



CAMPUS CENTER NAMED

The \$35 million campus center will bear the name of Lawrence's second-longest serving president and his wife. During the public launch of Lawrence's *More Light!* Campaign in October 2008, it was announced that the new building will be called The Richard and Margot Warch Campus Center. Rik Warch, who led the college from 1979 to 2004, said he was "honored and thrilled" by the announcement. The Richard and Margot Warch Campus Center is slated to open in fall, 2009. *For video of Warch's remarks, visit morelight.lawrence.edu.*

STUDENTS FLEX POLITICAL MUSCLE

Election year turned the Lawrence campus into a hub of activity for political awareness. Convocations, debate parties, candidate visits, and a congressional debate all added to the political discourse that took place in the classrooms and in The Coffeehouse. On campus, voter registration efforts were more successful than ever before, with 398 students registering to vote. Two hundred seventy-five students took advantage of vans providing transportation to the polls. Lawrence's election Web site, MyElectionDecision.org, attracted more than 21,350 visitors who took the blind test about presidential candidates and the issues.

CLOAK THEATRE RENOVATED

Audiences in Cloak Theatre have a new perspective thanks to a recently completed facelift. Seating has been rearranged so all audience members are positioned on one side of the room. (In the past seating on three sides surrounded the stage.) **Timothy X. Troy '85**, professor of theatre arts and J. Thomas and Julie Esch Hurvis Professor of Theatre and Drama said, "We chose to rearrange Cloak Theatre to support the extraordinary number of senior projects we have this year and in the future. By configuring the space into a 'room end' orientation, we gain the efficiency of a traditional theatre, while maintaining the intimacy of the Cloak's original design." Cloak Theatre, built in 1954, also serves as a classroom for acting and directing classes.

Right: New theatre seats and carpeting in Harper Hall

STANDARDIZED TESTS SCRUTINIZED

Students who apply to Lawrence are not required to provide SAT or ACT test scores for consideration, and Steve Syverson, vice president for enrollment and dean of admissions and financial aid, is encouraging his colleagues nationwide to consider adopting test-optional admissions policies. Syverson was part of a commission of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) assembled to address concerns about standardized testing in undergraduate admission. In its recently released report, the commission called for less emphasis on standardized tests as a requirement for admission. Syverson said, "The SAT and ACT used to help level the playing field for college admission. Now, because of the billion dollar test prep industry, students who can't afford these expensive services are disadvantaged." Syverson said Lawrence uses a comprehensive review process that looks at, among other things, a student's entire high school record, extracurricular activities, recommendations, and a writing sample.

HARPER HALL MAKEOVER

Audiences are giving the recently completed Harper Hall renovation a standing ovation. The makeover helped transform the hall (built in 1959) into an elegant, state-of-the-art venue, and included: replacement of 250 theatre seats, new carpeting, a resurfaced stage floor, a digital lighting system, and installation of a projector that will allow the hall to be used as a classroom or for lectures. In addition, exterior monitors were placed in the lobby so patrons arriving late can watch the performance while they wait to take their seats. **Brian Pertl '86**, dean of the conservatory, said, "It is hard to put into words what an improvement this is. It feels like a completely different venue." The renovations were made possible by a gift from the estate of **Lenore Tully '42** and **Dexter L. Wolfe '42**.



6.30 Kathy Privatt, associate professor of theatre arts, is named the James G. and Ethel M. Barber Professor of Theatre and Drama.



LEFT: Milwaukee-Downer alumnae "crew team" visit the Lawrence boat house on the Fox River. (Left to right) Nancy Habetler Kaliebe M-D'63; Marcia Duin Mentkowski M-D'61; Anna Seyfarth Trimble M-D'58; Boggie Schroeder Wandt M-D'54; Marla McCarty Gouseff M-D'58; Juliana Juan Keller M-D'63; Lisa Freund Avedon M-D'55

MELLON FOUNDATION GIFTS SENIOR EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Lawrence has been awarded a \$350,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support the implementation of its new *Senior Experience*. Starting with the Class of 2012, graduating seniors are required to showcase their intellectual development and scholarly or creative achievement through a *Senior Experience* project — a major research paper, a collaborative creative work, an advanced, academically based field experience, or an exhibition or recital. The Mellon grant will help support student projects and faculty development related to the program. Thomas Ryckman, professor of philosophy, is Lawrence's *Senior Experience* director.

