



# CAPSTONE

UWL COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING | ACHIEVING | UNITING

FALL 2017

## FROM THE GROUND UP

Visiting artist demonstrates  
techniques used  
throughout history

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## POINT OF VIEW: JOHN KOVARI



# Front Row Seat to History

ABC News correspondent visits campus

Even with the logistics and planning to bring a prominent guest speaker to campus, we invited ABC News Senior Congressional Correspondent Mary Bruce because, well, it sounded fun.

For us political-news junkies, it seemed like the perfect opportunity to bring in an expert who could give us a few behind-the-scenes stories from the unprecedented 2016 presidential election.

It was a happy accident that as we planned the visit, “fake news” became a new narrative to explore as well. The event was more than just good fun.

It’s difficult to punctuate the content we teach, but the visit was an ideal opportunity to augment POL and CST course content about the relationship between media and politics – the same way, I suppose, a role model might reinforce a parent’s moral lesson.

The visit was also a great opportunity to reach out to the La Crosse community by including a local TV anchor on our panel. Having an industry professional not only added depth to our conversation, but resulted in excellent media coverage.

We opened up the event to larger La Crosse, combining citizens, students and faculty in the audience. Heads nodded, hands went up, and questions and comments were volunteered. What better way to fulfill UWL’s role as a leader in inspiring conversation and thought?

Perhaps most importantly, before the main event we coordinated an informal Q&A with student organizations, and Bruce gave solid professional development advice the entire night. She talked about challenges working as a female in a male-dominated field, the hard work required of ambitious career seekers, and how meaningful it is to work in a field with “a front row seat to history.”

Just after the informal meeting, I asked a student her thoughts. She answered, “After listening to her [Bruce], it makes me feel like I can do anything.”

How can we, as professors, top that?

**John Kovari,**  
Assistant Professor, Political Science  
& Public Administration

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» Art

» Communication Studies

» English

» Ethnic & Racial Studies

» History

» Military Science

» Global Cultures & Languages

» Music

» Philosophy

» Political Science/Public Administration

» Psychology

» Sociology

» Student Affairs Administration

» Theatre Arts

» Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

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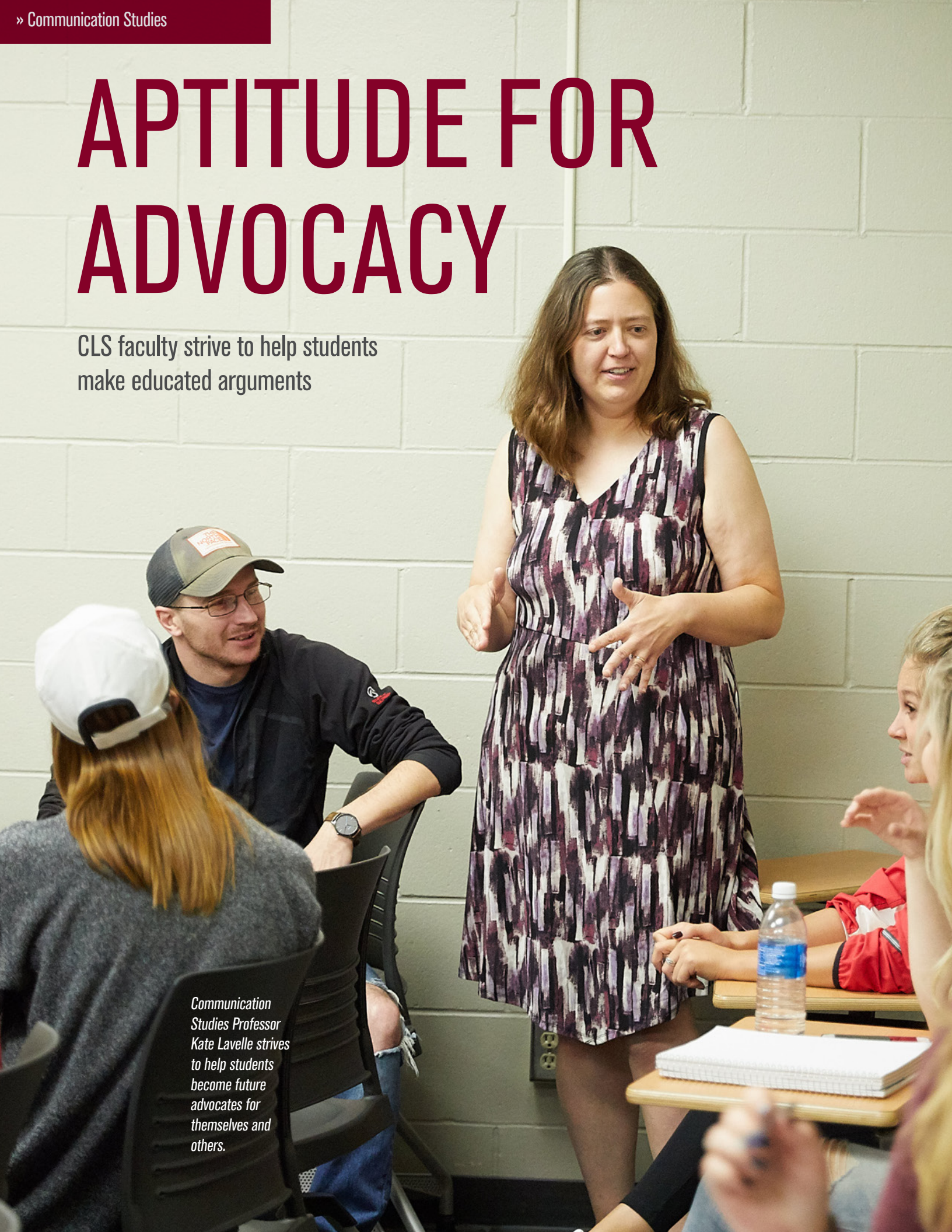
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# APTITUDE FOR ADVOCACY

CLS faculty strive to help students  
make educated arguments

*Communication  
Studies Professor  
Kate Lavelle strives  
to help students  
become future  
advocates for  
themselves and  
others.*





With today's polarized political climate and web of worldly connectedness through social media, students need to not only advocate for themselves, but also understand other's perspectives. Faculty throughout the College of Liberal Studies are working to empower students with knowledge about topics and how to effectively argue their points.

