Lawrence Tech Leads Flotilla For Pittsburgh's 250th Celebration

By Andrew Gerhart
Associate Professor
of Mechanical Engineering

A replica 1750s canoe paddled by Lawrence Tech alumni and faculty led the way on Oct. 4 when a flotilla of nearly 100 boats converged on the confluence of the Alleghany, Monongahela and Ohio rivers to kick off a two-month celebration of Pittsburgh's 250th anniversary.

Why was Lawrence Tech involved so prominently in Pittsburgh's festivities? It goes back to 2005 when nine students, three faculty members and eight staff members were invited back to Pittsburgh to represent Lawrence Tech alumni and faculty in the Mobile Grand Parade during the city's 250th anniversary celebration.

Associated Professor Andy Gerhart, Will Schumaker, Denise Janus, Chris Naida, Chris Trunick, and Associate Professor Don Carpenter.

Quest Enables A&S Majors To Pursue Specialized Interests

By Melissa Grunow
Leadership Curriculum Coordinator

Arts and Sciences students now have a new way to explore their artistic, research or leadership interests beyond the classroom experience.

Quest is a co-curricular experiential learning program that supports students, or Explorers, who want to pursue specialized interests at a deeper level with the mentoring of a Quest guide.

Already this fall, there are 23 Quest projects under way in the areas of arts, research, and leadership, and the College of Arts and Sciences is eagerly seeking more participants.

“When you follow your bliss,” said Melinda Weinstein, chair of the Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Communication (HSSC) and Quest director, “doors open where you never thought doors would be. The Quest program enables students to explore interests – even outside of their degree programs – for a longer period of time than a semester.”

The collaborative learning and engagement opportunities offered by participating in Quest will enhance student development, and the faculty and staff members who serve as guides will also benefit, according to Dean Hsiao-Ping Moore of the College of Arts and Sciences.

“Quest projects allow students to experience a variety of career paths in real world settings. It is a perfect way to help students find their passion and align it with a career path,” Moore said.

To get involved, students present an idea to a potential project guide, who can be a professor, staff member, administrator, alumnus or industry sponsor. Students then complete a project proposal form – available in Science Building, room S225 – and obtain signatures from the guide, the topic administrator, and Weinstein, the director.

The administrators are David Huntsperger, HSSC assistant professor, for arts; Jeff Morrissette, natural sciences assistant professor, for research; and Melissa Grunow, leadership curriculum coordinator, for leadership.

After obtaining signatures, students can apply for stipends if their projects need funding. They also keep an hours

(continued on page 2)

Transportation Design Students See Paris Auto Show

Sophomores in Lawrence Tech’s transportation design degree program gained invaluable international perspective earlier this month when they attended the Paris Auto Show as part of a trip led by Dean Glen LeRoy of the College of Architecture and Design.

Fresh from their well-received proposals in the Ford Motor Company’s Model T challenge, the students embarked on a week-long tour of Paris, meeting with representatives of the automotive industry and leading design schools.

A highlight at the auto show was a private seminar with Italdesign co-founder, Giorgetto Giugiaro, widely acknowledged as one of the world’s leading auto designers. The students peppered him with questions about the industry and automotive design philosophy.

Another highlight was an all-day tour of the show by Camillo Pardo, one of Ford’s leading designers, who spoke with students about the design approaches of the vehicles on display. He also introduced students to leading industry representatives.

At Creapole-ESDI, located in the heart of Paris, on the Rue de Rivioli near the Louvre, students toured design studios, classrooms, workshops and student displays. Representatives from Strate College made a presentation regarding the integration of design and technology.

At Dessault Systems, the students were given a private presentation of CATIA for Design, an emerging design-oriented software with potentially profound implications for the future of transportation design.
Assistant Professor Yawen Li in biomedical engineering and Associate Professor Christopher Eamon in civil engineering are the recipients of the first round of funding for the new Faculty Research Seed Grant program. This new internal funding opportunity for Lawrence Tech faculty is administered by the Research Support Services Committee co-chaired by Associate Provost Steven Howell and Associate Professor Robert Fletcher. The purpose of these seed grants is to support faculty research and creative endeavors with the goal of subsequent development of proposals for external funding. Provost Maria Vaz makes the awards after a competitive application process that includes recommendations from department chairs and college deans. All full-time faculty are eligible to apply; applications from pre-tenure faculty are given preference.

