From the President

Greetings, Lakers!

I hope you had a great summer and are now enjoying the fall. We’re already enjoying the start of another great academic year.

We’re starting this year with the hope that the State of Michigan is now rebounding from a decade-long economic decline. Over the past 10 years, state support for Lake Superior State University and all public universities has dropped dramatically. At one time, the state provided more than 70 percent of our operational budget. This year, it will be closer to 20 percent.

While state funding levels have made moving forward extremely difficult at times, I believe we are well positioned for the future and a number of recent developments support that belief.

Our Foundation just accepted a $1 million gift from Mr. Robert Considine to be used for full-tuition scholarships for students primarily from the Rudyard-Trout Lake Area. Mr. Considine is an area resident who recognized the importance of providing opportunities for area students who want to achieve a college education. The Foundation also reported that a scholarship to honor business professor Dr. Madan Saluja was recently endowed. This increased Foundation support by private individuals is an indicator of the important role our University holds in the area.

We are also moving forward with the planning of a new home for our School of Business. Last fall, we asked alumni for political support to secure state funding for this project and your response was very effective. Again, thank you so much for your help. We recently hired an architectural firm to plan the renovation of South Hall. This will not only provide a permanent home for the School of Business, but it will also free up space for other programs to expand into those areas currently used by the school. At the same time, it provides us with a plan to restore and preserve one of the historical buildings on our campus.

Last year, our enrollment increased to the highest level since 2004. While counts were being finalized when this issue was going to press, we expect this fall to be even better. Our Admissions staff and our faculty have been very aggressive in recruitment and retention of students. While the majority of our students are still from Michigan, one of our fastest growing populations is out-of-state students. All of this and much more documented in our “Self-Study,” a document we have prepared for the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools as we prepare for a committee visit this fall and look forward to reaccreditation. The HLC committee will be on campus Oct. 24-26. The visit and review is a requirement in which all HLC-accredited colleges and universities must participate periodically to maintain their accredited status. LSSU’s last accreditation visit was in 2000, when we received a 10-year reaccreditation. We invite you to review the Self-Study and send your comments to the HLC. You’ll find the study and more at lssu.edu/hlc.

Two years ago, we made a financial commitment to increase spending on improvements to our buildings and grounds. As a result of that decision, our students and visitors to campus will notice much in the way of replacement of sidewalks, paving of parking lots, remodel-
LSSU Board accepts $1 million estate gift

A Trout Lake, Mich. native interested in helping Eastern Upper Peninsula students with the cost of going to college has made a gift to LSSU worth more than $1 million.

The LSSU Board of Trustees accepted the gift from Robert Considine at its regular meeting on July 15. The donation will provide two full-tuition scholarships for LSSU students for many years.

LSSU Foundation Executive Director Tom Coates provided an overview of Robert Considine and his generous donation toward student scholarships.

"I am really pleased to be able to come to you today to talk about the commitment that Mr. Considine has made," said Coates. "We have been very excited to work with this gentleman and go through this process with him. He is an advocate of people acquiring technical skills. He did not attend college and he understands the importance of achieving an education in the current job market."

Considine grew up in Trout Lake and attended Rudyard Schools. After serving in the area with the U.S. Navy, he lived in the Detroit area and acquired a background in electrical engineering while running several businesses, mostly associated with the automotive industry.

"He has a desire to support the area where he's from and his goal is to inspire others to do their part and create a plan of action for giving back," said Coates. Through the donation, Considine and LSSU will each provide a full-tuition scholarship annually beginning this fall. Upon his passing, Considine's estate will donate $1 million to LSSU, which will be used to provide two full-tuition scholarships annually until the fund is exhausted. The scholarships will be for Trout Lake-Rudyard area students but will be available to other students in Chippewa County if no candidates from Trout Lake-Rudyard qualify.

For more information, contact the LSSU Foundation at 906-635-2665, foundation@lssu.edu or lssu.edu/foundation/legacy.

LSSU is preparing for a regularly scheduled accreditation visit with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) on Oct. 24-26. The visit and review is a requirement in which all HLC-accredited colleges and universities must participate periodically to maintain their accredited status.

As part of the process, the university invites members of the public to provide comments about the university's mission and goals.

"This is an important activity for LSSU and we welcome all members of the public to become aware of the process and leave comments if they desire," said Morrie Walworth, LSSU Provost. "The university has a website (lssu.edu/hlc) that provides information on what exactly is involved in the accreditation process."

Most public universities are accredited by nationally or internationally recognized governing bodies. Accreditation is a way to ensure that higher learning institutions are fulfilling their goals and serving their students and communities to the best of their abilities. That process is voluntary, and it serves as assurance to students that they will receive a quality education when they attend an accredited college or university. It also increases the potential that credits will transfer from one accredited institution to another. LSSU's last accreditation took place in 2004, when the institution received a 10-year reaccreditation.

In anticipation of this reaccreditation, the Council of the campus community were involved in the research, writing and review of a "self-study," which is the accepted process for institutions seeking to earn and maintain accreditation. The self-study is a self-evaluation that encompasses every aspect of the institution, including areas such as academic activities, governance and administration, financial stability, admissions and student personnel services, resources, student academic achievement, engagement of alumni, and relationships with outside constituencies. It is an opportunity for the university to identify its strengths as well as areas that need improvement, and to develop plans that address those needs.

"I'm very thankful for the people who have been working through the reaccreditation process at the last few years," said Tony McLain, Ph.D., LSSU President. "It has been trying at times, but the self-study that they have put together does a very good job in demonstrating what our university is all about. We look forward to the HLC visit this fall."

"During the October visit, HLC consultant evaluators will be on campus to talk with individuals concerning the evidence presented in the self-study document. They will be taking the opportunity to meet with alumni, students, faculty, staff and members of the community to ask questions about LSSU."

LSSU’s final draft of its self-study report is available at: http://www.lssu.edu/hlc/ . Members of the public are welcome to contact the LSSU Provost’s Office for more information, provost@lssu.edu or 635-2211. Comments may be mailed to the Higher Learning Commission at the address below, or left on a form through its website, ncahlc.org. The direct link to the comment area is http://www.ncahlc.org/information-for-the-public/third-party-comment.html. The HLC will forward the comments to the evaluation team to include in its review of LSSU. Comments are due with the HLC no later than one month before the Oct. 24 visitation date. To send mail, please address the envelope as follows: Public Comment on Lake Superior State University, The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle St., Suite 7-500, Chicago, Illinois, 60604.

LSSU’s self-study report is available at: http://www.lssu.edu/hlc/ .

LSSU has added four bachelor’s degrees in business administration and accounting to its academic offerings at its Gaylord Regional Center. LSSU-Gaylord now offers classes for 10 degree programs in the University Center at Gaylord.

"We’re pleased to offer three degrees in business administration, with concentrations in entrepreneurship, management and marketing, as well as a bachelor’s degree in accounting. We have also added a homeland security concentration to our bachelor’s degree in criminal justice” said Sheila Simpson, director of LSSU-Gaylord. “We feel that these programs will fit in well with our current programs and we believe that there is a need for them in the area."

Applications are being accepted for the fall semester and transfer guides for the business degrees are available for students wishing to transfer from community colleges, including North Central Michigan College, Kirtland Community College, and Alpena Community College.

LSSU-Gaylord has been offering degree programs in criminal justice/generalist and criminal justice/law enforcement, environmental management, forensic chemistry, geology and applied geographic information science since 2007.

For more information, contact Simpson at 989-705-3791 or simpson@lssu.edu. Find out more about LSSU and Gaylord classes at lssu.edu and ucygaylord.org.

Business degrees added in Gaylord

Mary Robinson

Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, spoke on campus on April 9.

Robinson’s lecture at the Arts Center was the keynote address for the 2011 conference of the Arrowhead Model United Nations, April 7-10, the 2011 conference of the Arrowhead Center was the keynote address for Robinson. She is an advocate of people acquiring technical skills. He did not attend college and he understands the importance of achieving an education in the current job market.

Upon leaving the presidency, she was appointed by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to be UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. In this position, which she held from 1997 to 2002, she worked energetically to advance human rights around the world. One of her special interests was the rights of indigenous peoples. Robinson has continued to be active in promoting human rights since leaving the United Nations. She is the co-founder and former chair of the Council of Women World Leaders, as well as the founder of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Global Initiative. She currently serves as vice president of the Club of Madrid (which promotes democracy worldwide) and honorary president of Oxfam International. She also serves on many boards, including the Vaccine Fund, the Global Commission on Migration, the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights, and the International Commission of Jurists.

