LYNN Sight  Building a better world with our students.

3  National soccer champs, donors receive rings

6  Foundation, alumni, parents give back to Lynn

10 Alumnus, benefactor receive honors at commencement

give.lynn.edu
LYNN Sight
Building a better world with our students
We are the champions ... again!
The men’s soccer program earned its fifth national championship and the university’s 23rd.

Lynn’s first national championship (men’s soccer) in 1987 gave birth to a Fighting Knights tradition: a private ceremony where the national championship team members receive rings custom designed by the players and coaches.

In December 2014, the men’s soccer program earned its fifth national championship—making it the 23rd for the university. To celebrate the recent win, a ring ceremony and dinner were held in the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center in March. The student athletes presented rings to Board of Trustees Chair Christine Lynn and stadium namesake Bobby Campbell as mementos of appreciation for their supportive roles. To date, Mrs. Lynn has received seven rings—one for each of the national championships the university has won since 2003.

Head coach John Rootes was honored as the National Soccer Coaches Association of America’s (NSCAA) National Coach of the Year and Sunshine State Conference’s (SSC) Coach of the Year. The men’s soccer program won national championships in 1987, 1991, 2003, 2012 and 2014. In addition to the five titles, the Fighting Knights have reached the national title game 11 times, including three of the last four years.

This year’s squad joined Lynn’s 2003 team as the only program in SSC history to win the trifecta of trophies: SSC regular season, SSC championship and NCAA Division II national title.

Our student athletes are champs in the classroom too. Lynn earned the No. 1 Grade Point Average in the country for the third consecutive year and earned the NSCAA College Team Academic Award for the 14th time overall.
1. Javier Lopez-Mochon, John Rootes, Jason Sangha, Christine Lynn  
2. Kevin Ross, Christine Lynn, John Gallo, Bobby Campbell  
3. Mike Formant, Galien Salaun and Oliver Powers proudly display their team's championship trophies.  
4. Christine Lynn and Bobby Campbell, shown flanked by the 2014 champion soccer team, were on hand to help celebrate the team's national title.
Toppel gift names conservatory studios

Through the Toppel Family Foundation, Boca Raton philanthropist and longtime friend of Lynn University Patricia Toppel has once again shown unwavering support of the Lynn conservatory.

To honor the memory of her late husband, Harold, Patricia established the Harold and Patricia Toppel Studios at the Conservatory of Music. The studios are located on the second and third floors of the Count and Countess de Hoernle International Center—the new and permanent home for the conservatory.

"Harold was always such an advocate for Lynn," says Patricia. "Just as he did, I feel that the conservatory is a wonderful addition not only to Lynn but surely to the region. I am always impressed with the high quality performances of these exceptionally talented young musicians. I know he would be pleased to help Lynn’s student musicians in this way." Harold, who passed away in 2008, was a community leader and philanthropist. President Emeritus Donald E. Ross presented him with an honorary doctorate in humane letters at Lynn’s 2005 commencement.

President Emeritus Donald E. Ross (left) presents Harold Toppel with an honorary doctorate in humane letters at the 2005 commencement.
Patricia Toppel is a founding member of the Friends of the Conservatory and serves on its board. The Toppels, along with Margaret Mary and John Shuff, were the inspiration for the annual Gingerbread Holiday Concert—a popular, family-oriented, community event featuring Lynn's conservatory. The two couples co-chaired the first performance 12 years ago. To date, this event has raised more than $600,000 for conservatory students who hail from around the world.

In 2009, the Toppels received the Boca Raton Award for their generosity of time, talent and resources to Lynn University and to the community.

In 2006, they became members of the Lynn University Leadership Society and this year entered into the E.M. Lynn Society, which recognizes donors who have made cumulative gifts to Lynn University of $1 million or more.

The Lynn University Conservatory of Music became an academic unit of Lynn University in 1999. The conservatory's primary mission is to provide the highest quality professional performance education for gifted young musicians, and to set a superior standard of music performance worldwide. An essential component of performance education is the presentation of outstanding musical performances, which strengthens and serves the community beyond the campus.
Alumna creates scholarship for support services

Clare Shaw ’14 and the Shaw Family Foundation established The Shaw Scholarship for the Institute for Achievement and Learning (IAL) to provide annual scholarships to students for support services.

This year, 20 students—who otherwise could not afford the IAL services—were awarded scholarship assistance to pay for two semesters of support. Each student enrolled in the institute receives an individualized learning plan created from a menu of support services.

