Don’t stop the March madness! Spring is in the air once again! Let’s take a collective deep breath and celebrate. It’s banner Billiken basketball AND National Women’s History month. This month we’re also celebrating the 40th anniversary of Title IX and our Saint Louis University Women’s Commission. In the course of the past 40 years, our Women’s Commission has provided the women (and some men!) of SLU with powerful programs and opportunities for community building. The Women’s Commission has recognized and celebrated the remarkable contributions of hundreds of the remarkable women of SLU.

Come celebrate being a woman at SLU with me. Join us at our 40th Anniversary dinner on March 22, at our April 24 Women of the Year luncheon, and at any of our future gatherings. Our future gatherings – our future – will benefit because of your participation. I believe you will, too. Opt into the next 40 years of Education, Enrichment, Empowerment; brought to you by and for the wonderful women of Saint Louis University.

Warmly,
Nancy Culbert, 2012-2013 President, Women’s Commission

Inaugural Trivia Night Raises Nearly $3000 for Grant
Friends, members and supporters of the Women’s Commission gathered on Saturday, March 2 for a night of 70s trivia and games. Pictured are the winners of “Best Dressed” and “Best Table,” though many in attendance embraced the 70s theme. Thanks to the generosity of all the guests, nearly $3000 was raised. The money will go to the Sister Shirley Kolmer Memorial fund, which the Commission is working to endow. Once endowed, the fund will finance a challenge grant, announced on page 3, each year. The fund is only $1000 short of being endowed.
A gala dinner on Friday, March 22 will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Saint Louis University Women’s Commission. After 40 years of providing Education, Enrichment, and Empowerment, the Commission has invited past presidents, Women of the Year, Commission board members and the University community to join the celebration.

To emphasize its objectives of Education, Enrichment, and Empowerment, the Commission will honor three of its alumnae for their lifetime achievements: Education, Dr. Blanche Touhill, Chancellor Emeritus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who has three degrees from SLU; Enrichment, Kathleen Hummel, founder of our Little Haven, who holds a Master’s Degree in Social Work from SLU; and Education, Dr. Ellen Harshman, Interim Academic Vice President, a former Woman of the Year and a Commission Past President, whose Ph.D. and J.D. were both awarded by SLU.

A special program introducing the awardees will be provided by Gitana, a performance group which is the creation of Cecilia Nadal, 1972 graduate of the College of Arts and Science. Nadal is Executive Director of Gitana, which brings art and music to the city, along with dramatic performances in support of justice, peace, and interpersonal relations, which is her personal passion.

Among those planning to attend are the Commission’s first President, 1973-75, Dr. Martha Ellert, who is retired from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois; and the 1988 Woman of the Year, Kathy Kingston, who was responsible for the planning and construction of Simon Recreation Center. She currently is an award-winning professional auctioneer in New Hampshire.

The evening will begin with a cocktail reception at 5:30 p.m., then dinner at 6 p.m., in the Saint Louis Room of the Busch Student Center. Dinner will feature a choice of grilled salmon with tarragon béarnaise, or baked tilapia with lemon garlic butter; a vegetarian option is also available. Dinner choice should be indicated on the reservations form.

Tickets are $40. Checks, made payable to Saint Louis University, and registration forms should be mailed to the Women’s Commission, Saint Louis University, 221 North Grand, Room 359, 63103. Tickets can also be purchased on SLU Marketplace. Registrations must be received no later than Tuesday, March 19.

Meet AAUW Rep
Alisha Abbott
Hello all! My name is Alisha Abbott and I currently work as a graduate assistant in the Department of Higher Education and Educational Leadership. I am happy to announce SLU has become a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and I am one of the university’s representatives. As I am new to AAUW, I am still learning all that the organization has to offer students. My current position is to recruit undergraduate students to become members of AAUW. Because we are an institutional member, our undergraduates receive a free membership to AAUW. AAUW provides conference opportunities, scholarships, networking and workshops for students. They currently host both a $tart $mart salary negotiation workshop for women and an Elect Her workshop that encourages and trains women to run for elected offices on their campus.