Robinson recently became a member of The Elders, a group of world leaders who contribute their wisdom, leadership, and integrity to tackling some of the world’s toughest problems. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela, Graca Machel, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

In recognition of her many contributions in advancing human rights, Robinson has received numerous honors and awards, including more than 40 honorary doctorates. In 2004, Amnesty International presented her with its Ambassador of Conscience award. In 2009, she was awarded the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"Mary Robinson is one of the most distinguished speakers to appear in Sault Ste. Marie,” said Gary Johnson Ph.D., professor of political science at LSSU. "We were delighted that she accepted our invitation."

Robinson’s appearance was supported by grants from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the LSSU Issues and Intelligence Committee, the LSSU King-Chavez-Parks Visiting Professor Fund, and the LSSU Cultural Affairs Committee.

Former president of Ireland and UN commissioner speaks at LSSU Model UN

"Mr. Considine is setting a great example to others on the importance of education," said University Center of LSSU. "We are pleased and grateful that he has chosen to work with LSSU in providing these wonderful opportunities to future students."

Alumni and friends can create their own personal plans of action for giving back by joining the Superior Legacy Society. The Society recognizes those who have the foresight and generosity to include LSSU in their wills, trusts, charitable gift annuity funds, charitable remainder trusts, and other gift vehicles. Through planned gift commitments and membership in the Superior Legacy Society, you ensure the future success of LSSU.

LSSU-Gaylord has been offering degree programs in criminal justice/generalist and criminal justice/law enforcement, environmental management, forensic chemistry, geology and applied geographic information science since 2007. For more information, contact Simpson at 989-705-3791 or simpson@lssu.edu. Find out more about LSSU and Gaylord classes at lssu.edu and ucygaylord.org.

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Robinson’s lecture at the Arts Center was the keynote address for the 2011 conference of the Arrowhead Model United Nations, April 7-10, which brought more than 300 students and advisors to LSSU from 14 other colleges and universities spanning five states.

Robinson was the first female president of Ireland (1990-1997).
More than 500 graduates were asked to remember how privileged they are and to be thankful for their successes as they received 642 degrees and certificates during commencement ceremonies April 30.

The program included the announcement of psychology professor H. Russell Searight as recipient of the LSSU Distinguished Teaching Award and featured alumna Sophie Chandauka of London, England as speaker, along with student respondent Shelby LaBuhn of Ubly, Mich.

LSSU President Tony McLain noted that LSSU graduates and graduates everywhere in the country are part of a privileged few among the billions of people in the world who haven’t had the opportunity to further their education.

“When you flip your tassel from right to left, it may not seem like much, but that simple act carries a great significance,” he said. “You all have the responsibility to help ensure that the opportunities extended to you by your family and friends will continue for future generations. Once you flip that tassel, much more will be expected of you. Good luck.”

McLain introduced commencement speaker Sophie Chandauka, a native of Zimbabwe, as “someone we are proud to call our own.” Chandauka graduated with a political science degree from LSSU in 2000 and was the student respondent at that ceremony 11 years ago.

Chandauka, a former senior associate with world-renowned Baker & McKenzie, flew from London to speak at commencement. Describing herself as a proud graduate of LSSU, she told graduates, “What we celebrate today is in no small measure a part of the American dream.” She challenged graduates to be bold in their accomplishments and “manifest your own destiny.”

“My interpretation of the American dream is not just having plenty of material success,” she said. “It is a state of mind, it is a journey.”

Chandauka, who came to North America to study in the mid-1990s through a Rotary International program, thanked America “for providing me with a privileged education.” She offered tips for graduates that she said helped her get where she is today, telling them to know their strengths, work hard, build networks, find support among family and friends and not to worry about making mistakes.

“There is no doubt that you are graduating in austere times, with so much hanging in balance. However, at every stage in the history of this nation, when we have been threatened with danger, prosperity has been on the horizon,” she said. “Get out there, get networking. You are the future of this community, of this nation, of the world.”

Student speaker Shelby LaBuhn, like Chandauka, stressed the importance of remaining positive in what could be tough times. LaBuhn graduated summa cum laude and is headed to study in the freshwater sciences doctoral program at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

“Be confident, stand tall, and speak your mind,” LaBuhn advised fellow graduates. “LSSU has given us the tools to do just that. We have had the opportunity to interact with our superiors on a personal basis — debated, questioned and maybe even argued with them. We have pointed out their mistakes, and they have pointed out many more of ours. Graduates at other universities may not have had these same opportunities, so use them to your advantage.”

LaBuhn concluded her speech with words from LSSU chemistry professor emeritus William Haag, who wrote, “In chemistry, as with most things in life, you don’t understand unless you ask questions, you aren’t learning until you make mistakes and you aren’t working until you break something. So go ahead, ask a lot of questions, make a few mistakes and break some test tubes.”

Graduates were guided into the ceremony by the pipes and drums of the Duncan Family of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., who have been a part of every LSSU commencement ceremony. The new alumni were ushered out of the arena the same way they have been for the past 20 years or so, to an Honor Song with the beat of Native American drums. This year, the drummers were AAbizii of Brimley, Mich. The Canadian and U.S. national anthems were sung by LSSU social studies and secondary education major Peter DeKraker of McBain, Mich.

Read more and see more photos at lssu.edu/whats_new.
Searight receives Distinguished Teaching Award

Psychology professor H. Russell Searight has been teaching at LSSU for only four years, but it didn’t take him long to make a great impression upon his students. They, along with Searight’s faculty colleagues, have chosen him as this year’s recipient of the LSSU Distinguished Teaching Award.

LSSU Provost Morrie Walworth announced the award during commencement ceremonies on April 20 in Tiffany Ablen Arena. Searight was chosen by a committee of top students and past recipients of the award who reviewed nominations from LSSU students, employees and alumni. They keep the recipient’s identity secret until it is announced at commencement.

“This year’s recipient has been described as someone who genuinely knows how to talk to and teach students,” Walworth said in his introduction of Searight. “He has been described as ‘amazing,’ ‘enthusiastic,’ ‘approachable’ and ‘easy to talk to.’ It’s been said that his geeky ways make him long to make a great impression upon his students. They, along with every Atlantic salmon stocking. It has been quite interesting to see the lab grow through the years,” said Roger Greil, lab manager, who started out as a student in the lab in the mid-1980s and has been involved with every Atlantic salmon stocking. What is most satisfying, however, is seeing the experience that our students get and watching them expand their knowledge to become comfortable in their work and highly competent researchers.”

Currently, lab staff, under the direction of co-directors Ashley Moore Ph.D. and Geoffrey Steinhart Ph.D., work on diverse fishery and water quality issues, including sport fish management, impounded and introduced aquatic species, and water pollution, with numerous academic, government and non-governmental agencies. Also, Jun Li Ph.D. recently joined LSSU to teach classes in LSSU’s new fish health major and manage the new Fish Disease Laboratory housed in the lab. Hundreds of LSSU students have worked at the lab to conduct research projects in fisheries, habitat, water quality and more.

In addition to MDNR, the lab has worked with a number of government and private organizations and service clubs including, but not limited to, the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In the Geological Survey, the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Soo Area Sportsmen’s Club and a number of American tribes. The lab is an important part of Sault Ste. Marie’s Fishing Pond, which provides fishing opportunities for young anglers in the city’s Rotary Park. The lab is also home to LSSU’s popular “fishcam,” which is one of the best places to monitor fish activity, including the Atlantic salmon that return to the place where they were raised in the St. Mary’s River. Visit the fishcam and get more information on LSSU’s Aquatic Research Laboratory at issu.edu/arl.

Allice Halsey, Pickford, a retired LSSU nursing professor, was recognized by the Upper Peninsula Health Access Coalition with the “Above and Beyond Hero Award” in May. The award was presented during an annual banquet in Marquette.

The group has been providing health services for uninsured and low-income clients since 2004, and Halsey has been a part of it from the beginning. The coalition’s goal is to provide health care services to residents in order to keep them out of emergency rooms with more serious conditions.

Local healthcare professionals donate their time and expertise, along with individuals and organizations who donate equipment and supplies. The coalition has grown to the point where it has clinics in St. Ignace and Newberry as well as Sault Ste. Marie, and it is now supported in part by grants. For more information, visit upchac.org.

Read more and see more photos at lssu.edu/whats_new.
LSSU recognizes retirees, longtime faculty/staff and employees of the year

LSSU recognized its retirees and nearly 30 longtime faculty and staff who have worked on campus for anywhere from 10-50 years during a banquet in the spring semester.

Also during the program, LSSU employees and students chose staffers Laura Bofinger of the School of Nursing and Georgiana Cox of Business Office as Employees of the Year.

The program recognized 14 retirees, including Stella DePonto, who retired in June as LSSU’s longest-serving employe, having logged more than 50 years in the Registrar’s and Provost’s Offices.

