



# CAPSTONE

FALL 2015

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING | ACHIEVING | UNITING



# Revving Up Research

PROJECTS CONNECT COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY

*Story on page 4 >>*



CLS Dean  
Julia Johnson

## NEW DEAN IN CLS

As Julia Johnson begins her new role as CLS dean, she plans to work with faculty, staff and students to set a clarified direction for the college while not losing sight of why she and others are here: the students.

“What drew me to UWL when I first interviewed here and now as I continue to work here is that our faculty and staff are dedicated — at their core — to our students,” she says.

“The reality is that employers want people who are adaptable, creative and problem solvers,” says Johnson. “I believe at an institution like ours, students learn those skills across the university, but people in our college specialize in areas that exemplify those skills and values. We need other people to know what we already know about ourselves: We are the cornerstone of a liberal arts education.”

Johnson had been associate dean of CLS and director of the School of Arts and Communication since 2011.

### ESTABLISHING NEW STRATEGIC GOALS

Early on, Johnson hopes to establish new strategic goals for the college with the help of a task force of faculty and staff.

“In part, to lead is to facilitate the talents and goals of the collective,” explains Johnson. “Then, take responsibility for helping move the collective in that direction.”

Over the years, she’s been committed to research that “addresses and resists relationships of power within and across cultural identifications.” Also, her research and teaching in areas of social justice help her stay focused on inclusivity in all the work she does.

Johnson is particularly proud of the college’s leadership in Inclusive Excellence, a campus initiative that prioritizes creating a diverse and inclusive working and learning environment.

### ROOM FOR GROWTH

As associate dean, Johnson was aware of two areas where the college could improve: fundraising and outreach. She is already meeting with community members and seeking fundraising support for the college.

Johnson was also the inspiration behind an annual School of Arts and Communication festival, Creative Imperatives. The festival exemplifies what she aims to do at a broader college level — highlight the excellent work of people in the college while enhancing their prominence in the community.

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- » UWL Alumni Association, Cleary Alumni & Friends Center, 615 East Ave. N., La Crosse, WI 54601

#### ON THE COVER

Students in Ariel Beaujot's spring semester course launched the "Hear, Here" public history project in downtown La Crosse, managing aspects of the project from technology to public relations. Beaujot is second from the right.



[www.uwlax.edu/clc](http://www.uwlax.edu/clc)



## 8 LADY IN BLUE

A Rare Print Masterwork is the Latest Acquisition in Center for the Arts



## 13 OUTSTANDING GRADUATES

Katie Svitavsky, '15, received the John E. Magerus Award for Outstanding Graduating Senior and Thatcher Rogers, '15, earned the Institute for Field Research Undergraduate Student Paper Award



## 18 NEW DOCTORATE

The Planned Student Affairs Doctorate Would Be Second Doctoral Offering at UWL



## 24 WISCONSIN 101

Students join statewide public history effort

## CLS Vision Statement

Championing the enduring values of the liberal arts and positioning them as key to transforming people, ideas and the world.



# Revving Up Research

## PROJECTS CONNECT COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY

**T**he word “research” conjures up images of test tubes, microscopes and people peering through plastic goggles.

But research at UWL goes far beyond science labs. It’s happening every day in the College of Liberal Studies. Minus the microscope and goggles, students are digging into original, creative research in archaeology, psychology, English and more.

“The common theme with all UWL

undergraduate research and creative work is that students are learning to use the tools or techniques in their discipline to do something novel,” explains Scott Cooper, UWL director of Undergraduate Research and Creativity. “Research is important for all students. It doesn’t matter if they’re a chemist or philosopher.”

