

# SOUTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

September 2010

## UNIVERSITY ACCOLADES

### Faculty and Staff Honors

David H. Carlson, dean of Library Affairs at SIU, is the 2010 Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year. The Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the Illinois Library Association, is honoring Carlson for his outstanding contributions to Illinois academic and research librarianship.

Sharon Walters, assistant director of the SIU Office of Distance Education, will co-chair the award committee of the Association for Distance Education and Independent Learning. The association, a professional organization for people engaged or interested in collegiate independent study, provides professional development and interaction opportunities for members.

### Program Awards

*G.I. Jobs* magazine named Southern as a “Military Friendly School for 2011.” According to the magazine, the list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the nation. The magazine polled more than 7,000 schools nationwide; 1,220 institutions made this year’s list.

Southern earned recognition from *U. S. News & World Report* in its “Best Colleges 2011” rankings. SIU entered the list of “Best National Universities” at 183, and landed at 101 in the “Top Public Universities: National Universities” list. The lists reflect the top 75 percent of schools in each category.

Southern continues to be a top choice for active-duty military personnel who are pursuing degrees. The University is ranked 37th by active duty service members who used tuition assistance during the 2009 fiscal year, according to a report in the June/July 2010 issue of *Military Times Edge* magazine.

The magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* published its annual Top 100 Undergraduate Degree Producers rankings in its June 10 issue and the national rankings place SIU high in the top 100 in six categories, including a No. 1 rank for institutions conferring bachelor’s degrees in education to African Americans. Among other rankings, SIU is 17th for education degrees awarded to Native Americans, 26th for degrees awarded to Hispanics and 26th for education degrees awarded to Asian Americans. In addition, SIU is 33rd among the top 100 institutions for conferring bachelor’s degrees in all academic disciplines to African Americans and 20th among traditionally white institutions for awarding baccalaureate degrees in all disciplines to African Americans.

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

### Program Awards

Roughly 60 soldiers headed to Afghanistan next spring will focus on farming, not fighting, after getting some hands-on training at Southern. The newly formed Illinois Army National Guard Agriculture Development Team learned about animal health, nutrition and handling; soil quality and testing; basic crop production; and forages and vegetables suitable for Afghanistan in workshops at the University’s farms. They will use this knowledge to help farmers in the largely rural, border province of Kunar in northeastern Afghanistan.



**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.

## COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

### Student Accomplishment

For the second year in a row, every graduate of the Dental Hygiene Program taking the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination passed the test. All 35 students passed with an average score of 86.6. The national average for the test was a score of 81.8.

### Faculty and Staff Honors

The three teams representing SIU's aviation program in the Air Race Classic fared exceptionally well. Flight instructors Erin Jackson and Christine Zoerlein finished ninth overall, while the team of Katie Lake and Ashley Carder was 12th, and Sabrina Zweggo and Heather Heidinger placed 20th. The 34th annual event, which celebrates the history of women in aviation, covered 2,157.7 nautical miles in four days, starting in Fort Myers, Fla., and ending in Frederick, Md.



Erin Jackson and Christine Zoerlein

### Program Awards

The architecture program at Southern earned formal accreditation from the National Architectural Accrediting Board, meaning those who graduate with a master's degree from the program can, after completing an internship lasting about two years, sit for the architect licensing exam.

Faculty, students and staff at SIU will assist in developing a guidebook to help general aviation airports nationwide develop individual business plans. The University and Aviation Management Consulting Group are partners in the \$400,000 project, which will last 18 months. Aviation Management Consulting Group, based in Centennial, Colo., is the primary consultant with University officials participating as sub-consultants. The University's share of the project is approximately \$80,000 to \$100,000.



Randy Birdsong

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

### Alumni Achievement

Randy Birdsong, a 2009 finance graduate, will be the focus of an episode of ESPN's *Whitetail Country* in late November. The focus is on hunting whitetail deer and Birdsong will tell how he became such a proficient deer hunter. Birdsong said he's just finalized negotiations for his new television show, *Headhunters*, that will hit the airwaves at 3 p.m. Sundays beginning July 31 on the Outdoor Channel. He said the reality television show will feature him and three other hunters travelling around the country in quest of all different types of game. See [www.headhunters-tv.com](http://www.headhunters-tv.com) for a preview.

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Student Accomplishment

Sadie L. Lovett and Brooke D. Walker, both enrolled in SIU's Rehabilitation Institute's doctoral program in behavior analysis, were honored in May during the annual North American meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in San Antonio, Texas. They won an annual research paper competition sponsored by the association's verbal behavior special interest group and received plaques during a banquet ceremony.