The program recognized seven faculty and staff who have worked for LSSU for more than 30 years, including Prof. Thomas Boger, Mathematics and Computer Science; Cheri Castner, Dance and Physical Education; Sandy Childs, Recreation Studies and Exercise Science; Deb Faust, Financial Aid and David Greengtski, Physical Plant.

In addition, Prof. Richard Cran dall of the School of Social Sciences congratulated his 40 years with the School of Social Sciences.

Also recognized during the program were employees with 10 and 20 years of service, including:

20 Years – Dean Bennette, Physical Plant; Tracey MacQuarrie, Prof. Donna Panetta and Prof. Susan Beckon, School of Business; Suzette Olson and Morrie Walworth, Provost’s Office; Chris Roll, Library; Prof. Deb Stai, Biology.

10 Years – Prof. Paulette Attie, School of Education; Kathy Gregg, Bookstore; Karen Johnson, Parking, Retention, Orientation; Raymond Mayer and Terence Talsma, Physical Plant; Glynis Moran, Arts, Letters and Social Science; Nancy Nethery, Information Technology; Jamie Pewinski, Athletics; Mary St. Antoine, Natural Sciences Laboratory Manager; and Profs. Richard Conboy, professor, Social Science, started at LSSU in 1988, was part of a team that developed the University’s Honors Program in 1996, and served as the dean of the School of Arts and Social Sciences. He was also director of the LSSU Center for Social Research and a recipient of the Distincted Teaching Award in 2004.

Wayne King started work in 1973 in Food Service and moved to the Physical Plant in 1976 to work in the new Norris Center. He was promoted to sports/ utility attendant in 2000.

Sharyl Padgett is another of the few LSSU employees who joined the staff and continued in the same position and department throughout her employment. She joined the Audio/Visual staff in the Shouldice Library in 1969 and helped students and staff there for more than 41 years. She was nominated for Employee of the Year four times over the years.

Donna Payment, after working as a clerk/typist in Financial Aid in 1991 and secretary for Health Sciences from 1992-1997, took a leave of absence to become an instructor with the School of Business and Economics. The leave ended up lasting until retire ment as she was promoted to assistant professor in 2002 and tenured in 2004. She was named Employee of the Year in 1995.

Melch Pichot was hired in 1988 to teach French, having taught in a variety of colleges and universities in Europe and Africa. He organized many student/community trips to France for study and pleasure.

Kathy Rene started at LSSU in 1981 as a special clerk in the Business Office and remained there throughout her career. She specialized in detail maintenance of the accounting records and bank reconciliations.

Melvin Schwiderson started at LSSU in 1989 as an on-call member of the custodial pool and eventually hired in a regular position with the Physical Plant. He also held the position as a building attendant and sports/utility attendant in the Norris Center.

Laurence Kelly also started her employment with LSSU as a student. She worked in the Financial Aid Office in 1989 as a student employee in the Financial Aid Office, and then as a full-time clerk in Admissions. She moved to the Department of Business and Economics in 1992 as the department secretary and then Community Services and Development (CSD) area and the university’s Learning Center.

Find out Vermilion weather through the Weather Underground

A team of LSSU engineering students and faculty worked with the Little Traverse Conservancy this year to establish a weather station at Vermilion, the former US Life-Saving Station which was once owned by the university.

The station is already being used by National Weather Service staff at Gaylord, and readings from it are available on the Internet through WeatherUnderground.com.

The project was part of an engineering senior project that included five students: Brad Ekin, Parma; Eric Hoxie, Gaylord; Jameson Mattoce, Woodland; John Peczewski, Roscommon and Ben Martin, Sault Ste. Marie; and faculty advisor Andrew Jones. Ph.D. Martin was the lone mechanical engineering student among the team of electrical engineering majors. All engineering students must complete a senior project for a client as part of graduation requirements.

The team – Vermilion Innovation Providers of Energy Research Solutions (VIPERS) – completed the first phase of a 10-year project for Vermilion, which is located about 12 miles west of Whitefish Point. The client for this project was Little Traverse Conservancy, a non-profit land trust. The students established a communication infrastructure and completed an energy assessment, then designed a weather station, constructed a communication network, and proposed a solar and wind energy plan for the future phases of the project.

National Weather Service office staff in Gaylord have already used the station to verify a gale warning last spring and used archived data as part of a research paper on another Eastern Upper Peninsula late spring storm. NWS staff said the data seemed “tremendously useful in a very data sparse area,” especially for marine forecasts.

To see the readings and historical data for Vermilion, visit wunderground.com and search for “Paradise, MI.” You can also click a link to “Vermilion Point, Paradise” comes up under the “Weather at a Glance” box. The direct link is: http://www.wunderground.com/weatherstation/WXDailyHistory.asp?ID=KMIPARADY

For more information on LSSU engineering senior projects, visit lssu.edu/eng/seniors.

Share your St. Mary’s River story

Share your stories and help bring the river to life. You can submit work as described on the blog site, or, if you prefer, you may send a hard copy of your written work to Blog moderator and LSSU creative writing instructor Jillena Rose jrose@lssu.edu, 650 W. Easterday Ave. Sault St. Marie, MI 49783. You may also call her at 906-635-2091.

Check out the blog at http://writing-the-st-marys.blogspot.com.

Recently, the St. Mary’s Writing Project has been included as part of a larger project called Blog Carnival. The most recent edition of Blog Carnival focuses on poetry and language of place. The editor thought LSSU’s project was a perfect fit.

Did the St. Mary’s River influence you as a student? Does it as an alumnus? Here’s your chance to tell others about your experience – submit your thoughts to the Writing the St. Mary’s River Writing Project.

The project was launched in April at the Bi-national Eco-summit held at LSSU. It started simply – establishing a blog site to collect short musings, stories and poems from a variety of people on each year’s theme. A good relationship with the river. No piece is the same.

As the collection grows, the plan is to work with Sault College to create an oral version of the collection to be aired on WCMU and possibly in the River History Museum. The hope is to publish the collection as a book that celebrates the ways the river weaves itself so richly into the lives of the people of the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

Read more at lssu.edu/whats_new.

Weather instruments atop Vermilion “Lodge”.

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Grants boost undergraduate research

A grant program started by an anonymous donor in 2010 has been instrumental in supporting students in their efforts to complete senior research projects required for graduation.

Five students received cash awards during the spring semester through the Undergraduate Research Grant program. The award is capped at $500 per project, so up to six students may receive awards each semester for three years. If the program is successful in stimulating a wider variety of rigorous student research, the LSSU Foundation hopes to raise further funds to continue it.

“We received 16 proposals detailing a variety of research projects,” said Barb Keller PhD, dean of the Graduate Research Program. There are many opportunities for students to collaborate with faculty on research, however there is always a challenge to fund such a program,” says LSSU Foundation Executive Director Tom Coates. “The anonymous donor determined an area to support and made this opportunity possible.”

Shelby LaBuhn, a senior environmental chemistry major from Ubly, evaluated which method would best remove two common taste and odor compounds during the municipal water treatment process in Fairmont, Minn.

Sarah Schulz, a sophomore exercise science major from Freeland, is investigating the influence of high and moderate intensity exercise on body mass and resting metabolic rate among women aged 18-40 years of age.

Brian Marsh, a junior fisheries and wildlife management from West Branch, is seeking to determine if aquatic insects in Great Lakes tributaries alter their hatching timing in the presence of introduced spawning Pacific salmon, as they do where the salmon are native.

Amanda Chambers, a junior in fisheries and wildlife management from Midland, hopes to determine the status of brook trout on Cherry Creek, a tributary of the Tahquamenon River that was once considered to have a healthy brook trout population, and identify potential factors that may be limiting trout abundance and distribution.

Jordan Ernst, a senior in chemistry from Pickford, worked with the Chippewa/East Mackinac Conservancy District, to determine the distribution of heavy metals in the Munusongo River watershed, which drains an area of approximately 384,000 acres before emptying into Munusongo Lake, an embayment of the St. Mary’s River.

Anyone who wishes to support the undergraduate research fund may contact the LSSU Foundation office at 906-635-2665 or make a contribution online at lssu.edu/foundation. The deadline to apply for spring semester awards is Nov. 1.

Faculty-student research published in RSC blog

LSU faculty/student research published in the Royal Society of Chemistry’s “Green Chemistry” blog was among the highly-accessed articles back in September 2010.

Chemistry professor Alexei Iretskii PhD, and his student Makayla Fettig published “Catalytic disassembly of an organosolv lignin via hydrogen transfer from supercritical methanol” in the September 2010 issue.

Iretskii and Fettig used an organically derived lignin to add hydrogen to fuels in a process to create environmentally friendly fuels. A lignin or lignin is a complex chemical compound most commonly derived from wood and an integral part of the secondary cell wall of plants and some algae.


