



LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE PHI
THETA KAPPA EARNS MORE
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CELEBRATES COMMENCEMENT



NEW FACES JOIN LINCOLN
TRAIL COLLEGE

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

LT Network



ZAKOWSKI TAKES OFFICE AS PRESIDENT OF ILLINOIS PTK

Lincoln Trail College will be represented in statewide leadership for Phi Theta Kappa for the second consecutive year. LTC's Ethan Zakowski was elected to serve as the President of the Illinois Region.

He says that the new role means a lot to him. "I've started my leadership at a small scale here at LT and now I'm taking on this position at a larger scale. This role is going to help my search for my next college, helps me in the future workforce, and it also gives me a behind the scenes look at how organizations run which is of interest to me."

Zakowski says he's looking forward to the opportunity to network with other members and travel throughout the state. "Networking opens so many doors and I'm probably most excited about that. I've not had a lot of opportunities to travel so I'm very excited. I'm going to gain such a better perspective on life while gaining a better understanding of people from different backgrounds. PTK has a very diverse group of individuals and I'm excited to meet those people and create those connections."

Zakowski says one of his goals is to help raise awareness about what Phi Theta Kappa is and what it does. He says one of the things he's looking at is how to increase that awareness at high schools because he believes that once students

learn about the organization and what it offers, it may help students see the benefit of choosing a community college over a four-year institution.

He believes that serving as the Illinois Region President will also help Lincoln Trail College. “This gives LTC a wider view on all the Illinois chapters and more power to make change within our own. It allows LTC to gain more enrollment because of the expansion of marketing within PTK. If current and future students, see me doing this then hopefully they will want these same experiences. LTC has given me all my confidence through this process.”

Mallory Mundy, who graduated from Lincoln Trail College in May, spent the last year serving as the Vice President of the Southern Region. Her seat is being filled by another student from Illinois Eastern Community Colleges. Olney Central College’s Robert Wray is taking over for Mundy.



LTC PHI THETA KAPPA CHAPTER HONORED

Lincoln Trail College’s Alpha Iota Epsilon chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society was recognized at the Illinois Regional Convention and Honors Institute. Lincoln Trail College won awards for its College Project, Honors in Action Project, Outstanding Officer Team and Outstanding Chapter.

“It is thrilling,” said chapter co-advisor Kim Shucker. “Winning the four awards was such a great testament to the scholarship and service mindedness our students in Phi Theta Kappa! It also awarded them for their abilities to work as a team and support each other.”

The Outstanding Chapter Award is one of the highest honors a chapter can receive. LTC’s chapter had already been recognized as a Top 100 Chapter in the Phi Theta Kappa organization. It is based on combined scores of the college project and the honors project.



“Being an outstanding chapter gives us gold star to wear,” said Schucker. “It is a great way to let our members know that we do really good things in our chapter! Hopefully it will encourage more of our members to become active in our chapter and learn more about PTK and how PTK can enhance their personal growth in leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service.”

Phi Theta Kappa worked with Student Senate on the College Project, which was the LTCares Food Pantry. It provides food and personal care items to LTC students with no questions asked.

The Honors in Action project researched the topic of mental health and college athletes. In addition to research, the organization surveyed student-athletes at LTC and helped develop a

wellness policy for athletes. The project was also recognized nationally and Schucker says she hopes the policy or a version of it will be enacted across Illinois Eastern Community Colleges.

LTC Phi Theta Kappa President Mallory Mundy ('22) said she was especially proud of the honor for the officer team. “The most important award to me personally was the 2021-2022 outstanding officer team. We had the most hardworking and driven officer team who worked so well together. The whole team had a common goal of leaving a permanent impact on the chapter while still giving the next team ideas to grow from and I think we did just that.”

She says she's very proud of the chapter's accomplishments. “It's truly been an honor to be a part of such a special organization. A special thank you to Kim Schucker and Carrie Brown for being motivating and present advisors through my two years in PTK. They work so hard behind the scenes, and it truly shows through in how members respond to not only opportunities but challenges as well.”

Meanwhile, the chapter is already preparing for the next year and the work ahead. Newly elected Alpha Iota Epsilon president Hannah Meese says she took away a lot from the conference.

“This conference gave me a lot of insight to this year's honor topic ‘play’ which will help me lead the chapter in research. This event covered three days which was full of engaging and fun learning. It was great to see how successful our chapter has been in the past and it really motivates me moving forward. We also got to see our own chapter member and officer Ethan [Zakowski] get elected to the president position of the Illinois region! Were all so proud of him and know he's going to lead us in a great direction.”



Lincoln Trail College held its 52nd Annual Commencement Exercises on May 13. Approximately 120 students participated in the graduation ceremony.