**A**ssistant Professor Kate Lavelle, Communication Studies, says being able to advocate is important for a couple of reasons. Positions and statements are often questioned in today's world, sometimes in very public ways. Students need to know how to respond to advance their positions and demonstrate understanding for other's perspectives, says Lavelle.

"Effective advocates are people who have well thought-out positions, but also understand that people who do not agree with them might be equally thoughtful about their views," she explains.

Lavelle says knowing how to make arguments and construct organized and effective speeches boosts student confidence, allowing them to stand up for what is important to them.

"UWL students are passionate and concerned about the world around them," she says. "Knowing how to advocate for themselves and the issues that they care about is important."

"UWL students are passionate and concerned about the world around them. Knowing how to advocate for themselves and the issues that they care about is important."

KATE LAVELLE



*Lavelle and Professor John Kovari (center) were instrumental in bringing ABC's Congressional Correspondent Mary Bruce (far right) to UWL in spring semester of 2017.*

The stereotype that conflict is bad or that people should not engage in debate dominates today's society. But Lavelle shares ways to disagree without alienating others and have productive conversations.

One of the concepts that Lavelle teaches in "CST 210: Presentational Speaking" is invitational rhetoric — an approach to persuasion based on the assumption that people can be persuasive by listening to other people's perspectives and finding common ground to solve problems.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA'S IMPACT**

Lavelle says social media and the internet have brought many changes to public discourse. People can now converse without being in the same room or talking directly, she notes, making people less empathetic.

"It's much easier to say things that are hurtful or less empathetic when we do not have an immediate response from another person," she explains.

On the other hand, Lavelle says non-face-to-face interactions can be

# TRANSFORMING TEACHING, LEARNING

Assistant Professor Kate Lavelle took part in the Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars Program last year. The programs offer UW faculty and teaching academic staff an opportunity to collaborate with other exceptional UW teachers from various disciplines.

"The opportunity to participate in this program at this point in my career really helped me step back and consider what I hope students learn in my classes and what I was doing to provide support and structure for students to meet these learning objectives," says Lavelle.

She also enjoyed working with faculty from across the UW System in different disciplines. "Working with these colleagues helped me gain new perspectives about teaching communication studies, and I got a lot of great ideas from the work that is being done on other campuses and what is working in their classrooms."

Fellows and Scholars are guided through completing a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning project with input from fellow participants and co-directors. Fellows are outstanding early-career, untenured faculty; scholars are outstanding tenured faculty.

effective in coordinating and advancing public debate. Social movements and protest groups often organize and communicate via social media. She points to advocates this summer working to preserve the Affordable Care Act. Most of their actions were organized via social media, on Facebook and Twitter.

“Social media can be a place for fruitful work, linking together people who might not know they have common interests,” she notes. “But when using these platforms, we must think about our language choices and audience when engaging in discussion.”

Social media also strongly impacted the 2016 presidential election. Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Administration John Kovari wanted to capitalize on those changes and worked with Lavelle to bring a national news correspondent who had traveled with the campaign to campus.

“The campaign was fairly unique,” says Kovari. “Trump’s campaign style was something we hadn’t seen before.”

ABC’s Congressional Correspondent Mary Bruce provided students and others a first-hand look at the campaign. Bruce shared the impact social media had and how Twitter, in particular, has increased the pace of news.

“Covering a campaign is like summer camp on steroids,” notes Bruce. “It’s our job to say this is real; this is not. These are facts; these are not.”

Kovari says Bruce’s two-day campus visit exemplified the Political Science Department’s goal to “foster critical thinking and force students out of their comfort zone.” The department works to help students realize that opinions should be formed only after listening to both sides, he says. “It’s a key part of what we do in the Political Science Department,” he notes.

Kovari appreciates the way Bruce sticks to the facts even while politicians from both sides try to lead her down another path. He says while 24-hour news channels offer many opinionated and one-sided stories, the major networks succeed more at sticking to facts because they’re not filling a 24-hour news cycle. “Her approach molded well with what we do in the department,” he says.

### ADVOCATING FOR NON-PROFITS AND MORE

But persuasion is used for more than simply politics. Lavelle says students in the “CST 413: Advocacy and Persuasive

“Having knowledge of creating persuasive communication and the ability to analyze a variety of messages has helped me with creating publicity documents for my nonprofit that fit the needs and expectations of the specific audiences I try to reach,” Middleton says.

Lavelle says no matter what career students choose, every professional environment requires individuals to make arguments, use evidence in effective and ethical ways, present ideas to support an issue, along with interacting with people who might have different perspectives or world views.

## UWL’S FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS

Along with Lavelle, Lei Zhang, English, was selected as a fellow for the 2016-17 academic year.

Three UWL faculty have been selected for 2017-18. They include: James Carlson, Educational Studies, and Eric Eager, Mathematics, fellows; and James Murray, Economics, scholar.