Li’s proposal involves integrating microfabrication technology into biomedical engineering (BME) curriculum development. Microfabrication is an enabling technology of 21st century medicine, with a wide range of applications varying from point-of-care diagnostic devices and tissue engineered products to basic tools for research in cell and molecular biology. Li is working on establishing a biomedical microelectromechanical systems (BioMEMS) lab whose main function is to create teaching modules for several BME courses. The lab will also provide research opportunities for students and increase the pool of talented researchers who have both knowledge of micro/nano technology and an interest in applying it to medically and biologically relevant problems.

Eamon will develop and evaluate a new method for estimating the failure probability of structures. This is necessary so that design codes can be calibrated to provide an adequate and consistent level of safety and reliability for different types of structural components and systems. Eamon has developed the concept of a new reliability method, called “failure sampling,” that addresses the problem of producing accurate results with a reasonable computational cost.

Christopher Eamon

Pittsburgh: Lawrence Tech Leads The Way

(continued from page 1) members paddled a canoe for seven weeks and 500 miles from Detroit to Pittsburgh. Strange? Yes, but for good reasons. The canoe, designed and constructed by the students, is a 24-foot replica of a birch bark “canot du nord” that the French used in colonial days. The Lawrence Tech expedition commemorated the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the French and Indian War in 1755 by traveling a standard trade and military route of the time.

With two years of planning, the students gained tremendous out-of-classroom experiences and participated in commemorative events throughout the expedition, while the public benefited from Lawrence Tech’s 26 presentations along the route.

While all the students from the 2005 expedition are now graduated, Mike Means, Chris Naida, Denise Janus, Chris Trunick and Will Schumaker were able to make it back to Pittsburgh. Faculty advisors Don Carpenter, Andy Gerhart, and Phil Vogt all made the reunion trip, and the Means Family and Bryan McLean provided some ground support.

The replica birch bark canoe was launched into the Alleghany three miles upstream from the confluence of the rivers and downtown Pittsburgh. Dressed in traditional clothing of fur traders and French militia of the 1750s, the Lawrence Tech crew led the flotilla featuring dragon boats, kayaks, canoes, rowboats, personal motorboats, Coast Guard boats, River Rescue boats, and even a few majestic paddle-wheelers.

Lawrence Tech had an information/display table set up near the docked canoe, and crew members discussed the canoe and their 2005 expedition throughout the afternoon. The crew also had the opportunity to participate in the many festivities around the park and at the museums.
Bawcum Wins Marcum Service Award

Angela Bawcum, a systems support specialist for applications services in the IT Service Delivery Department, has won the Marcum Customer Service Award for the fall term. It comes with a $1,000 stipend.

The Customer Service Award is presented biannually to a Lawrence Tech employee of any job classification (faculty, staff or administration) who provides customers (co-workers, students, etc.) with quality service and assistance. It was established to recognize Lawrence Tech employees who unfailingly provide outstanding assistance and cooperation.

The selection panel of judges looks for an employee who is consistently responsive to questions, returns phone calls, makes special efforts to fill requests and is helpful and courteous. This year's judges are Louise Garrett, DeShawn Warrick-Johnson, Holly Diamond, Dino Hernandez and Ammar Abdulahad, an operations specialist at the Computer Help Desk who was the first recipient of the award last spring.

Bawcum earned her bachelor's degree in information technology at Lawrence Tech in 2005. She started her career at Lawrence Tech while still a student and previously worked in the registrar's office and the Verandil Instructional Technology Resource Center. She played a role in implementing the Banner and Blackboard systems.

"It is Angela who first responds to many of the IT Services issues that arise during the off hours day and night," said Bill Wachob, executive director of IT Service Delivery. "Through both her technical skill and her devotion to making Lawrence Tech a better place to come for education, she keeps many things going at once."