MILWAUKEE-DOWNER REUNION WEEKEND

More than 100 alumnae and friends of Milwaukee-Downer College attended Reunion Weekend in October. Events included the Red Class of 1958 50th Reunion Tea, a dinner program featuring Indiana University Professor James Madison honoring the memory of **Elizabeth Richardson, M-D'40**, (who is buried at the Normandy American Cemetery in France and highlighted in the new visitor center there), an alumnae/student crew on the Fox River, and an evening devoted to MDC songs. *Save the date! The next gathering of Milwaukee-Downer alumnae will be a Saturday luncheon in Milwaukee, October 3, 2009.*

October's Milwaukee-Downer Reunion at Lawrence was the site of a very special four-generations birthday party. During the Friday Tea in the Teakwood Room of Jason Downer Commons, **Lucy Wangerin Ruedt M-D'30**, of West Bend, Wis., was celebrating her 100th birthday with her daughter, **Julianne Ruedt Borges M-D'58**, her granddaughter, **Sue Vliet, P'11**, and her great-granddaughter, **Sally Vliet '11**. Ruedt said she "felt like a Queen" when

presented with a cake, flowers, and singing. Ruedt, who majored in German, said "the values I was taught just with everyday living made a great impact on how my life turned out."



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Sue Vliet P'11, Lucy Wangerin Ruedt M-D'30, Julianne Ruedt Borges M-D'58, and Sally Vliet '11

SINGERS SHINE AT STATE COMPETITION

Five Lawrence University students earned first-place honors at the 2008 Wisconsin chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition held at UW-Whitewater. **Lacey Jo Benter '09**, Southport, Fla., earned top honors in the senior women's division after having won the lower college women's musical theatre division, the freshman and junior women division in previous NATS competitions.

Other Lawrence first-place finishers included **Alex Johnson '12**, Shelburne, Vt., in the freshman men's division; **Cassie Glaeser '11**, Manitowoc, Wis. in the sophomore women's division; **Derrell Acon '10**, St. Louis, in the junior men's division; and **Christopher Besch '09**, Woodbury, Minn., in the senior men's division. A total of 53 Lawrence students participated, with 13 advancing to the finals.



15 ENSEMBLES. 80 MINUTES. The Kaleidoscope concert, at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center in October, 2008, showcased the talents of nearly all of Lawrence's 350 music majors. Students performed "in the round" from the stage, orchestra pit, main floor, and the upper and lower balconies.

SUSTAINABLE DINING

The Green Roots™ initiative is already changing the dining options at Jason Downer Commons. Patrick Niles, director of dining services, said the college is purchasing as many locally produced products as possible. "Sourcing products close to home reduces gasoline use and emissions and it helps support our local economy, putting money into the pockets of those within our own community," he said. To meet that objective, Lawrence entered into a partnership with Red Barn Family Farms of Appleton to supply milk to the college. Lawrence already relies on the organic Sustainable Lawrence University Garden (SLUG) and other Fox Valley area farmers to provide fruit and vegetables served in the Lawrence dining halls.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

A new Film Production Club is giving Lawrence students a chance to learn more about video production. Seen as a complement to the college's interdisciplinary area in film studies, the club offers students an opportunity to discuss video production techniques and to bring their creative ideas to life. Recently, the club edited a video of the Kaleidoscope concert. During Spring Term, the club will host a 48 Hour Film Festival during which students will have only 48 hours to produce a video. The group is also working on a documentary about Lawrence's Green Roots initiative.

LUCC MILESTONE

LUCC (Lawrence University Community Council) is celebrating four decades of student government with a 40th birthday party in February, 2009. If you were involved in LUCC and have memories or interesting stories you would like to share, or would like to get involved with the celebration, please e-mail lucc@lawrence.edu.

PEOPLE

David Keep '11, won the Green Bay Symphony Young Artists Competition. He will perform with the symphony in February.

Jerald Podair, associate professor of history and Robert S. French Professor of American Studies, was interviewed by CNN and the *New York Post* about the impact actress Tina Fey's portrayal of vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin had on the election. Podair was among several political experts stating that political impersonations can influence voters.

Timothy X. Troy '85, associate professor of theatre arts and the J. Thomas and Julie Esch Hurvis Professor in Theatre and Drama, directed the world premiere of the opera *The Sparks Fly Upward*, at the Hoyt Sherman Place in Des Moines, Iowa.

Valery Zimany, postdoctoral fellow of art and art history, was profiled in a recent edition of *Ceramics Monthly*. The article, "Valerie Zimany: Recasting the Japanese Tradition," was written by **Elizabeth Carlson**, assistant professor of art and art history. ■