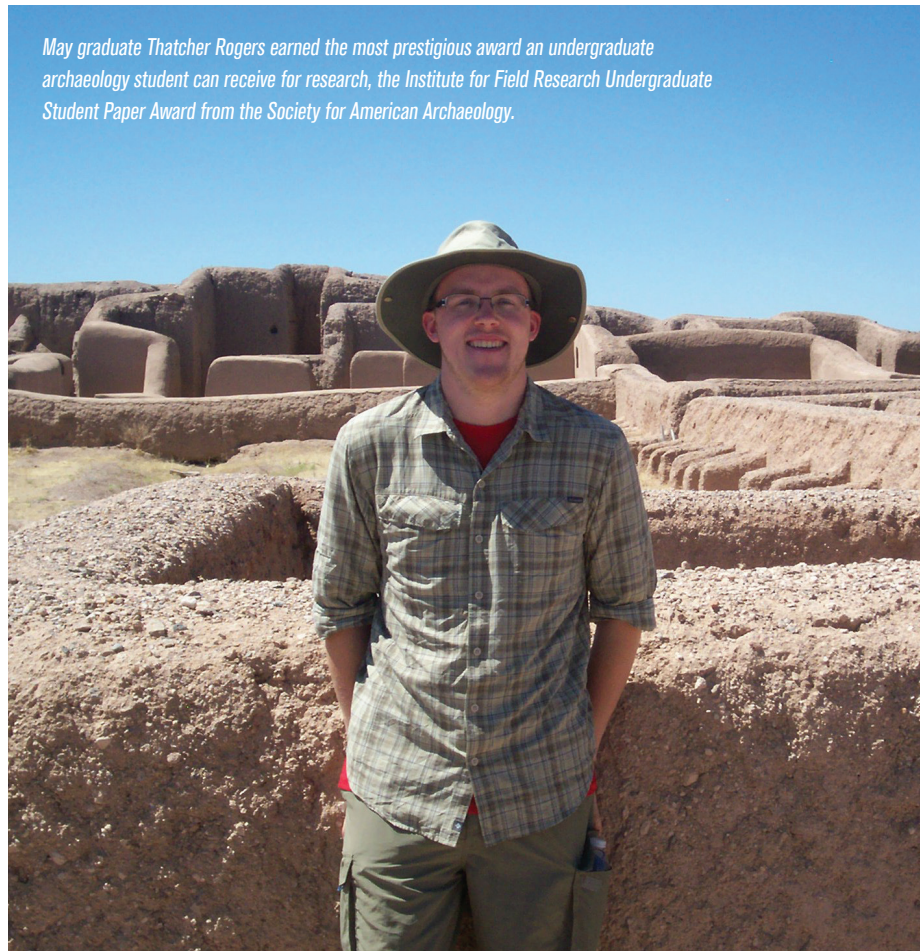
CLS May graduate Thatcher Rogers, who majored in archaeology, is a prime example of the undergraduate research achievements within CLS. Rogers

earned the most prestigious award an undergraduate archaeology student can receive for research, the Institute for Field Research Undergraduate Student Paper Award from the Society for American Archaeology, the largest professional archaeology organization in the world. (See story page 18.)

He presented his research at the SAA annual meeting in April in San Francisco. “Few undergraduates even attend this conference,” says Roger’s faculty adviser



May graduate Eric Barreau conducted undergraduate research on how self control affects eating behavior.



May graduate Thatcher Rogers earned the most prestigious award an undergraduate archaeology student can receive for research, the Institute for Field Research Undergraduate Student Paper Award from the Society for American Archaeology.

“I’m very pro undergrad research, I’ve learned a ton about conducting research and the administrative side of research from managing grant funds to working with research assistants.”

ERIC BARREAU,, '15

Jessi Halligan. “You are supposed to present pretty intense, original research.”

Students say these presentation opportunities are important for networking and learning communication skills in preparation for their professional lives.

May graduate Eric Barreau, a psychology major, presented his research on how self control affects eating behavior at several conferences during spring semester. One was the Midwest Psychological Association Conference in Chicago and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Cheney, Washington.

Presenting scientific results in front of a crowd of peers and faculty pushed Barreau out of his comfort zone, but faculty mentorship gave him the confidence to do it, he adds.

“I’m very pro undergrad research,” says Barreau. “I’ve learned a ton about conducting research and the administrative side of research from managing grant funds to working with research assistants.”

Barreau also credits research with helping him discover his intense passion to continue studying self control, now a component of his future career goals.

### CLS INTEGRATES MORE RESEARCH THROUGH NETWORKS, GRANTS

CLS students are more likely to write an undergraduate research grant than students from any other UWL college, says Cooper. Faculty in the college are also expressing strong interest in providing more research opportunities for students.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

## GIVING TO UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

UWL 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 UWL's research-related programs supporting veterans, international research collaborations, first-year students or others. UWL'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. To become a contributing supporter of or to create a scholarship supporting undergraduate research, contact Greg Reichert at **608.785.8672** or [greichert@uwlax.edu](mailto:greichert@uwlax.edu)

Yvonne, '82, and Milt Datta are issuing a \$20,000 challenge grant to promote UWL's undergraduate research program, recognized by US News & World Report as one of the 39 nationally providing excellence. Become part of the challenge grant at [www.uwlax.edu/urc](http://www.uwlax.edu/urc).

