

SOUTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

December 2010

UNIVERSITY ACCOLADES

Student Accomplishment

Cadets Daniel W. Gray and Christina M. Spakousky, from SIU Carbondale's U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, ranked in the top 10 of more than 5,000 senior cadets on the national Order of Merit List. Gray and Spakousky rank fifth and eighth overall, respectively. SIU was the only school to have two of its ROTC cadets place in the top 10 overall.



Cadets Christina M. Spakousky and Daniel W. Gray

Faculty and Staff Honors

Staff members and programs from SIU's University Housing claimed multiple honors at the recent 2010 Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers Annual Conference. Tera Lippert, hall director for University Hall, claimed the Outstanding New Professional award for Illinois. Richard Scott Taylor, custodial supervisor, is the recipient of the Outstanding Facilities Manager award for the entire region. In addition, SIU University Housing received the Large School President's Award recognizing the unit for its support of the region and the university housing profession.

Program Awards

In its October issue, *Military Times Edge* magazine ranks SIU second in the nation in making student military veterans' success a priority. In the magazine's inaugural survey, "Best for Vets: Colleges," SIU is second among the top 101 accredited universities, colleges, community colleges and distance-learning institutions.

SIU has earned the maximum 10-year continuation of its institutional accreditation, a distinction the University has maintained since 1913. SIU is among 1,200 educational institutions in a 19-state region, from Wyoming to West Virginia and from North Dakota to Arkansas, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The National Research Council ranked many SIU doctoral programs highly in several areas in its recent study, which looked at more than 200 institutions. SIU programs compared favorably with those at traditionally prestigious universities, as well as state flagship institutions. The 21 SIU doctoral programs included in the study did well, although University officials are still poring over the massive amount of data included in the survey. In particular, many SIU doctoral programs ranked most highly in the student support/outcomes area, including time-to-degree and job placement measurements, in which some finished in the Top 10. SIU doctoral programs also ranked highly in faculty/student diversity.

For the fourth consecutive year, *Military Advanced Education* magazine, in its December 2010 issue, lists SIU as one of the nation's 2010 top military-friendly colleges and universities.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Student Accomplishment

A researcher from SIU has developed a "cookie" that can yield five times as many plants as artificial seeds do. Made from a mixture



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

Compiled by the Department of Development Communication in the SIU Carbondale Division of Institutional Advancement through the courtesy of University Communications; college, school and department representatives; and Saluki Athletics.

of processed kelp, tissue culture media and calcium chloride, the cookie is chemically similar to natural seed coverings. By varying the concentrations in the mix and adjusting the amount of time spent sterilizing it, Laurie J. George, a doctoral student in the College of Agricultural Sciences, can increase the number of nodes, or plant starts, the mix can protect from a single start to five.

Program Awards

Southern will begin offering graduate degrees in **hospitality and tourism** beginning fall semester of 2011. Housed in the College of Agricultural Sciences' Department of Animal Science, Food and Nutrition, the two-year concentration will consist of 36 hours of required and specialty courses and either a thesis or a project based on the student's career interests.



A \$492,000 grant from the federal Department of Energy will allow the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern to do more research on energy crops and do it better. Much of the equipment features GPS, or global positioning system, technology that commercial growers rely on for greater precision in everything from yield tracking to chemical application. The big-ticket item, a small-plot combine that will allow researchers to analyze and compare data from a strip of ground as small as two rows wide, arrived late in August and is currently in use harvesting plots at the University Farms. The grant also paid for a GPS-compatible tractor, a large-scale planter with variable seeding rate components and a field plot sprayer and helped underwrite the costs of a large-platform combine.

COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

Student Accomplishment

Mike A. Carroll, a senior in aviation management at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, was the top-scoring pilot this past weekend at the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's Region VIII championships. Carroll placed in seven of nine events and teammate Daniel S. Harrington finished first in two ground events as the SIU Flying Salukis earned another trip to the organization's national championships in May.



