

LANTERN



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Volume 41, No. 1
WINTER 2014-15



ALL ABOUT RESEARCH

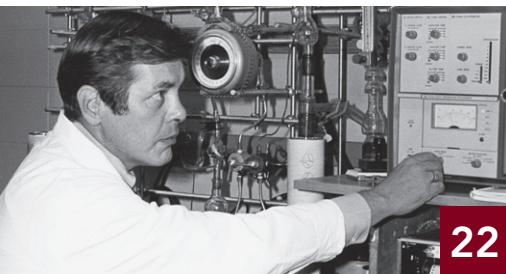
Research opportunities abound
for our undergraduate students

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CLASS NOTES ONLINE

For complete class notes each quarter, go to www.uwlaxumni.org. Click on 'News,' then 'Lantern.'

ON THE COVER

ALL ABOUT RESEARCH: Professor Scott Cooper works with student Alie Bonis on a research project in a Cowley Hall lab.

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UW-L Murphy Library archives all past issues of the Alumnus/Lantern Magazine. View them at: <http://murphylibrary.uwlax.edu/digital/uwl/Alumnus/index.html>

CLASS NOTES POLICY: The UW-L Alumni Association publishes class notes and obituaries online in January, April, July and October. The deadline is the 1st of the month prior to the quarterly postings. See www.uwlaxumni.org for details.



THE VALUE OF RESEARCH

I started doing undergraduate research as a freshman at Michigan State University in 1982 and have been involved ever since. I first mentored student researchers as a graduate student. Today I find the most rewarding part of my job as a professor is mentoring undergraduate research students and watching their development firsthand.

years ago, I was named its first director. In this position, I promote and support collaborations between students and mentors in all disciplines.

Such relationships between students and faculty mentors are especially important during the transformative years in college. First-year students with similar educational backgrounds

activities. For more than 15 years, UW-L has supported students through grants and opportunities to present their work. In 1999 Aaron Monte, Chemistry professor, and I initiated, and UW-L hosted, the first UW System Undergraduate Research Symposium, which now moves to a different campus every two years. Nationally, UW-L is the only university to host the National Conference on Undergraduate Research twice (2009 and 2013).

New programs highlighted in this edition of the Lantern include Eagle Apprentices, Scholars without Borders, the Policy Research Network and a new program for returning veterans. Our ultimate goal at UW-L is to give every student who wants a research and creative experience the opportunity to participate.

*Scott Cooper,
Biology Professor and Director of
Undergraduate Research and
Creativity, 2014 Wisconsin
Professor of the Year*

Enter a Student Undergraduate Research Emerge a Scholar

Haiku by Scott Cooper

Mentoring is an ancient form of teaching that doesn't always fit well with our class sizes. However, by collaborating with students on my research, I can establish strong and long-lasting relationships.

When UW-L's Office of Undergraduate Research and Creativity was created three

choose a major and specialize. Working on a research project enables students to gain skills in their discipline, design and troubleshoot experiments, write proposals and present their results to diverse audiences.

UW-L has a long history of supporting undergraduate research and creative



Record enrollment

UW-L attracts the most first-year students to date —
130 more than fall 2013

UW-L reached record enrollment in fall 2014 with 10,558 undergraduate and graduate students —130 more than fall 2013, also a record. “We’re thrilled that student interest is so high

and that families throughout Wisconsin, the region and the world continue to choose UW-L for their university experience,” says Chancellor Joe Gow. UW-L consistently attracts academically

talented students. The class of 2018 has a median ACT score of 25 and a median class rank at the 80th percentile.

UW-L PHYSICS: NO. 2 IN THE NATION

UW-L is ranked No. 2 nationwide for the number of physics degrees it awards annually among bachelor’s degree granting programs. UW-L had an average of 28 physics majors a year between 2010-12, placing it second only to the U.S. Naval Academy

according to the American Institute of Physics. UW-L has consistently placed among the top five on the national list, tying for fifth place for classes graduating from 2006-08 and third for classes graduating between 2008-12.



UW-L receives prestigious national award for diversity, inclusion



UW-L received the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused higher ed publication. UW-L is the only Wisconsin college to receive the award for outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. "Receiving this national award for the second year in a row is really a strong external validation of the strength of our diversity and inclusion efforts here at UW-L," says Barbara Stewart, UW-L associate dean for diversity and inclusion.

SOCIALIZE
online

Like UW-L on
Facebook and Twitter!



Top value again

UW-L is one of only two Wisconsin public colleges to make Kiplinger's magazine's list of 2015 top 100 best values in public colleges.

"We're thrilled to remain among the top 100 values in American public higher education," says Chancellor Joe Gow. "This reflects our ongoing efforts to provide the highest quality

academic experience for our students at a very reasonable price. In fact, when just in-state tuitions are compared, we are the fourth best value in the country among public institutions."

UW-L is No. 65 for in-state students and No. 61 for out-of-state students. UW-Madison is the other Wisconsin school on the list.

UW-L: STATE'S BEST

UW-L remains the top-ranked comprehensive university in the UW System for the 14th year in a row. U.S. News & World Report's 2015 America's Best Colleges list of Best Regional Universities in the Midwest lists UW-L as the state's best and the No. 4 public university in the Midwest among undergraduate and master's degree colleges. "We're



delighted to once again be the top-ranked campus of our kind in the UW System," says Chancellor Joe Gow. "It's beneficial to have

this external validation of the great work our faculty and staff do to ensure our students receive a high quality education." U.S. News also listed UW-L among "A-Plus Schools for B Students."

Wall of Fame

Six former student-athletes and a former athletic director were inducted into the university's Wall of Fame in October.



JILL JACOBSON
TENNIS
1985-89

Athletic kudos: earned conference title at No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles in 1988.



MARK MOREHOUSE
SWIMMING
1993-97

Athletic kudos: earned All-American honors in the 400-meters as a senior.



JOHN JANKE
FOOTBALL
1990-93

Athletic kudos: named to four straight all-conference teams; many of his records still stand.



GLENN MUELLER
BOWLING
1966-70

Athletic kudos: U.S. representative to the national collegiate bowling championship world cup in Japan, placed sixth.

