From the Editor

Good things come in small packages. This issue of LynnSight is no exception. There may be fewer pages than usual, but it’s big on great news.

Our nationally-ranked soccer program will soon have a new stadium to match its championship record thanks to Bobby Campbell of Boca Raton.

David and Barbara Gerrits were recently welcomed into the E.M. Lynn Society for their cumulative gifts totaling $1 million.

The Lynn University family feels honored that six members of the Indimi family have graced our campus and crossed our commencement stage for more than 17 years.

The Hahn-Block Foundation has once again provided funding for our students. This year’s gift pays tribute to the Hahns’ daughter, Rebecca, who graduated in May.

Local entrepreneur and Lynn alumnus Jeremy Office ’11 has created an innovative way to encourage entrepreneurship in students through a competition.

And John Langan, for the fifth year in a row, has presented a challenge to his fellow alumni.

While we stay busy on campus preparing for the return of our students and the presidential debate in the fall, we wish you happy, hazy, lazy days of summer.

Joyce

GIFT HELPS BUILD BOBBY CAMPBELL STADIUM

ROBERT ("BOBBY") CAMPBELL of Boca Raton, Fla., has provided the university with a gift of $1.2 million for the construction of a much-needed soccer stadium on campus.

The stadium will serve as home for one of the country’s most successful soccer programs, which garnered a total of seven national championships. The stadium will meet all NCAA Division II requirements for soccer and also will allow the university to extend athletic offerings to include lacrosse.

Campbell’s gift is in addition to $1.2 million the university has already received for the stadium’s construction, including $1 million from an anonymous donor. The university continues to raise funds for this project, which is expected to cost more than $2.6 million.

“I am very involved in the Boca Raton community and this project is an exciting one for both me and...”

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the community,” said Campbell. “I love sports and thought this would be a good opportunity to help the university become better known nationally and internationally in such a strong and important sport such as soccer. I feel proud to be a part of this project.”

As a young man working for Kinney Shoes, Campbell had a vision to start his own business.

Now his company, BBC International with corporate headquarters in Boca Raton, is one of the leading children’s and athletic footwear design and sourcing companies in the world.

Campbell serves on the boards of the Boca Raton Historical Society, the ARC of Palm Beach County and Boca Raton Regional Hospital Foundation. He is past president and currently serves on the executive board of the Two Ten Footwear Foundation, the American Heart Association and on the president’s council for Sloan Kettering.

In May, Campbell was awarded the Monsignor John. T. Fagan Humanitarian Award by Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York, which supports disadvantaged children, families and the developmentally disabled. In 2011, he was honored for his humanitarian efforts by ACE, an organization that supports the homeless. He passes along this philanthropic spirit to his three children, Dana, Seth and Robbie.

“Bobby Campbell Stadium will be a game changer for our championship athletic program at Lynn,” said President Kevin M. Ross. “With 19 national championships, we’ve always had extremely accomplished student-athletes and dedicated coaches and staff. Now thanks to Bobby, we’ll have an outstanding and intimate venue for our campus and community to experience our Fighting Knights under the lights.”

For the past 23 years, David and Barbara Gerrits of Gerrits Construction have been generous donors to Lynn University. As of this year, their cumulative gifts have reached the $1 million mark, earning them membership in the E.M. Lynn Society, the university’s most distinguished group of benefactors.
For the Indimi family, attending Lynn University has become a family tradition.

“It’s an honor to recognize a Lynn parent who has had a tremendous amount of confidence in our university,” said President Kevin M. Ross. “Alhaji Muhammadu Indimi has entrusted us with his most precious assets by sending six of his children to Lynn University.”

The Indimi family legacy began in 1995 when Alhaji Muhammadu Indimi of Nigeria sent three of his children to the United States to be part of the global student body at Lynn University in Boca Raton. Since then, three more of his children have found a home here and have embraced the Lynn spirit. Two of his daughters, Rukaiyah ’14 and Adama ’14, are current students.

President Ross, Rebecca Block ’12

PARENTS HONOR NEW GRAD WITH ENDOWMENT

The Hahn-Block Family Foundation gifted the university with $50,000 to create the Hahn-Block Family Foundation Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship was established in honor of Liz and Jeffrey Block’s daughter, Rebecca, who graduated in May with a B.A. in advertising and public relations.

The endowed fund will be invested and awarded annually to a student in financial need. This endowed scholarship will live in perpetuity and will make a difference in the lives of many students.

The Hahn-Block Family Foundation, a philanthropic organization based in Westlake Village, Calif., was founded by the Blocks nearly 15 years ago.

President Ross, Rebecca Block ’12
“From the first moment Jeremy called us, his intent was to make a gift in honor of his grandfather, an entrepreneur,” said Judi Nelson, vice president for development and alumni affairs. She introduced him to Tom Kruczek, dean of the College of Business and Management.

Recognizing Office’s fond feelings for his alma mater, his passion for entrepreneurship and his admiration for his late grandfather, Kruczek suggested Office use his gift to provide current students with an entrepreneurial competition.

The purpose of this challenge is for students to develop an innovative idea for a new product or business, research the viability of that idea, talk with potential customers and then pitch the idea in a professional presentation to Office and a team of three experienced, entrepreneurial-minded business people in the outside community.

“Most college programs like this analyze business from a U.S. perspective only – Silicon Valley and New York City, for example,” says Kruczek. “But our notion is a little different. Our program will additionally analyze global markets like Israel, South Korea and China. This fits perfectly with Lynn’s large global student body.”

“This country was founded by risk takers, and at the core of an entrepreneur is their ability to assume risk,” says Office. “I believe that the last great competitive advantage we have as a nation is our entrepreneurial disposition and it is my hope that the Howard Isaacson Innovation Challenge continues to increase that advantage.”

The competition will take place in April 2013. Winners will receive cash prizes for first, second and third place.

ALUMNUS presents entrepreneurial competition

Thanks to a generous gift from Jeremy Office ’11 of Delray Beach, Fla., the Howard Isaacson Innovation Challenge was established in the College of Business and Management. Office received a Ph.D. in global leadership from Lynn University in 2011.

LANGAN challenges fellow alumni

For the fifth year in a row, trustee John Langan ’81 presented his challenge to fellow alumni: For each new donor to The Leadership Society (an annual gift of $2,500 or more) during the 2011-2012 fiscal year, he would donate $1,000 up to $5,000.

This year, eight new donors took him up on his challenge:
• Kerri Kolettis ’95 of Boca Raton *
• Farley Rentschler ’02 of Palm Beach
• Frank D’Amelio ’99 of Boynton Beach
• Bill Fanizzi ’86 of Fort Lauderdale
• Charles Maltrotti ’92 of North Carolina *
• Brian Siliquini ’94 of Boca Raton
• Ashley Thomas ’03 of Houston *
• Darrin Kelley ’89 of Oak Park, Calif.

*member of the President’s Alumni Advisory Council (PAAC)

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