This year's event featured two student speakers. Resa Shaner, a non-traditional student, spoke about her journey to receive her Associate in Science and Arts. Shaner, who is currently the Executive Director of the Crawford County Development Association, said receiving a degree is one of the things she wanted to do in her life.

Mallory Mundy was the second student speaker. While at LTC, she served as president of Student Senate and Phi Theta Kappa and was also the Vice President for the Southern Illinois Region of Phi Theta Kappa. Mundy is going to attend DePauw University where she will major in Communications and play soccer.

Lincoln Trail College Foundation Executive Director Rod Harmon gave the charge to the class. He encouraged the graduates to always remember the place that Lincoln Trail College had in their lives.



LTC RELEASES SPRING ACADEMIC HONORS

Lincoln Trail College has released its academic honor lists for the Spring 2022 Semester. Three lists have been established by Illinois Eastern Community Colleges to indicate students who have achieved academic excellence. They are the Chancellor's Honors List, the President's Academic Honors List and the Dean's Academic Honors List.

To qualify for any of the honor lists, a student must be enrolled full-time (12 hours or more) and must be taking college-level classes.

To be named to the Chancellor's Academic Honors List, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.90 or greater on a 4.0 scale; between 3.75 and 3.89 for the President's Academic Honors List; and between 3.50 and 3.74 for the Dean's Academic Honor's List.

CHANCELOR'S LIST

Albany, Ind.: Wyatt Gessaman
 Annapolis, Ill.: Marah Matthews, Trenton Matthews
 Bowling Green, Ind.: Victoria Schopmeyer
 Brazil, Ind.: Whitney Hill
 Casey, Ill.: Rebecca Geffs, Noah Jenkins
 Flat Rock, Ill.: Caleb Fisher
 Framingham, Mass.: Jonathan Beverly
 Geff, Ill.: Alex Barnfield
 Herrin, Ill.: Josh Green
 Lawrenceville, Ill.: Brandon Blackwell
 Louisville, Ky.: Coleton McMichael, Jordan Scroggins
 Mount Carmel, Ill.: Allison Neikirk
 Newton, Ill.: Noah Frohning, Janet Shaffer
 North Lauderdale, Fla.: Amber Hixon
 Norton, Ohio; Samuel Seeker
 Oblong, Ill.: Caleb Black, Emily Bradbury, Nicholas Brown, Carson Fancil, Hannah Janes, Mackenzi McIntosh
 Palestine, Ill.: Brandon Miller, Travis Selby
 Paoli, Ind.: Kinley Block
 Robinson, Ill.: Tyler Beard, Sydney Byrley, Sandra Cooper, Thomas Ditchfield, Ezequiel Fernandez Carunchio, Nicholas Harness, Shea Hendrixson, Myles Land, Mykenna Osborn, Harrison Rudd, Juan Solivellas Garcia, Kylie Vermilya, Ethan Zakowski, Angela Zapor, Cathy Ziegler
 Seoul, South Korea: Geon Yoon, Chanyoung Yun
 Springfield, Ill.: Iyanuoluwa, Olalere
 Tell City, Ind.: Kaden Winter
 Vincennes, Ind.: Ethan Edwards
 West Union, Ill.: Alexis Perry, Drake Perry, Tucker Scott
 Zeeland, Mich.: Zacheriah Frasher

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Brownsburg, Ind.: Abiodun Soneye
 Charleston, Ill.: Blake Wolfe
 Clarksville, Tenn.: Destiny Hill
 Columbia, Mo.: Dyana Hensley
 Flora, Ill.: William Lehman
 Floyds Knobs, Ind.: Jackson Lorenz
 Hazel Dell, Ill.: Taylor Gray
 Jasonville, Ind.: Natasha Townsend
 Lima, Ohio: Jacob Hutchins
 Ludlow Falls, Ohio: Ryan Mollette
 Maple, Canda: Tyler Larginho
 Maple City, Mich.: Jonathon Popp
 Marshall, Ill.: Alaina Morgan, Faith Sanders
 New Albany, Ind.: Alayasia Douglas
 Oblong, Ill.: Abby Bradbury, Harlei Myers
 Palestine, Ill.: Nicole Veach
 Robinson, Ill.: Emmy Bailey, Kaden Jacobs, Reese Johnson, Hannah Meese, Colby Morse, Allison Nichols, Jordan Schottman, Seth Trimble
 Sao Paulo, Brazil: Mateus Borsanelli
 Springfield, Ohio: Mallory Mundy
 West Terre Haute, Ind.: McKenzie Rice
 West Union, Ill.: Dylenn Nash
 West York, Ill.: Ditton Curl