See complete bios at
<http://goo.gl/MKTxVd>

honors seven



ANDREW ROCK
TRACK & FIELD
2001-04

Athletic kudos: university's only Olympic Gold Medal athlete; 17-time All-American.



BRIDGET ANN BELGIOVINE
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
1991-97

Donald Gordon Merit Award recipient

Athletic kudos: expanded UW-L athletic reputation in her six years; Eagles earned 14 national championships and 65 teams went to nationals.



LAURA PASTORE ZIEGLER
GYMNASTICS
1991-95

Athletic kudos: made the reputable gymnastics team as a freshman; national vault champion in 1995.

THE WALL: The Wall of Fame pays tribute to former athletes and coaches for their exceptional ability and enhancement of school tradition. The Donald Gordon Merit Award recognizes long-time supporters of UW-L athletics.





Retired, former and current Residence Life staff reconnected with former student staffers at a reunion on campus this summer. Among them, from left, were Dick Kohler, Ruthann Kurinsky, April Handke, Carol Bassuener and Paul Rifkin.

RES LIFE ALUMNI RETURN TO CAMPUS, RAISE \$10,000+

Alumni who worked in Residence Life as hall directors, resident assistants and desk managers returned to La Crosse in June to reminisce and catch up with college friends.

The value of building a positive community on campus more than likely started with the “house mother” in the early days of residence halls. Since that time, Dick Kohler and Nick Nicklaus have carried that philosophy forward and built an award-winning residence life program.

“When I started, I had a lot of respect for what Dick

“When I started, I had a lot of respect for what Dick had done and [I] wanted to continue to build on it.”

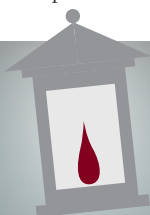
Nick Nicklaus

had done and wanted to continue to build on it,” noted Nicklaus at the banquet.

A full weekend of activities

was enjoyed. Alumni were impressed with the campus plan presentation made by Bob Hetzel, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, and the new student center presentation by Larry Ringgenberg, director of University Centers. (And, they made it through Dick Kohler’s rendition of Neil Diamond!)

Thanks to the generosity of alumni attending, and a generous \$2,500 matching grant from former RHAC President Karanja Rouse, the event raised \$10,589 for academic and leadership scholarships for student leaders in Residence Life.



FOR A COMPLETE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS, VISIT
WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG

ESTATE GIFT

Estate adds \$22K+
to Alumni
Association



A small-town boy from Westby has left a strong legacy of support to a number of organizations — including the UW-L Alumni Association.

William Running, who graduated with a degree in education from UW-L in 1955, bequeathed \$22,255 to the Alumni Association. During his career, Running taught high school in the Chicago area and later served as principal. He had a strong affinity to the two universities he attended: UW-L and Northwestern University.

Running also left part of his estate to area non-profits, including Norskedalen, Little Norway, Westby Area Historical society and several others.

“We are so grateful for this generous contribution,” says Janie Morgan, ’85 & ’86, executive director. “His unrestricted gift will support many alumni programs for years to come.”

This is the second estate gift received by the Alumni Association, notes Morgan. To make a gift to the Alumni Association or the UW-L Foundation, call 877.895.2586.



A WEEKEND IN THE ‘WILD’

Special Wisconsin Dells weekend
available to UW-L alums

UW-L alumni can get a great weekend stay deal in Wisconsin Dells — and help the UW-L Alumni Association at the same time.

The Wilderness Resort is offering a Waterpark Weekend Fundraiser April 17-19, 2015. For \$109.99 per night plus taxes and resort fees, a family of four can reserve a double queen room and unlimited access to the

resort’s four waterparks and four-story interactive play park. Additional family members are \$20 each. For every room night booked, the Alumni Association will receive \$10.

To make a reservation, use code #C84004 when calling 800.867.WILD. The deadline for reservations is March 17.





UW-L Screaming Eagles marching band

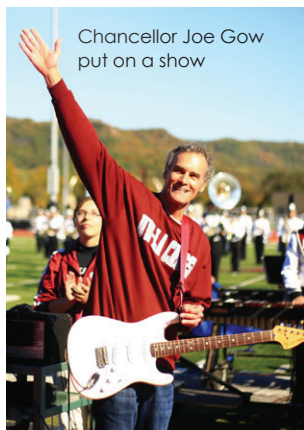


Eagles v. UW-Oshkosh



VARSITY HOMECOMING

A LOOK BACK AT A WEEKEND OF FUN AND GAMES IN OCTOBER 2014



Chancellor Joe Gow put on a show



Class of 1964 reunion



Wall of Fame induction ceremony



Football Captains' reunion: Roger Haring, John Janke and Bryce Janke

GRADS IN CHARGE

Alums from the class of '91 are leading colleges in Michigan and New York

Thomas Pleger — a UW-L political science graduate in 1991, is the eighth president of Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and Joseph E. Nyre is the eighth president of Iona College, New Rochelle, New York.

Pleger attributes his liberal education at UW-L —



Thomas Pleger, '91, and his wife, Teresa (Schaefer), '90 & '10, enjoy living on the Lake Superior State University campus and interacting with students daily. Pleger is the eighth president of the university in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Photo credit: LSSU/John Shibley

courses in natural and social sciences, communication and writing, and the arts and humanities — to preparing him for college presidency. “This broad curriculum helped me develop skills that were useful in graduate school, as a professor, dean, and eventually as a president,” Pleger says.

He points to professors Jim Gallagher and Jim Theler as mentors, along with Political Science Professor Al Bigel whose constitutional law classes helped sharpen his analytical skills.

Pleger says the best thing about being a university president is being around students, faculty and staff. “Universities are exciting environments and as president, I am able to help faculty and staff serve students and our community,” he notes.

Nyre says seeing young adults grow in knowledge is what's best about college presidency. He knows about this from personal experience. “As a first generation college graduate, I experienced the transformational nature and immense power of higher education,” Nyre says. “As a college professor, I witnessed the same in others. Thoughts of serving and leading at



Joseph E. Nyre — the eighth president of Iona College in New Rochelle, New York — graduated from UW-L in 1991 with a bachelor's in psychology.

the highest levels in higher education gradually came into focus over the decades.”