The RSC is the largest organization in Europe for advancing the chemical sciences. Supported by a worldwide network of members and an international publishing business, its activities span education, conferences, science policy and the promotion of chemistry to the public.

Faculty-student research published in RSC blog

## DEEP SECRETS

Students from the Advanced Technology Academy sift Lake Huron bottom sediment for signs of life during a July 27 cruise with Lake Superior State University faculty on the schooner Ireland Seas. The Dearborn-based public school academy, one of eight chartered by LSSU, was also on Lake State’s St. Clair campus for a week that featured camps in marketing, forensic science, and robotics and technology. Foreground, left to right are Spagni Colvin, Virginia Hawkins, and John Robinson. In addition to the summer camp, LSSU offered two for-credit classes and one continuing education class for educators aboard the 77 ft. schooner as part of its “Tall Ships Program” on northern Lake Michigan and the Straits of Mackinac. For more information on future programs, contact Prof. Barbara Evans, beaucon@lssu.edu or 906-635-2164. (Photo by Sean O’Mara)

Giving to LSSU is easy! Go to www.lssu.edu/give

Legacy Wall

The LSSU Alumni Association is pleased to offer you a unique opportunity to add your name to the distinguished group of names already adorning the beautiful layer of the Kenneth L. Shook Alumni Brick. A $200 gift will reserve a specially designed brick etched with your name, that of a loved one, favorite faculty/ staff member or campus organization on the Legacy Wall.

Your tax deductible donation will join with others to support the Superior Legacy Alumni Fund, which finances special projects for LSSU students and alumni.

For more information or to reserve your brick, contact the Alumni office at alumni@lssu.edu; call 906-635-6219; or visit alumni.lssu.edu/legacy.

New literary journal published

Alumni from the 1970s and 1980s remember the Woods-Runner, the LSSU literary journal started by the Unicorn Hunters, former LSSU Public Relations Director Bill Hulse and professors Peter Thomas, John McCabe and John Stevens.

The journal was published for many years before being discontinued due to budget cuts in the late 1980s. It was followed by Blurt, an annual literary journal of photos, poetry and prose.

Border Crossing, LSSU’s new international literary journal, has just released its first issue. Picking up where the Woods-Runner and Blurt left off, it is packed with poetry, fiction, essays, and includes work by LSSU students as well as published writers.

Find out more at the journal’s new website lssu.edu/blurb or find it on Face- book at “Border Crossing - Journal.” If you would like to purchase a copy, check the website or send a note to Prof. Julie Barbour at jbarbour@lssu.edu.
Alumni gather around the Midwest

Your Alumni Association traveled around the Midwest over the past several months to greet alumni at games and reunions. Laker alumni also gathered closer to home. Here’s a look at some of the socials that have occurred since the first of the year.

Legends of Notre Dame
Laker hockey fans gathered for a pre-game social at Legends of Notre Dame prior to a great victory against the Fighting Irish in game two of the CCHA second round playoffs. Saturday’s victory created a split in the competition. A pig roast and live music completed the first night. The competition. A pig roast and live music completed the first night. The Alumni Association compiled a complimentary Memory Book filled with anecdotes, narratives and memories of Golden Grads. Attendees also received a commemorating medallion and suited up in academic regalia before leading the procession of LSSU graduates during the commencement ceremony.

Senior Sendoff
Nearly 200 LSSU seniors attended the always-popular Senior Sendoff in April at Moloney’s Alley, where they enjoyed great appetizers courtesy of the Alumni Association, and almost every attendee won a door prize.

Golden Graduate Reunion
Seven members of the Golden Grads Society -- those who attended LSSU at least 50 years ago -- were on campus for graduation in April. Attendees gathered at Lukenda Alumni House on Friday to reminisce about professors and living conditions during the days of the Sault Branch of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. The Alumni Association compiled a complimentary Memory Book filled with anecdotes, narratives and memories of Golden Grads. Attendees also received a commemorative medallion and suited up in academic regalia before leading the procession of LSSU graduates during the commencement ceremony.

Some of LSSU’s Golden Grads.

EGG-FRIENDLY – Engineering faculty (from left) Muhammad Janjua, Andrew Jones, and Sai Nuderapati, joined by Al Schwartz of LSSU’s information technology department, launch an egg during impromtu design competition held during Engineering’s inaugural Alumni Bash, Apr. 28-30.

Engineering Alumni Bash
Engineering alumni gathered on campus with past and present faculty and current students during commencement weekend for the first-ever Engineering Alumni Bash. Alumni kicked off the weekend with tours of the Center for Applied Science and an impromtu design competition that pitted alumni vs. seniors vs. faculty. The senior team of Mike Gearing, Ben Kurth, Phil Nicholson, John Mitchell and Jon Przechowski, “The Blue Turtle Shells,” won the competition. A pig roast and live music completed the first night. The next day, alumni took in the Industrial Advisory Board meeting and the engineering senior project final presentations, prior to graduation on Saturday.

Basketball Alumni Weekend
Laker basketball alumni returned to campus in record numbers February 12 for the annual Basketball Alumni Weekend. Alumni were introduced on court during half-time of the very tight games against Michigan Tech and enjoyed a reception in the Blue-liner Room between games. After the women’s heartbreaking loss to MTU in a nail-biting overtime, hoops alumni headed over to Lukenda Alumni House to relax over a great dinner hosted by the Alumni Association. Then it was back to the Norris Center for Laker hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, where basketball alumni enjoyed yet another reception in the hockey alumni box.

SENDING THEM OFF – This table of six was part of the many graduates who enjoyed the annual Senior Send-off in April. The group includes Justin Graham, Caleb Moothead, Kevin Lidbeck, Shelby Labuhn, Emily Jensen, Matt Hlavacek.

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HOOPS ALUMNAE – This group of four Laker Basketball alumnae teammates was part of the basketball reunion this year. The returning players are (l-r) Alyssa Vander-Wal Robinson ’08, Danielle Makins Lindloff ’08, Annie Dykhouse ’09 and Jackie Armstrong ’09. See photos of these and other events at http://alumni.lssu.edu/events/.

MRPA Conference, Grand Traverse Resort
LSSU Recreation Studies professors Deb McPherson and Sally Childs attended the annual Michigan Recreation and Park Association state conference in Acme in February and played host to a number of Laker alumni who attended the same conference. Among those who attended were Jill Pederson Vanderstel ’83, director of the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority in Grand Haven; Mark Jenkins ’91, Director of Parks and Recreation for Delhi Charter Township; Scott Kierzek ’98, Parks and Recreation Director in Saugatuck; and Darcy Junusen ’80, a rehabilitation counselor in Traverse City.

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Impressive group to be recognized during Alumni Awards Banquet

The LSSU Alumni Relations Office will recognize three alumni and one longtime friend of the university during Great Lake State Weekend, Oct. 14-16. All four will be honored during the annual Alumni Awards Banquet, an event that has been a highlight of the weekend for many years.

The recipients include Charles J. Schmidt ’75, Rochester Hills, Mich., Outstanding Alumnus Award; Maj. Gen. Genaro “Gino” J. Dellarocco, Kenneth Shouldice Achievement Award; and Maj. Gen. Dellarocco, Kenneth Shouldice Achievement Award.

Maj. Gen. Dellarocco is being presented with the Kenneth Shouldice Achievement Award, which recognizes personal and professional accomplishments that serve as outstanding examples to LSSU graduates. The award highlights significant achievements of alumni who serve as leaders in our region, state and nation. Gen. Del- larocco is an excellent role model for leadership.

“As Alumni Director, I have the opportunity to meet some of LSSU’s most exceptional and influential alumni,” Fitzpatrick said. “Gen. Del- larocco has been one of the most memorable. After hearing him at commencement in 2008, I am looking forward to hearing him speak again, and I hope to have the opportunity to learn more about the life of a top military commander when he is here during Great Lake State Weekend.”

Maj. Gen. Dellarocco has been the Commanding General, US Army Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., since October 2010. When he visited LSSU, he was the program executive officer, Missiles and Space, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., where he was responsible for all life cycle activities of assigned programs, including the Army’s two integrating research, development and engineering centers, the Medium Extended Air Defense System and the Multip- le Launch Rocket System. On behalf of the Aost. Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Logistics), he managed all 38 of the Army’s missile systems.

Maj. Gen. Dellarocco has also served as the Deputy Commanding General for the Post Integration, US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Fort Belvoir, Va. His responsibilities included quickly integrating the right technology into the hands of soldiers at war and integrating research and development across the entire spectrum of the Army’s technology base including: Army Laboratories and Research, Development, and Engineering Centers, Defense, Department of Defense Laboratories, universities, industry, sister services, allied and foreign ser- vices, and other science and technology sources.