Frank Marcum, BSME'72 DIT, established the award in memory of his wife Mary Ann Marcum, MBA'92, who was director of the Continuing Education program at Lawrence Tech when she was killed in a tragic auto accident. A strong proponent of recognizing personal achievement, Mrs. Marcum established a variety of reward and recognition programs, including the service award lapel pins staff and faculty wear to note their tenure at Lawrence Tech – a rarity at private universities.

Angela Bawcum of IT Service Delivery receives the Marcum Service Award from Frank Marcum (L) and President Lewis N. Walker.

Lawrence Tech Recognizes Employees for Service

Every year the Lawrence Tech community recognizes the contributions of employees who are celebrating anniversaries of service to the University at the annual employee recognition luncheon at Café Lawrence.

Each employee celebrating an anniversary receives a gift and congratulations from President Lewis N. Walker and other University leaders.

This year's honorees are:


**Ten years:** Sabah Abro, Laura Affler, Victor Allen, Gladys Aviles, Ladger Brinker, Chan-Hin Chung, William Doran, Patricia Hanlan, Ronald Herzog, Mark Hieber, Marilyn Hotaling, Carl Knoll, Lisa Kujawa, William Madden, Elaine McNeill, Virginia North, Catherine Phillips, Marquita Poinsetta, Paul Rainie, Lori Remlinger, Timothy Robinson, Jacqueline Stavros, Monica Stevens, Martha Thompson, Bashkim Zendeli and Raymond Ziegler.

**Fifteen years:** William Bridgeforth, Richard Gianino, Mary Power, Arthur Smith and Mark Wilson.

**Twenty years:** Frank Cusmano, Vernon Fernandez, Louise Garrett, Nabil Grace, Ahmad Khaimi, Bahram Khalighi, Rochelle Martin, Bridget Renehan, Gretchen Rudy and Edmund Ee-Mun Yuen.

**Twenty-five years:** Walter Dean, Jay Monroe, Thomas Mullin and Steven Rost.

**Thirty years:** Jerry Cuper, Thomas Nashlen and Larry Rockind.

**Forty years:** William Allen, Ruth Favro and Paul Goldsmith.

**Fifty years:** Sabah Abro, Laura Affler, Victor Allen, Gladys Aviles, Ladger Brinker, Chan-Hin Chung, William Doran, Patricia Hanlan, Ronald Herzog, Mark Hieber, Marilyn Hotaling, Carl Knoll, Lisa Kujawa, William Madden, Elaine McNeill, Virginia North, Catherine Phillips, Marquita Poinsetta, Paul Rainie, Lori Remlinger, Timothy Robinson, Jacqueline Stavros, Monica Stevens, Martha Thompson, Bashkim Zendeli and Raymond Ziegler.

**Sixty years:** Richard Gianino, Mary Power, Arthur Smith and Mark Wilson.

**Seventy years:** William Allen, Ruth Favro and Paul Goldsmith.

**Eighty years:** William Allen, Ruth Favro and Paul Goldsmith.

**Ninety years:** William Allen, Ruth Favro and Paul Goldsmith.

**One hundred years:** William Allen, Ruth Favro and Paul Goldsmith.

Benefits and Wellness Fair is Oct. 30

The Office of Human Resources staff invites all full-time employees and family members to the ninth annual Benefits and Wellness Fair Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ridler Field House. Health care providers and community vendors will answer your questions and offer health and wellness tips. Employees who attend can enter a raffle to win a great gift.

Multicultural Calendar

The Multicultural Student Support Services got off to a good start this term with performances by a Chinese opera star and an Hispanic speaker and musician, an Eid Celebration for the conclusion of Ramadan and the opening of the Diversity Brown Bag lunch series. More events are coming up, including:

- **Dreamcatcher workshop**, Nov. 4, noon, Café Lawrence. Discover the history and beauty of Dreamcatchers while making your own! In honor of Native American Heritage Month.
- **Diversity Brown Bag**, Nov. 18, 12:30-2 p.m., M318. The topic will be religious diversity.
- **Native American musician/environmentalist Joe Reilly**, Nov. 25, 11:30 a.m., Café Lawrence.

Are you interested in giving your input about the potential creation of a women's resource center on campus? If so, contact Maureen Linnell-Peart in Multicultural Services at ext. 4108 or mllinnell@ltu.edu.