Nyre witnessed strong servant leadership at UW-L where his mentors included Psychology Professor Harry Gardiner and classmate Nick Marvich. “They were compassionate, firm, funny, well grounded, insightful and had the highest integrity,” he explains. “Those traits undoubtedly impacted my approach to leadership.”

0

HERO

UW-L senior promotes
traffic safety in
Wisconsin



Chantel Banks started at UW-L in spring 2012 as a transfer student from Lincoln Christian University in Lincoln, Illinois.

UW-L Senior Chantel Banks buckles up every time she gets in a vehicle. Had she taken that simple step on May 27, 2012, Banks says her life would be a lot different. She'd still have use of her legs to jump in her truck or on her horse to go wherever — whenever she chooses.

Banks, a therapeutic recreation and pre-occupational therapy major, was paralyzed from the waist down in a car accident. She's now sharing what happens when people don't wear seatbelts through a Wisconsin Department of Transportation campaign — Zero In Wisconsin.

The campaign aims to bring the total deaths in Wisconsin from traffic crashes from a 570

“I was away from my family and I had to learn to depend on myself again. It helped me realize how much strength I actually had and how much passion I had for helping others.”

UW-L Senior Chantel Banks

yearly average to zero. Banks tells how the crash happened in

a campaign video. She went for a drive with three friends just minutes from her home, was speeding and not wearing a seat belt. When the car hit a small knoll in the road, it came down on three wheels and went airborne. It rolled several times, ejecting Banks and then rolling on top of her. The impact broke her back and caused the paralysis.

Banks says coming back to school a year after the accident in July 2013 was one of the best things she did on her path to recovery.

“I was away from my family and I had to learn to depend on myself again,” she says. “It helped me realize how much strength I actually had and how much passion I had for helping others.”

SEE THE ZERO IN WISCONSIN CAMPAIGN VIDEO:

[HTTP://GOO.GL/U9Q8UB](http://goo.gl/U9Q8UB)



GERMAN EXCHANGE

Student promotes cultural understanding through fellowship in Frankfurt

UW-L junior Rebecca Dickmann was one of 700 Americans to apply for a federally-funded exchange program to Germany in fall 2013. Considering the odds, Dickmann never expected to receive the prestigious Congress-Bundestag Fellowship.

So, when she received the email in her inbox with the words, “Dear Ms. Dickmann, Congratulations!” she had tears of joy. Dickmann, a German and international business major, is now one of 75 young professionals from across the U.S. studying and working in Germany in 2014-15 through a public diplomacy program.

Dickmann hopes to become a translator or interpreter for the State Department or United Nations. She’s had plenty of opportunity to work toward that goal this fall through literature and language classes, along with conversations over dinner with her host family.

The U.S. Congress and German Bundestag created the fellowship program in 1984 to promote understanding between U.S. and German citizens.

Dickmann says that understanding comes not only through learning each others’ languages,



TOP: A panoramic view of Frankfurt, Germany. UW-L student Rebecca Dickmann took the photo from the top of Frankfurt’s Main Tower. **ABOVE:** UW-L Junior Rebecca Dickmann pictured at the top of the Berliner Dom, the Evangelical Supreme Parish and Collegiate Church in Berlin, Germany. Dickmann, a German and international business major, received the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals to study and work in Germany for a year.

but also through understanding cultural norms. She’s learning about the little things such as the customary few coins she must pay to use a public toilet and the impressive timeliness of public transit.

Dickmann arrived in Germany in August and started off with a two-month intensive German language course. She is spending the semester studying

language and literature at Otto von Guericke Universität in Magdeburg. At the end of her stay, she’ll complete a five-month internship with a German company in her career field.

Since its inception, about 1,700 Americans have worked and studied in Germany through the program. The program also sends German professionals to experience life in the U.S.



UW-L TO HOST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

UW-L will host the 2015 National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) Division III Championships March 27-28, 2015. The competition in Mitchell Hall will mark the fourth time UW-L has hosted the championships. UW-L has

won a record 15 NCGA championships, including 11 of the last 15. The Eagles have captured a record 21 WIAC titles, including 14 of the last 17.

UW-L has also been selected to host the 2017 NCAA III Wrestling Championships

and 2018 NCAA Division III Women's and Men's Outdoor Track & Field Championships. It's the third time UW-L has hosted the wrestling championships and the fourth time for hosting the outdoor track & field championships.

BEST: 15 YEARS RUNNING

Eagle athletes post the highest combined GPA in WIAC

UW-L student-athletes are at the top of their game when it comes to grade point average. Eagle athletes posted the highest combined GPA among the nine Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference institutions in 2013-14, finishing at 3.240.

The Eagles also recorded the highest number of student-athletes (348, approximately 62 percent of the student-athlete population) with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better. It's the 15th consecutive year UW-L has recorded the highest combined GPA in the WIAC.

It's also the 12th time in the last 13 years the student-athlete cumulative GPA (3.240) was higher than the combined GPA of UW-L's overall student body (3.180).





MEN RUN TO THIRD NATIONALLY

OTHER HARRIERS RUN WELL

The men's cross country team placed third at the 2014 NCAA Division III Championships Nov. 22 in Mason, Ohio. It was the Eagles' 12th top-three finish in school history and second straight third place.

Alex Ciesielski was UW-L's top finisher, placing eighth overall. It was UW-L's top individual finish since **Paul Zdroik** placed fifth in 2007. Ciesielski is the 10th runner in school history to record a top-10 finish. **Brett Altergott** won the

NCAA III title in 1997. The Eagles' **Jonah**

Weisse placed 33rd this season. With their top-35 finishes, Ciesielski and Weisse each earned NCAA III All-America honors.

The women's cross country squad finished 13th after placing 19th a season ago. **Laura Mead**



Laura Mead



Alex Ciesielski

was UW-L's top finisher, placing 10th overall to earn NCAA III All-America honors. She is the ninth runner in school history to finish in the top 10 and first since **Stephanie Perleberg** placed seventh in 2009. **Tori Neubauer** won a pair of NCAA III titles in 1982 and 1983.