He has also served as the Chief, Capabilities and Acqui- sition Division, J8, the Joint Staff from 2005-2006 and as the director, US Army Acquisition Support Center. He served from 2001-2003 as the project manager for Force Pro- jection at Program Executive Office, Combat Support and Combat Support in Warren, Mich. He graduated from the US Army War College at Carlisle, Penn. in 2001 and its Advanced Strategic Studies Program.


In 1995, Maj. Gen. Dellarocco worked in the Office of the Assis- tant Secretary of the Army for Re- search, Development, and Acqui- sition (Known as SARDA). He handled Con- gressional activities and served as the Air and Missile Defense Branch Chief for the Missile Systems Di- rectorate. Prior to the SARDA as- signment, he served a joint tour with the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. Based on this assign- ment, he was formally designated as Joint Specialty Officer in 1998. As a precursor to this assignment, he spent a year in Train- ing with Industry Program at the McDonnell Douglas Astronautics (Space Systems) Company in 1988. Also, he was inducted into the Army Acquisition Corps in 1990. During the 1980s, Maj. Gen. Dellarocco served in several lo- gistics assignments in Germany and then became a senior instructor at the US Army Quartermaster School and was a member of the Light Infantry Division New Organization Training Team. Along the way, he was decorated with the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Space Badge, Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge, Joint Chief of Staff Identification Badge and Army Staff Identification Badge.

Maj. Gen. Dellarocco graduated in 1978 from Lake State when it was still Lake Superior State College with a bachelor’s degree in Finance. He immediately received a Regular Army commission in the Quartermaster Corps. He earned a master’s degree in 1991 from the University of Florida School of Business Administration in Economics. He and Laurie have two children and two grandchildren.

Charles Schmidt
Outstanding Alumnus Award

In presenting Chuck with its highest honor, the Alumni Association is recognizing him as a person who is successful and who supports his alma mater with his time, talent and financial support. He and his wife, Laurie (Pingatore) ’74, a reg- istered nurse, have been commit- ted to LSSU since they graduated. They have been generous donors to the business building campaign and have supported business and nursing scholarships.

“I have had the pleasure of knowing Chuck for quite a few years, and I know of no one with a greater love and commitment for Lake State,” said Susan Fitzpatrick, director of LSSU Alumni Relations. “He is proud to demonstrate it. Chuck was a role model when he was a university trustee, and he continues to demonstrate it. Chuck was a role model for everyone at LSSU.”

Chuck is a founding partner, portfolio manager and chief financial officer for Seizert Capital Partners LLC, an invest- ment firm founded in 2000 in Birmingham, Mich. that manages over $3 billion in capital for pension and profit sharing plans, endowment and foundations and public clients. Prior to that he was a portfolio manager and co- manager of the Investment Counsel Group for Loomis Sayles and Co. from 1993-2000; vice president of Continental Bank, Chicago, 1988-92; and held positions with First of America Bank.

Chuck and Laurie are involved with several chari- table organizations, including the Dry Bones Foundation, St. John Fisher Chapel and WHO. Chuck is a past board member of Common Ground / Sanctuary and Hawthorne Hills Ho- meowners Association and member of the CFA Institute Detroit Analyst Society. Chuck is also a member of Vistage.

Chuck holds bachelor of science degrees in finance and economics from LSSU, and his master’s degree in business administration from Western Michigan University. He and Laurie have two children and two grandchildren.

For banquet tickets, contact the LSSU Alumni Office, 906-635-6219, alumni@lssu.edu or online at lssu.edu/gsow.
Holly (Julian) Johnson
Paul Ripley Young Alumni Award

Holly (Julian) Johnson hit the ground running when she came from Posen, Mich. to enroll at LSSU in 1995, and she hasn’t quit. For her accomplishments at LSSU, University of Northern Iowa, Upper Iowa University, and more, she is being presented with the Ripley Award, which recognizes alumni who have experienced exceptional professional success early in their careers. Holly is associate vice president for development at Upper Iowa University in Fayette, Iowa, which was founded in 1857 and is now the largest private college in the state. She started at UIU in 2009 as director of Alumni and Development and was promoted to her current position in May.

As associate VP, she seeks major gifts for the university and serves as the department’s supervisor and administrator. She is responsible for the direct supervision of the director of Planned and Major Gifts, director of Major Gifts, and director of Annual Giving and creates the donor cultivation materials with and for the development staff. She also plans and leads the implementation of special major gift fundraising initiatives. In addition, she has been active in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

“Holly started impressing people around her from the moment she arrived at LSSU,” said Fitzpatrick. “I’ve always known her to be incredibly organized, efficient, and full of enthusiasm and exciting ideas. We always knew she would accomplish great things. She’s already done very well for herself and is truly an institution that makes all of Michigan proud.”

J.C. Huizenga
Donald and Catherine Finlayson Award

J.C. Huizenga of Grand Rapids did not graduate from LSSU, but you would never know it from his support of LSSU academic programs. The Alumni Association is presenting him with the Donald and Catherine Finlayson Award, which recognizes an individual who has enjoyed success in his profession and community, and who is a strong advocate as director of LSSU’s Student Life, working with orientation, the still-popular Lakerpalooza, and more. She was promoted to director of Campus Life in 2004, a job which included supervision of Housing and Residential Life staff.

As an LSSU student and exemplary staff member, Holly earned several awards, including Employee of the Year in 2002, the Judge James J. Fenlon Award for Student Leadership in 1999, and several awards with CASE and the Association of Student Advancement Programs.

She left LSSU to become assistant director for membership and operations with the University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association in 2006, which eventually led to her position at UIU.

Her relocation at LSSU went far beyond instruction and challenges in the classroom,” Holly said. “It extended to my extra-curricular activities with student government, residence life and university advancement. Through the combination of my degree in business and my student experiences, I felt empowered and confident enough to be creative, assertive and passionate about my career. My career is a reflection of my LSSU experience.

“When I left the LSSU Campus Life Office in 2006 it was to pursue my passion for higher education through the field of advancement. My current job is to build relationships and find opportunities for students with the appropriate experience to be successful. I was excited to see what else she will accomplish in the years ahead!”

Holly honed her abilities to communicate, plan, and work with her constituents on and off campus during her 10 years as a student and employee at LSSU. She became a student assistant with the LSSU Foundation and the Alumni Relations Office and a leader in Student Alumni Involved for Lake State (SAILS). Just before she graduated, she was hired as special events coordinator and administrative assistant in the Alumni Relations Office. One of her responsibilities included coordinating the Alumni Awards program, Athletics Hall of Fame and other special events.

In 2002, she was hired as director of LSSU’s Student Life, working with orientation, the still-popular Lakerpalooza, and more. She was promoted to director of Campus Life in 2004, a job which included supervision of Housing and Residential Life staff.

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“Mr. Huizenga has been a strong supporter of LSSU,” said LSSU Provost Morrie Huizenga. “His continued dedication to preparing today’s students for tomorrow’s jobs can be seen not only on campus, but throughout the state,” Huizenga said. “From its world-class engineering programs to its work chartering public schools in cities where kids need choices, Lake State is providing quality educational options that transform lives. It is truly an institution that makes all of Michigan proud.”

J.C. Huizenga is owner of The Huizenga Group, a private firm that offers a variety of business services to a diverse group of companies involved in custom automation, machine building, tool and die, packaging, electrical contracting and highly engineered automotive components manufacturing. Together, the companies employ more than 1,000 people and provide products and services for the world’s leading automotive, pharmaceutical, consumer goods and office furniture manufacturers.

His love of education and helping students spurred him to found National Heritage Academies, which manages more than 55 public school academies, including two charted by LSSU. National Heritage Academies’ first school, Excel Charter Academy, opened its doors to 174 students in September 1995. The NHLA-managed public school academies are regulated by LSSU -- Ridge Park in Grand Rapids, and Regent Park Scholars in Harper Woods -- opened in 1998 and 2011, respectively. NHLA has been listed on Inc. magazine’s “The 500 Fastest Growing Private Companies” four times over the years.

An involved volunteer and philanthropist, Huizenga’s service includes board roles on the Grand Valley State University Foundation, the Seidman Business School advisory board, Central Michigan University advisory board, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan business advisory committee, the Michigan Farmly Board of directors, the divisional Salvation Army advisory board, the Potter’s House Foundation board and the Grand Rapids Economic Club board of directors.

Huizenga has also chaired the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, served as a national judge for the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year competition and is a member of the Mackinac Center advisory council and LSSU's golf and tennis boards.

Beyond Michigan, Huizenga’s volunteerism has included work as chair of the international Haggai Institute Board and chair of the US Board of Stephen’s Children, a Middle East organization dedicated to bringing education to underprivileged children in Cairo.