In order to enhance the opportunities available to students, I began looking for ways to collaborate with other organizations. This is when I became introduced to the Women’s Commission. I believe the Women’s Commission and AAUW can form a great partnership by working together to bring an undergraduate student component to the Women’s Commission. I was recently introduced to the American College Personnel Association’s (ACPA) Standing Committee for Women as well. I do hope all of these connections will come together to enhance the experiences of our students. I look forward to meeting and connecting with all of you more!

Best,
Alisha N. Abbott
Challenge Grant for Leadership Conference Announced

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, and in fulfillment of its mission to “provide networking opportunities to foster the personal and professional development of women at the University,” the Women’s Commission is offering a $500 challenge grant to one female student to attend a professional or academic conference this year. In future years, the funding for the grant will come from the Sister Shirley Kolmer Memorial fund endowment.

The student will receive individualized mentoring prior to attending the conference and a web of support upon her return, as she works to integrate that which she learned into her life at SLU. The goal of this initiative is to provide the most relevant, individualized support for an outstanding student, therefore any relevant conference may be chosen, as it relates to her major, career aspirations, and/or professional development goals. Should the student not have a particular conference in mind, the Commission endorses the 2013 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, May 30 - June 1, 2013 (see attached flyer).

To apply:

Students should submit a personal statement of 500 words to Jessica Perolio, jperolio@slu.edu, before Monday, April 1. This personal statement should address the following questions:

Why are you interested in the conference for which you are applying?

What are your goals for the conference?

How might this conference support you as a leader in your school and community?

Faculty should send a letter of recommendation for the student to Jessica Perolio, jperolio@slu.edu, before Monday, April 1.

In-person interviews with the selection committee will take place during week of April 1. Questions can be directed to the Issues Chair, Jessica Perolio.

Mary Bruemmer Honored by Department of Athletics

As part of their celebration of the 40th anniversary of Title IX, the Department of Athletics recognized Mary Bruemmer on Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Women’s Basketball game against Dayton at Chaifetz Arena. Ms. Bruemmer has dedicated more than 60 years to SLU after graduating from the University in 1942, first as the Director of Maruerite Hall, then Dean of Women, then Dean of Student Affairs. Additionally, as a 50-year season ticket holder, she was named Fan of the Day at the final Men’s Basketball game of the season, Saturday, March 9, and received the game ball.

Ms. Bruemmer was at SLU when Title IX passed in 1972. Part of the Educational Amendment Act, Title IX said, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” Though not mentioned in the Amendment, athletics is one of many areas positively impacted.
Women’s Commission Celebrates 40 Years of Commitment to Education, Enrichment, and Empowerment

In addition to Mary Bruemmer, below are a list of women who have been instrumental in the success of the Women’s Commission. Join us in celebrating the women who provided leadership as commission president in the following years:

1973-75  Martha Ellert, Ph.D.
1975-77  Joan Lamb
1977-79  Geraldine Hufker, Ph.D.
1979-80  Sister Jeanne O’Laughlin, OP, Ph.D.
1980-81  Mary Margaret Smith
1981-82  Ellen Harshman, Ph.D., J.D.
1982-83  Ann M. Padberg
1983-85  Sister Joan Range, ASC, Ph.D.
1985-86  Susan Ekberg, Ph.D.
1986-87  Sister Joan Range, ASC, Ph.D.
1977-88  Helen I. Mandeville, Ph.D.
1988-89  Joanne Fritz
1989-90  Judith L. Gibbons, Ph.D.
1990-91  Miriam E. Joseph, Ph.D.
1991-92  Sandra Norman
1992-93  Miriam Hallazgo
1994-95  Sharon LaRue
1994-95  Soraya Nouri, M.D.
1995-96  Jane M. Holwerda, Ph.D.
1996-97  Mary Fran Ernst
1997-98  Kath Engelhardt
1998-99  Patricia L. Gregory, Ph.D.
1999-2000  Vicki Riek Wroblewski
2000-01  Margaret M. Herning, Ph.D.
2001-02  Mary Elizabeth Hogan, Ph.D.
2002-03  Julie A. Howe
2003-04  Martha H. Allen
2004-05  Mary Beth Erickson
2005-06  Robin Rodriguez
2006-07  Mary Ann Bindbeutel
2007-08  Mary J. Flick
2008-09  Kathleen A. Day
2009-10  E. Gayle Rogan, Ph.D.
2010-11  Donna Bess Myers
2011-12  Donna Bess Myers
2012-13  Nancy E. Culbert