Campaigns” class plan, implement and evaluate persuasive campaigns on behalf of UWL or community groups and organizations. When they graduate, they’re able to work in a variety of fields to use their advocacy skills.

Amber Middleton, ’16, who double majored in advocacy and communication criticism and English: writing and rhetoric emphasis, spent the past year serving with AmeriCorps VISTA and a small nonprofit. Her primary duties have been community outreach, grant writing and volunteer management.

“If a person knows how to do these things – they are going to be successful in their career path,” she says.

Many professional environments require employees to reflect on their performance in job review settings. “If someone is an effective advocate, they will be able to make a good argument for why they are vital in their individual workplace,” she says.

# Q & A



with Interim CLS Dean  
Kim Vogt

**Q** What brought you to La Crosse and why have you stayed?

**A** I was attracted to the strong sociology program with its broad array of course offerings and the well-prepared, hard-working and enthusiastic students. I stayed because of my love of teaching and the excellent colleagues I worked with every day in my department and across campus.

**Q** What made you interested in becoming Interim Dean?

**A** I was stepping down as chair of the Department of Sociology after serving for 15 years when the opportunity to serve as Interim Dean arose. I am interested in new challenges and with my previous administrative experience, I believed that serving as Interim Dean would provide not only a challenge, but a chance to give back to the larger UWL community.

**Q** What are the main duties for a college dean?

**A** As dean I am responsible for the overall academic leadership of the college, including overseeing all of the academic programs, budgets and personnel. One of my most important duties is to provide support for faculty and staff career development so they can continue to teach and engage in scholarship/creative endeavors that allow students in CLS programs and courses to excel. Another important role as college dean is to promote and communicate internally and externally the significance of the arts, humanities and social sciences.



**Q** What are some of the positive changes you've seen in the college?

**A** Since joining the faculty in 1994, I have seen the College of Liberal Studies become much more engaged in faculty-led undergraduate research opportunities for students and increased participation in faculty and student study abroad opportunities/internships. In addition, the college has been more supportive of faculty scholarship/creative endeavors than it was when I first came to UWL.

**Q** What do you anticipate will be some of the college's major challenges?

**A** Cuts in funding and the loss of faculty positions will continue to challenge the college's ability to offer smaller class sizes, a wide array of course offerings, and opportunities for more individualized student-faculty experiences such as undergraduate research. Another challenge will be enhancing our engagement with alumni, regional/state businesses and community leaders to provide more opportunities for our students as they enter the workforce.

**Q** Anything you'd like to add?

**A** I look forward to working with and learning from my colleagues in the College of Liberal Studies as I take on this new role. I encourage faculty, staff, students and alumni to visit me and the other CLS Dean's Office staff to talk about the amazing work that CLS faculty, staff and students engage in every day.

# MORGAN IS PROVOST

Long-time psychology prof leading academics



Psychology Professor Betsy Morgan is leading the university's academic programs as Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. She had interim removed from her title in March following a national search.

In addition to serving as interim provost since July 2015, Morgan has extensive experience as Psychology Department chair and faculty member since 1993. She served more than seven years as department chair, as well as another stint as interim provost in 2012.

Morgan won the UWL College of Liberal Studies Excellence Award for Teaching in 2003, and has authored two textbooks and several refer-

enced journal articles. She earned a doctorate in social psychology from the University of California at Irvine, and a bachelor's in psychology and women's studies from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Chancellor Joe Gow says a campus committee recruited an outstanding group of finalists and identified Morgan as best qualified. "Our university will be very fortunate to benefit from her outstanding dedication and leadership skills," says Gow.

Morgan replaces Heidi Macpherson, chosen president of The College at Brockport, State University of New York in May 2015.

# Let show the c



# me w you door

Visitors to the Center for the Arts are being greeted with a new entrance on the building's south side. The renovation replaced the concrete stairway, retaining wall and pedestrian walkway at the main entrance on Vine Street. It includes an American Disabilities Act-compliant elevator and interior stairway.

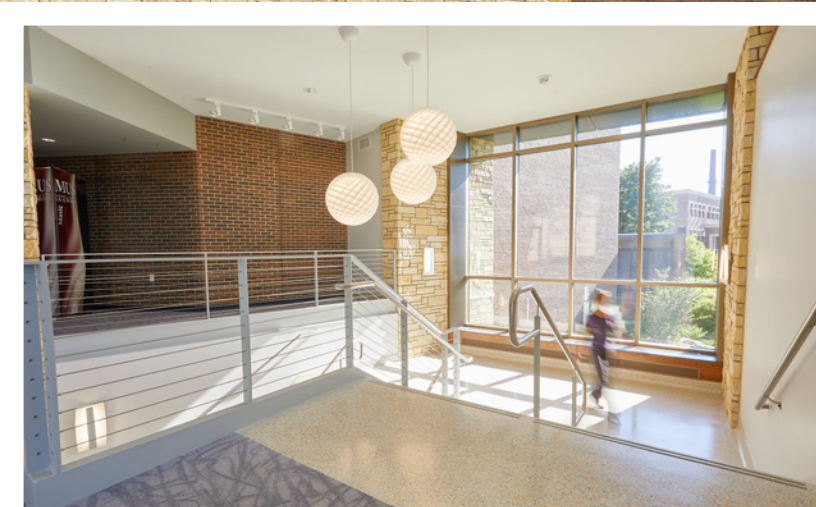
PROJECT COST:  
\$1.4 million (state funded)

LOCATION: 333 N. 16th St.