Michael Marscher and James Rodgers, two professors who have worked at Lawrence Tech for 40 years, receive congratulations from President Lewis N. Walker, Provost Maria Vaz, University Advancement Vice President Steve Brown and Dean Hsiao-Ping Moore of the College of Arts and Sciences at the annual Employee Recognition Luncheon.
Learning to Find the Right Balance in Life

By Ron Jenkins
President, Student Government

Over the weekend, I attended a funeral service for my friend’s father. He was an over-the-road freight hauler who had just started driving seven months earlier after leaving the food industry as a highly accomplished chef. He was an avid hunter and loved any sport you could name, and in the last months of his life he traveled to all four corners of the lower 48 states, something few Americans can claim. He was 46 years old.

As I sat in the back of the room during the service watching my friend and his mother, now a widow, grieve in front of the casket, I felt as if the world had been robbed through this man’s untimely passing. It seemed odd to me at first that I was so moved by the death of a man I didn’t even really know. It wasn’t until I woke up the next morning that I realized why his death affected me so much. While most would say that he died far too soon, he still led what I believe is a full life. He had a loving family and a job he loved as well, but even more than that, he had used the life he was given to the fullest extent by going out and having fun. He worked hard and he played hard.

And once I realized this, I had another realization — so far my life is not nearly as balanced as his was. But in truth I have no excuse for an imbalance of work and play. Why? Because I’m in college. This brings me to my main point — even if you live to be 100, life is far too short to waste on all work or all play. We play because it makes us happy, and we work because that enables us and others to play. As long as we do both well, we will all lead fulfilling lives.

I’m afraid that what I see around me at Lawrence Tech is too much work, or at the very least not enough play. Every day I see students huddled in corners, always studying; I see students sweating it out over an upcoming test or project; I see students panicking because they forgot a Blue Book or a Scantron. It seems that everyone around me is taking life too seriously, including me.

Let’s face it — if there was an infinite amount of wealth and resources available to humanity, we would have no real need for work. In the imperfect world in which we live, however, we must work so that we can play later. I think that with a proper balance of the two we can lead the fulfilling lives we are all meant to lead.

I don’t know if that balance is something that can be taught, but I do know that it’s something that every student here should address in his or her own life. Maybe if we all properly plan out our work and our play, we can have a good life like my friend’s father did.

Any comments about this column can be sent to rjenkins@ltu.edu.

Domino’s Pizza CEO Speaks Nov. 11

David Brandon, board chairman and CEO of Domino’s Pizza, will discuss his journey as an entrepreneur and the challenges of leading a multifaceted, $1.4 billion company on Nov. 11 at 6 p.m. in the Architecture auditorium (A200). A reception will follow.

This event is co-sponsored by The Legends, a new Lawrence Tech alumni organization for entrepreneurs and business owners, Lawrence Tech’s Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization (CEO) and the Kern Entrepreneurship Education Network (KEEN). The event is free and open to everyone, but space is limited. RSVPs should be sent by Nov. 4 to Phyllis Jones at pjones@ltu.edu or ext. 2312.

AIAS Chapter Plans ‘Freedom by Design’ Fund Raiser

The American Institute of Architects Students (AIAS) chapter at Lawrence Tech will hold a fund raiser for its Freedom by Design projects Nov. 14, starting at 6:30 p.m., in the UTLC gallery.

Tickets for the dinner are $35 each. Cocktail attire is requested for all guests. The evening features a strolling dinner, and student work will be on display. There will be an auction, including the following donations made to this worthy cause:

• An autographed copy of Balthazar Korab’s book “Genius Loci: Cranbrook.”
• A private viewing of Jim Ryan’s Art Nouveau Collection and a dinner soiree for eight.
• Dinner for two at the Forest Grill with Victor and Michelle Saroki.
• Gary Sheffield autographed Baseball.
• Four Red Wings tickets.
• Cajun Creole Dinner for four with Dean Glen LeRoy of the College of Architecture and Design.

For more information about this event, contact the student chapter at aiasltu@hotmail.com or ext. 2815.

