted to analyze constituents in the water that are necessary for raising fish. Another component of the new facility will be a fish processing room for weighing and measuring fish. This will allow researchers to determine differentials in treatments applied to the fish and to test different strains of species of fish to determine which is fastest growing.

LU researchers work mainly with native species of the sunfish family. This includes blue gill, crappie, and large and small mouth bass. The new facility will also allow for the production of live feed such as brine shrimp. "When our fish are very small," says Hicks, "we feed them brine shrimp every hour for 21 days. It is very work-intensive."

"Our students get extremely good training here," he states. "After we train them, we require that they do a summer internship elsewhere so that they can apply their training. We've placed every student from our program after they have graduated."

According to Sheila Gassner, director of LU's Office of Design and Construction, the Board of Curators' approval was needed before a request could be sent to USDA. "It generally takes six to eight weeks for USDA approval," Gassner relates, "so we're hoping to start on the project around June 1. We are currently working on easements with the Three Rivers Electric Cooperative to bring three phase power to the new facility."

If all goes as planned, Lincoln researchers and students will be advancing their knowledge in the important field of aquaculture by the beginning of the fall 2011 semester.

National Honor Society Conference Held on Campus

On April 6-9, Lincoln University, and specifically the Alpha Gamma chapter, hosted the 61st National Convention of the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. Centered around the theme, "The Scholar Today: Problems and Promises," the event drew student members, faculty advisors, and regional and national officers from Kent State University, North Carolina A&T, Florida A&M, Wiley College, Albany State, Kentucky State, West Virginia State, and Hampton University.

Lincoln's dean of the College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Ann Harris, serves as both faculty advisor to the Lincoln chapter and, since 2008, president of the national society. "Preparing for the conference was work intensive yet highly rewarding," she noted. "We started planning last fall, but the work really intensified in January."

LU student members of the Alpha Gamma chapter were involved in all stages of planning and hosting the conference, from collecting items for conference bags given to all attendees to meeting incoming guests at their check-in at the Capitol Plaza Hotel to introducing speakers at the various conference sessions. David Dumbach, LU chapter president, delivered the invocation to open the first general session. Lincoln President Carolyn R. Mahoney brought greetings to the group, followed by Antonio Lewis and Sascha Perry, Mr. and Miss LU.

Guests were entertained on Thur., Apr. 7, by the Lincoln University Vocal Ensemble during the first general session and, that evening, by the Lincoln University Dance Troupe, who were performing their 35th Anniversary Concert in Robert and Charlene Mitchell Auditorium.

The keynote speaker for the noon banquet on Fri., Apr. 8, was Ms. Shartia Brantley, CNBC segment producer. Ms. Brantley, according to Dr. Harris, spoke about how she had given up her first career, selling her house so that she could go back to graduate school to major in journalism. Through Dr. Jan Knight, LU assistant professor of journalism, Dr. Harris arranged for

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National Honor Society Conference Held on Campus

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journalism majors to attend the luncheon to hear Ms. Brantley. Dr. Harris reported that the students were eager to talk to Ms. Brantley after her speech, and she willingly obliged with an impromptu question and answer session.

At the banquet on the same evening, the guest speaker was President Mahoney. As it was the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, Dr. Mahoney chose to speak about the history of the black regiments that fought in that war, and the relationship between two of those regiments and the founding of Lincoln University.

Dr. Harris expressed her satisfaction with the conference in general and with the hard work and dedication of the LU students who contributed to the success of the event. Her tenure as Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society president will end at the end of this year. "I'll be sorry to see it come to an end," she said, speaking of her time as president. "It's been a fascinating couple of years. Most of the work of the year goes into the conferences. We hold the national conference every two years, with regional conferences in between." She leaves her office knowing that the conference held on her home turf was a significant achievement.



Dr. Ann Harris, center, with conference attendees in front of the Soldiers' Memorial



Ms. Shartia Brantley of CNBC (left) with chapter president Shaquanna Younger



At the President's Reception, Dr. Mahoney greets (left to right) Ms. Krishula Edwards, national vice president; Dr. Francis Dorsey, incoming national president; Dr. T. Bernard Clayton, Wiley College; and Dr. Mollie Brown, executive secretary/treasurer



Ms. Jacqueline Brown performs at the closing banquet accompanied by Dr. Ruth Robertson.