CONSTRUCTION STARTED:  
Spring 2016

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED:  
Spring 2017

SPACE: 4,865 square feet;  
includes interior stairway and  
ADA elevator.



# FROM THE GROUND UP

Visiting artist demonstrates techniques used throughout history

Artist Kevin Lips embraces the imperfections. He borrows from the past. As he kneaded clay on a UW-La Crosse art studio floor, he was also inspiring the future.

During a visit to the clay studio at UWL, Lips, a traditionally trained wood fired ceramicist and mixed media artist, worked the air out of a

pile of clay with his feet. The technique, called foot wedging, has been used throughout history in multiple parts of the world.

Lips, based in New York City, learned foot wedging while living in La Borne, France, where he periodically returns. He demonstrated this and other techniques during a March visit to UWL as one of several artists

to come through a College of Liberal Studies grant-funded Visiting Artist Series. He also provided critiques to individual students and gave a lecture.

Lips says he likes methods for working with clay that are direct or “brute” in their execution. He devotes no extra attention to frills or refining his piece. Instead, he



## ART IS RESPONSIVE

UWL's Art Department is responding to student needs and demand in art-related professions with new minors, as well as other program changes.

A new digital media studies and design minor will be offered for the first time this fall. Housed in the Communication Studies Department, it will be a cross-disciplinary minor with classes in communication studies, English and art. The

Art Department will provide graphic design training. The new minor responds to demand for professionals who can combine communication and graphic design skills in the digital age.

focuses on how a particular piece is taking shape and works to solve it one step at a time. “In my way of working there is a fair amount of risk,” he says.

Lips aimed to show students the value of taking risks in their art work, while also empowering them in whatever artistic avenues they pursue.

Lips was connected to UWL through two Art Department faculty members, Joshua Doster and Karen Terpstra, who he met when he was an undergraduate student at The University of Iowa.

Read *The La Crosse Tribune* story on Kevin Lips’ UWL visit »



*Visiting Artist Kevin Lips gave demonstrations — which included foot wedging (center photo), student critiques and a lecture during his visit to UWL in March. Lips was the recent recipient of the 2015 Jerome Foundation Emerging Artist Grant.*

The Art Department is also exploring the possibility of creating an art therapy minor that would be offered spring semester. This would combine psychology and art classes that are already available. It would respond to wider societal trends of using art

as a form of psychotherapy, allowing people to explore and express feelings through the creation of art. Students would not receive a license to practice art therapy; however, the minor would provide ideas to infuse art into their future therapy practice.

The Art Department has also combined its 2D and 3D art minors into one. The change gives students more flexibility in choosing emphasis areas including print making, painting, sculpture, ceramics and metal works.

# NEW MAJOR

One of CLS' new majors — applied anthropology — engages students using scientific study of cultures to solve social problems

**C**ultural anthropology is the study of contemporary people and culture. What better way to learn about people than to help them solve problems?

That's what the new cultural anthropology emphasis major approved in April will challenge students to do.

Students will go to lectures and do readings, but they'll also head into the field — engaging people as locally as La Crosse's Kane Street Community Gardens to as far as overseas.

The Archaeology and Anthropology Department has been building relationships with area organizations struggling with cultural change and are interested in assistance. Students will be interviewing, surveying, applying for grants for organizations, and more, says Christine Hippert, associate professor and anthropology program coordinator.

At the core, students will learn about diverse practices in different cultures in food, medicine, language, politics, religion and more. Then, they will learn how to apply cross-cultural studies in anthropology to present-day social problems. A senior thesis will involve working on a challenging community project.

## **STRONG JOB DEMAND, POPULARITY AMONG STUDENTS**

While cultural anthropologists can be found worldwide in education to healthcare and foreign service, it's a largely overlooked field, says Hippert.

US News & World Report ranked anthropology seventh in its Top Ten Best jobs in science in 2017. At UWL, enrollment has doubled over the last decade with a high of 85 students. That led to the cultural anthropology emphasis, approved in spring 2017. By mid summer nine students had already declared it.

UWL senior Elvia Valles was one of the first. She has always been curious about cultures and languages, and it lends to her international career goals.

Hippert is proud of Valles who is gaining worldly work experience this summer as an intern at Latin American News Digest in Washington, D.C.



*UWL senior Elvia Valles is double majoring in cultural anthropology emphasis and sociology. She found out about a summer internship for Latin American News Digest from Christine Hippert, Anthropology. Hippert and Adriana Perez Candia, Global Cultures & Languages, were her references. "I owe it all to them for being great professors!" says Valles.*



## OTHER NEW CLS MINORS AND PROGRAMS

- » Digital Media Studies and Design Minor
- » Hmong and Hmong American Studies Certificate
- » Leadership Development Minor

*UWL started a new Archaeological Studies: Cultural Anthropology Emphasis in April. Christine Hippert, associate professor of anthropology, developed the new major in consultation with Chair of Archaeology and Anthropology Tim McAndrews, while working with department faculty.*

## CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY?

Students majoring in cultural anthropology are interested in pursuing careers that solve social problems, such as developing policies and programs to eliminate poverty and inequality, or providing culturally relevant health care services.

She is researching, summarizing, and translating news articles from Latin American media, including topics such as women's marches in Uruguay, the anniversary of a town massacre in Oaxaca, Mexico, and immigrants going to Mexico and Mennonites living in Mexico.

Valles likes discovering and sharing topics people don't necessarily like to talk about. "People always talk about immigrants coming from Mexico, but never mention those who are going to Mexico," she notes.

In the past, several students have used their anthropology minors to help them gain employment. Hippert anticipates the new major will offer the same.