Clare Shaw, a preschool teacher in Atlanta, Georgia, hopes this gift will inspire other alumni to step forward and give back to their alma mater. “I am a recent graduate of Lynn University who used the services provided by the Institute for Achievement and Learning. It is important to me and my family to give back where we see a need. There are students who could excel academically by taking advantage of the support services provided by the IAL, but they can’t afford to pay for it. This scholarship will help them succeed.”

Lucas Cartwright, class of 2018, is a recipient of The Shaw Scholarship. In a letter to Clare Shaw, he states, “I am so thankful for this scholarship … Because of this, I am more focused to push myself to work even harder, knowing I am on the right path. I hope one day that I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”

Institute for Achievement and Learning helps students maximize their strengths and achieve their goals.
LaTorre family honors professor with new program

The center will provide students with academic support in math and business.

James and Lisa LaTorre of Duxbury, Massachusetts, parents of James (Jamie) LaTorre III '14, created the Diane DiCerbo Math and Business Center in the Institute for Achievement and Learning.

The center honors math professor Diane DiCerbo, who embodies the true spirit of helping students become successful. It provides students with academic support in the much-needed areas of mathematics and business. This program will be implemented in the fall and measured to evaluate its impact on students.

The La Torres are members of the Lynn University Leadership Society since 2009.
Duarte receives alumni award

Lynn University honored Jose Duarte '95, '98 with the Distinguished Alumni Award at the 2015 commencement.

The award is granted to alumni who have gained unique distinction professionally and through service to Lynn University and their communities.

Duarte received two degrees from Lynn: a Bachelor of Science in hospitality management and a Master of Science in hospitality administration. While working on his master's, he co-authored a chapter in an introduction to a hospitality book, Senior Services Management, and prepared an instructor's manual for the Gourmet Camper, a multicultural food preparation and nutritional summer camp program.

After completing his master’s degree, he accepted a job developing exciting gourmet activities for families from around the world with ESF Adventures. In 2000, he settled in Boston and opened his restaurant, Taranta, in the historic North End.

In 2007, Duarte began his research on sustainability and carbon reduction as a way of reducing costs—leading to Taranta's certification as one of the first “green” restaurants in the world.

Duarte received the 2008 City of Boston Green Business Award, the 2011 Massachusetts Recycling Award, Waterford Crystal Chefs of Chefs Award, 2011 Massachusetts Chef of the Year and Top 100 Most Influential Latinos in Massachusetts.

He is a part of Le Cordon Bleu Boston Programming Advisory Board and the Newbury College Advisory Board. His recent work includes the use of innovation and technology to promote the importance of traceability—knowing where a food item is, or has been, and what has been done to it before it reaches your plate.

Duarte, a member of the Lynn University Leadership Society since 2009, currently serves on PAAC (President's Alumni Advisory Council) and has hosted alumni and parent events at his Boston restaurant. He also was a keynote speaker for the 2013 J-Term, where he lectured students on sustainable food and the fair treatment of farmworkers.

Jose Duarte '95, '98 accepts the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award from President Kevin M. Ross at commencement.
Past recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award

- John P. Langan '81
- Bernadette Rosie O'Grady '79
- Gregory J. Malfitano '75
- Joe and Mary Vecchia '80
- Kathleen D'Amelio '86
- Dan Doyle Jr. '93
- Carmen Essaye '74
- Kathy Martin '71
- Ferda Kavak '88
- Michael Lawrencie '96
- Gerald C. Rittenberg '76
- Wayne J. Jarvis '95
- Brooks D. Eden '75
- Marcie Zambelli '77
- Joan Donnelly '67
Sheetz awarded honorary degree

Lynn University awarded G. Robert Sheetz of Boca Raton an honorary doctorate in humane letters at commencement in May.

Sheetz has been a longtime supporter of Lynn University. His generous gift funded the beautification and upgrade of Lynn's main entrance on Military Trail—including a traffic light for campus safety and five lanes for better traffic flow.

This significant campus enhancement was in keeping with the university's strategic plan, Lynn 2020, and also was a strategic lynchpin in Lynn's ability to host the final presidential debate in October 2012.

Sheetz founded Sheetz, Inc. in Altoona, Pennsylvania, when he was 18 years old. He purchased one of his father's five dairy stores where he had been working after school and on weekends, and named it Sheetz Kwik Shopper.