Mike A. Carroll

Faculty and Staff Honors

Jon D. Davey, architecture professor and distinguished faculty member, is the recipient of the 2010 R. Buckminster Fuller Award from the Illinois branch of the American Institute of Architects. The AIA presents the annual award to recognize "the exemplary dedication of an AIA member to humanitarian concerns, social impact or community endeavors" and Davey earned the accolade for more than two decades of working with young people in summer architecture workshops and camps.

Program Awards

The Architectural Preservation Summer program is the recipient of the Project of the Year Award and the 2010 Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Award for Education. Both awards are from Landmarks Illinois, a state non-profit organization that tried to "preserve, protect and promote architectural and historic resources in Illinois through advocacy and education."



Renee Favreau accepts Best Student Leader award.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Student Accomplishment

Renee Favreau, an MBA student, won the award for Best Student Leader at the 2010 National Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization Annual Conference. The award, given on the basis of faculty advisory nomination citing outstanding characteristics and work done

for the chapter, goes to a student who goes above and beyond the call of duty as a student leader. Both Favreau and Tom Dupuis, a senior marketing major, advanced to the quarterfinal round in the conference's Elevator Pitch Competition.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

Program Awards

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded SIU and the School of Social Work one of its highly competitive and prestigious Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education grants. The FISPE grant covers a four-year period and totals \$180,000, which will be shared with Fordham University. The purpose of the grant is to award participating students from the partner universities a Human Rights Certificate for Social Work. The project director from the U.S. side is Elisabeth Reichert of Southern's School of Social Work.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Faculty and Staff Honors

A technical paper co-authored by Peter Filip, director of the Center for Advanced Friction Studies, was named one of the most outstanding Society of Automotive Engineers Technical Papers of 2009. The paper will be published in the second volume of the *SAE International Journal of Materials and Manufacturing*.

Serge Abrate, professor of mechanical engineering and engineering processes, is the editor of a new book entitled, *Impact Engineering of Composite Structures*. The book provides an introduction to the mechanics of composite materials, written for graduate students and practitioners in the industry. It examines ways to model the impact event, to determine the size and severity of the damage and discusses general trends observed during experiments.

Program Awards

SIU Innovative Systems, an effort that supports professional activities for students, received a \$25,000 grant from Motorola Inc., which made the donation through its "Innovation Generation" grant. The SIU program was one of 112 the company chose to support nationwide.

The SIU Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering won second place at the ATMAE annual conference in October. The objective of this year's competition was for a robot to dig up a pipe out of sand. The SIU team is the only school to have won second place in the competition for three years in a row.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Faculty and Staff Honors

A piece written by Frank Stemper, composer-in-residence, will premiere in New York City on March 20, 2011, at the New York Virtuoso Singers Choral Composition Competition Awards Concert. "By Night My Mind" sets two Shakespearean love sonnets to music featuring choir and piano. The composition is also an "Editor's Choice Pick" featured in "That New Music Library," a Rosenbaum project.

The Glass Art Society, an international not-for-profit organization promoting the glass arts, selected Courtney Boyd, visiting assistant professor in the School of Art and Design, as an Emerging Artist. She will present selections of her work at the Glass Art Society's national conference in Louisville, Ky.



Frank Stemper

COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATION & MEDIA ARTS

Student Accomplishment

Julia M. Rendleman, a graduate student, is one of four photojournalism students in the United States to earn an award from Getty Images Inc. for editorial photography. Rendleman is working on a project that focuses on female inmates at the Illinois Department of Corrections' Impact Incarceration Program at Dixon Springs.

Alt.news 26:46, Southern's award-winning half-hour alternative TV news magazine, received an Emmy in the magazine news program category at the 2010 National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Mid-America Regional Chapter Emmy Awards in St. Louis. The program, *episode 1103*, aired Jan. 24, 2010. John D. Elder, a May 2010 radio-television graduate, and Kevin M. Hill, a senior with a double major in radio-television and cinema and photography, were the program's executive producers.