"More and more companies and organizations are hiring anthropology students because they know how to build trust with people who are different from them; they value people's insight and see change as a process that requires input from multiple groups — those with and without power — because they know that context matters," she says.

# That One Class

Alum uses women's studies, health degrees to improve lives in Monroe County



*Kayleigh Day, '11 & '16, earned a Master of Public Health and a bachelor's degree in Community Health Education and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.*

**W**hen Kayleigh Day registered for her first classes at UWL, she chose a 100-level Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course. "It sounded interesting," she recalls.

After just one class, Day was hooked.

"Things I had always questioned growing up, but maybe didn't take seriously, I learned those are actual things," she explains.

Day learned about how gender inequality and other social inequalities affect people's lives — including their health. She ended up double majoring in women's,

gender, and sexuality studies and community health education, followed by a master's degree in public health. Today her career combines all of her degrees while working to address social inequalities she studied as a student as they relate to public health.



Kayleigh Day received UWL's Rosandich Graduate Thesis Award, which recognizes the best graduate thesis for originality, impact and written quality.

A community health educator with the Monroe County Health Department in Sparta, Day is leading efforts to address some of the county's biggest health issues in areas such as mental health, alcohol and other drug abuse, and nutrition. She can be found leading community suicide

prevention trainings, discussing ways to get low income people access to healthy foods, and taking part in efforts to improve public health.

While it may be obvious how Day uses her health degrees, she says her women's, gender, and sexuality studies degree gives her wider view of public health issues.

"Social justice is a core principal of public health — the idea that everyone deserves to live in a healthy environment," says Day. "Where I pull a lot from my Women's Studies background is when we are looking at social inequalities, and you can see those reflected in health outcomes."

Day points to the recent news of higher death rates among black babies in Dane County as just one example. As a reproductive health advocate for Essential Health Clinic — her first job after earning her undergraduate degree — Day saw social inequalities affected the health decisions of young women.

"How can someone make a choice about their healthcare if they don't have insurance, access to transportation to get to the clinic, or are living in poverty?" she asks.

Lower income populations also have higher tobacco use and food insecurity rates, she notes. "Being in this field, you see how things people have no control over such as race, gender and socioeconomic status do have an impact on their health," Day says.

Because of her multi-disciplinary education, Day says she is conditioned to think critically about public health, always asking what's at the root of a particular health issue and how to make change.

"My educational background is invaluable," she says. "It gives me the ability to be constantly thinking about how social inequalities are impacting people's lives and their health."

It's helped her land a career where she knows she is making a difference. "I love that my job is helping improve the environment in which people live," she says.

Day and other alums share how they use their women's, gender and sexuality studies degrees in their lives and careers:

**WATCH »**



# CREATIVE IMPERATIVES

*Native American students showcased a short film and led a discussion on the portrayal of Native Americans during a Creative Imperatives presentation.*



*Karen Olivo speaks with UWL Theatre Arts Department Chair Joe Anderson.*

# IMPERATIVES

## 2017 RECAP: IDENTITY MATTERS



**W**hen Karen Olivo took the stage at UWL's Toland Theatre, she wasn't portraying "Angelica," a character from the hit Broadway show "Hamilton" — she was herself as a featured speaker for Creative Imperatives.

The annual event brings featured guests and the UWL community together for presentations and workshops in the art and communication fields surrounding a theme. The 2017 theme was "Identity Matters."

"The idea of identity was one that everyone can relate to," says Joe Anderson, Theatre Arts professor and co-organizer of the event.

Olivo was one of four featured guests. She led a conversation about identities and answered questions about her own — including a mixed-race female actor. "She was incredibly forthcoming and sincere," remembers Anderson.

The three-day festival also included events run by UWL students, faculty and staff. One was a panel from the Native American Student Association (NASA). Native American students showcased a short film and led a discussion on the portrayal of Native Americans.

"The media only uses Indigenous peoples when they are portraying the past or in westerns," explains A.J. Clauss, NASA

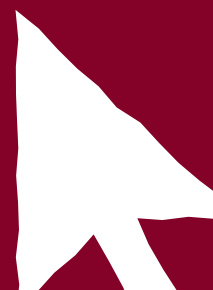
co-advisor. "When all we see of ourselves is the stereotypes through mascots, we are continually reminded that society sees us as 'savages,' not as students, business owners, environmentalists, athletes, family members, etc."

"It's important that we feature our students, faculty and staff, as well as guests during the festival for the simple fact that most people don't have any idea of the vast array of work being done on this campus," says Anderson. "Showcasing experts in their field is good for the entire university and it offers our students a look at a few of the paths they might explore after graduation."

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2018 CREATIVE IMPERATIVES: Revolutions will explore art and communication in a changing society, and how technology and innovation have advanced the way to explore the world.

**LEARN MORE »**





# REFLECTING AT THE WATER

## Poetry shared at celebration added to oral history project

**D**ancers, musicians and artisans descended on downtown La Crosse in June for the fourth annual community art celebration, Artspire. In the mix were UWL faculty and students sharing talents from theatrical performance to print-making.

Ariel Beaujot, associate professor of history, gathered with a group near Riverside Park to read several poems — some reflecting the sobering reality of the community’s river history.

*There are new ghosts in the  
Mississippi  
and all day they play unimaginable,  
underwatery  
games with each other.*

*Come night, the moon releases  
them, old and new  
from the grip of the river....*

*Every night they waiver through  
small-town side-streets back  
to the small taverns*

*They stand impossibly still with  
a twenty-dollar bill  
dripping on the bar, wondering  
why no one will serve them.*

From “Ophelia Soft” by David Krump  
(originally published in “Colorado Review”)

Krump’s poem was one of six added to the “Hear, Here” oral history collection. Beaujot and her students created the award-winning project in 2014. So far, they have collected 50 stories of those who worked, lived and shopped downtown. Poems were added to the archive in July. All can be accessed via phone numbers or the project website: [www.hearherelacrosse.org](http://www.hearherelacrosse.org).

