



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

SOUTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

Compiled by the SIUC Division of Institutional Advancement

April 2007

PROGRAMS

- ◆ **Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Debate Team finished its season ranked No. 9 in the United States.** The debate team also made SIUC's first-ever appearance in the World Universities Debating Championships in Vancouver, British Columbia.
- ◆ The Broadcast Education Association is honoring SIUC students in April with the first-place prize for best college broadcast in the nation. **The River Region Evening Edition, a student-run news show broadcast on WSIU-TV**, produced the award-winning broadcast on Dec. 6.
- ◆ **WSIU Public Broadcasting** has been selected as one of the first 10 PBS member station partners in the new national "Ready To Learn" literacy initiative. The "Ready To Learn" initiative will use research-based PBS KIDS® programs, and related multi-media content to help at-risk kids ages 2-8 acquire the skills they need to read.
- ◆ **The *Daily Egyptian* received best college newspaper in the state honors for the second consecutive year during the Illinois College Press Association competition in Chicago.** Twenty-seven awards were received at the annual event, including seven first-place awards with accolades for advertising, photography, design and reporting.
- ◆ **Student photographers from the *Daily Egyptian* won 21 of the 40 possible awards at the Illinois Press Photographers Association competition** March 9 and 10 at Northwestern University's McCormick Tribune Center in Evanston. Max Bittle, a junior from Carterville studying photojournalism, and Anthony Soufflé, a junior from Collinsville studying photojournalism, took second and third place, respectively, in the Student Photographer of the Year competition and Lane Christiansen received honorable mention recognition in the same category.

Southern Highlights

April 2007

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Page Two

A news photograph by Melissa Barr, a senior from Effingham studying photojournalism, won first place in the news category.

- ◆ **The SIU School of Law's legal writing program is ranked 22nd nationally in a survey of law schools at America's college and universities.** The ranking is national recognition from *U.S. News & World Report's* annual guide to the country's best graduate schools.
- ◆ **SIUC's automotive technology program** has been named #1 in the nation by the Automotive Industry Planning Council in 2006. The organization previously bestowed this honor on Southern in 1991 and 1999. A program may receive the designation only once every five years.
- ◆ **Chicago-area students can enroll in classes offered by SIUC's nationally recognized automotive technology program this fall.** Students can obtain a bachelor's degree in automotive technology through an off-campus program at Harry S. Truman College.
- ◆ **SIUC's electrical and computer engineering department** will soon offer a doctoral degree. The program, approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education, will begin this summer.
- ◆ **The College of Liberal Arts has endorsed several exciting new programs of study** including a bachelor's of fine arts in musical theater; and minors in forensic science, American Studies, Latino and Latin American Studies, and Native American Studies.
- ◆ **SIUC's Rehabilitation counseling and workforce education programs received national recognition in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual guide to the country's best graduate schools.** The counseling program ranked sixth in a field of 18, as assessed by a nationwide survey of academics in the field. Southern's Department of Workforce Education and Development ranked for the second consecutive year as one of the country's 10 top specialty programs in education.
- ◆ **The School of Music's wind ensemble was invited to perform at the Illinois Music Educators Association State Conference in March.** SIUC's band was one of only two college or university bands invited.