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

Sixteen of the 20 faculty members campus-wide to sign up for a course on how to embed undergraduate research into their courses through a \$50,000 UW System Discovery Grant were from CLS.

Among the participants was Lei Zhang, assistant professor of English. Students in her Advanced Composition course learned advanced research, interviewing and writing through a research project for Great Rivers United Way.

Her students helped to tell the story of poverty in the community, which was used in the organization's COMPASS NOW 2015 Report, a community needs-assessment. These stories added an important personal element to the report, says Aubrey Stetter-Hesselberg, community needs assessment specialist for Great Rivers United Way.

### GROWING COMMUNITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS CAMPUS

Zhang's class project is one of many started around campus as part of a non-profit network, which started in fall 2014. Coordinated through Undergraduate Research and Creativity, the network pairs UWL students with non-profits with research needs.

"As a non-profit organization, we don't have a ton of extra resources," notes Stetter-Hesselberg. "When we heard about this project, we immediately started thinking about unmet needs and unresolved goals within our organization."

UWL has been expanding its research opportunities into the community through various new networks. UWL's Research Policy Network started in fall 2013 to connect UWL student researchers with civic leaders who have policy-related questions.

Increasing UWL research opportunities in the community builds on the Wisconsin Idea, the principle that the university should improve people's lives beyond the classroom, says Cooper. Such projects are also a way to tangibly show the applicability of the skills student learn in class.

After her May graduation from UWL, Katherine Svitavsky, who served on the La Crosse City Council for three years and conducted undergraduate research in rhetoric and professional writing, was able to share her involvement and research experiences in job interviews. She says these experiences were valuable far beyond her own development.

"We like to talk about the economic impact a university has on the community and that is certainly true," says Svitavsky. "But I think the most important part of having a university in a town is the interactions that students, staff and faculty have with community members through projects and undergraduate research. These are the intangible things that are extremely valuable to communities. It's something I wish more people knew about."

# Faculty Fellows Named

*THE CLS DEAN'S OFFICE HAS NAMED THREE FACULTY FELLOWS FOR 2015-16. THEY WILL WORK ON STRATEGIC PROJECTS FOR THE COLLEGE, AS WELL AS COVER DUTIES FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO AN ASSOCIATE DEAN. THE FELLOWS AND THEIR DUTIES:*



## **JOE ANDERSON** SPECIAL EVENTS FELLOW

Theatre Arts Professor Joe Anderson has taught at UWL since fall 1991 and served as Theatre Arts chair since 2010. He has designed costumes and makeup for more than 140 university productions, as well as for various theatres, dance companies, TV and film. Anderson has experience with student recruitment and production oversight. He will oversee Creative Imperatives, the CLS arts and communication festival, and facilitate two recruitment events — School of Arts and Communication Day and a new Liberal Arts Day.



## **VÍCTOR M. MACÍAS-GONZÁLEZ**

### **ENROLLMENT, STRATEGIC RECRUITMENT & RETENTION INITIATIVES FELLOW**

History Professor Víctor Macías-González, at UWL since 2000, has highlighted diversity and inclusion, with a particular focus on increasing access and narrowing the achievement gap for historically underrepresented populations. He designed and implemented the Eagle Mentoring Program, directed the Institute for Latina/o and Latin American Studies for 12 years, and, most recently, designed and implemented an innovative outreach and recruitment program, Parent College, Spanish-language recruitment workshops for parents of first-generation Latina/o college students. His responsibilities will include advancing recruitment and retention initiatives, as well as assisting with enrollment management and bylaws projects.



## **MARIE MOELLER**

### **PUBLICITY, OUTREACH AND INTERDISCIPLINARY FELLOW**

Marie Moeller, associate professor of English/Rhetoric and Writing, has worked at UWL since 2010. She is a professional writing specialist with extensive background and experience in public relations and publishing audience-specific documents for internal and external audiences. She has coordinated the professional writing minor and, in collaboration with colleagues, has doubled the number of minors in five years. She has also served on the college and university Interdisciplinary Initiatives task forces. Moeller will serve as the public relations specialist for the college and coordinate interdisciplinary initiatives.