He has been recognized for his accomplishments in business as well as his contributions to school reform and his worldwide philanthropy with awards that include: Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Grand Valley State University Charter School Pioneer Award, Michigan Association of Public School Academies Leadership Award, Michigan School Board Leaders Association’s Visionary Award, The Dutch American Heritage Foundation of South Michigan School Board Leaders Association’s Visionary Award, and chair of the US board of Stephen’s Children, a Middle East organization dedicated to bringing education to underprivileged children in Cairo.

Huizenga holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from Hope College in Holland, Mich. and a master’s degree in business administration from Michigan State University. He has one son, David.
HORSESHOES AND HAND GRENADES — Team 34 on the Tribute Course (Corey Sober, Jason Morehouse, Eric Moran, and Kevin Martin) comes “this close” to sinking an Eagle on Hole 13 during the 22nd annual Greater Peninsula Orthopedics Lake State Golf Classic at Gaylord’s Osage Club. Auction proceeds were up 32% over last year, with funds earmarked for Laker Club, which provides team operational support and student-athlete scholarships. Ron and Corey Sober’s Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc., was the Tribute Sponsor Committee.

Classic remains popular
Lake State’s 22nd annual Greater Peninsula Orthopedics Lake State Golf Classic for Laker Club scholarship aid and operational support was a success June 10-12 at Gaylord’s Osage Club. The event attracted more than 125 alumni and friends of LSU.

A highlight was the live auction of an autographed Ndamukong Suh football and rookie card held during Saturday night Classic Bash. More than 120 auction items were sold throughout the weekend for a 32% increase of proceeds over last year. There were also slight increases in the number of sponsors and golfers for the outing this year.

Taking first place with a score of 56, in Flight A on the Tribute Course were Matt Smith, Steve Hettinga, Daren Delvaux and Brian Robbinette. Second place Flight A, also on the Tribute, were the foursome of Rich Metro, Joe Claxton, Kyle Jean and Kory Kaunic with a 59.

In Flight B on the Tribute, Ritch Lewis, Mel Lewis, Dave Bohnett and Michael Schauer took first place honors on a tie-breaker with a score of 61 while the team of Chuck Peters, Larry Fitzpatrick, Bob Methner, Brian Knowles and JerryStephens were second place with a 66.

With a score of 64, the Flight B first-place team was Dave Scott, Mike Page, Day and Jerry Cadreau on the Classic Course. The foursome of Ed Smith, Brad Smith, John Ferroni and Phil Ferroni carded a 66 for second place. The Mixed winning team on the Classic was Rachael McCoy, Pete Scomenack, Julia Roque and Jim Roque with a score of 63. Special event winners on the Classic Course were Kyle Jean, Longest Drive, Bob Sikia for longest putt.

On the Classic Course, Doug Pascoe, Billy Maleport, Ty Jones and Kyle Waisenen combined for first place scoring a 65 in Flight A, while the team of David Mastave, Jaime Melnner, Brian Knowles and JerryStephens were second place with a 66.

A GIFT FROM AMY — LSSU President Tony McLain, members of the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Marquette, and the extended family of Soo Citizens’ daughter Amy Ignatowski created the Amy Ignatowski Scholarship. From left are USCG Information Systems Technician M. Walters; Chief Warrant Officer J. Meenan; Master Chief Machinery Technician B. Jacobson; grant recipient Electronic Technician Second Class Justin Fennom, Amy’s parents, Robin and Paul; Amy’s paternal grandmother, Mary Dykhouse; Captain Joseph McGuiness, Sector Sault Commander, and President McLain. The Ignatowskis created the award in May 2008 while serving with the USCG in Corpus Christi, Tex. The memorial fund assists Coast Guard members and their families with the cost of attending LSSU. The scholarship and the efforts of LSUS and Sector Sault Educational Support Officer Brian Streichert have helped increase enrollment of Coast Guard members at LSSU.

(Credit: LSSU student Sean O’Mara)
Foundation elects directors

The LSSU Foundation announced the appointment of two new board members and reappointments of a slate of current directors for four-year terms during a recent meeting. The new appointments are David Jahn, a 1990 LSSU graduate who is president and CEO at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, and Cynthia Williams, a 1976 LSSU graduate who is executive director of the Michigan Education Special Services Agency who is executive director of the Michigan Education Special Services Agency. She is responsible for overseeing the user services, academic and athletic programs, physical plant, and capital campaigns.

Several board members were re-elected to four-year terms, including: Patricia Caruso '75 and Betsy Demaray '83, both of Sault Ste. Marie; Bob Kjolsveld '76, Belding; Greg Parker '83, Bremley; David Saunders, '80, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; and Larry Wesby, Vanderbilth.

“I feel fortunate to work with such a talented and motivated board of directors,” said Tom Coates, LSSU Foundation Executive Director. “Our board is moving forward to further enhance the fundraising efforts of the LSSU Foundation.”

The elected members are part of a 30-member board that includes community leaders, LSSU administration and alumni. The board governs the 501(c)3 non-profit organization, whose sole purpose is to raise contributions for LSSU in support of a variety of areas, including scholarships, academic and athletic programs, physical plant, and capital campaigns.

Donofrios dance with Iggy Pop

LSSU Public Safety Officer Pete Donofrio ‘91 called it one of the highlights of his life when he and his wife Diane ‘96 and daughter Rachele attended a tribute concert put on by Iggy and the Stooges on April 19 at the Michigan Theatre Ann Arbor.

Iggy Pop and his Stooges are considered some of the pioneers of punk music and have been performing for more than 40 years. The Ann Arbor concert was in memory of former bandmate and guitarist Ron Ashton, who died in 2009.

Diane and Rachele are shown posing here in a photo that Pete took of them with Stooges drummer Scott Asheton (Ron Asheton’s brother) after the performance.

During the concert, when the band played “Shake Appeal,” Iggy invited the crowd to dance with him on stage and the Donofrios lost no time in running down from their baby buggy to accept the invitation. If you look on AnnArbor.com (see link below) you’ll see a photo taken by Melanie Maxwell that shows them on stage. In Maxwell’s photo, Rachele is the smiling red-haired young lady just to Iggy’s right, and Pete can be seen on the left side of the photo, just under a videographer’s camera.

Diane is a registered nurse who received her BSN at LSSU. Daughter Rachele is a dance major at University of Michigan.

Read more about the performance and see the stage photo in a story written by former Sault resident Roger LeIvre at http://annarbor.com/entertainment/stooges-mainbar/.

Doug Weight hangs up skates, will remain in NHL as a coach

New York Islanders captain Doug Weight ‘91 announced his retirement in May from the National Hockey League, although he remains with the Islanders organization as an assistant coach and senior advisor to the general manager.

“It was an honor to be a member of the NHL for the 19 years I laced up my skates,” Weight said. “I have a lifetime of memories from playing this game and cherish them all. I am excited to begin this next phase of my professional career and help the Islanders continue to climb the ladder to winning the Stanley Cup.”

Weight, a Laker standout from Petoskey, has seen his career with the Islanders organization as an assistant coach and senior advisor to the general manager.

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Jerrard is back with the NHL

Former Lake Superior State defensewoman Paul Jerrard ’87 begins his second coaching stint in the National Hockey League in 2011-12 as an assistant coach with the Dallas Stars.

Newly-hired Dallas Stars head coach Glen Gulutzan brought Jerrard with him from the AHL’s Texas Stars. Jerrard spend two seasons in Austin, Tex., after spending three seasons with the Dallas’ developmental affiliate, the Iowa Stars. This is Jerrard’s second NHL stint. His first was in 2002-03 as a video coordinator for the Colorado Avalanche.

“You dream about getting to this level, and you don’t know if or when it’s going to happen,” Jerrard said. “Fortunately we did a good job in Austin for two years and an opportunity came for the head coach. He wanted to bring in people with a lot of familiarity with the organization.”

Gulutzan and Jerrard led the Texas Stars to the AHL Playoffs in both campaigns and coached the Stars to the Calder Cup Finals during the franchise’s inaugural season of 2008-09. Gulutzan posted a cumulative 87-56-17 record (.597 points percentage) during the regular season and a 16-14 (.533 winning percentage) record during the playoffs with Texas.

Jerrard’s role won’t change much with the promotion. He will still be in charge of the defense and scout reporting, and will help the penalty-killing units.

“There is certainly more pressure in the NHL, but just one directive, and that is to win,” Jerrard said. “While in Austin during the last couple years, our focus was on development and winning. Now there is just one directive. But one thing is nice. Both of us have been in the organization for six years. We are familiar with upper management and the expectations of the organization. And there are seven or eight players up in Dallas who I knew in Iowa or Austin.”