First prize went to David Krump, “Ophelia Soft;” second prize to Kyle Constalie, “Into Collision;” third prize (tie) to Susan Houlihan, “River Walk” and Teagan Daly, “Trauma Center.” Honorable mentions went to Mai Chao, “Two Rivers” and Gene Falkenberg, “Untitled (back in 1966).”

## WHERE TO FIND ‘HEAR, HERE’ POEMS

Along with listening to poems on the “Hear, Here” website, they were added to the “Hear, Here” archives. Stories and poetry are identified with orange-colored street signs with numbers allowing people to use their phones to listen to recorded stories.

The poems were also published in [Steam Ticket](#), a nationally distributed journal featuring both award-winning and emerging writers, that is created by UWL student editors and readers in English 320: Literary Journal Production/Publication. Brochures

can be picked up at Downtown Mainstreet Inc., UWL College of Liberal Studies office (235 Morris Hall), UWL History Department (401 Wimberly Hall), and the La Crosse Area Convention & Visitors Bureau office.

## READ THE POEMS »



*Ariel Beaujot*



*William Stobb*

Beaujot and William Stobb, associate professor of English, organized a community-wide contest to select poems. They sought poems with personal and public histories engaging downtown La Crosse landmarks or events. Six were winners.

Krump, the first-prize winner, wrote his while dealing with the drowning of a best friend. Seated at a tavern on a rainy spring day, he had just read the newspaper account of another body of a young man pulled from the river.

“This poem responds to what, at the time, amounted to a repetition of

death by water, a sort of deadly ritual from which no one re-emerges,” he explains. “Some called it alcohol, but the simple explanations aren’t always the ones we require as a species.”

Krump says poetry allows people to process history differently. “Poetry is bound by that directive, but liberated by its ability to move beyond ‘On this date, X happened. X is significant because Y,’” he explains. “Neither is poetry bound by existence of temporal facts. A difficult statement to make in the current age, but one that I believe to be at least partially valid.”

# A REWARDING MESSAGE

## Grad offers first scholarship for comm studies



*Robin Clark Mueller, '78, with the first three recipients of a scholarship he set up for Communication Studies students. The recipients are, from left, Morgan Bergeron, Abby Murphy and Cassie Stoick.*

**Y**ou wouldn't expect Robin Clark Mueller to be so tuned into the financial constraints of students. In the 70s, tuition was lower and the state provided more funding. His parents funded his college education while he worked part-time jobs.

But the 1978 interpersonal communications grad is so eager to help today's communication studies students that he set up a scholarship — the first for the discipline.

"It's time to give back," Mueller explains. "I've been blessed."

Mueller is endowing a scholarship for juniors or seniors. He likes the idea of making a major difference in a student's

life. "You never know when a student may be on the fence and an award like this could rein them back in," he explains.

Mueller wants to stay involved with his scholarship. He or other members of his family plan to conduct personal interviews as part of the selection process. He was so impressed with the inaugural group of candidates when selecting the first recipient this spring that he awarded three scholarships instead of one.

Eventually, the award will fund even more students. Mueller has made the UWL Foundation the beneficiary of a \$100,000 life insurance policy. The arrangement provides him a tax benefit

while funding the policy. When the policy is cashed in, it will boost the original \$25,000 endowment and provide additional annual awards.

This isn't the first time Mueller has given back to his alma mater. In 2003, he funded a living memorial around Wittich Hall to honor his dad, who traveled from Milwaukee often to see Mueller compete in gymnastics.

Mueller encourages others to think about endowing scholarships by using a life insurance policy or other creative financial planning. "Their smiles on recognition night say it all," he says. "What are you leaving behind?"

# Top Teacher? Oui!

A double alum has earned top state honors. The Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers (WAFLT) has awarded Brian Wopat the 2016 WAFLT Recognition of Merit Award. It's presented annually for excellence in teaching or making significant contributions to the language teaching profession.

Wopat currently teaches French at Onalaska High School. He received a bachelor's in French in 2002 and a master's in education and professional development in 2005. The national Board Certified French Educator also earned a Diplôme d'Études Supérieures de la Langue Française Université de Caen.

In Onalaska, Wopat organizes and leads student exchanges and trips to France, serves as French Club and French National Honor Society adviser, and coordinates the Global Education Achievement Certificate program.



# They're Excellent!



*Students with their 2017 Wisconsin Broadcaster's Association Student Awards for Excellence. From left, James Rau, Tessa Tilot, Brigham Weyrauch and Colin Malliet.*

During the spring semester, communication studies majors with a broadcast and digital media emphasis received Wisconsin Broadcaster's Association awards for their work in radio and TV. Students honored:

- » James Rau and Tessa Tilot received first place for "Perfect Pets" in the Promotional/Public Service Announcements/Commercials (TV) category.
- » Colin Malliet and Brigham Weyrauch received first place for "Untamed Universe," an original radio drama, in the Long Form Production Non-News (Radio) category.
- » Evan Barrett and Gregory Hill took second place for "Primetime" in the Sports Programming Non-Play-by-Play (Radio) category.