DEAN'S LIST

Annapolis, Ill.: Dustin Lassen, Elijah Upton
 Antioch, Tenn.: Cristian Hernandez
 Bloomington, Ind.: Samuel Kestranek
 Brazil, Ind.: Halle Ellis
 Carmi, Ill.: Kaden Carter, Kacee Fulkerson
 Dayton, Ohio: Matthew McMahan
 Hidalgo, Ill.: Lacy Saylor
 Hutsonville, Ill.: Stephanie Rinard
 Martinsville, Ill.: Samantha Parker, Marcus Snearley
 Mishawaka, Ind.: Derrick Dawson
 Mulberry Grove, Ill.: Trista Koertge
 Muskegon, Mich.: Charles Branch
 Oblong, Ill.: Alyssa Fielder
 Palestine, Ill.: August Biernbaum, Blake Knoblett
 Robinson, Ill.: Kody Ballew, Kylee Gibson, Fernando Gonzalez, Paige Mendenhall, Olivia Ridlen, Georg Schoettle
 Universal, Ind.: Tori Linnenkamp

KERNER JOINS LTC AS ADVISOR



Lincoln Trail College's newest advisor joins the college after spending three decades at The Hershey Company. Angel Kerner says she is excited about her career change and the opportunity to work with students.

While with Hershey, Kerner worked in Operations, Human Resources, Labor Scheduling, and leading the Learning and Development Program. She is a graduate of Olney Central College and Roosevelt University.

Outside of work, Kerner serves on the executive board for the Lawrence Crawford Association for Exceptional Citizens. She and her husband have four children and four grandchildren. Kerner is a St. Louis Cardinals fan and she and her husband are on a quest to visit every Major League Baseball stadium.

PRYOR JOINS LTC AS INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN

New Lincoln Trail College Information Systems Technician Ken Pryor took a little different route to the IT world than most. "I've been interested in computers since I was in my teens, but I wound up going into law enforcement as my career choice. We didn't even have computers at the police department when I first joined. Once we got them, I got really interested in learning about them and the network they used."

Pryor spent some time as the City of Robinson's IT manager and also ran a part-time IT business from his home. He took several classes at LTC to help him learn more about troubleshooting and repairing computers.

He also got interested in computer-related crime and became a GIAC Certified Computer Forensic Analyst. Though that, he's been published in different newspapers and online media and he has a blog where he writes about digital forensic topics. He won the Forensic 4cast Digital Forensic Blog of the Year award in 2013. Pryor taught computer forensics for LTC for a while.

Pryor was born and raised in Robinson. He began his career as a dispatcher for Mercy Ambulance Service and shortly thereafter became an EMT. He was also a member of the Crawford County Rescue Squad before joining the Robinson Police Department, where he retired in 2016.

Outside of work, Pryor is a HAM radio operator with the call sign KA9PHI, a founding member of the Crawford County Model Railroaders Club and enjoys Indy Car and NASCAR racing. He's been married for 31 years, has two kids and four grandchildren.



MORAIS NAMED NEW LTC SOCCER COACH

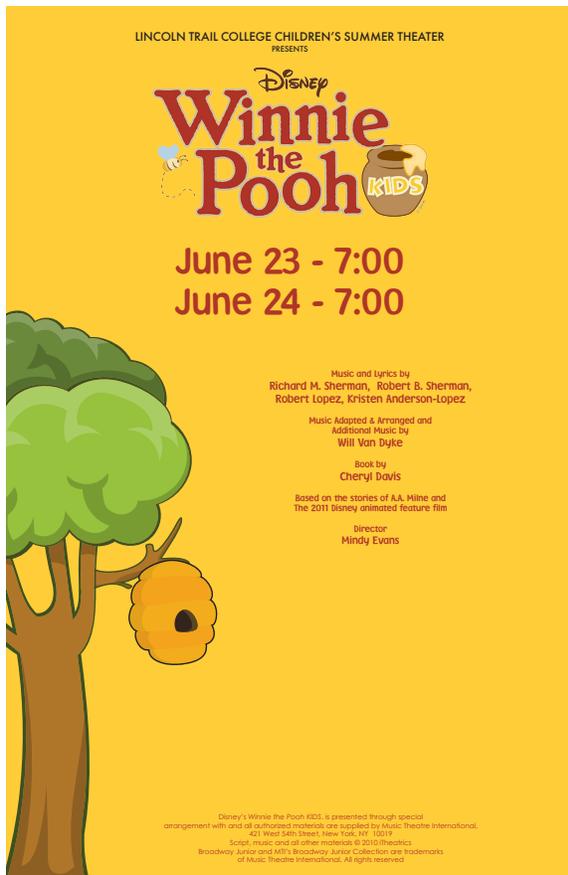


Alexandre Morais joins Lincoln Trail College as the head coach for the Men's and Women's Soccer programs.

Prior to joining LTC, Morais served as a graduate assistant men's soccer coach at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. He also served as the ECNL U17/U19 head coach at St. Louis Scott Gallagher. Additionally, Morais was the head coach for the Austin United FC NPSL club and the Technical Director for the Austin United FC Academy. He also spent time as an assistant project manager for Futsal Academy.