LU Makes Significant Strides in Plant and Soil Science Programs

When it was time to begin a strategic planning process so that a new five-year plan would guide the institution from 2008 to 2012, Lincoln University began with a series of focused meetings between LU staff and the following groups: alumni and alumni chapter officers; board members of the LU Foundation, Inc.; members of the Board of Curators; community business leaders; LU retirees; local educators; and the general public. The input that the university received from this diverse group was channeled into the six goals that now provide the guidance to move the institution into the future. Many of the strategies that were put in place to achieve the goals have already produced results. One of those goals, Goal Five, calls for the university to improve and expand the programs and services that fall under the category of the land-grant mission of the institution. Many significant gains have been made relative to this goal, particularly in the area of agricultural research, teaching, and outreach.

Efforts to enhance the agricultural research and teaching capacity at LU have not been restricted to land purchase. Over the past few years, the university has constructed a new greenhouse at Dickinson Research Facility and is in the planning process for renovation of a teaching greenhouse at the same site; has completed construction on two new hydroponics facilities at Carver Farm; and has constructed two high tunnels (unheated greenhouses) at Carver Farm. This summer, construction will commence on another high tunnel at Busby Farm. Each of these projects enhances the plant science programs on campus and, through the research that occurs on the sites, provides the up-to-date information that Extension personnel can then relay to constituents through workshops, on-site demonstrations, and disseminated information.



Two new high tunnels at Carver Farm

Through the Innovative Small Farms Program, LU staff provide assistance to those in the St. Louis and Kansas City areas, as well as other areas of the state, who seek support with small agriculture production, community gardening, and other like needs.

Innovative plans are also underway to develop new farming techniques at Busby Farm and to showcase integrated farming practices in organic production systems. These types of systems typically emphasize fruit and vegetable production and are supported by animal agriculture. Practices are carried out in an environmentally friendly manner using minimal fossil fuels. Busby Farm, located approximately five miles south of Jefferson City just off HWY 54 on Goller Road, provides an ideal setting for many of the research and extension programs that fall under the land-grant umbrella.

On campus, there are also exciting new developments. A community garden is now in operation in front of the Dickinson Research Center, with a new parking lot at

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Inside the newest greenhouse at the Dickinson Research Facility



Work/prep area inside the greenhouse

LU Researcher Contributes to Greenhouse Gas Control Measures

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and climate instability, the fact is that greenhouse gases are necessary, keeping the Earth's surface warmer than it otherwise would be and thus sustaining life.

Problems begin when concentrations of these gases continue to increase in the atmosphere, and surface temperature climbs above what is necessary. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Earth's average surface temperature has increased by about 1.2 to 1.4°F over the past 100 years. The eight warmest years on record (since 1850) have all occurred since 1998. According to the EPA, if greenhouse gases continue to increase, climate models predict that the average temperature at the Earth's surface could increase from 3.2 to 7.2°F above 1990 levels by the end of this century. The need for research into causes and controls is therefore imperative.

This need is recognized by LU associate professor of research Dr. Nsalambi Nkongolo. For the past five years, Dr. Nkongolo has conducted research into carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, three naturally occurring greenhouse gases. Since 2006, he has been evaluating levels of emissions of these gases from soils in pasture, forest, corn and soybean fields. In the course of his research, he has identified soil properties that are important in controlling greenhouse gas emissions in agricultural fields. His testing site has been Lincoln University's Freeman Farm, now under contract for sale. The contract will provide for lease of the ten-acre site on which Dr. Nkongolo will continue his research. (See "Sale of Freeman Farm Paves Way for Expansion of Extension and Research Programs," p. 2.)

Due to his success in the area of gas measurement, Dr. Nkongolo was invited to participate in a large grant titled "Climate Change, Mitigation, and Adaptation in Corn-based Cropping Systems." The grant was submitted by Iowa State University to USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. The overall goal of the grant is to "enhance the productivity, resiliency, and diversity of the corn-based systems in the North Central Region that provide food, feed, biofuels, and environmental services under variable climatic conditions." Dr. Nkongolo's role in the project is to match measurements of greenhouse gases

that are occurring in several of the North Central States. This role brings \$844,923 to the university to fund his research.

