

# SOUTHERN'S SHINING MOMENTS

September 2011

## UNIVERSITY

Southern Illinois University Carbondale earned recognition from *U.S. News & World Report* in its "Best Colleges 2012" rankings. The University appeared on the "Best National Universities" list at 170, among universities considered to be "Top Tier," or the top 75 percent of schools. The showing represents improvement from last year's appearance in the national rankings, which SIU Carbondale ranked at 183.

The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs awarded an \$81,050 grant to the SIU Carbondale **Veterans Center** that will assist student veterans who need medical, dental and counseling services. The grant will also provide funds for workshops on issues that range from understanding veterans' benefits to improving their personal writing skills.

*G.I. Jobs* magazine named **SIU Carbondale** as a "Military Friendly School for 2011." According to the magazine, the list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the nation. The magazine polled more than 8,000 schools nationwide; 1,518 institutions made this year's list.

## LAW

**Lucian E. Dervan**, assistant professor in the School of Law, was named to the advisory committee of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers White Collar Criminal Defense College at Stetson. The program will offer lawyers in the field of white-collar criminal defense an opportunity to gain a very unique type of hands-on interactive experience by gaining key advocacy skills and substantive learning on white-collar laws during a five-day boot camp.

**SIU** Southern Illinois University  
CARBONDALE

## MASS COMMUNICATION & MEDIA ARTS

**Alt.news 26:46**, the University's student-produced television program, earned two nominations for regional Emmys from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Mid-America Regional Chapter Emmy Awards. The alternative TV news magazine earned nominations in the magazine program and specialty program categories. **Jan Thompson**, associate professor in radio-television and documentary unit director, also earned three nominations for her half-hour documentary *The Tragedy of Bataan*.

## ENGINEERING

**Peter Filip**, director of the Center for Advanced Friction Studies, spoke at the University of Cambridge, where he was invited to give an address. Filip, who specializes in brake wear, spoke on the environmental aspects of brake wear debris.

**Shaikh Ahmed**, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, received a grant from the National Science Foundation to carry out research in the emerging area of energy-efficient solid-state lighting devices.

## ATHLETICS

The SIU Carbondale **softball team** earned the second highest GPA in the country among Division I teams for the 2010-11 season announced by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. The Salukis earned a 3.611 GPA.

Three SIU Carbondale athletics teams received the NCAA Public Recognition Award based on their exemplary Academic Progress Rates. The **Saluki men's cross country, softball, and volleyball teams** received the honor for having APRs in the top 10 percent of all Division I squads. The APR is an annual scorecard of academic achievement the NCAA uses to track the classroom performance of student-athletes.

SIU Carbondale women's golf head coach **Alexis Mihelich** was named the Midwest section Coach of the Year by the Ladies Professional Golf Association.