# STUDENTS HONORED



## JONATHAN 'JACK' FLINCHUM

### MURPHY AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Flinchum earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology with minors in sociology and statistics. He was a member of several honor societies and other on-campus organizations, but his main involvement was research. As a first-year student, he was a part of the Eagle Apprenticeship program. Flinchum continued in research during his academic career in a variety of fields including exercise and sport science, organizational behavior, psychology, and sociology. He presented at several research conferences, earned an on-campus grant, and has been published. Flinchum is attending the University of North Carolina at Charlotte to work toward a doctorate in organizational science. He would like to become actively involved in research as a business consultant or professor. He is the son of Phil and Cindy Flinchum, Waunakee.

**WHEN I WAS 6, I WANTED TO BE ...** outside with my friends.

**WHEN I'M 40, I WANT TO BE ...** happy, living somewhere warm and pretty with a loving and caring family; a job in consulting and/or teaching; and with the ability to travel frequently.



## RACHEL RAMTHUN

### JOHN E. MAGERUS AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING GRADUATING CLS SENIOR

Ramthun graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in political science and public administration with a minor in economics. She was chair of the Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee, president of the Political Science and Public Administration Association, Learning Enrichment Coordinator at White Hall her sophomore year, and member of several other clubs and organizations. Ramthun completed undergraduate research on tax incremental financing and presented at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research where she was published in the conference proceedings. Ramthun has published a piece about Old Abe, the War Eagle on the website WI101.org. She also completed several internships and was the economic development intern for the City of La Crosse Department of Planning and Economic Development. She is attending graduate school for a Masters of Public Administration/Affairs and would like to work in local government management. She is the daughter of Jeffery and Mary Ramthun, Waukesha.

**MY FAVORITE UWL PROFESSOR WAS ...** Dr. John Kovari — he has always pushed me to do my best and has opened doors to the opportunities that have proved most influential and beneficial.

**MY OTHER FAVORITE PROFESSOR WAS ...** Dr. Jim Szymalak — he thoroughly understands the importance of real world examples and is unafraid to balance the textbook, where only ideal situations are found, with “real world” situations, often through telling his own interesting experiences.

## FACULTY HONORED



Faculty honored during the College of Liberal Studies' Evening of Excellence in April included, from left, Lisa Caya, Psychology, Academic Staff Award; Bryan Kopp, English, Faculty Award for Teaching; and Beth Cherne, Theatre, Faculty Award for Research/Scholarship/Creative Endeavors. Not pictured is Katy Kortenkamp, Psychology, Faculty Award for Service.



# ALUMNI HONORED



## HOLLIE NYSETH BREHM

*RADA DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNUS AWARD*

- » Assistant professor of sociology, The Ohio State University, since 2014.
- » Named to the inaugural list of “30 Top Thinkers Under 30” by Pacific Standard.
- » Master’s (2012) and doctorate (2014) in sociology from University of Minnesota.
- » Double majors, sociology and political science; double minors, international studies and Spanish, from UWL, 2008.



## JESSICA MCMUNN

*PARKER DISTINGUISHED  
MULTICULTURAL ALUMNI  
AWARD*

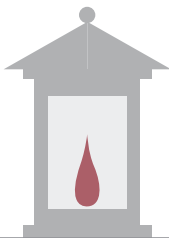
- » Filmmaker and producer of mainly social justice oriented works including the award-winning “So-leil.” Currently in post-production of her first feature film, “Raise Your Hand.”
- » Awards: James Bridges Award in Film Direction; Jack Nicholson Distinguished Director Award; Mary Pickford Award; Motion Picture Association of America Award; UCLA Spotlight Films Award Winner; Director’s Guild Association Student Minority Award.
- » Bachelor’s in theatre, with a minor in Latin American studies, from UWL, 2005.



## LISA KOENECKE

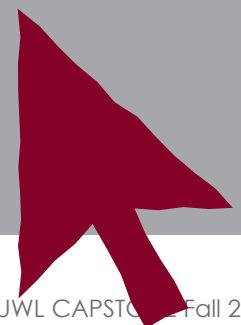
*BURT AND NORMA ALTMAN  
TEACHER EDUCATION AWARD*

- » Counselor at River Bluff Middle School, Stoughton.
- » Kohl Fellowship Award, 2016.
- » Master’s in school counseling from UW-Whitewater, 2008.
- » Bachelor’s in psychology from UWL, 1991.



Learn more about the UWL Distinguished Alumni Awards, nomination process and past recipients:

**LEARN MORE »**



# 3D ARCHAEOLOGY

## Professor, senior bring ancient culture to today

**E**ngravings of potentially the world's earliest writing. A bust of one of the most famous women of the ancient world. Mummified bodies from northern Europe's Iron Age.

These artifacts preserved in museums across the world are not easily transported to a UWL archaeology classroom. Yet David Anderson's students pass them around to get a feel of what they are like.

Anderson is bringing ancient archaeology into the 21st century — with only his digital camera, 3D printer and an inexpensive computer software program.

Using a process called photogrammetry, he takes many photos of artifacts from multiple angles during his travels around the world. He then transforms them into moveable, 3D models on his computer screen, which can also be printed as teaching aids with 3D printers in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology. Anyone can view these 3D artifacts and other virtual models on [Sketchfab](#), where people upload and share 3D content from around the world.

Anderson says photogrammetry allows his students to experience



*3D architectural imagery from [Sketchfab](#)*

archeological finds beyond a textbook description or 2D image, helping them gain a deeper understanding of the topic while also preparing them for a future in archaeology.

“It’s catching on so fast that if we are not teaching it, our students will be light years behind,” he says. Anderson traveled worldwide during summer to share the technology.