Morais was a two-time captain as a soccer player at the University of Illinois Springfield and also played at the University of Charleston.

He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from UIS.





Mikayla Schooling



Jaedyn Johnson



Kaylee Irelan



Halle Ellis



Mary-Paige Mason



Kenzie Rice

SIX SOFTBALL PLAYERS HONORED

Six Lincoln Trail College softball players combined to earn a dozen postseason honors.

Four players were named to the All-Great Rivers Athletic Conference Team. Outfielders Mikayla Schooling and infielder Jaedyn Johnson earned First-Team honors while infielder Kaylee Irelan and pitcher Halle Ellis were Second-Team selections.

Schooling led the Lady Statesmen with a .442 batting average and 13 doubles. She added 24 RBI, 52 runs scored, and eight stolen bases.

Johnson was a .372 hitter for LTC and led the team with 52 RBI. She tallied 14 home runs, seven doubles, a triple, and 40 runs scored.

Irelan batted .396 with four homers, 12 doubles, a triple, 32 RBI, and 32 runs scored.

Ellis posted a 14-15 record for the Lady Statesmen with a 4.30 ERA. She struck out 102 in her 148 innings of work and pitched 18 complete games. Ellis also had 21 at-bats and had a home run, five RBIs, and five runs scored.

Irelan earned First-Team All-Region 24 honors. Johnson, Schooling, Ellis, and Mary-Paige Mason were named to the Second Team.

Mason had a .342 average for LTC. She hit eight home runs, nine doubles, and two triples and drove in 47 runs.

Three Lady Statesmen were named to the All-Region 24 Final Four All-Tournament Team. They were Schooling, Mason, and pitcher and outfielder Kenzie Rice.

Rice went 12-14 with a 4.99 ERA for the Lady Statesmen. She struck out 70 in her 122 innings of work and pitched 16 complete games. At the plate, she hit .265 with two home runs, nine doubles, 12 RBI, and 25 runs scored.



Adam Hutchison



Jake Hutchins



Kade Lassen



Sam Seeker

FOUR BASEBALL PLAYERS HONORED

Four Lincoln Trail College baseball players earned postseason honors for their on the field work during the 2022 season.

Sophomore pitcher Adam Hutchison was selected to the All-Great Rivers Athletic Conference and All-Region 24 teams. He posted a 7-2 record with a 2.42 ERA for the Statesmen. He struck out 84 batters in 63.1 innings. Additionally, Hutchison was named Co-Region 24 Pitcher of the Year.

Sophomore outfielder Jake Hutchins earned All-GRAC honors. He led the Statesmen with a .342 batting average while also leading the team in home runs with nine. He added 39 RBI, 12 doubles, five triples, and 44 runs scored. He topped the team with 100 total bases.

Two Statesmen earned Region 24 Gold Glove awards.

Second baseman Kade Lassen made just one error during the 2022 season and finished with a fielding percentage of .992. He recorded 71 putouts and 51 assists and was a part of 14 double plays.

Redshirt-sophomore outfielder Sam Seeker finished the season with a .963 fielding percentage, making just three errors in 80 chances. He recorded 75 putouts and two assists.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

LTC celebrated the graduation of 120 students who participated in our 52nd commencement ceremony. This is the highlight of my academic year. Without a doubt, it strengthens my belief that our job is crucial to our rural community, perhaps the sole step in higher education for some, and a first step in the journey of many. Trustees Shimer and Brooks participated in the event and conferred the degrees and certificates onto our graduates.

On June 30, I would have been at LTC a full year. This is a humbling and educational experience for me. We are slowly implementing the changes that IECC is enacting and developing the college's relations with local businesses and organizations. The COVID-19 pandemic has surely taken its toll on the college faculty and staff. During this time, a lot of what I have done is to work with folks on identifying our vision for the future and recognizing the opportunities that we have laying ahead of us.

Nationally, the approaches that higher education adopted historically showed their frailty since the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center has compiled the data for Spring 2022. In it, all systems have lost enrollment from the prior year. But two-year colleges have lost twice as many enrollments as the next biggest losers, public four-year universities. Moreover, the enrollment losses hit women about 40% as much as men. It seems that the national reduction in workforce participation is mirrored by college enrollments.

Locally, we are nearing major breakthroughs on daycare and housing in Crawford County. As we stand, several hundred children have no access to daycare, which means that parents cannot work or come to LTC. Additionally, the availability of housing in the county is limited, which will impact the growth plans for several local employers, predominantly Hershey's. A boom in employment and daycare availability are likely to increase the population of the county, and the enrollment at the college.

LTC is a partner with the community, local businesses, organizations, and institutions. And we will continue to lead through innovative education and workforce development.

Dr. Zahi Atallah
President
Lincoln Trail College