Jerrard was a defensemen at LSUS from 1983-87 and played 10 seasons professionally, including a brief stint with the Minnesota North Stars. He was an assistant coach at LSUS for four seasons between 1997-2002. He was also an assistant for two seasons with the AHL’s Hershey Bears.

Jerrard has found that the NHL has changed since he was with Colorado.

“When I was with Colorado, it was pre-lockout,” he said. “Since then, the game has gotten faster with the rule changes…There is more freedom for the speedier guys, and they can be more effective on the ice. And the salary cap has driven the age of the players down.”

Jerrard believes the changes have made the NHL a better product.

“Some of the older guys had been around forever and a day. They were productive players, but the younger ones bring an enthusiasm day-in and day-out. They all play at a high level and are self-motivated, but we need to motivate them to be their best at their position,” Jerrard said.

“Every day I learn,” Jerrard continued. “I don’t think there’s ever been a day that I thought I knew it all. Every single day I cross paths with people from whom I learn. It’s a continual process. The thing that sticks out is the handling of athletes motivating athletes. They are all pretty smart players at this level. I need to find out what makes them tick and help them reach their goals.”

Jerrard and his wife, Cheryl, ’87, have two daughters: Catherine, who will be a freshman at St. Cloud State University, and Meghan, who is a high school freshman. The Jerrards still visit Sault Ste. Marie regularly.

“Lake State is a special place and will always hold special memories for me,” he said.

Justin Rees named head women’s hoops coach

LSSU expects to continue its solid standing in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference women’s basketball by naming former Ferris State University of Maine assistan
t coach Justin Rees as its new head women’s basketball coach.

Rees replaces Jamie Pewinski, who was named head women’s basketball coach at Ripple, an alma mater, Saginaw Valley State University, on April 18. Pewinski was 77-64 during five seasons as the Lakers’ head coach. She also spent seven seasons as an assistant under former LSUS head coach Kris Dunbar, who was 125-7 that time.

“I am pleased that Coach Rees will be leading our women’s basketball program,” LSUS Athletic Director Kris Dunbar said. “His knowledge of the GLIAC and his experience recruiting in Michigan will help our program immediately. He is known for his integrity and passion for the game, which will help bring positive results for LSSU.”

Rees, a Florida native who played basketball at Barry University, was an assistant coach at Post University from 1999-02, Ferris State from 2002-07 and Maine from 2007-11.

He was Maine’s recruiting coordinator and worked on-court primarily with post players.

“My experiences at Lake State, as far as I remember it, is that they’ve always had great post players,” Rees noted. “Alice Duesing was a cross-over and she generally played in the post. Becky Marquardt-King, Jackie Armstrong, and now Marie Blaziejew-
ska, are from the Avery scheme – they’ve always had a tradition of having great post players. Maybe I’ll give the guards a different vision than they’ve had.”

Rees looks forward to returning to the NCAA Division II ranks, which strives to give student-athletes a better “work-life balance” than Division I offers, but he hopes to incor-
porate what he learned in Division I about intensity and commitment to succeed.

“Coach Rees is an exceptional coach,” noted veteran coach Tracey Dorow of Ferris State.

“Rees is the perfect fit and he is just the right hire. He brings a lot of experience and is very knowledgeable about Xs and Os, but Coach Rees’ instincts to make game-time adjustments really set him apart from other coaches. It will be challenging to have him sitting on the opposing bench after working side-by-side with him for five years, but I am thrilled for him and for the Lake State women’s basketball players. He will bring out the best in them, on and off the basketball court.”

“I’ve spoken to Tracey a lot during this process,” Rees said. “She was great for work and I appreciate all that she’s done to help me get to this point. She helped me learn how to develop those relationships. There are a lot of similarities between the LSUS and PSU programs, but I am familiar with OSU and more about building re-
lationships, building stronger bonds with and among student-athletes. You learn to respect that and it’s one of the reasons I chose to come back to Divi-
sion II. It’s also one of the reasons I chose to play basketball in Division II. You’re going to get more of that family feel at Divi-
sion II.”

Rees has been out of state for four years, but has maintained ties with Michigan youth coaches.

“I tried to keep my hands in it while I was in state,” he said. “I talked to some AAU players, and had some success with that. I always kept in touch with AAU coaches. The AAU tradition in Michigan is strong. The best-skilled players I’ve coached have come from Michigan, and high school programs do a great job too. I want to keep Michigan kids in-state.”

Laura (Madson) Flapjack ’92, Roosevelt Park, is the program manager at the Muskegon Community Health Project. She was recognized by the Community Anti-Drug Coalition of Muskegon (CADCA) for her advocacy efforts on behalf of the Coalition for a Drug-Free Muskegon County. The award was presented at CADCA’s 21st annual National Leadership Forum in National Harbor, Md.

Laura (Nerone) Malburg ’93, East Jordan, received her master’s degree in social work from Grand Valley State University, and Meaghan, who is a

Rees: In Support of Laker Athletes

“Coach Rees is an exceptional coach,” noted veteran coach Tracey Dorow of Ferris State. “He develops a lifelong relationship with his players and their parents. Not only do his post players love him, but his senior players love him. He’s the leader of the program.”

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Kerry (Knitter) Weupert ’83, Erie, has been promoted to the director of Athletics and Fitness at Wildwood Athletic Club, a hospital-based wellness facility in the Orthopedic Institute at the Medical Center. She is a registered licensed athletic trainer. Weupert was a graduate assistant in the department of kinesiology at the University of Toledo and stayed on as a trainer for 10 years. She worked for CPUI Rehab, a private physical therapy facility, as a medical fitness coordinator. She has a specialization in aquatics for 10 years before joining Wildwood Athletic Club last September.

Chris Zimmerman ’87, Mt. Pleasant, has published his fifth Michigan-based novel, June 55. Zimmerman has sold more than 25,000 copies of his previous titles and has gained quite a following among readers throughout the Midwest. Much like his previous four books, June 55 has an outdoorsy flavor, a suspense-filled plot, and a satisfying twist at the end. Copies of his books may be purchased online at amazon.com or authorchrizzimmerman.com

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Kaszeta comes north to coach volleyball

Former Huron Valley volleyball club coach and Eastern Michigan University volunteer assistant Ben Kaszeta has been named head volleyball coach at LSSU.

Kaszeta, who ran his first spring-league practice with the Lakers in March, replaces 16-year head coach Mark Engle, who retired in February. Kaszeta is a high-energy coach who has head coaching experience with elite players of various ages.

“I am very much a defense-minded coach,” Kaszeta said. “I believe that defense wins matches. A good, disciplined team will prevail.”

Kaszeta, who is originally from St. Clair Shores, was a volunteer assistant at EMU last season and was the Mott Community College head coach from 2007-09. His club experience includes the USA Volleyball Lakeshore Region High Performance team (2009-10), Huron Valley (2004-08) and Oxford Heat (1998-05). He was the head coach of the Huron Valley 17 National Team for four years. He also coached volleyball and swimming at several high schools.

Several Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference schools, including LSSU, have players that have been coached by Kaszeta, who is a 2010 graduate of EMU.

“There are teams within this league that are within reach, and to start with the simple parts of the game I hope to be more competitive in those matches,” Kaszeta said. “I can see the Lake State program competing for a GLIAC title. With a few of the right parts and a small change in the culture, the sky is the limit for this program.”

Kaszeta was instrumental in a successful turnaround at MCC and was responsible for scouting and coaching the defense at EMU.

“I helped the serve receive and made small adjustments to our defense to better prepare a game plan against our opponents,” he said. “I helped with scouting of opponents and all other aspects of practice every day.”

By the time you have this issue in hand, Laker volleyball will be starting its season. The team plays in a tournament at Ferris State Sept. 2-3, and its first home games are Sept. 9-10 vs. Tiffin and Ohio Dominican.

Laker teachers get swag for their classrooms

Last January we announced that your Alumni Association was offering LSSU flags, book covers and pencils to alumni who are teachers or who work in schools or other areas with youths. This program has been so popular, we’ve distributed all the book covers, but we still have Laker flags and pencils available. The goal of this program is to increase awareness of colleges in general and LSSU in particular. Ultimately, we hope to help recruit more students to LSSU, and this program provides an easy way for alumni to help. All we ask is that you hang the flag in your classroom or other public area of the school in which you work. Take a photo of your Laker flag where it hangs, or pose with the flag and some enthusiastic students, and we’ll post your photo on our website.

These gifts create the opportunity to start a conversation about why your students should consider LSSU as they pursue their higher education goals.

For more photos and information about this program, go to lssu.edu/alumni, and scroll down the What’s New column. Click on the Gifts for Teachers link and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

Those of you who received the book covers, we’d love to get your feedback. Were they useful? Did your students like them and use them?