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST

Freedom Honor Flight and the UW-L Intercollegiate Athletics hosted area veterans in Mitchell Hall Fieldhouse for the 4th Annual Veterans Day Breakfast Nov. 11. Student-athletes from all 19 intercollegiate teams served breakfast. UW-L student athletes have been supporters of Freedom Honor Flight since the group began organizing flights in 2008.

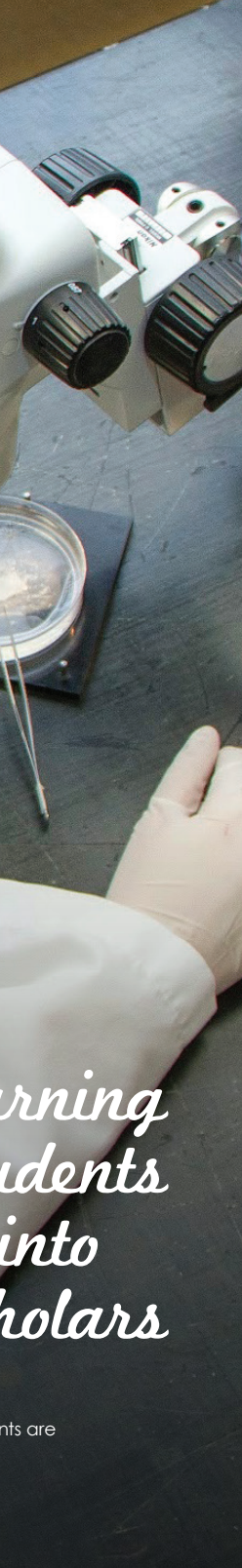


from the cover

ALL ABOUT RESEARCH

UW-L student Kathryn Thompson is part of UW-L's new Eagle Apprenticeship Program. A total of 28 students are participating, including three sophomores who started last year, and 25 first-year students. Through the program they receive a \$1,000 award as first-year students, \$2,000 as sophomores.

*Just
stu
sch*



Turning
students
into
scholars

nts are

UW-L freshman Kathryn Thompson holds tiny forceps in her steady hands as she pulls back a thin layer of intestine, exposing a network of gut neurons for analysis.

“Before this I had only seen neurons in books,” she says, gazing through her microscope. “It’s not like the picture where you so clearly see every piece — It takes time and experience to figure out what you are looking at. It makes you appreciate how difficult research can be.”

Thompson is assisting UW-L Biology Professor Sumeli Liu with undergraduate research that aims to uncover new information about the gut to help treat stress-related gastrointestinal disorders, such as irritable bowel syndrome. The research is paid for by a three-year, \$337,500 grant from the National Institutes of Health, which Liu received in August.

While Thompson’s contributions could help advance medicine, she’s also taking steps toward her future as a physician assistant. After completing her undergraduate degree, she plans to apply to UW-L’s Physician Assistant program.

“Being a freshman, I never thought I would get to work in

a lab — ever,” she says. “This is a really cool opportunity to get hands-on experience.”

Thompson is a participant in UW-L’s new Eagle Apprenticeship Program, which offers incoming freshmen a stipend to assist UW-L faculty with research. The program, which started in fall 2013, is one of the many ways UW-L undergraduate research has expanded in recent years.

Another way is the \$50,000 UW System grant UW-L received in October to provide 20 UW-L faculty training on how to embed research into courses, opening up research opportunities to an even larger group.

New research programs and funding are largely the result of initiatives led by UW-L’s Office of Undergraduate Research & Creativity, directed by UW-L Biology Professor Scott Cooper. The office started in January 2011 to support research throughout campus.

“Engaging students in independent research projects is a high impact practice — meaning

“Before this I had only seen neurons in books,” she says, gazing through her microscope. “It’s not like the picture where you so clearly see every piece — It takes time and experience to figure out what you are looking at. It makes you appreciate how difficult research can be.”

Student Kathryn Thompson



Professor Sumei Liu (center) works with first-year student Kathryn Thompson (left) and senior Lauren Eliades in a Cowley Hall lab.

it’s proven to be positively associated with student learning and retention,” says Cooper. “That gives our students the skills they need to graduate and be successful after they graduate. Also, mentoring is a very personal form of teaching, so faculty and students benefit from strong, long-term ties.”

Although faculty research at UW-L comes second to teaching, the two go hand-in-hand, says Chancellor Joe Gow. “We have outstanding faculty who conduct research

that makes them even better classroom instructors,” he notes.

REACHING OUT TO VETERANS THROUGH RESEARCH

UW-L is using research opportunities to reach out to diverse student groups such as veterans. When UW-L veteran student Michael Bahr returned from conducting detainee operations in Taji, Iraq, in January 2010, the transition

PROFESSOR SCOTT COOPER NAMED WISCONSIN PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Biology Professor Scott Cooper is the 2014 Wisconsin Professor of the Year. Cooper is also UW-L’s director of Undergraduate Research & Creativity. The recognition in Washington, D.C., came from The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Cooper was selected from nearly 400 U.S. professors. This year, a state Professor of the Year was recognized in 31 states. It’s the third time in the last four years that a UW-L professor has been named Wisconsin



Professor of the Year. History Professor Greg Wegner won the award in 2011 and History Professor Víctor M. Macías-González won the award in 2013.



Michael Bahr, a UW-L student veteran, is one of the participants in a pilot program that started in the fall to match student veterans with faculty mentors to do undergraduate research.

“You can’t always relate to students on campus because you’ve had different experiences. And going from a structured environment to something ambiguous is also difficult.”

Student Veteran Michael Bahr

to college wasn’t easy.

“You can’t always relate to students on campus because you’ve had different experiences,” he says. “And going from a structured environment to something ambiguous is also difficult.”