Seven current and former students in SIU's Department of Radio-Television took home honors in the 2010 Illinois Broadcasters Association Student Silver Dome Awards. Students earned two first-place awards, three second-place awards, and two third-place awards. In addition, the River Region Evening Edition news team earned second-place for Best Television Newscast for its May 3, 2010, broadcast. Three recent graduates of the department's media industry sequence swept the Best Sales Presentation category, while two other students won awards for best promotional campaign. The 2010 individual IBA Student Silver Dome Award recipients from SIU are Charles Venhaus, a May 2010 radio-television graduate; Ashley D. Sweet, a senior in radio-television; Brendan Sheehy, a senior in radio-television; Krista Mason King, a May 2010 radio-television graduate; Brett S. Beherns, a May 2010 radio-television graduate; David M. Goldberg, a senior in radio-television; and Marina Medic, a May 2010 radio-television graduate.

Faculty and Staff Honors

H.D. Motyl, an assistant professor in the Department of Radio-Television, received a 2010 National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation Faculty Seminar Fellowship. Twenty faculty members from across the United States will attend the seminar in Los Angeles. The five-day program offers discussions, presentations and interactions with major studios, production companies, the networks and their top production and programming people.

William H. Freivogel, director of SIU's School of Journalism, initiated discussions late last year with journalism instructors at other universities in the state about the potential for a regional network of student investigative reporters. Those early talks resulted in a recent \$75,000 grant from the McCormick Foundation to the University of Illinois for the Investigative Journalism Education Consortium — a group that will include universities in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Iowa. The consortium's goal will be to help offset the dearth of "investigative reporting muscle" that many news organizations face due to budget cuts.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Faculty and Staff Honors

The team of SIU researchers, headed by zoology associate professor Don Sparling and forestry assistant professor Clay Nielsen, are embarking on five-year, \$450,000 study examining the best ways farmers enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program can manage their land during the 10- to 15-year-long agreements they enter with the federal government. The grant, which is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, will focus on "mid-contract" management practices for CRP participants in nine Illinois counties.

An interdisciplinary group of researchers at Southern will use a \$1.43 million grant from the National Science Foundation to examine the response of Midwest agriculture to climate change during the rest of the century. The four-year project, entitled "CNH: Climate Change, Hydrology and Landscapes of America's Heartland: A Multi-Scale Natural-Human System," is under way now, in the first stages of the necessary data collection. Christopher L. Lant, a professor in the geography and environmental resources department in the College of Liberal Arts, heads up the research team. Rounding out the research team are Justin T. Schoof, assistant professor in



Justin Shew, a doctoral student, pauses in a grassy field as he collects data on bird population density in Illinois.

the geography and environmental resources department; John W. Nicklow, professor of civil and environmental engineering in the College of Engineering; Silvia Secchi, assistant professor of agribusiness economics in the College of Agricultural Sciences; Steven Kraft, professor emeritus of agribusiness economics; and Girmay Misgna, GIS Lab supervisor for the Environmental Resources and Policy doctoral program.

Frank E. Anderson, associate professor of zoology in the College of Science, is a researcher on a five-year, almost \$3 million project that is part the National Science Foundation's "Assembling the Tree of Life" effort. Anderson will focus on sequencing the genes of annelids, a group of animals that includes more than 16,000 species of segmented worms living on land and in water. Anderson, who will get about \$480,000 of the grant to run his part of the study at SIU, will work with researchers at Auburn University, Colgate University, the Texas A&M University at Galveston and the University of Kansas.

Stephen Ebbs, associate professor of plant biology, is the winner of the 2010 Course Developer Award from the Association of Distance Education and Independent Learning. The award honors faculty members who contribute to online and distance learning. Ebbs teaches two courses through SIU's Office of Distance Education, both of which he developed. They include a core curriculum general biology course and a major-level course on cell biology.

Program Awards

The Computing Accreditation Commission, a branch of ABET Inc., granted a six-year accreditation to the Department of Computer Science's Bachelor of Science degree in computer science.

The American Chemical Society has granted a five-year re-accreditation to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry's Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science programs, lending its prestige to the long-standing SIU programs through 2014.