*David Anderson, UWL associate professor of archaeology, left, and UWL senior William Feltz are using cutting edge technology to make ancient artifacts easier to see — and feel.*

**“It’s catching on so fast that if we are not teaching it, our students will be light years behind.”**

DAVE ANDERSON

Archaeology major William Feltz built his senior thesis project around photogrammetry. He added 3D representations of prehistoric pottery fragments from the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center collection to the resources currently provided on the MVAC website, which include written descriptions and hand-drawn illustrations of artifacts.

Feltz’s work specifically focuses on 3D computer models that represent different phases in Oneota culture when ceramic pots were decorated differently along the rims. The viewer can move and manipulate a broken piece of pottery to examine small details that differentiate one fragment from another, which can be hard to distinguish in a 2D drawing.

“They can also be printed out for someone to hold and feel the object without needing to be in vicinity of MVAC,

or for these objects to be outside the preservation box,” explains Feltz.

One of the goals of his thesis project is to show photogrammetry is a viable method for documenting and sharing artifacts at a time when it is not universally accepted as a worthwhile technique among archaeologists.

The use of photogrammetry isn’t reserved for archeologists. It has applications across many disciplines, and is catching on at UWL. In the Biology Department, Anderson has shared tips and techniques with Assistant Professor Eric Snively, who specializes in vertebrate functional anatomy and paleontology. Anderson also consulted on how to use it in human anatomy courses.

# COMING

## *Break a Leg!*

Dec. 1-3 & 7-10

### **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

by Charles Dickens

Feb. 23-25 & March 1-4

### **BIG FISH**

by Andrew Lippa

April 20-22 & 26-29

### **THE ARSONISTS**

by Max Frisch

CHILDREN'S PRODUCTION IN  
FREDERICK THEATRE

April 7

### **CHARLOTTE'S WEB**

[SEE MORE THEATRE EVENTS »](#)

## *Listen to the Music*

Feb. 3

### **FLUTE DAY**

March 3

### **ORCHESTRA CONCERT | 2 P.M.**

March 4

### **WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT | 2 P.M.**

May 4

### **ORCHESTRA CONCERT | 7:30 P.M.**

May 6

### **WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT | 2 P.M.**

[SEE MORE MUSIC EVENTS »](#)

# EVENTS

## SCHOOL OF ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

### Get Some Art

Dec. 1-13

SENIOR ART STUDENTS EXHIBITION

Jan. 25-Feb. 10

CHINA CHANGES EVERYTHING ::  
MADE IN BEIJING

Feb. 23-March 8

ALL STUDENT JURIED ART EXHIBITION

March 22-April 8

WISCONSIN 3RD CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBITION

April 13-May 4

SENIOR ART STUDENTS EXHIBITION

May 12-19

WRAP - WISCONSIN REGIONAL  
ART PROGRAM

[SEE MORE ART EVENTS »](#)

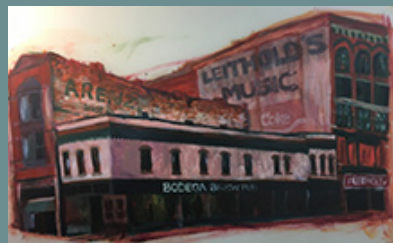


## Last Hurrah

*Graduating seniors exhibited their work one last time on campus before spring commencement. Here are some of the variety of works in the show.*



*Hsin-Yeh Lee*



*Ashley Martin  
"Bodega Brew Pub," acrylic on  
Dura-Lar*



*Ivy Belle Molls*



# Korean Wave

Campus heard a wave this spring. The Seojung Dance Co. from South Korea performed “Korean Wave — Globalization of Korean Traditional Culture 2017” in March.

Native to South Korea, the Danullim Gayageum Ensemble specializes in Korean gayageum music. Gayageum is considered the most representative Korean string instrument dating back to the 3rd century. Gayageum performers pluck and flick the strings with their right-hand fingers, while controlling various articulations on the strings with their left hand. The traditional 12-stringed gayageum is tuned to pentatonic scale, which emphasizes five tones.

The performance and master class were supported by the UWL Korean Percussion Ensemble, Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee, College of Liberal Studies, Office of International Education & Engagement, and the UWL Foundation.





*Students with alumni at the Wisconsin state capitol in March 2017.*

# The Capitol Connection

UWL political science and public administration students traveled to Madison to see what could be their future office building — the Wisconsin state capitol.

Cara Henney, a political science major who graduated in May, has ambitions to work in the capitol “ultimately as a speech writer or a communications director.”

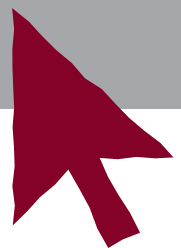
Henney knows the experience gives her a leg up in the real world. “I learned working in the capitol is 90 percent relationships and 10 percent

politics,” she says. “Getting to meet these people and putting faces to names is so important. It’s totally worth the trip down here.”

The trip to Madison with her peers included a capitol tour, speed networking with UWL alumni, along with a reception with lawmakers, alumni, faculty, staff and university supporters.

For more on Henry’s experience

**WATCH** »



# SNAP



## ARTFUL OVERHAUL

After polishing metalsmithing skills in Art Department classes, student Travis Trzecinski volunteered to restore a sculpture in Cartwright Center. Restoration is a hobby for Trzecinski. In the military, he restored old military jeeps and tanks for display in a mechanized museum. "It's such a sense of accomplishment bringing something back to its original life," Trzecinski says. "At the end of the day, you know there is something there you've done with your hands." Trzecinski spent about 20 hours on the sculpture. It's displayed in the lower level of the new UWL Student Union.