Through important work such as that being conducted by Dr. Nkongolo (pictured below), it will become possible to predict and help mitigate some of the impacts that climate change will have in the major corn-producing region of the United States, an area which includes Missouri.



THE LU DANCE TROUPE: 35 YEARS STRONG

Transpose . . . Transfigure . . . Transform. This was the theme of the 35th Anniversary Concert of the Lincoln University Dance Troupe (LUDT). On April 8, 9, and 10, the eight members of the dance troupe, along with various guests, performed a repertoire of African, modern, and hip-hop dances.

At the beginning of each show, a picture montage of dance troupe members throughout the years was projected on stage, and a voice-over expressed the hope that, by show's end, the audience would be transposed, transfigured, and transformed through the shared experience of dance.

From that point, audience members were taken on an eclectic journey as the dancers opened their hearts and souls through dance over the next two hours. From an unforgettable homage to the Rev. Martin Luther King, during which the troupe was joined by youthful dancers from the Second Baptist Youth Praise Dance Ministry, to exuberant interpretive dances portraying themes ranging from expressions of individuality to the end of a love affair—the four women and four men of

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THE LU DANCE TROUPE: 35 YEARS STRONG

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LUDT made believers of the audience. During one memorable dance, several members of the troupe proved that they could defy gravity as they leapt into the air, off the stage, and down into the orchestra pit.

Members of the 2011 LU DT are LaBradford Davis, a junior majoring in political science and journalism; Jahi Eskridge, a sophomore majoring in music education; Jalisa Hall, a senior health and wellness major; Porsha McCray, a senior criminal justice major; Decosma Wright, an LU graduate with a degree in liberal studies; Sharena Hampton, a sophomore education major; Renata Johnson, pursuing a master's degree in guidance and counseling; and Johnnie Williams, a junior majoring in chemistry.

Toward the end of the first set of dances, the audience was treated to a solo performance by the founder and artistic director of LU DT, Mrs. Theresa Ferguson. To the music of artist Cece Winans' "Alabaster Box," Mrs. Ferguson performed an evocative and expressionistic dance that perfectly conveyed the essence of the song.

Held in the Robert and Charlene Mitchell Auditorium, the anniversary concert drew large, appreciative crowds. On Sunday, as the final performance ended, members of the dance troupe brought their director and mentor, Mrs. Ferguson, out onto stage for a special presentation of their thanks for her guidance and encouragement. Through dance, these students have indeed been transposed, transfigured, and transformed.



Programs from the Dance Troupe's 35 years of performances

Work to Progress on South Campus Building

The Office of Design and Construction has received approval on a contract of over \$100,000 for the phase II renovation of the structure now designated the South Campus Building. Located at 900-906 Leslie Boulevard, this structure was once the home of the MOSERS offices. Lincoln University bought the building in 2006 and, in 2006-2007, renovated the west side for the Cooperative Extension's Paula J. Carter Minority Health and Aging Center and the Office of International Programs. These two units are now in operation at the site.

The recently-approved contract will allow for the renovation of the eastern portion of the building. Deemed Part A of the project, work will include demolition of select building elements; internal carpentry work to include new walls, ceilings, flooring, doors and frames; new restrooms; aluminum-framed entrances and storefronts; and a new mechanical system. When work is completed, the Division of Continuing Education and Extended Studies will take up residence in this section of the building, which will feature a front reception desk, two offices, three large classrooms that will hold 50-70 occupants, two conference rooms, a kitchenette, a data room and a workroom. The funding for this part of the project comes from a combination of Title III monies, maintenance and repair funds, and local university funds.



The South Campus Building on Leslie Blvd.

Part B of the project will provide for renovation of space in the central portion of the building for Cooperative Extension and Research. Work will include everything listed for Part A as well as the creation of a demonstration kitchen. A new mechanical system will also be installed. Funding for Part B is through an 1890 facilities grant from the United States Department of Agriculture.

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Work to Progress on South Campus Building

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According to Sheila Gassner, Design and Construction director, the official address of the South Campus Building is 900 Leslie Boulevard. "It used to be two separate buildings: 900 Leslie and 906 Leslie," she related. "A former owner connected the two buildings to make it one large facility." The size of the entire building is 14,000 sq. ft. When renovations are complete, Cooperative Extension and Research will occupy two-thirds of the building; the Division of Continuing Education will reside in the remaining one-third. A dividing wall will separate the two entities, with a door for access from one side to the other.