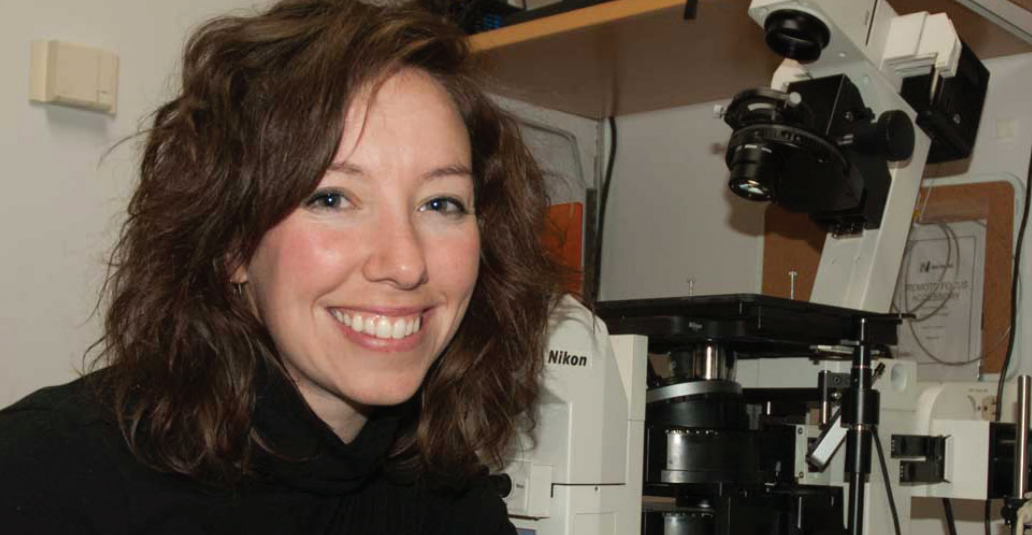
To ease that transition for future veterans, Bahr, a political science major, is conducting research that will clarify which UW System schools are the most military friendly.

Bahr searched for “military-friendly” schools when he returned from Iraq only to find that most schools tout the label. Bahr, with help from his faculty adviser Ray Block, is in the process of sending surveys to UW four-year campuses and plans to interview student veterans to gauge if the military-friendliness coincides with school’s claims. Bahr says the results have surprised him — many of the schools are living up to their titles.



NATIONAL RESEARCH RECOGNITION

- In U.S. News & World Report’s 2014 America’s Best Colleges list, UW-L is in the elite group of national universities providing excellence in undergraduate research.
- UW-L hosted the National Conference on Undergraduate Research twice, in 2009 and 2013 — a record for hosting NCUR.



UW-L Alum Elle (Kielar) Grevstad, '05, is director of a UW-Madison research facility that houses state-of-the-art microscopes.

UW-L — listed among G.I. Jobs top military-friendly schools — has made significant progress over the years, says Bahr. But the school still has work to do, he adds.

Bahr's participation in UW-L research is part of UW-L's continued efforts to reach out to veteran students. He is one of the participants in a pilot program that started in the fall to match student veterans with faculty mentors to do undergraduate research. A goal of the experience and faculty mentorship is a smoother transition back to school, notes Cooper.

"I think this is a beneficial program for veterans," says Bahr. "It gives them the tools they need, especially by providing connection with a faculty research adviser."

EXPERIENCE TO MOVE WISCONSIN, THE WORLD FORWARD

UW-L Alum Elle (Kielar) Grevstad is the director of a UW-Madison research facility that houses state-of-the-art microscopes. These microscopes help scientists throughout the UW System study and solve

biological problems. Researchers collaborate with Grevstad to peer inside living cells and understand a diverse set of problems, ranging from why certain human populations are more susceptible to diabetes to how bacteria are affected by new antibiotics.

Grevstad says her three years of research experience at UW-L were "transformative" and made her want to pursue a career in the academic research community.

"The great thing about UW-L is that I was able to have a very personal relation-

RESEARCH SUPPORT IN RECENT YEARS

January 2011

UW-L creates the Office of Undergraduate Research & Creativity

Fall 2013

Eagle Apprenticeship Program begins

Fall 2013

Policy Research Network launches — an initiative that pairs civic leaders who have policy-related questions with students and faculty who can use research to help find answers. Questions range from flood control to healthcare reform.

Spring 2014

Scholars Without Borders begins — the program pairs international and domestic students in collaborative research

Fall 2014

Pilot program pairs veterans with faculty mentors in research

“Every day I get to help researchers solve research problems that a few years ago were thought impossible. Through this, science and the advancement of treatments for human diseases moves forward.”

Elle (Kieler) Grevstad, '05

ship with not only my research adviser, Scott Cooper, but also with a number of other faculty members,” she says. “Those relationships helped me choose what I wanted to do with my life after college.”

The 2005 graduate earned her UW-L degree in biology and biochemistry and went on to earn a doctoral degree in biochemistry.

Grevstad liked that the work she did in Cooper's lab directly added to understand-

ing about human diseases. They were studying how blood coagulates, and aimed to answer questions about human heart conditions and bleeding disorders.

On her career path, she's still adding to that understanding. “Every day I get to help researchers solve research problems that a few years ago were thought impossible,” she says. “Through this, science and the advancement of treatments for human diseases moves forward.”

APPLYING RESEARCH SKILLS ON THE JOB

Today, Adam Pugh, '13, doesn't work in a research lab, but he employs the skills he learned through UW-L research every day in his career with the Financial Leadership Program at CUNA Mutual Group. Those skills include collecting and analyzing data, writing and communication, project and time management, and critical thinking, he says.

Pugh says his interest in research started after taking UW-L Associate Professor John Nunley's Principles of Microeconomics course. Pugh later became Nunley's research assistant.

Because of all his contributions to Nunley's work as an undergraduate, he is now listed as a co-author with Nunley and



Adam Pugh, '13

two others on a study featured this fall in Fortune Magazine. The study found that black Americans still

face discrimination in the job market — particularly when applying for jobs that involve customer interaction.

“One of the interesting aspects of conducting research is you don't know what results you will find until the end,” says Pugh. “It has been extremely exciting to be part of a research project that had such significant implications.”