# LADY IN BLUE

A Rare Print Masterwork is the Latest Acquisition in Center for the Arts

## ABOUT 'LADY IN BLUE'

*Lady in Blue* (1967), 75.56 x 25.62

Edition: 50

*Intaglio: engraving, etching, dry point, soft ground, aquatint, electric stippler.*

*Associate Professor Jennifer Terpstra explains why the work is unique: "The print is special because of the technical considerations of a multi-plate color intaglio this large. The master plate is about 75" long and 25" wide, so it required a large etching press to produce, not to mention the registration required of any multi-plate print. It is one of an edition of 50 signed by the artist."*



Visitors to the Center for the Arts will soon see a unique, rare print created by the “wizard of printmaking technology.”

The color intaglio print “Lady in Blue” — one of an edition of 50 prints of that title produced by Mauricio Lasansky (1914-2012) — will be installed in the building’s newly renovated lobby. Lasansky founded the printing making program at the University of Iowa in 1945, which gained national recognition under his leadership.

Students, staff, faculty and community members who attend gallery events, recitals and theatre performances will have an opportunity to see and be inspired by the beautiful work, says Jennifer Terpstra, associate professor of art.

“The fact that it is a human figure connects well with the space as people gather there and interact,” she explains. “Somehow the print is part of all of those gatherings.”

Terpstra has known the donors, Mary and the late Gary Veldey, for more than a decade. The Veldeys became acquainted with Lasansky’s work during their years at the University of Iowa and later as residents of Iowa City.

The donation initiated from the Veldey family’s desire to share their artwork with others. “I am delighted that ‘Lady in Blue’ will be exhibited in the lobby of the

Center for the Arts, an ideal setting for Professor Lasansky’s print to be viewed and appreciated by many for years to come,” says Veldey.

Terpstra says the medium of the piece — intaglio printmaking, which is emphasized in the UWL art program

“It is too large to fit in a print storage drawer, and must be framed and properly presented to be appreciated.”

JENNIFER TERPSTRA

— will have special meaning to those studying art. Also, faculty member Joel Elgin studied under Lasansky at Iowa.

“It is rare to see a print this size outside of a museum or private home,” says Terpstra. “It is too large to fit in a print storage drawer, and must be framed and properly presented to be appreciated.”

The print is a significant addition to the university’s many museum-quality works of art, she notes.

## CFA LOBBY RENOVATION COMPLETE



*The Center for the Arts main lobby has received a facelift. New ceilings, carpet, paint, lighting, furnishings and water fountains highlight the upgrade. Facilities Planning and Management worked with department chairs in the building to select colors and design elements to match planned renovations to the south entrance. The lobby work was completed at the start of the semester, while the south entrance is expected to be completed in spring 2016.*



# A Living Laboratory

Provost's Teaching Award Winners Take Classes Into the Community

**A**riel Beaujot, assistant professor of History, and Marie Moeller, associate professor of English, were the two College of Liberal Studies teachers to earn UWL's Provost's Teaching Excellence Award at the end of spring semester.

"Using community experiences to educate helps bridge the campus and community while providing a living laboratory for students to try out the skills they learn in class," says Beaujot.

Beaujot's Public and Policy History classes are collaborating with the Pump House Regional Art Center and the La Crosse His-



*Ariel Beaujot*

torical Society to combine historic artifacts and community artwork in a Pump House exhibit in spring 2016, called [art]ifact.

Her students also collected stories and launched the successful and popular "Hear, Here" project, a downtown La Crosse mobile phone system where people can hear historical stories of everyday people and leave their own. Other community projects include historical scavenger hunts in downtown La Crosse, historical walking tours, history podcasts and more.

Moeller, who teaches professional writing, had her students put their writing skills to the test by applying for funds that would help local non-profit organizations such as the La Crosse County Aging Department,



*Marie Moeller*

Capable Canines of Wisconsin, HorseSense and The Hunger Task Force of La Crosse. She also teaches a course where students undertake a writing internship experience in conjunction with a class to discuss their on-the-job writing experiences.

Community interactions help students see writing as a way of solving complex problems in the world, notes Moeller.

"Here at UWL, students are so invested in projects that move beyond themselves and make a broader impact," she says. "I share that enthusiasm and wanted to harness



*Beaujot, second row far-right, and Hear, Here student creators take a moment for a photo and to enjoy their hard work before the Hear, Here launch in downtown La Crosse.*

“Rather than train students for one particular job, I want students to leave our institution both having and continuing to develop skills to be successful in a multiplicity of problem-solving situations, current and future.”