LU Students Shine

Students at Lincoln University continue to make significant contributions and post noteworthy achievements. Here are some recent stand-outs:

All fifteen associate degree nursing students who graduated in December 2010 successfully passed the NCLEX-RN licensure examination on their first attempt. This is a 100% passage rate for the December graduating class.

Bradley Kuykendall has been accepted to participate in the *iSchool Inclusion Institute* at the University of Pittsburgh. The four-week long residential program is designed for undergraduate students with an interest in graduate school and the information sciences, along with a commitment to diversity and inclusion in the personal lives.

Maggie Schulte, Diamond Munerlyn, Obiaara Ihenacho, Sandra Shinkut, Melissa Alburdis, Loretta Murry, Stephanie Sale, Jessica Jacobs, Julie Jaddoo, Brionna Wade, and Brittney Hughes all gave presentations during Feb. and Mar. as a part of their participation in the Women's Leadership Academy (WLA). These participants and their mentors were recognized at the WLA Banquet on Mar. 23 at the Truman Hotel.

Devon Ball, Derrek Bax, Oksana Koval, Bradley Kuykendall, Jerrod Moore, and Latrice Stringer competed in the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) regional competition in Chicago on Mar. 28, with the group finishing as first runner-up in the presentations event.

An abridged concert version of Mozart's musical play, *The Magic Flute*, was performed on Apr. 7 at 7:00 p.m. in Thomas D. Pawley Theatre in Martin Luther King Hall. Several LU students took part in the performance: **Jacquelyn Brown** as the princess Pamina, **Cassandra Gal** as the Queen of the Night, and **Bianca Williams** as the bird-girl Papagena.

Three business students, **Ms. Jamie Schulte, Mr. Derrek Bax, and Ms. Courtney Even**, competed at the national collegiate DECA competition held in Orlando, Florida, on April 13-16. Ms. Schulte advanced to the final round in the hospitality category, and Mr. Bax and Ms. Even competed in the advertising campaign category. The competition was part of the Collegiate DECA International Career Development Conference.

LU students competed at the Missouri Academy of Science annual meeting, held at Lincoln University on Apr. 15. The following were award winners: **Brandon Mebruer**, 1st place, Agriculture; **Brandon Wiles**, 2nd place, Biology and Agriculture; **Brittany Winston**, 2nd place, and **Julie Plaster**, 3rd place, Biological Sciences Presentations-Section I; **Jessica Jacobs**, 3rd place, Biological Sciences Presentations-Section II; **Violetta Skrypnikova**, 3rd place, Math and Computer Science; **Jennifer Greene**, 2nd place, and **Jacob Spillers**, 3rd place, Physics and Engineering; **Ebonee Woods**, 1st place, and **Loretta Murray**, 2nd place, Social and Behavioral Sciences-Section I; and **Jessica Pitera**, 2nd place, Social and Behavioral Sciences-Section II.

During the LU Honors Convocation, held on Thurs., Apr. 21, 284 students were honored for their academic accomplishments. Included in the 284 were 44 students who received the Institutional Award for Academic Achievement. To be eligible for this award, students must be enrolled full-time and must have maintained a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. This year's recipients are the following:

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LU Students Shine

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Freshman Award: Ayesha Aslam, Austen Dudenhoeffer, Patrick Evans, Ciarra Frazier, Chelsea Garrison, Omid Ghoreyan, Melissa Hagedorn, Hannah Herzing, Megan Howard, Amber Iven, Brittany King, Oksana Koval, Jamie Marchand, Mudassir Nazir, Sarah Pollard, Adriane Ross, Olga Rudakova, Denise Schubert, Brianna Schulte, Kelsea Scott, Violetta Skrypnikova, Whitney Sommerer, Christopher Thomas, Chelsey Turner, Robert Wilson, Lauren Yoakum

Sophomore Award: Liliana Connell, Savannah Cooper, Victoria Even, Gretta Lieser, Susan Matthews, Joseph White, Jonathan Wiles