For several years the Lawrence Tech AIAS chapter has helped “Freedom by Design” clients by designing and implementing changes that make their residences more handicapped accessible. The students raise money to pay for the supplies and equipment needed for the projects.

The AIAS chapter is currently working with Susan Fitzmaurice of West Bloomfield, who has developed major mobility problems after adopting child born with Down’s syndrome and cocaine addiction. Now almost 25, Teddy has health problems and cannot read. He designs t-shirts and Fitzmaurice helps sell them online at www.teddyfitz.info. Teddy lives in his own apartment condo a level below his mother’s condo. “I encourage Teddy to live as independent a life as possible,” Fitzmaurice said.

Fitzmaurice works part-time as the ADA coordinator for the city of Dearborn. She began her disability advocacy long before she became disabled herself. That led her to adopt Teddy when she was living in New York City. Her life changed when a spinal cord injury left her a walking paraplegic.

Fitzmaurice moved back to Michigan. Another fall shattered a knee and foot. After reconstructive surgery, her condition continued to get worse and has resulted in pain, balance issues and arthritis. Her diminishing ability to walk has led to weight gain, which in turn puts more pressure on her joints. She now uses a scooter when she goes out of the house.
GREEK NEWS

Sigma Pi
For the fall semester Sigma Pi has held some great events and has some other events already planned. The semester started off with a great rush where our Rush Chair Mike Owen scheduled some events like pool, slip 'n' slide, bowling and our annual dinner at Hooters.

Sigma Pi has also had the chance to do some great fund-raising events this semester. The brothers of Sigma Pi have had the privilege of working the gates at Michigan State home games and food services at Cedar Point. Along with our fund-raising events, we also have some amazing philanthropy events planned that include revitalizing a park with the Franklin Memorial Society. The brothers of Sigma Pi also look forward to holding our annual events that include Purple Passion and our Chapter Parent Dinner. We look forward to a great semester.

– Dustin Franklin

Phi Kappa Upsilon
Anyone who has been to a Phi Kapp party knows the Castle at 21000 W. Nine Mile is a unique place. There is a lot of history behind the castle, but this year the members are making history. Several major projects have taken place this year including a new furnace with central air, remodeling of the big bedroom, a new roof, a tank-less water heater, and a new basement study area. The Castle is becoming more energy efficient and student friendly.

Anyone interested in a tour of the Castle can stop by any time or contact us at delta@phikapps.com.

– Joe Yona

Chi Omega Rho
Chi Omega Rho had a great Fall Rush! Vice President Brittnie Heard did a great job planning tons of events for us to attend. These included going to a Tigers game, a benefit concert, bowling and some very tasty lunches! Thank you! We had a blast!

We gained three new pledges: Brittany Scheul, Heather Gendron and Megan Holborn. They are almost halfway through the pledging process and they are doing an excellent job. We hope they will be great new additions to Chi Omega Rho.

On Oct. 18, a majority of the Greek Community, including Delta Phi Epsilon, Sigma Pi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Chi Omega Rho planned to participate in the Breast Cancer Walk in Detroit. It was for a great cause!

We have been organizing some new fund-raisers this semester. Megan Connor, our fund-raising chairperson, is working hard to organize some new fun fund-raisers. We are currently working on Lions games with Alpha Sigma Phi. Megan has started a new fund-raiser called EcoPhones. Old ink cartridges, cell phones, ipods, etc., are collected and turned in to the company. It’s a great eco-friendly fund-raiser. We will be having a large EcoPhone drive in the near future, so start collecting!

Our semester has been going very well and we hope yours is too!

– Ashley Perry

Alpha Sigma Phi
On Oct. 25-26 the city of Southfield will hold its annual “Boo at the Burgh” for Southfield children. The brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity are donating their time and effort to help provide a fun and spooky Halloween for young children of the area.

In other efforts to help the local community, on Sept. 17 Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity participated in a “Rock the Vote” campaign. We registered about a dozen people to vote and provided information on the candidates as well. In addition to working to get people out to vote, we will also donate our time to the city by volunteering at the polls on election day.