### Faculty and Staff Honors

Dale O. Ritzel, health education professor emeritus and long-time director of the Safety Center, received the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association's highest honor in July. The Richard Kaywood Memorial Award, given annually since 1985, recognizes sustained and substantial contributions to the field, profession, and association and carries with it a \$500 prize.

Joyce V. Fetro, professor of health education, will receive the American School Health Association's highest honor in October during the organization's national convention. Its William A. Howe award recognizes outstanding professional contributions and service in furthering health education. Fetro will receive a plaque.

### Program Award

The School of Social Work received accreditation of its undergraduate and graduate programs from the Council on Social Work Education. SIU's social work school has received continuous accreditation since 1974.

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

### Student Accomplishment

The SIU Engineers Without Borders travelled to Central America in August, where they began work on a waterway bridge in an effort to help the local community. SIU engineering students who took the trip were: Lance Pennington, Mallory McGuire, and Bryson Orr, all seniors. The group is working with Gateway Professional Partners EWB chapter, partnering with Grace Johnson, a civil engineer with Kaskaskia Engineering and an SIU alumna who also will make the trip. Two students from the SIU Edwardsville campus also participated.

### Faculty and Staff Honors

The American Academy of Water Resources Engineers named Associate Professor Bruce DeVantier of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering a diplomat in water resource engineering. The certification recognizes DeVantier for his work in broadening the body of knowledge for practicing engineers.

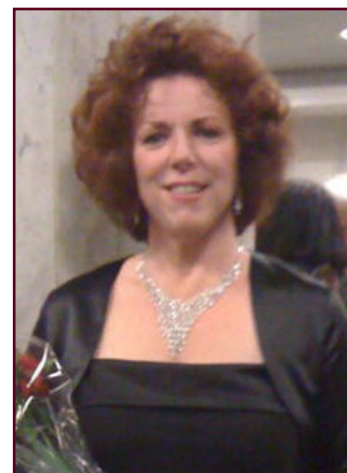
## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

### Alumni Achievement

Anthony Cruitt, a 2009 graduate, is a recipient of a U. S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship. Cruitt will spend more than two months in Baku, Azerbaijan, where he will study the Azerbaijani language. The immersion program includes classroom instruction in language acquisition, with weekend cultural expeditions.

Zuhair A.G. Humadi, executive director of the Iraq Education Initiative, earned the Cassandra Pyle Award for Leadership and Collaboration in International Education and Exchange. NAFSA: Association of International Educators presented the award to Humadi at its annual conference in Kansas City, Mo., in June. Humadi earned a doctorate from SIU in political science in 1978.

Rhonda McAfee, a School of Music alumna, performed as the American soloist with the Messiah Project at the Kremlin in Moscow. The production was the first-ever American and Russian performance of Handel's Messiah.



Rhonda McAfee

## COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATION & MEDIA ARTS

### Student Accomplishment

*Alt.news 26:46*, the University's award-winning half-hour alternative TV news magazine, earned three nominations for the 2010 National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Mid-America Regional Chapter Emmy Awards. The nominees are: John Elder, a 2010 radio-television graduate; Kevin M. Hill, a junior majoring in radio-television and cinema and photography; Jenna E. Tromburg, a sophomore in cinema and photography; Frank E. McDonald, Jr., a junior in radio-television; and James A. Throgmorton, a junior in cinema and photography.



Josh Hyde

## Alumni Achievement

Josh Hyde's first feature film, *Postales*, made its world premiere at the 64th Edinburgh International Film Festival in June. The prestigious 12-day festival was held in Edinburgh, Scotland. Hyde earned a degree in cinema and photography from SIU in 2002.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

### Student Accomplishment

Matthew Krampe, a graduate student in zoology, won the 2010 James E. Wright Graduate Award from the American Fisheries Society for his research advancing fishery genetics. He will give a presentation during the AFS annual meeting in Pittsburgh later this year.

Shawn Duncan, a master's student in zoology, won the Todd Fink Memorial Award from the Illinois Conservation Foundation. The award will provide Duncan with a \$500 stipend to defray research and registration costs.

Jen Eichelberger, a graduate student in zoology, won the Stoye Award for best student oral presentation in Genetics, Development and Morphology at the 2010 meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in June.