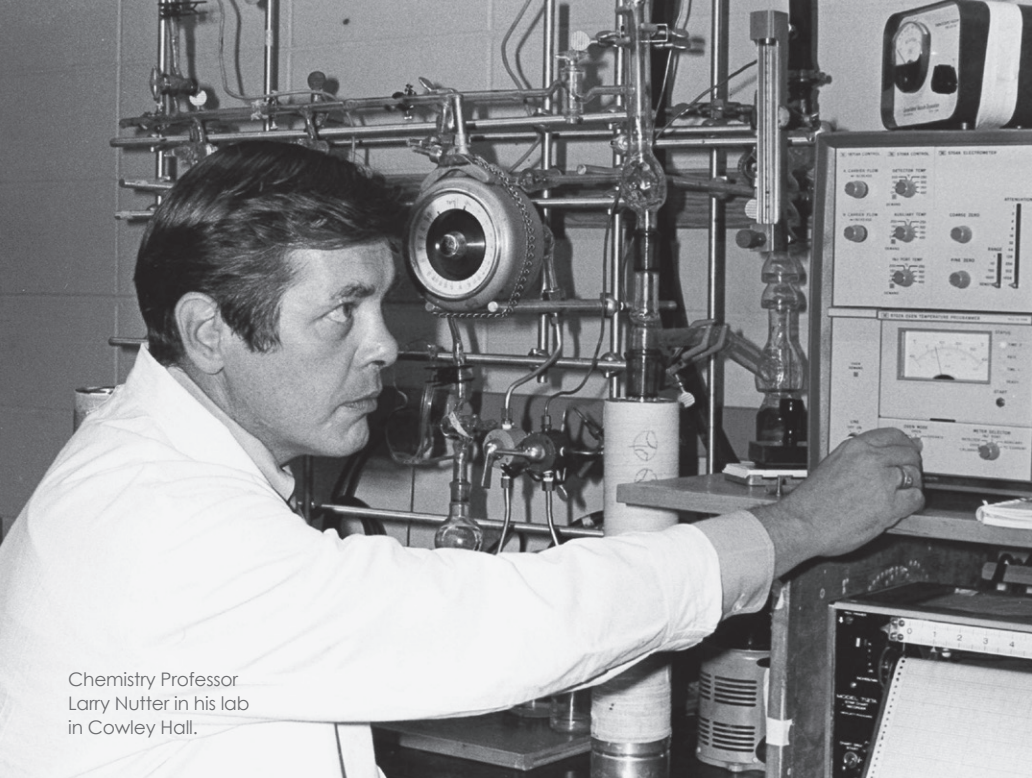
Read more in Fortune magazine about research at UW-L: <http://fortune.com/2014/11/04/hiring-racial-bias/>

GIVING TO UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

UW-L has a goal of a \$1 million endowment to fund 40 awards annually of \$1,000 each for students doing undergraduate research. The funds could go to general undergraduate research or any one of UW-L's research-related programs supporting veterans, international research collaborations, first-year students or others.

UW-L's Office of Undergraduate Research and Creativity typically awards about \$130,000 in grants annually to support student research. This falls short of meeting the requests for research-related funding across campus. The new program would help meet the requests and expand programming for more research opportunities.

If you would like to give or create a scholarship to support undergraduate research, contact Greg Reichert at 608.785.8672 or greichert@uwlax.edu



Chemistry Professor
Larry Nutter in his lab
in Cowley Hall.

A lasting bond

Scholarship honors long-time chemistry professor

Larry Nutter was humble. When people asked him what he did, he replied, “a teacher.” Those meeting Nutter wouldn’t know he was a pillar in UW-L’s prestigious Chemistry Department. Nutter’s wife, Edie, wants to change that.

Edie first worked to recognize him by funding scholarships to chemistry

students since he died in 2003.

Now, Edie is sustaining her husband’s legacy. She has established the Larry & Edith Nutter Chemistry Scholarship Endowment Fund to give deserving UW-L chemistry students scholarships annually. And, she’s made arrangements for an estate gift.

“He thought there was nothing more beautiful than a mind that succeeds with education,” says Edie. “I thought it was the best way to honor Larry. Teaching was everything to him.”

Nutter moved with his family to La Crosse from Menomonie in 8th grade. He graduated from Central High School in 1949 and



Chancellor Joe Gow with Nutter Scholarship recipient Caleb Wagner.

UW-L in 1954. After serving in the US Army for two years in Germany, he returned with a German native — Edie, who became his bride.

Following a year teaching in Cashton, he returned to Central, where he had the

“He thought there was nothing more beautiful than a mind that succeeds with education. I thought it was the best way to honor Larry. Teaching was everything to him.”

Edie Nutter

distinction of preparing three students accepted into West Point. He earned master’s degrees at UW-Madison in

1961 and Marquette University in 1965. He did doctorate studies at the University of North Dakota.

In 1963, UW-L Chemistry Professor Milford Cowley persuaded him to return to his alma mater. Nutter stayed in the department until retiring in 1996. “He never missed a day — not a day,” recalls Edie. “He was a man who was devoted to education.”

Nutter “worked for everything he earned,” says Edie. That’s why she wants to help students. “He thought education was a gift,” she explains. In his honor, she has one request of scholarship recipients: “To do a good deed for someone they don’t know.”

It’s a lasting bond the late Chemistry Professor Larry Nutter continues to give.



The \$15 million “Share the La Crosse Experience” scholarship campaign is a great time to help students. There are three scholarship options:

NEED-BASED: Help fill the gap! Only a handful of federal programs — mostly loans — and one state program are available to students with high financial need.

MERIT-BASED: Help attract the best and brightest! UW-L must attract more top achievers while building support for students with financial need. Scholarships advance the quality and diversity of the student body.

CRITERIA RESTRICTED: Support your passion! Create a gift opportunity that matches your interests and values.

Learn more at www.uwlax.edu/scholarship-campaign

Scholarship honors Williams

Scholarship allows students to focus more on studies

Daron Williams, '06, researched prostate and breast cancer while becoming a doctor at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. But a year and a half after earning his medical degree in 2010, he was diagnosed with leukemia in 2011. He fought the disease until he died March 29, 2014.

Williams' wife, Feifei, and his parents, Byron and Anita Williams, have established a scholarship for pre-medical students — one of Daron's last wishes before he died.

"With much emotion he told us that more important to him than the memorial service was that we establish a scholarship fund in honor of him at UW-L for students pursuing a career in medicine," says Anita Williams.

That affection for UW-L was echoed by his wife, Feifei. "In all the years that I've known Daron, he spoke to me on multiple occasions how he felt like the education he received at UW-L was superb and prepared him well for his career," she says. "He wanted to give back to his alma mater."