– Mark Baker

Community Notification System Implemented

Lawrence Tech has implemented the Community Notification System that allows parents, students, faculty and staff to sign up to receive immediate notification by cell text messages and/or multiple email messages when the need arises. This emergency response plan calls for timely and accurate communication with the campus community in the event of a campus-related emergency or school closing due to weather.

The system will not be used to send routine messages. It will be activated for emergency events only. Notification sign-up is voluntary.

To sign up, go to Announcements on the ltu.edu home page or directly to https://secure.ltu.edu/

Lawrence Technological University

Steel Bridge Team Will Host 2009 Regional Competition

By Lauren Meganck
Lawrence Tech Steel Bridge Team

The Student Steel Bridge Competition, conducted by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), involves the design, construction and testing of a scale model steel bridge. The competition will be judged in six categories: display, construction speed, construction economy, lightness, stiffness, and structural efficiency.

As in previous years, changes were made to the rules to ensure new, innovative designs. The rules this year state that the bridge is required to be 2.5 feet tall and 20 feet long. This year Lawrence Tech’s four-person team consisting of Lindsay Bzymek, Greg Jackman, Nicholas Knust and Lauren Meganck is ready to design, fabricate and construct a steel bridge.

The team will be putting in some extra hours this year because Lawrence Tech is hosting the regional competition on April 3, 2009. The national competition will be held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas at the end of May.

In the past, Lawrence Tech has enjoyed success at both the regional and national competitions. The team placed first in the regional competition in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2006, 2007 and 2008, and has then gone on to place in the top half at the national level. The goal of the 2009 Lawrence Tech Steel Bridge Team is to continue a successful tradition by meeting or exceeding the success of previous teams.

The team has begun design and is in the process of securing sponsorships.

The team would greatly appreciate any monetary donation that would help with the purchase of steel, fasteners, tools, and other expenses related to the feature competition. To show the team’s appreciation for the sponsorship, a banner, poster and team shirts will display the name or logo of all sponsors. When the bridge is on display at competition and school functions, the poster, banner and the team shirts will be highly visible. If there are any questions pertaining to sponsorship or for more information regarding the competition, please feel free to contact Meganck at lmeganck@ltu.edu.

Please visit the team website at: ltu.edu/engineering/civil/steel_bridge.asp.

$100 Gas Card

Rob Randazzo, a senior in civil engineering, won the drawing for a $100 gas card sponsored by the Office of Career Services in September. He qualified by posting his resume on CareerQuest, the official online resume posting and job listing service at Lawrence Tech.
Humanities Happenings

By Melinda Weinstein, Chair
Department of Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication

October is a very busy month for faculty and students in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication (HSSC) Department. Congratulations to Dr. Rachel Azima. Her article, “‘Not-the-native’: Self-Transplantation, Eococriticism, and Postcolonialism in Jamaica Kincaid’s ‘My Garden,’” has been published in the *Journal for Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*.

THE MUSICIAN’S SOCIETY had a meeting last week, and faculty members Phil Vogt and Sara Lamers are organizing an Oct. 24 trip for students to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The program includes a Prokofiev piano concerto and Rimsky-Korsakov’s “Sheherazade,” which Professor Vogt describes as “really beautiful.” Students may purchase tickets for this event for $5; for more information, contact vogt@ltu.edu. For more information about the Musicians’ Society, contact Professor James Rodgers at rodgers@ltu.edu.

ATTENTION, CREATIVE MINDS! Lawrence Tech’s Artists’ Guild is currently accepting submissions for the 2009 edition of *Prism*, Lawrence Tech’s student-run publication of art and literature. Entries can include poetry, short stories, photography and other visual art. Complete details appear on the submission form that can be picked up from Senior Lecturer Sarah Lamers in S207 (slamers@ltu.edu). Submissions are due Dec. 5. Don’t forget about the cover design contest! The winner will receive a cash prize and his or her design will be used for *Prism* ’09! Cover designs are due Dec. 19; entry forms are available through Lamers.

RESEARCH FRIDAYS have changed times. HSSC Research Fridays will now be held every Friday from 1-4 p.m. in the Lawrence Tech Library. Come work alongside faculty as they conduct research and write papers.