Junior Award: Danielle Blomberg, Rachel Gulick, Derek Mengwasser

Senior Award: Kari Bax, Amy Fawks, Dana Heckemeyer, Sarah Kempker, Michael Singer, Rebecca Struempf, Logan White, Ashley Wilson

Students enrolled in ENG 312H: Virginia Woolf and Her Works during the fall 2010 semester submitted their final project to the Conference Committee of the Annual International Virginia Woolf Conference as a panel proposal, under the mentorship of Dr. Jane Lilienfeld, professor of English, and Dr. Bryan Salmons, assistant professor of English. Drs. Lilienfeld and Salmons have recently received notification that the presentation has been accepted. The students will present their research via SKYPE during the conference, which will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, June 9-12.

*Congratulations to our
super star students!*



Beacon on Lincoln Faculty and Staff

The success of students and the entire university begins with the dedication and hard work of the faculty and staff. Among this outstanding group are the following:

Dr. Nsalambi V. Nkongolo, associate professor of Research, has been appointed as “Fellow of the Harvard Forest” (Harvard University). He will be contributing to the study of forest carbon dynamics while working with LU students who will be participating in the Harvard Forest Summer Research Program in Ecology. **Dr. Nkongolo** also recently presented a seminar entitled “Quantification of Greenhouse Gas Fluxes from Soil in Agricultural Fields” in the Department of Geosciences at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth (South Africa), for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (Ph.D.) in environmental geography.

Dr. Mara Aruguete, associate professor of Psychology, has the following new publication: *Research methods: A contemporary approach*. McCutcheon, L.E., Aruguete, M.S., Edman, J., & Kennison, S.M. (2011). Palo Cedro, CA: CAT Publishing.

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Dr. Ruthi Sturdevant, dean of the College of Behavioral and Technological Sciences, represented Lincoln University at the Mid-Missouri IT Workforce Summit on March 3. **Mr. Jamere Brown**, from the Center for Innovative Instruction, created a video about the IT program at Lincoln University which was shown at the meeting. **Dr. Sturdevant** also gave a presentation on Famous Unitarian Universalist Women at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on March 13.

Dr. Manzoor Chowdhury, assistant professor of Business Administration, presented “Business Forecasting with Economical Models: Challenges for the Practitioner” at the 2011 International Business and Economics Conference in New Orleans, LA, March 14-16.

Mr. Ryan Wilson, debt management counselor, attended and participated in the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP) Conference at the Lake of the Ozarks on Mar. 23. Mr. Wilson, along with representatives from the Missouri Department of Higher Education, University of Central Missouri, and Metropolitan Community College (Kansas City), presented a panel presentation on campus-wide default prevention activities.

On Mar. 31-Apr. 2, the Lincoln University chapter of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (**MANRRS**) attended and participated in the following national collegiate categories: MANRRS Research Poster Contest, Oral Research Contest, Research Discussion, Chapter of Excellence and the Chapter of the Year Award. The **Jr. MANRRS** chapter competed in the National Public and Impromptu speaking categories. The chapters received a group award and several acknowledgements. **Dr. Emmanuel Ajuzie**, associate professor and state marketing specialist, participated as a presenter. **Mr. Julius Moody**, USDA liaison, serves as the LU advisor for MANRRS.

Dr. Daren Riedle, assistant professor of Research, led an outdoor clinic on sampling aquatic amphibians and reptiles on the Caney River in southeastern Kansas and Northeastern Oklahoma on April 9-10. The demonstration was given in conjunction with an ongoing alligator snapping turtle re-introduction project. There were 124 participants from Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Iowa. **Dr. Riedle** also gave presentations at two different meetings. On Apr. 16, he gave a talk entitled “Community Ecology of Turtles in a Small Floodplain Environment” at the Missouri Academy of Sciences meeting held recently on the Lincoln University campus. On Apr. 22, he gave a presentation entitled “Conservation Status of a Geographically Isolated Kinosternid Turtle” at the Southwestern Association of Naturalists meeting in Tyler, TX.

Dr. Qingxia Li, assistant professor of Mathematics, has received a grant from MAA (Mathematical Association of America) to host a Math Circle program for high school students during the summer.



The President's Podium is a publication of the Lincoln University President's Office

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