After graduating as one of UW-L's Murphy Scholars, the top award for graduates,



Daron Williams

he excelled at Emory University School of Medicine and was accepted to the Internal Medicine Residency Program at the University of California, San Francisco. He was halfway through his residency when he was diagnosed with leukemia.

Feifei and Anita say Daron positively touched the lives of many with his humanistic qualities and genuine concern for others. Many of those he touched contributed to the scholarship fund.

"It gives us great comfort to know that Daron, with the help of those contributors, will inspire, honor and support deserving students pur-

"It gives us great comfort to know that Daron, with the help of those contributors, will inspire, honor and support deserving students pursuing a career in medicine. We will enjoy watching the recipients as they learn the art of medicine and contribute to the well being of their patients."

Anita Williams, Daron's mother

suing a career in medicine," says Anita. "We will enjoy watching the recipients as they learn the art of medicine and contribute to the well being of their patients."

The first Daron James Williams, M.D., Memorial Scholarship in Pre-Medical Studies will be awarded in April 2015. The fund has been endowed so it will continue to impact students.

2014-15 UW-LA CROSSE FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

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**Executive Committee leadership*

New Foundation interim leadership



Bill Colclough



Joe Heim



Ron Rada

Two long-time professors are heading up the UW-L Foundation following a change in leadership.

Bill Colclough, former Dean of the College of Business Administration, has been named interim president of the Foundation. Joe Heim, retired Political

Science professor, has been named interim vice president of the Foundation.

The two have taken over, both on a part-time basis, for Mary Ann Gerrard who resigned as president in August. Retired professor Ron Rada is serving as a special assistant to the president.

Foundation welcomes new board members



Amy DuPont



Roger LeGrand



Terry Wirkus

The UW-L Foundation recently welcomed three new members to its Board of Directors. The members, their cities and places where they work

include: Amy DuPont, Onalaska, WXOW; Roger LeGrand, La Crosse, Wisconsin Tax Appeals Commission; Terry Wirkus, La Crosse, UW-La Crosse.



TERRY WIRKUS

- Distance Learning Technology Coordinator in Information Technology Services since 1996.
- Announcer for Screaming Eagles Marching Band and commencement ceremonies since 1996.
- Bachelor of science in mass communications and speech communication, UW-L, 1979; master of science in educational media, UW-L, 1988.

LIFELONG LINK

WIRKUS HELPS CAMPUS CONNECT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

When Terry Wirkus started working in Wing Technology Center in 1996, it was just like coming home.

Wirkus grew up across the street from Wing and both parents worked on campus. He went to the campus school at Morris Hall through eighth grade, and he earned both bachelor's ('79) and master's ('88) degrees at UW-L.

Finally, after nearly two decades in local broadcasting, Wirkus joined the UW-L Academic Technology Services staff to develop learning through technology. That was when technological advances were just about to explode with

personal computers. Distance learning was in its infancy and the Internet was bringing the world closer.

"The Internet has changed everything," says Wirkus. "The only border now is where the Internet ends."

Enhancing education through technology for better teaching and learning is what makes Wirkus excited about coming to work every day. "That's what I enjoy the most," he says.

It's also what made colleagues honor him with the 2014 UW-L Academic Staff Excellence Award, given annually to an academic staff member who has excelled in

performance and service.

In helping the UW-L community connect through technology, Wirkus has promoted video conferencing for classes, meetings, position searches and professional development. He believes it's vital for all on campus to work together. "All of us have different roles, but we all are integral and necessary to make the university whole," he says.

Wirkus especially enjoys seeing students off when they graduate. "It also brings me a deep sense of satisfaction to read our students' names at commencement," he says.

Net zero

Passive house lets alum live sustainably

A UW-La Crosse alum and his wife are spending the Minnesota winter in their new home — designed specifically without a furnace.

The energy-efficient home, which conserves and recycles its heat, is not only keeping them warm, it's also hopefully warming up others to the idea of living more sustainably, they say.

John Gaddo, '77, and his wife, Nancy North, built a net-zero passive house in Lanesboro, Minnesota. A passive home is one that meets architectural standards to minimize loss of heat and reduce energy consumption. It gets its name from the primary source of heat, which comes from solar gain — sunshine that passes through large windows, explains Gaddo. The couple built their home with mostly south-facing, triple-pane windows, super-sealed joints and 16 inches of densely-packed insulation. "Net-zero" energy use is achieved through a roof-mounted solar power system.

Gaddo says receiving a liberal studies education at UW-L left him with a larger world view and a sense of responsibility. "Taking on this house project is one more step in the journey," he explains.

Passive homes were first pioneered in the U.S. during the oil embargo of the 1970s, but they were largely passed over after energy costs plummeted, says North. However, the passive home concept



John Gaddo, '77, and his wife Nancy North's passive house includes a solar hot-water system, an energy recovery air-exchange system, and two small mini-split units that provide supplemental heating and cooling on extremely hot or cold days. Gaddo is regional manager for Wisconsin Public Radio, based at UW-L, including WLSU.

Read more on their blog:
rootriverhouse.2030home.org

continued to gain popularity in Germany where energy costs continued to rise.

Today Europe has thousands of passive homes. U.S. architects later noted efficiencies realized in Europe and formalized training and certification programs for passive homes in the U.S. in 2007.

For Gaddo and North, the concept met their desire to be less dependent on fossil fuels, live more responsibly and sustainably.

"Every action counts, so we're doing what we can to use less, live well and abundantly, and share what we've learned," says North.

All aboard

La Crosse's Trane Co. meets job demand with UW-L interns, alums

UW-L students are jumping aboard the Trane. They're increasingly finding training and future careers at the international employer located in their backyard — Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand.

The Trane La Crosse campus employs more UW-L interns than any other company.

"Once you get your foot into an organization, you learn how it operates, so when you go to that interview, you have a clear edge over the competition."

Scott Bramwell, '13

Many of those interns go on to work at Trane, becoming the software developers, engineers

and accountants who have helped the company become a world leader in heating and air conditioning equipment.

Trane is a great example of a company that uses an internship program to help meet recruiting needs, says Tim Tritch, UW-L's interim director of Career Services.

"We produce graduates who are able to function at a high level," he notes. "Because of the internship program, Trane is able to see those students in action for a year or more, so the company knows the quality of work they can do."