AND FINALLY, every Monday from 4:30-6 p.m. HSSC holds a tea for majors in S225. Come meet other HSSC majors and faculty. If you are considering majoring or earning a minor in psychology, media communication, humanities, and English, you are welcome to attend the HSSC teas as well.

Lawrence Tech Celebrates Eid

On Oct. 1, members of the Saudi Student Union shared their culture and cuisine at Lawrence Tech’s first Eid celebration marking the end of Ramadan. Dressed in traditional Arab robes are Lawrence Tech students (L-R) Shaker Ali, Hatem Alabdali, Faiz Alshahree and Abdulaziz Alsaedan. Saudi Student Union President Mohamed Almutlaq thanked President Lewis N. Walker, Provost Maria Vaz, faculty members and other students for joining the Saudi students at the event in Café Lawrence co-sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs.

Sternthal Named Staff Member of the Month

Sheppard Sternthal of the systems support team in the Edward Donley Computer Center has been named staff member of the month for September by the Lawrence Tech Staff Recognition Committee.

Since coming to Lawrence Tech in January 2007, Sternthal has earned a reputation for a great, hard-working attitude, so it wasn’t surprising that his fellow staff members voted for him. “Whenever I see him, he is either investigating a problem at a computer, or collaborating with other staff members about implementing new services or ways to improve the old,” an IT staff member wrote.

For the past eight months Sternthal has been setting up Lawrence Tech CORE, a new campus calendar for reservations and events that will be officially launched in November. He had to configure and implement the customized software while working with multiple databases. “What’s on the web page looks nice, but what’s behind it took eight months to put together. It was very challenging,” he said.

Sternthal’s method to solving issues as an applications analyst in the IT Service Delivery Department is supported by his past experiences. He didn’t start his career with computers; he was first a professional musician, a social worker, a business analyst, and then an educator. He continues to teach courses in web design, computer hardware, systems analysis, Microsoft Office and introductory business at Baker College. His fellow IT workers see his classroom experience in his approach to his everyday work. “He solves problems by first understanding the entire situation and then teaching us how to implement the changes into our work,” another staff member wrote. “Sheppard has a lot of effort into understanding the issues of other staff members and follows through always.”

“It is no wonder that Sheppard is appreciated!” said Beth St. Thomas of the One Stop Center, a member of the Staff Recognition Committee.

When Sternthal is not at Lawrence Tech, he enjoys spending time with his wife Marcia McNitt, his toy poodle and two cats, and of course listening to music.

Please attend the next Staff Senate meeting on Oct. 29 at noon in M218 to congratulate Sternthal.

Go to the Staff Senate homepage at ltu.edu to vote for the October Staff Member of the Month. Voting ends Oct. 31.
Brighten Your Holidays

At Michigan First’s Car Sale – November 7 & 8

We have partnered with Merollis Chevrolet to offer you special deals at our November 7 & 8 Car Sale. Purchase a vehicle at the sale, finance with Michigan First, and receive:

- A $300 Target Gift Card*
- No Payments ‘til February*
- 3 FREE Oil Changes*
- Special Pricing

To get pre-approved, call our 24-hour Loan Center at 248-395-4185, 313-861-8245, or 866-933-6333, visit www.michiganfirst.com or come into one of our six convenient locations.

DATES:
November 7: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
AND
November 8: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

LOCATION:
Michigan First Evergreen Branch
in Lathrup Village
27000 Evergreen Road,
corner of Evergreen and 11 Mile Roads

The only place to do your banking!

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. To be eligible for special pricing, the $300 Target Gift Card, 90-day no payment option and 3 FREE oil changes, you MUST finance with Michigan First AND purchase a vehicle from Merollis Chevrolet at the Car Sale at the Michigan First Evergreen Branch on November 7 or November 8, 2009. First payment must be received by February 7, 2009. Interest will continue to accrue during no payment period. This will result in minimal or no principal reduction when payments start. No down payment required based on current credit information. The better the credit, the better the rate. All offers subject to change without notice. Cannot be combined with other offers. While supplies last. Quantities are limited. Restrictions apply. Subject to credit approval. See Michigan First for details on financing.