Bonnie Mulligan, a zoology graduate student, won the John E. Skinner Memorial Award from American Fisheries Society. The award provides travel funds for deserving graduate students or exceptional undergraduates to attend the AFS annual meeting in September.

Nicolle MacVey, a zoology graduate student, won a scholarship from Walleyes Unlimited, one of the nation's largest fishing groups promoting multi-species recreational fishing.

## Program Awards

Researchers at SIU will receive a contract worth \$1.1 million from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources that will fund multiple studies of the Asian carp, which many believe threaten Illinois fisheries in the Great Lakes and its rivers. SIU researchers will partner with the Illinois Natural History Survey to look for ways to establish a new fishery aimed at harvesting the Asian carp to the point of eradication here.

## ATHLETICS

### Student Accomplishment

The U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association announced that both the men's and women's Saluki track and field teams earned All-Academic Team honors. In addition, 15 Salukis were named members of the men's and women's 2010 Division I All-Academic Track and Field team. Gwen Berry, Olga Ciura, Tredene Davis, Kimberly Fortney, Meredith Hayes, Megan Hoelscher, Malaikah Love, Miracle Thompson and Toni Whitfield were honored on the women's side. For the men, Jake Deiters, Daniel Dunbar, Jason Ordway, Collin Otto, Joe Paradiso and Ryan Shumaker earned the honor.

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association announced that a school-record six members from last year's SIU women's tennis team were named ITA Scholar-Athletes. Senior Jessica Flannery, sophomores Vishakha Sheoran and Emily Whitney, and freshmen Melanie Delsart, Radha Jeyaratnam, and Anastacia Simons were all part of the record haul for the Salukis.

Saluki outside hitter Jennifer Berwanger was one of 30 NCAA women's volleyball student-athletes who were selected as candidates for the first-ever Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in volleyball. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence — community, classroom, character and competition.

Senior kicker **Kyle Dougherty**, cornerback **Korey Lindsey**, and offensive lineman **David Pickard** were named to the FCS Senior Scout Bowl 2010 Preseason All-American Team. Dougherty was also named to the Fred Mitchell Outstanding Place-Kicker Award watch list.

The Saluki men's tennis program was one of 14 schools recognized by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, and four of SIU's players — **Carlos Brandon Florez**, **Jordan Snyder**, **Orhan Spahic** and **Pavlo Buryi** — were named to the ITA Scholar-Athlete team.

SIU track and field standouts **Gwen Berry** and **Jeneva McCall** represented the United States with three top-three finishes at the 2010 North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletic Association Under 23 Track & Field Championships in July. McCall finished second in both the discus and hammer throws and Berry finished third in the hammer.

Sophomore golfer **Alisha Matthews** was named to the 2009-10 National Golf Coaches Association Division I All-American Scholar Team.

Five SIU football players were named to the 2010 Consensus Draft Services FCS Preseason All-America squad. Junior offensive tackle **David Pickard** was named a first team representative. Junior center **Bryan Boemer**, was named to the second team. Senior cornerback **Korey Lindsey**, senior safety **Mike McElroy** and senior kicker **Kyle Dougherty** were all named to the honorable mention team.

Southern track and field athletes **Jason Ordway** and **Toni Whitfield** were named to the College Sports Information Directors of America/*ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District First Team for the 2009-10 season.

Southern Illinois thrower **Jeneva McCall** won her first national title at the 2010 NCAA Track and Field Outdoor Championships in June. She earned a total of five All-American honors at the competition.

Saluki track and field athlete **Toni Whitfield** was named to the 2009-10 *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Teams.

### **Alumni Achievement**

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim selected right-handed pitcher **Bryant George** in the 13th round with the 414th overall pick of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft in June.

Saluki senior right-hander **Nathan Forer** was selected by the New York Yankees in the 46th round with the 1,405th overall pick of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft in June.

Former Saluki shortstop **Michael Stalter** and former catcher/designated hitter **Tyler Bullock** both signed contracts with the Southern Illinois Miners of the Frontier League in June.

### **Program Awards**

The SIU **volleyball team**, carrying a 3.54 team cumulative grade point average this season, earned the American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award for the fifth-straight season.

The SIU **men's club baseball team** took third place in the 2010 National Club Baseball Association Division II World Series in June.

SIU is one of 12 Division I schools and two conferences that the NCAA is awarding **women's basketball** grants to as a part of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Grant Program to increase awareness, exposure and attendance of women's basketball. A total of 88 member schools and conferences submitted proposals in the third year of the pilot program.