Southern Highlights

April 2007

**For more information, contact: Greg Scott
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Page Three

- ◆ **The SIU School of Medicine is the primary recipient of funds raised during the Midwest Charity Horse Show.** The show has demonstrated its dedication to the children at Camp COCO for 18 years. Camp COCO, founded in 1986 by the Department of Pediatrics, is a week-long summer camp of activities for children ages 6 to 16 who are afflicted with leukemia, other cancers and blood disorders. The Midwest Charity Show has donated over \$130,000 to Camp COCO. This year's show will be June 12-16 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield.
- ◆ **Southern's women's golf team won the Missouri Valley Conference Golf Championship in April.** It is the fifth league title for the Salukis since 2000. Southern broke a school and MVC Championship record for all-time low 54-hole score with a three-day total of 899. SIUC head coach was named MVC Coach of the Year. Three Saluki golfers – Kelly Gerlach, Braidy Hood, and Josie Lowder – were named to the 2007 All-Conference Team. The Salukis will compete in the NCAA golf championships for the first time in school history.
- ◆ **The Saluki women's golf and softball teams earned Public Recognition Awards from the NCAA.** Both teams were honored for ranking in the top 10 percent nationally in their respective sports based upon the association's three-year Academic Progress Rates. The golf team recorded a perfect 1,000 on the APR over the three-year period, while the softball squad tallied a 996.
- ◆ **The Saluki women's swimming and diving team captured the Missouri Valley Conference championship in February.** The team garnered individual accolades as Julie Ju (Swimmer of the Year), Cristina Curtuneanu (Diver of the Year) and Chunhua Zhao (Diving Coach of the Year) received top honors.
- ◆ **Southern's men's and women's swimming and diving teams made the College Swimming Coaches Association of America Academic All-American Teams.** The men's team finished fourth nationally with a grade-point average of 3.39. The Saluki women also made the top 25, finishing 23rd nationally with a GPA of 3.34.
- ◆ **The SIUC women's basketball team won the MVC regular-season championship, finishing with a 16-2 record (21-11 overall).** Head coach Dana Eikenberg was named MVC Women's Coach of the Year and four of her players received all-conference honors. In addition, the conference honored three Salukis – guards Erica Smith, Erin Pauk, and Jayme Sweere – on the MVC Scholar-Athlete Team. The Salukis advanced to the second round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament.

Southern Highlights

April 2007

For more information, contact: Greg Scott

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Page Four

- ◆ **The Saluki men's basketball team captured the MVC Championship for the fifth time in six seasons (15-3 in league play), and qualified for the NCAA Tournament for the sixth consecutive year.** The Salukis set a school record for victories (29-7) and advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 for the third time in school history. Head coach Chris Lowery received MVC Coach of the Year honors, senior guard Jamaal Tatum earned MVC Player of the Year accolades, and junior forward Randal Falker earned Defensive Player of the Year honors. Tatum (3.57 GPA in speech communications) was named to the *ESPN The Magazine's* Academic All-America team. He was joined by teammates Matt Shaw and Bryan Mullins on the MVC all-academic squad.
- ◆ **Dr. Gaylene Armstrong and Dr. Todd Armstrong, Center For The Study of Crime, Delinquency, and Corrections, were recently notified that they are the first recipients of the Academy of Experimental Criminology's "Young Scholars Award."**

PEOPLE

Student Accomplishment

- ◆ **For the second consecutive year, Fahren Robb, an SIUC senior majoring in agricultural information and political science, has earned recognition from *USA TODAY* as one of the top college students in the country.** The Pinckneyville, Ill., native was among the top 80 students listed in the Feb. 15 issue as a member of the 2007 All-USA College Academic Team. *USA TODAY* considered over 600 students for the honor.
- ◆ **Two students at Southern Illinois University Carbondale are among the nationwide elite who will receive scholarships from the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation.** Jared T. Burde, a junior from Carbondale, and Erin K. Shanle, a junior from Rochester, are among only 13 college students in Illinois to receive the award. Each will receive \$7,500 for the 2007-2008 school year to cover tuition, books and living expenses.
- ◆ **Brittany Riley, a junior from Flossmoor, Ill., broke the world record in the 20-pound weight throw with a mark of 80-7½ (24.57m) on Jan. 27 at the Gladstein Invitational in Bloomington, Ind. Riley also became the first SIUC female to win an NCAA championship in track and field in March.**

Southern Highlights

April 2007

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Page Five

She shattered her world best during the national championships in Fayetteville, Ark., with a mark of 83-10.25 (25.56m). Riley was named both the Midwest Region and Division I Women's Field Athlete of the Year. She also was named to the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division I Indoor All-America Team.

