



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Lincoln Land Community College Foundation

WINTER 2020

Donations provide support to hearing-impaired students

Returning to school after 20 years can lead to a tremendous amount of apprehension but applying for college when you are profoundly deaf can be down-right terrifying. If it wasn't for another student in a similar situation who proved to her that anything was possible, Sara Hadlock may have never gone back to school.

Sara, who attended the Illinois School for the Deaf, from 1996-97, grew up in Indianapolis. She has five daughters ranging in age from six – 22 years old. Her husband completed his welding certifications at LLCC and aspires to obtain an Associate's degree in Construction Occupation.

If it wasn't for another student in a similar situation who proved to her that anything was possible, Sara Hadlock may have never gone back to school.

Attending school full-time while raising a family, requires a balancing act. Sara really had no idea what she wanted to study in college. After taking the LLCC college placement test, she was required to enroll in developmental classes in order to "catch up." But that didn't stop Sara from completing her associate's degree in 18 months with a 3.5 out of 4.0 GPA with more than 80 credit hours under her belt. After taking some Certified Nursing Assistant classes, she has decided to continue on the path to nursing.

Sara really pushed herself. But she needed help. "Even though sign language interpreters are provided, they couldn't keep up with all of the



notetaking and spelling required in my Biology class", states Sara. Thanks to donations to the Foundation, Sara was provided with a laptop to use in class that was equipped with virtual interpreting services for deaf and hearing impaired students. According to Kim Eddings, LLCC Accessibility Services Coordinator, there were 14 students enrolled during the Fall 2019 semester requiring 246 hours per week of sign language interpreter service. "Arranging assistance for that many students, was not possible with the current number of live interpreters available," said Eddings. "Having the laptop with virtual interpreting services and closed caption available to our students was the answer", she added.

Although Sara was determined to succeed in college on her own, sometimes a little help is needed. Whether that help arrives in the form of a compassionate professor, assistive technology or financial assistance, it's an investment in someone's educational future.

Thanks to donations to the Foundation, Sara was provided with a laptop to use in class that was equipped with virtual interpreting services for deaf and hearing-impaired students.

Students to learn on a Learjet



Being a female student in a male dominated industry, can be intimidating. But Georgia

Rautenbach says she was fortunate to have such amazing classmates. “We really bonded during my time in the Aviation Management program,” says Rautenbach. “They were funny and supportive and we always kept each other laughing and helped each other if someone needed it.”

Rautenbach who graduated in July of 2019 with academic honors is now employed by Standard Aero as an aviation mechanic.

Bob Brandis of Brandis Aviation in Taylorville donated a Learjet 24B to the LLCC aviation program. What will it be like to work on a Learjet, the well-known brand of private, luxury aircraft? “Our students will be doing mechanical maintenance on a corporate jet, be able to take it apart and reassemble it,” says Dave Pietrzak, director of the LLCC Aviation program. “They’ll be doing ground operational checks and running systems. This will really prepare them well for working on corporate jets in the future and also larger, commercial jets.”

The Learjet will replace a Cessna 340 piston aircraft that students currently use. Paying it forward, LLCC donated the Cessna to the Springfield Airport Authority Public Safety Office for use in training for extrications and fire procedures. LLCC students can earn associate degrees in airframe and powerplant (A&P) aviation mechanics or aviation management. An agreement with Southern Illinois University’s aviation program allows LLCC grads to transfer there and complete a bachelor’s degree in as little as one year. LLCC also offers shorter term, technician certificate programs in aviation airframe and powerplant.

Land donated to LLCC in memory of Lloyd Inslee, Jr.

Dean “Robbie” Robert, Jr., president and co-owner of Robert’s Seafood, recently donated 2.1 acres of land to the Lincoln Land Community College

Foundation in memory of Lloyd Inslee, Jr.

“Lloyd lived on this property for more than 50 years. It was his ‘Shangri-La,’” said Robert. “He was a man of great faith and could

be described as ‘one with the earth’ as he nurtured this property and wildlife that made it their home as well. Our family is thrilled to turn over the stewardship of this property to the

LLCC Foundation so that Lloyd’s legacy can be carried forward through education for agriculture and horticulture students.”

“Mr. Inslee served as the college’s neighbor for many years, and we

are grateful to be able to expand access to a living, environmental laboratory for our students,” added Karen Sanders, executive director, LLCC Foundation.

Scholarship donor appreciation event brings donors and recipients together

Rita and Geoffrey Davis, longtime Lincoln Land Community College supporters met their 2019-2020 scholarship award recipient, Christina Law, at the recent scholarship appreciation reception, held on October 29th in the LLCC Student Union. The James A. Brady Culinary Arts Scholarship was established in 2004

after Rita's son was killed in an automobile accident at the age of 20 while enrolled in the Culinary Arts program at LLCC. The scholarship benefits a student in the field of Hospitality Management, Culinary Arts, or Baking and Pastry.

Rita and Geoffrey support the college in many ways annually. In addition to their



scholarship, they donate wine and hand-created artwork for the auction at the Gala. They attend the Gala every year as well.

Law, is a returning college student with a degree in chemistry who has worked full-time at HSHS St. John's Hospital for the

last 16 years. She is a married mother that discovered her love, appreciation and interest in the culinary world, while working a part-time job at the Olive Garden and serving as a Girl Scout leader. From those experiences, she decided to return to

LLCC to pursue her dream of becoming a chef. The scholarship has allowed Christina to cut back on her hours at work and take additional classes to assist her on her path to obtaining her dream career.

New Board Members Seated; Officers Elected

The LLCC Foundation Board of Directors elected new members, bid farewell to others and elected officers at its December board meeting. The board thanked outgoing board members Chris Carter, Tim Schroeder, Mitch Wernsing and Todd Wise.

Ronda Folkerts of Springfield was elected chair for 2020. Greg Marantz of Springfield was elected vice chair and Kathy Dierkes of Chatham was elected treasurer. Three community members joined the board, Phil Beeler, Joe Kulek and Dan Wilcoxon.



Phil Beeler has worked for Springfield Electric Supply Company, in Springfield for 27 years. He is the Senior Director and Procurement Supplier Relations which includes managing the Corporate Purchasing Department. Beeler graduated from Raymond Lincolnwood High School and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He also holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois Springfield.



Joe Kulek, CPA, CCIFP, is the Chief Financial Officer for Henson Robinson Company and has served in this role since September 2018. Joe had previously worked for Sikich LLP where he was a partner in the Springfield office. He is an LLCC alum and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois Springfield.



Dan Wilcoxon, CPA, has served as the Chief Financial Officer for United Community Bank and its holding company, United

Community Bancorp, Inc. since 2013. He graduated from New Berlin High School and holds a bachelor's degree in accountancy from the SIU College of Business and a master's degree in accountancy from the University of Illinois at Springfield.



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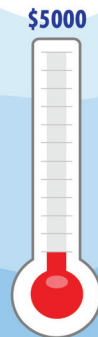
FEBRUARY 25, 2020
 **Giving Day**

**ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25,
INVEST IN LLCC STUDENTS**
 JOIN FELLOW STUDENTS,
FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS
AND DONATE TO THE
PAY IT FORWARD STUDENT
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND



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#LLCCGivingDay

Join us May 2 for the
2020 LLCC Foundation Gala!

Sponsorships and tickets are available

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