Send an email to alumnirelations@lssu.edu with your comments or give us a call at 906-635-6219.
 Joined hands

Erik Justin Bartel ’96 died February 10 at Spectrum Health Butternut House with loving friends and family at his side. Erik was a loving life, an exquisite cook, a woodsman, craftsman, musician and a devoted husband and father. He was 36.

James H. Douglas ’80, Traverse City, died due to complications from cancer. He was a U.S. Army veteran who served with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment during the Vietnam War. He was a volunteer with Sault High sports, where he enjoyed coaching and refereeing. He taught at local universities, held family interventions and was a community resident. He was a lover of life, an exquisite cook, a woodsman, craftsman, musician and a devoted husband and father. He was 36.

Friends we’ll miss

Randy G. Sanders ’90, Brimley, died May 9 at his home surrounded by his family. He was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran for 32 years and was a member of the Marine Corps Reserves. Randy enjoyed watching his grandson playing hockey, NASCAR, Red Wings, and Packers.

William Gordon Thompson ’89, longtime staff writer for the LSSU Physical Plant, died March 20 at Northern Michigan Hospital following a long illness. Bill started at LSSU in 1982 and retired in 2006 as the groundskeeper manager. He said he enjoyed working with the students and counted many of them as his friends. He was a devoted husband and father who spent as much time as possible in the great outdoors. Among his favorite activities were snowmobiling, riding his four-wheeler, camping, and deer hunting.

Winton ‘Win’ L. Chance

Winton ‘Win’ Chance, Sault Ste. Marie, died June 30. The WWII veteran was a 1954 LSSU alumnus, but he and his wife of 51 years, Margaret, were longtime Lake Club members who donated their significant rock and mineral collection to the Keweenaw Minerals Museum. The former Edison Sault Electric Company employee could often be found fishing on the St. Mary’s River. He was buried with full military honors at Addison National Cemetery.

Turcotte ’60, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., died December 22, 2010. He was married to Lois for 42 years and proud of his children and grandchildren. He had a unique outlook on life, a fantastic sense of humor and a passion for sports. He had 50 years of experience working on jet engines and gas turbines. He enjoyed skiing, fishing, and biking with many of his General Electric buddies.

‘Chipp’ Harrer ’58, Sault Ste. Marie, died unexpectedly June 9 at his home. He was an electrician for many years with Roy Electric and later at LSIP. Chip was a beloved volunteer with Sault High sports, where he enjoyed coaching and refereeing, and he was a canvas artist and a man who made jewelry and wind chimes.

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Buoy’s and Gulls

A Laker alumnus and his wife had the good fortune to have their second child born in Sault Area Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. It was the first baby born in the new facility.

Landon Jace Zelisko was born on 10:34 a.m. on March 7 to Laramee ’09 and Kaya Zelisko one day after the hospital opened its doors. A number of local businesses put together a gift package with SAH, including: a Registered Education Saving Plans contribution of $500 initially and $100 per year for the next five years, courtesy of BMO-Bank of Montreal; a “Watch Me Grow” baby portrait program package from Brian Tremblay photography; a baby gift basket from Shoppers Drug Mart, a $100 gift certificate from the fabulous Arturo Ristorante Italiano, a pedicure and manicure gift certificate from Spa World and a “Pressions” plaster cast kit and Oshiya baby snow and fork set from Sassy’s Jumpers.

Landon has an older sister, Elia.

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Messages in a Bottle

In response to LSSU Alumni Director Susan Fitzpatrick’s request for information about the origins of Michael’s e-mail address, lakestatedoor@gmail.com

Your curiosity about my e-mail address is fitting for a Lake State graduate. Lake State has always been a part of my soul, with its location in the north country, the history, the scent of the St. Mary’s River, and the wonderful campus and fantastic life experiences that will always be a positive source of strength for me. I named my business Lake State Door because of my deep connection to my education at Lake State and my love of this great state of Michigan, the Great Lake State! Thanks for asking.

Michael J Hart ’85
Bancroft, Mich.

I just wanted to share how graduating from Lake Superior State in May immediately benefited me. I was working part time for St. Clair County Friend of the Court and finishing my bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. I was required to take an internship, which I did last summer at the 72nd District Court in Port Huron. After my internship, I kept in contact with the probation officers as well as some of the judges.

Upon my return to Port Huron, the chief probation officer informed the chief District Court judge that I had received my bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. Within a week of obtaining my degree, I was offered a full-time job, complete with benefits, as a court recorder for the 72nd District Court. I absolutely love my job and am being exposed to so much in the criminal justice field every day.

I am so thankful that even though I was a nontraditional student, everyone in the Criminal Justice Department was supportive. Most important, Dean Paige Gordier went above and beyond being just a professor and advisor. She was extremely helpful throughout my career at Lake Superior State. I am proud to be a Laker graduate and just wanted to share my success story!

Erasmia K. Schrader ’11
Port Huron, Mich.

In response to Fitzpatrick when she contacted alumnus Steven Rinella regarding his Travel Channel series “The Wild Within.”

Your note really popped out at me because I’m currently writing a chapter of my new book on my time at LSSU. In fact, I’ve written about LSSU in both of my previous books, The Scavenger’s Guide to Haute Cuisine and American Buffalo: In Search of a Lost Icon. I’ve also written about the Soo for Outside magazine, where I’m a correspondent.

My time there really had a profound impact on me. Probably the most influential four months of my life. I hunted and trapped that area pretty heavily, and we used to fish the St. Mary’s River incessantly, particularly between 1993-1997.

Steven Rinella
New York, NY

2011-2012 Calendar of Alumni Events

October
1 7 p.m. Laker Hockey at Alabama-Huntsville Huntsville, Ala.
1 9:30 p.m. Laker Alumni post-game social TBA
4 7:30 p.m. Kathy Mattea Concert Arts Center
6 5 p.m. Lake State After Hours Soo Brewery

Friday, October 14
10 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Registration & Check-In Walker Cisler Center Lobby
Note: Soo Blueliner Hockey Lunch Cisler Crow’s Nest
5 p.m. Alumni Tailgate and Faculty Mixer Lukenda Alumni House
Cook-out for Laker alumni, faculty, families
6 p.m. Laker Hockey Kick-Off Taffy Abel Arena
7 p.m. Laker Hockey vs. Michigan State Taffy Abel Arena
9 p.m. Post-game ice Cream Celebration Taffy Abel Arena

Saturday, October 15
8 a.m.-3 p.m. Registration Walker Cisler Center Lobby
9 a.m. Alumni Association Board Meeting Walker Cisler Alumni Room
10 a.m. Campus Challenge 5K Fun Run/Walk Norris Center
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Parent & Family Brunch Quarterdeck
1-3 p.m. Kid’s College (ages 6-15) Crawford Hall 209
1:30 p.m. Planetarium Show (Tentative) Crawford Hall Planetarium
2:30-4 p.m. Aquatic Research Lab Tour Arts Center for shuttle
3:30 p.m. Meet the President reception Walker Cisler Superior Room
4:30 p.m. Alumni Awards Banquet Walker Cisler Superior Room
5 p.m. Pre-game Bash and BBQ Student Activity Center
Free food, music, inflatables and more
7 p.m. Laker Hockey vs. Michigan State Taffy Abel Arena
10 p.m. Pub Crawl with drink specials for Lakers Downtown Sault Ste. Marie

October 1-14
Monday, October 1
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Sunday, October 16
11:30 a.m. SAILS Alumni Reunion Brunch Walker Cisler Crow’s Nest

November
3 5 p.m. Lake State After Hours Downtowner

December
1 5 p.m. Lake State After Hours Captain’s Pub, Ojibway Hotel

2012
January
5 5 p.m. Lake State After Hours Cooper Gym w/basketball
21 7 p.m. Laker Hockey at Michigan State Munn Arena, Lansing
21 9:30 p.m. Laker Alumni Post-game Social Trippers on Frandor
28 All day Basketball Alumni Reunion Norris Center
29 7 p.m. Laker Alumni at Soo Greyhounds Game Essar Center, Sault, Ont.

Lake State After Hours is a gathering of Laker alumni, employees and friends on the first Thursday of every month at 5 p.m. at a variety of local establishments. Check the LSSU Event Calendar to see where we are gathering this month and come join us!

Laker Fridays are every Friday - wear your blue and gold, wherever you are!

For information about these and other events, write alumnirelations@lssu.edu or call 906-635-6219

2011-2012 Calendar of Alumni Events

14-16 Great Lake State Weekend – Homecoming

LSSU Campus

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Office of Alumni Relations
Lake Superior State University
650 W. Easterday Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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