SCHOOL OF LAW

Student Accomplishment

Jaye R. Lindsay, a third-year student at Southern's School of Law, recently earned top honors in the 2010 Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys' Law Student Writing Competition. Lindsay wrote about the inequity in assessing property taxes on non-profit hospitals in Illinois in *Poverty, Profits, and Provena: A Demographic Approach to Charity Care*.

ATHLETICS

Student Accomplishment

Senior Dan Dunbar captured the men's individual title in October at the Missouri Valley Conference Cross Country Championship in Augusta, Kan., while Emily Toennies and Megan Hoelscher both earned top five finishes. As a team, the men finished second for the second consecutive season and the women came in sixth place.

The SIU cross country team earned seven spots on the 2010 Missouri Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete Teams. The Salukis led the conference in total selections, with the men earning four selections and the women with three. The honorees are: Emily Toennies, Megan Hoelscher, Jamie Pfister, Dan Dunbar, Neal Anderson, T.J. Heffernan, and Lucas Cherry.

For the third-straight season, three Saluki football players were selected to the *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District V First Team, as voted upon by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America. Senior **Joe Allaria**, along with juniors **Chance Coda** and **David Pickard** were voted to University Division First Team.

SIU senior cornerback **Korey Lindsey** is one of 20 finalists for the Buck Buchanan Award, honoring the most outstanding defensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision.

Southern tied for the nation's lead as it had three student-athletes selected to the 2010 ESPN Academic All-America Football Teams as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Senior wide receiver **Joe Allaria** and junior defensive end **Chance Coda** were voted to the first team while offensive tackle **David Pickard** was selected to the second team.

Junior center **Bryan Boemer** and senior cornerback **Korey Lindsey** were SIU's two selections to the All-Missouri Valley Football Conference first team. Four Salukis were named to the second team, including senior inside linebacker **Stephen Franklin**, offensive tackle **David Pickard**, fullback **John Goode** and defensive end **Chance Coda**, all juniors. Making the honorable mention team was senior kicker **Kyle Dougherty**, senior wide receiver **Joe Allaria** and sophomore outside linebacker **Jayson DiManche**.

The SIU football team had five players selected to the 2010 Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Academic Teams. Senior wide receiver **Joe Allaria**, junior defensive end **Chance Coda** and junior offensive tackle **David Pickard** were all selected to the first team. Senior safety **Brad Briggs** and senior defensive end **Jason Seaman** earned honorable mentions.

Saluki seniors **Jennifer Berwanger** and **Alicia Johnson** were part of a field of 12 student-athletes that were named to the 2010 ESPN Academic All-District V Women's Volleyball team selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

SIU volleyball players **Jennifer Berwanger** and **Alicia Johnson** earned Missouri Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete first-team honors and **Lauren Blumhorst** earned honorable mention accolades. Berwanger also earned All-Missouri Valley Conference second team honors for her efforts this season.

Faculty and Staff Honors

Southern head swimming and diving coach **Rick Walker** was honored with the Adolph Kiefer Safety Commendation award at the annual United States Aquatic Sports convention on Sept. 17. The award is presented to the individual or organization that demonstrates outstanding commitment to aquatic safety and has included luminaries from a variety of fields who have demonstrated ongoing or instantaneous acts of heroism.

SIU head women's golf coach **Diane Daugherty** won the senior division of the Ladies' Professional Golf Association Midwest section in October.

Alumni Achievement

SIU alum **Jason Ordway** earned a spot in the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials by winning the 2010 Columbus, Ohio Marathon with a time of 2 hours, 18 minutes, and 8 seconds, a full three minutes ahead of second place.

Program Awards

According to data published by the NCAA earlier this week, three teams at Southern Illinois University have attained a Graduation Success Rate of 100 percent. Those three teams with a perfect mark are **Saluki men's basketball**, **women's golf** and **women's tennis**. GSR is a measurement of graduation during a six-year time frame from initial college enrollment.