- ◆ **Arijit Banerjee, a master's student from India studying media management, and the *Daily Egyptian* advertising staff received top honors for best newspaper marketing and promotions plan** from the College Newspapers Business and Advertising Managers, Inc. The students were honored as the nation's best during an awards ceremony on March 31 in Portland. Banerjee designed the 360-degree marketing plan for the DE's website (siuDE.com), which launched in September.
- ◆ **Two students in the University's newly-chartered campus chapter of National Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences, received top honors during the organization's national competition last month in Birmingham, Ala. Chapter President Maurice C. Allen, a first-year master's student in agribusiness economics, took first place in impromptu speaking, while Vice President Jean N. Porter, a second-year master's student in plant, soil and agricultural systems, placed third in graduate oral research.**
- ◆ **Nick Whiting, a graduate student in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, has been selected to attend the 57th Nobel Laureate Meeting July 1-6, in Lindau, Germany.** Whiting will be a member of a student delegation supported by funding from the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science, the National Science Foundation Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, the National Institutes of Health's Graduate Partnerships Program, Mars, Incorporated and Oak Ridge Associated Universities.
- ◆ **Neil Shannon, a graduate student in geology, received notice that he was awarded a Schuchert and Dunbar Grant in Aid from Yale University Peabody Museum.** This is a \$1,000 award to support his research.
- ◆ **Kathleen "Kassie" Chaffee, a doctoral student in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in France for the upcoming academic year.**

Southern Highlights

April 2007

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Page Six

- ◆ **David Goldstein, a doctoral student in anthropology, has been awarded a prestigious National Science Foundation International Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (\$126,000) to conduct work in Peru.**
- ◆ **Daniel Elijah Smith, a senior majoring in geography and environmental science, won the National Council for Geographic Education & Association of American Geographers Excellence of Scholarship Award for Seniors in Geography.**
- ◆ **Jen Kelley, an SIU Geology graduate student, has just won one of the seven IRM (Institute for Rock Magnetism) Visiting Fellowships (\$750) offered this year.**
- ◆ **Jamil Yesuf, a doctoral student in engineering sciences, won the 2007 Distinguished Thesis Award from the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools.** The competition includes over 150 colleges and universities from 15 states. Fifty-one papers were entered in the competition this year. Yusef also won this year's Outstanding Thesis Award from the SIU Alumni Association.
- ◆ **Sara N. Reardon, a microbiology major from Springfield, will present some of her research findings April 25 to lawmakers on Capitol Hill.** Reardon has presented research on genetic links to infertility and cancer at international conferences. She is one of 60 students chosen by the Council on Undergraduate Research from a national pool to participate in the group's annual "Posters on the Hill" exhibit.
- ◆ **Diane Shasteen, a 2004 SIUC zoology graduate, won the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Best Paper Award** during the 45th Annual Meeting held at Lake Shelbyville. Diane, who is pursuing her master's at Southern, is an aquatic biologist working with the Environmental Protection Agency in Marion, Ill.

Alumni Achievement

- ◆ **Edson Lobato, a 1973 SIU College of Agriculture alumnus, was one of three recipients of the 2006 World Food Prize.** The \$250,000 World Food Prize was established in 1986 as the most prestigious international award for achievements significantly increasing the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.
- ◆ **Chicago native Joan Higginbotham, a NASA astronaut and 1987 electrical engineering graduate, made her first space flight as a mission specialist in the launch of Space Shuttle Discovery on Dec. 9.** Higginbotham is one of a seven-member NASA crew that embarked on a 12-day mission that includes a trip to International Space Station aboard Discovery on STS-116.
- ◆ **College of Business graduate Meredith A. Rhoads '05, MBA'06 is the new executive director of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce.** She replaces another College of Business graduate Joel Sambursky, who is now a financial adviser with Forbes Financial Group in Carbondale.
- ◆ **Saluki track and field head coach Connie Price-Smith and University of Kansas head coach Stanley Redwine will coach Team USA's women and men, respectively, at the 2007 Pan American Games, July 13-29 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**
- ◆ **School of Music alumna Jane Brockman (M.F.A.'89) is performing the lead in Fox Theater (St. Louis) production of the musical, "The Light in the Piazza," which will be featured in various theaters nationally through June.**
- ◆ **Timothy C. Carter Ph.D. '03 received international recognition as the 2006 Community Partner of the Year from the Wildlife Habitat Council for contributions to wildlife habitat conservation and environmental education at the Unimin Corporation's Tamms/Elco Plant in southern Illinois.** Tim is a 2003 zoology graduate and has accepted a position as assistant professor at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Faculty Honors