Women’s History at Saint Louis University

This March, take time to celebrate Women’s History Month with the Women’s Commission by taking a look back at the history of women at SLU. Visit the Women’s Commission website, wc.slu.edu, for a full timeline. Highlights include:

- In 1908, the first women are admitted to the University at the Institute of Law, and in 1911, five women received their LL.B. degrees.
- In 1928, the School of Nursing is founded.
- In 1943, Nancy McNeir Ring (AS ’28; GR ’29) is named the University’s first Dean of Women.
- In 1959, women make up 33% of the University’s enrollment.
- In 1971, women’s history courses are introduced into the curriculum of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Calendar of Events

March 22, 2013
40th Anniversary Dinner
Saint Louis Room
Busch Student Center
5:30 p.m. cocktails
6 p.m. dinner

April 1, 2013
Grant Applications Due
Send to Jessica Perolio, jperolio@slu.edu

April 24, 2013
Women of the Year Luncheon
Wool Ballroom
Busch Student Center
Noon

2012-2013 Executive Board

President
Nancy Culbert
Past President
Donna Bess Myers
President Elect
Miriam Hallazgo
Treasurer
Sue McGahan
Secretary
Mary Hammett
Awards
Mary Krieg
Issues
Jessica Perolio
Communication
Michele Carley, Maria Totoraitis, Kathy Yepez
Diversity and Affirmative Action Director
Michelle Lewis
Women’s Studies
Penny Weiss
Ex-officio
Mary Bruemmer
YOU ARE INVITED

Please join us for a special evening of memories and friendship as we celebrate 40 years of Education, Enrichment, and Empowerment.

March 22, 2013
Saint Louis University Women’s Commission
40th Anniversary Celebration

5:30 PM - Cocktail Reception
6:00 PM - Dinner
Saint Louis University, Busch Student Center
Saint Louis Room

Cost is $40 per person

For more information call 314.977.2212
wc@slu.edu • wc.slu.edu

RSVP

Women’s Commission 40th Anniversary Celebration
Friday, March 22, 2013

First Name __________________________  Last Name __________________________

Guest(s) Name(s) __________________________

Total Attending __________________________  Telephone __________________________

Dinner Entree Choice (place check mark for each guest)

☐ Grilled Salmon w/ Tarragin Bernaise    ☐ Baked Tilapia w/Lemon Garlic Butter    ☐ Vegetarian Option

Payment Option:
You can pay online at WC.SLU.EDU with credit card or check. Or you can pay by traditional check made payable to Saint Louis University. Checks can be mailed to:

Saint Louis University, Women’s Commission
DuBourg Hall, Room 359
St. Louis, MO 63103
“I will whole-heartedly recommend this experience to any other college woman who is looking to advance herself.”
—Rotanya Bryan, Florida Gulf Coast University

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“NCCWSL was an experience of a lifetime. I learned things this year that I am sure I will take with me through the rest of my life.”
—Jennifer Bullock, Norwalk Community College

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“It’s a competitive world out there, but NCCWSL women stand out in a crowd!”

DO YOU WANT TO

• Be motivated to lead by the inspirational Women of Distinction and keynote speakers?
• Find your dream graduate program at the Graduate School Fair?
• Gain real-world skills at NCCWSL’s workshops?
• Meet and learn from nearly 600 women student leaders from across the United States and abroad?
• Take action in pre-conference community service projects and skill-building events?

THEN REGISTER TODAY!
Visit www.nccwsl.org.

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