Lawrence Technological University
Blue Devil Hockey Gets Off to a Strong Start

The Lawrence Tech Blue Devils started off the 2008-09 hockey season with three impressive wins in ACHA Division III Showcase tournament in Roanoke, Va. It was a promising start for what coach Kevin Gee hopes will be a very successful season.

“I was very pleased with our performance in Roanoke,” Gee said. “I always try to start the season with a road trip, because it helps the kids get to know each other and get comfortable without the pressure of the home crowd, and the ultra-competitive North conference teams we are used to playing.”

Blue Devil hockey fans have several opportunities to see the team in action at the Southfield Sports Arena in the coming weeks:

- Saginaw Valley University, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.
- Kettering University, Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m.
- Calvin College, Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.
- Davenport University, Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.
- Jackson College, Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.

The Blue Devils opened their season with a 5-0 win over the Hofstra University Pride at the ACHA tournament in Roanoke, Virginia. The Blue Devils shut down the opposition on 11 man-up opportunities and put away the game with four goals in the third period.

Junior Forward Mike Smartt (St. Clair Shores / Notre Dame Prep) had two goals against Hofstra, and senior forward Andy Kruczynski (Westland / Detroit Belle Tine) had two assists. Senior Matt Beck (Dearborn / Brownstown Bombers Jr. A) turned aside 18 shots for the shutout, and freshman Joe Donelko (Troy / Avondale HS) scored his first collegiate goal for the Blue Devils.

The second game was no contest as the Blue Devils pummeled Radford University, 15-1. Kruczynski led the way with two goals and two assists, and junior Richard Parkinson (Milford / Milford Prep) had a goal and three assists. Mark Koenigsknecht, Ben Videan and Alex Shub all scored their first collegiate goals. Sophomore Ryan Van Wert and freshman Cyrus Sarosh minded the nets.

In the final game down in Virginia, the Blue Devils humbled South Conference powerhouse Christopher Newport University, 7-1. Beck was dominant for the second time as he turned aside 21 of 22 shots.

Joe Allen (Woodhaven / Helena Bighorns Jr. A) sparked the victory with two goals and two assists. Freshman Nick Kent (Commerce / Central Michigan University) added a goal and two assists.

“I thought overall my team showed that they have a tremendous amount of skill and speed and will definitely have success this year if they continue to work hard,” Gee said. “I was also excited to see what kind of impact some of my new players will have.”

Spike City Emerges Victorious in First Beach Volleyball Tournament

By Will Dyer
Student Recreation Intern

Sept. 20 was a day to remember in Lawrence Tech beach volleyball history. It was hot and sunny as six teams showed up early on a Saturday morning to slug it out in their quest to be the first to claim the Beach Volleyball Trophy, along with a gift certificate to Shields Pizzeria.

Competition was fierce that day, and I was on hand to experience my first sand volleyball tournament here at Lawrence Tech. Words were being exchanged from the start as Spike City took on Rough Riders in the very first match. We also had other teams such as the Wannabes, Sandy Balls, “You Will Know Us by the Trail of Death” and Wildcats.

Play started on three courts around 10 a.m. and finally finished up around 3 p.m. It was a sandy battle to the end, my friends. In the championship game we had Rough Riders taking on Spike City. There was no friendship going on here, the teams were ready and waiting to spike the other team out. Rough Riders took the first game, 25-22, but Spike City emerged victorious by taking the next two games, 25-21 and 15-13.

Hail to the champions of Spike City: Andy Walerski, Jacob Bakou, Sean Yargeu and Andrew Peters. And well-deserved kudos to the second-place Rough Riders: Shannon Braun, Angie Bates, Trestin Bradley and AJ Bordey.

Congrats to all the players who came out!! It was a great day to play some beach volleyball. Hope to see you out in the sand next year!!

The inaugural Beach Volleyball Tournament at Lawrence Tech brought out the competitive spirit in the six teams that fought fiercely to be the first name etched on a trophy that will be coveted for many years to come. It was an intense five hours of combat under a fiery sun. The outcome was in doubt until the last point in the third game of the final match, and the first champions emerged victorious only after surviving a baptism of fire.