Over the past 60 years, the company has grown into a fast food and fuel business operating more than 500 stores in six states—Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia—employing more than 15,000 people.

In 2001, the Sheetz Corporation won a Silver Plate Award from the International Food Manufacturers Association; and it has been listed among the best places to work in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia and North Carolina.

Sheetz and his four brothers, who also joined the family business, learned to give back from their parents. Every Sunday after church they would load up a week's worth of groceries from their store and deliver them to area shut-ins.

Each year, Sheetz Family Charities, Inc. raises thousands of dollars for Special Olympics through in-store collections at each location; and raises more than $1.5 million to provide Christmas to underprivileged children throughout the six states in which Sheetz, Inc. operates. It also sponsors more than 40 Make-A-Wish Foundation families on a trip to Disney World.

Although he is now retired after serving as the company's president for 32 years, Sheetz says that he still spends a part of every day thinking about his family business. He serves on the company's board of directors and is a member of its planning team. He also is retired from the board of directors of First National Bank and Island National Bank.

Sheetz is a member of the Lynn University Leadership Society since 2011.

Trustees Stephen Snyder (left) and Christine Lynn join President Ross to present an honorary doctorate to Robert Sheetz at the 2015 commencement.
The Sheetz chain has stuck with the "Sheetz" name since it began with its marketing efforts:
- Shwings (chicken wings)
- Shmuffins (breakfast "sandwich"
- Nacho ribbon
- "Putting the "in fresh"

Top photo: Located in Altoona, Pennsylvania, the first Sheetz Dairy Store under Robert Sheetz's ownership opened on Nov. 1, 1952. The store was later renamed Sheetz Kwik Shopper.
Snyder Sanctuary dedication set for fall

Each wall leans on the one adjacent to it—a metaphor for how we rely on one another for support.

Excitement continues on the Lynn campus as the construction of Snyder Sanctuary nears completion. All five walls are now raised, primed and painted. Each wall leans on the one adjacent to it—a metaphor for how we rely on one another for support. Although each wall faces a different direction, joined together they (and we) create a sense of unity and shared purpose of community. An early summer completion date and fall dedication are planned.

Perpers continue improving campus life

The Perpers’ recent gift will build the Mary Ann and Harold Perper Intramural Field.

Once again, Mary Ann and the late Harold Perper have touched the day-to-day lives of Lynn students. Their recent gift will build the Mary Ann and Harold Perper Intramural Field, adding to the list of the many other student-focused spaces the Perpers have established on campus: Perper Tennis Complex, Mary and Harold Perper Plaza, Perper Mailroom, Mary Ann and Harold Perper Grandstands (at Bobby Campbell Stadium), Harold and Mary Ann Perper Testing Center, Perper Coffee House and Mary Ann and Harold Perper Orchestra and Mezzanine Seating (in Wold Performing Arts Center). The dedication of the intramural field is planned for fall.
Mary Ann and the late Harold Perper have touched the day-to-day lives of Lynn students.
Bob Habl received two degrees from Lynn: B.A. in history and political science and M.P.S. in international management. He resides in Atlanta, Georgia, with wife Ada (a computer science professor at Georgia Tech) and 3-year-old daughter Ava. He is a regional vice president for Calamos Investments, overseeing sales and distribution in the Southeast territory.

Habl recently named one of his favorite professors' offices in the new Mohammed Indimi International Business Center. "I really wanted to put my name on two offices since both Jim Miller and Ralph Norcio were big influences on me and helped me so much while I was a student at Lynn," he says. "But my wife told me I needed to give someone else a chance to contribute. So I flipped a coin. Miller won."

Professor Miller encouraged Habl to apply for an internship at investment firm Dean Witter in Boca Raton, thinking it would be a good fit. And it was. Bob loved it immediately and was hired right after completing a six-month internship there.

"Jim Miller took a kid like me who didn’t know what he wanted to do, gave me the foundation to build on and guided me into a career I still love 17 years later. If he hadn't tapped me on the shoulder and told me to go over to Dean Witter, I can’t imagine where I’d be today."

Habl is active with Lynn’s Atlanta alumni chapter and is a member of both the Lynn University Leadership Society and PAAC (President's Alumni Advisory Council).

His message to alumni is to get involved with their alma mater. "People think they have to give big amounts of money to stay connected. That's not true. It's not about a dollar amount; it's being involved that matters."