UW-L alums have specifically helped meet a demand for computer scientists at Trane. When Linda Ingalls, a manager at Trane, has a new job opening, she contacts UW-L's Computer Science Department to let them know about the new job posting. Ingalls has learned from experience that



Linda Ingalls, '05

is where she'll find quality candidates.

Ten of the 13 software developers on the company's TOPSS

team are UW-L alums. TOPSS — which stands for Trane Official Product Selection System team — develops software to help customers select the equipment they need.



Brad Goetz, '90

Brad Goetz, '90, Trane's director of information technology, hires almost all of the UW-L in-

terns who participate in Trane's

MASTER'S PROGRAM FOR CAREER

Trane offers a reimbursement program for employees who earn a master's degree. Many take advantage of it and attend UW-L's Master of Software Engineering program.

Linda Ingalls, IT application

development team leader/documentation systems, was one of the program's first graduates in 2005. Earning a master's was a lifelong dream, which allowed her to move into her management position. "My master's

degree is relevant to what I do every day in my work. I believe in the program because I still use the skills, tools and techniques that I learned and they help me deliver quality software."

Learn more at cs.uwlax.edu



ABOVE: UW-L alumni who are now working at Trane. About half pictured here are from the TOPSS department. Back row, from left: Rick Morrison, Chad Rislow, Matt Paul, Mike Wilson, Brad Goetz, Mark Devine and Craig Lenz. Front row, from left: Scott Bramwell, Cara Wintin, Simon Weisse, Randy Stricklin, Krista Miller and Linda Ingalls. **LEFT:** UW-L alums Scott Bramwell, '13, left, and Matt Paul, '12, from Trane's TOPSS department.

internship program. UW-L has a track record of providing graduates who are leaders and innovators, he says.

“The technical background they have and the skills and tools they use in the program at UW-L are very similar to the skills we use here,” he explains. “It’s immediately applicable.”

Scott Bramwell, '13, was a computer science major and Trane intern who transitioned

into full-time employment with TOPSS after graduation.

“I learned skills at UW-L and I was able to demonstrate them here and apply them,” says Bramwell. “Once you get your foot into an organization, you learn how it operates, so when you go to that interview, you have a clear edge over the competition.”

Trane has also been successful attracting UW-L graduates because of the com-

pany’s sustained presence on campus, says Tritch. Despite the ebb and flow of hiring, the company comes to UW-L career events, provides updated job and internship listings, and educates campus about what they do. “Companies that maintain that presence tend to be ones viewed positively by students,” says Tritch.

UW-L AT TRANE

About 260 of Ingersoll Rand’s 29,000 employees worldwide are UW-L alums, according to statistics from the company in 2013. Trane — a brand of Ingersoll Rand — offers internships in a variety of

fields. The most demand for UW-L interns are in the areas of information technology, finance and accounting - Tim Tritch, UW-L interim director of Career Services.



Hoops ambassador

Alum teaches Chinese youth basketball, skills for the future

A former star of the Eagles basketball court is now an ambassador of basketball in China.

Marcus Conigliaro, '07, is part of the National Basketball

Association's efforts to expand basketball in China. Conigliaro is head coach



Marcus Conigliaro, '07

and manager of the first-ever NBA Yao School in Beijing, operated by NBA Legend Yao Ming. The school opened in February 2014, providing after-school basketball training for kids.

While basketball has long attracted a huge following in China, the country hasn't produced many professional players, nor has it seen much international success on the court, notes Conigliaro. One of the major issues, he says, is lack of knowledgeable coaches.

That's where Conigliaro



comes in. This is his eighth year coaching basketball — a career path he started as a student assistant coach under UW-L Head Coach Ken Koelbl after his senior year basketball season. Since, he's coached at PeacePlayers International in Belfast, Northern Ireland; Lakeland College in Howards Grove, Wisconsin; and at UW-Platteville.

At the Yao School, Conigliaro wants to reshape the way players see the game — inspiring more teamwork.

"My hope is that I can use my experience in the game to not only make them better

players, but also more capable leaders," he says.

Conigliaro says UW-L helped him prepare for a future working abroad. On campus he met new people from completely different backgrounds than his hometown. Today he has traveled extensively in more than 30 countries.

THREE-POINTER

GURU: In his final basketball season at UW-L, point guard Marcus Conigliaro, '07, averaged 12.4 points per game, leading the Eagles to their best season since 1982 and the NCAA III national tournament. He is one of the best three-point shooters in Eagles' history. During two seasons at UW-L, he sunk 107 of 232 three-pointers.



Conigliaro — who earned a bachelor's degree in sport management — coaches students from the NBA Yao School in Beijing.

Leaving a legacy

HONG, '94, & RUSTY ROST



Honoring Hong

A person who impacted people from around the world when they came to UW-L is being recognized with a scholarship named in her honor.

Hong Rost, '94, was assistant director of UW-L International Education from 1995-2010. She became director of UW-Stout's International Education program in 2010, where she served until she died in a tragic auto accident June 19, 2014.

Her husband, Francis "Rusty" Rost, says Hong inspired hundreds of students when they came to La Crosse. "In big and small ways, she helped every international student during that time frame achieve their educational objectives," notes Rost.

The Hong Rost International Scholarship Fund will be awarded to undergraduate or graduate international students enrolled full time at UW-L. "This fund will serve as a vehicle to connect interna-

tional alumni and UW-L," says Rusty Rost. "Hong touched many lives because she was a people person, and wonderfully giving and loving."

Hong Rost took the success she helped create in UW-L's program to UW-Stout when she became director there. In four years, she doubled the number of international students.

That's why Rusty has also established a scholarship at Stout. He says they are much more than scholarships. Foundations at both plan to share Hong's story as an example to inspire and challenge students, he says. Also donors can become "founders" to oversee the awards, along with strengthening relations between international alumni and the campus.

Memorials to the Hong Rost Memorial Scholarship Fund may be sent to the UW-L Foundation, 615 East Ave. N., La Crosse WI 54601.



START A SCHOLARSHIP ...

There are many ways to create a scholarship fund to help future generations of UW-L students. Please contact Greg Reichert at 608.785.8672 (greichert@uwlax.edu).

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For La Crosse.
For a lifetime.*

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