- ◆ **Ike Mathur, Henry J. Rehn professor of finance in SIUC's College of Business and Administration has been named the new managing editor of the *Journal of Banking and Finance*, a top-ranking publication of world economic and financial research. He will take on the role January 1, 2008.**
- ◆ **Patricia B. Elmore, interim dean of the College of Education and Human Services at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, was twice honored during the American Counseling Association's annual meeting in Detroit last month.** Elmore won the association's Extended Research Award for high-quality research that has contributed significantly to the field for at least 10 years. She also received two leather-bound books containing the six journal volumes of "Measurement and Evaluation in Counseling and Development" she edited for the Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education, a division of the larger counseling association, between 2000 and 2006. The group's annual research award for the year's best article on measurement and evaluation research will now carry Elmore's name.
- ◆ **Anthropology Professor Izumi Shimada was honored by the National Congress of Peru for his three-decades-long contribution to Peruvian Archeology.**
- ◆ **Rodney G. Jones, professor and distinguished scholar of English at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is the recipient of the 2007 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, which carries a \$100,000 purse.** The honor, presented by California-based Claremont Graduate University, is the largest monetary prize in the nation for a mid-career poet.
- ◆ **Dr. Rosemary Peters, Dept. of Foreign Languages, received a grant from the French-American Cultural Exchange to complete a successful French and Francophone Film Festival.** The department will host the first annual Foreign Language Film Conference in Fall 2007 (<http://www.siu.edu/~fflc/>).

Southern Highlights

April 2007

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Page Nine

- ◆ **Raymond F. Wacker, Emerson Electric/Charles Groennert Teaching Excellence Professor and an associate professor in the School of Accountancy, will receive the 2007 Outstanding Educator Award from the Illinois CPA Society during a banquet on May 31 in Chicago.**
- ◆ **Dr. Justin Schoof (Dept. of Geography) was awarded a \$95,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant for his project: "Collaborative research: Development of 21st century precipitation scenarios using probabilistic downscaling techniques."**
- ◆ **Professor Allison E. Joseph, head of the master's program in creative writing, is the recipient of a \$5,000 prize in the 2006 Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry contest for her poems "Cartography" and "Emergency Librarian."**
- ◆ **Dr. Holly Hurlburt (Department of History) has received a fellowship for the academic year 2007-08 to Harvard's Villa I Tatti Renaissance Studies Center in Florence from September to June, 2008. Dr. Hurlburt also received a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fellowship, and a Monticello College Foundation Fellowship for Women at the Newberry Library.**
- ◆ **Dr. David Rush (Department of Theater) was the first-place winner in this year's Firehouse Theatre New Play Contest. The Virginia-based Firehouse Theatre Project promotes work by emerging playwrights nationally.**
- ◆ **Dr. Thomas Calhoun (Department of Sociology) was named the recipient of the 2006 Aida Tomeh Distinguished Service Award at the North Central Sociological Association annual meetings, Indianapolis, Ind., March 2006.**
- ◆ **Dr. Rob Benford (Department of Sociology) was named to American Sociological Review's "500 Club" for co-authoring one of the 18 most influential articles since 1936, based on the ISI Social Science Citation Index.**
- ◆ **The American Physical Society, APS, honored Dr. F. Bary Malik, emeritus professor in Physics, as the recipient of the 2007 John Wheatley Award in March.**

Southern Highlights

April 2007

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Page Ten

PLACES

- ◆ **The Student Health Center has received another top rating from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.** The AAAHC presented the center with its highest level of accreditation status, noting the program achieved substantial compliance with its standards in all areas. The association accredits more than 1,300 health care entities across the country. The accreditation means student health services at SIUC meet rigorous national standards.
- ◆ **The \$48-million project to renovate Morris Library is on schedule.** The project, instituted in 2005, includes a renovation of the existing facility and an addition of 50,000 square feet to the north side of the facility. Workers are prepared to begin constructing the large addition for the building's north side. The renovation of Morris Library is scheduled for completion by mid- to late 2008.

Information was gathered from the Department of University Communications; Representatives of SIUC's colleges, schools, and departments, and Saluki Athletics.