MARIE MOELLER

some of that energy into projects for our courses.”

Beaujot’s class projects often involve a team approach where students need to learn to trust each other and play on each other’s strengths. They make decisions as a group and she strives to respect all student voices and opinions.

“While two heads are better than one, 15 heads can make a real difference,” she notes. “This is the way to create a solid group dynamic and to empower students to take charge of their own education — their own learning.”

Moeller says her approach to teaching and student development is ever changing — as are the futures her students embark on.

Her teaching evolves each semester with current trends.

“Rather than train students for one particular job, I want students to leave our institution both having and continuing to develop skills to be successful in a multiplicity of problem-solving situations, current and future,” she says.



# OUTSTANDING GRADUATES

Katie Svitavsky, '15, Received the John E. Magerus Award for Outstanding Graduating Senior

The list of involvement for Katie Svitavsky, '15, is lengthy. She served on the La Crosse City Council, was a resident assistant for three years, did undergraduate research and was a member of the Residence Hall Association Council. She did all of this while maintaining a 3.9 grade point average and making the Dean's List every semester.

This spring, she was honored with the John E. Magerus Award for Outstanding Graduating Senior.

"A lot of my involvement is wanting to give back to people in a way that I've been given to," said the

political science/public administration major and professional writing minor.

Giving back inspired her to start a service learning community while serving as a resident assistant. The community volunteered hundreds of hours at events and organizations throughout the area. In exchange for their time, students were able to earn academic credit.

"She's somebody who really wants to create a better campus community and a better community through her work," said Political Science Professor Jo Arney, who advised the group.

Svitavsky also accomplished that

as a city council member. Her proudest accomplishment is working to improve rental housing in the city.

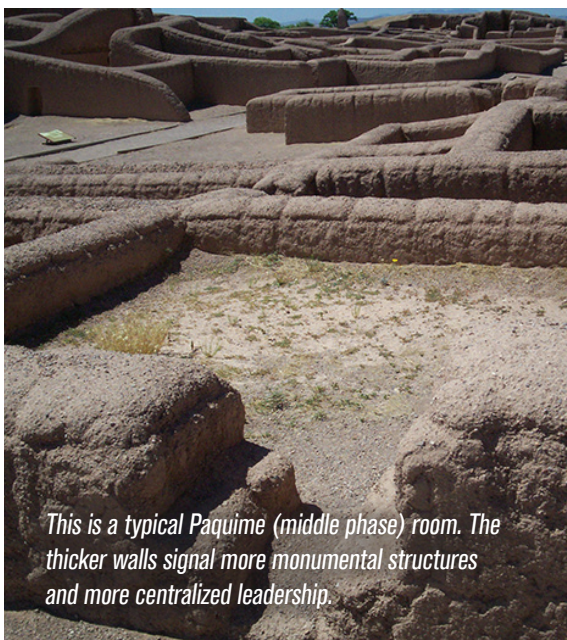
"Nothing she does is for herself," notes Joe Lasley, Svitavsky's former residence hall director. "She doesn't know she deserves the recognition, like she really does everything out of true concern for the campus community and her love of UWL."

How does she do it?

"You make time for the things that are priorities to you," advises Svitavsky, who now works for People Serving People in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



*UWL Senior Thatcher Rogers, an archaeology major, researched prehistoric architecture in northwestern Mexico.*



*This is a typical Paquime (middle phase) room. The thicker walls signal more monumental structures and more centralized leadership.*



*This is a typical Diablo (late phase) room. The thinner walls signal structures that are not monumental in size and therefore less centralized leadership.*

## Thatcher Rogers, '15, Makes Monumental Achievement in Archaeology

**A** UWL spring archaeology graduate earned the most prestigious award an undergraduate archaeology student can receive for research.

Thatcher Rogers earned the Institute for Field Research Undergraduate Student Paper Award from the Society for American Archaeology, the world's largest professional archaeology organization. He presented his research at the group's annual meeting in San Francisco in April.

Rogers' paper examined changes in prehistoric architectural remains in the desert of northwestern Mexico and what they mean for the end of a civilization. It was the first year the SAA created a separate award for undergraduates.

Rogers says he was "astounded" to receive the award. But, in a way, the May graduate has been preparing to make milestone discoveries in archaeology since he was a child.

The Kaukauna, Wisconsin native knew he wanted to be an archaeologist when he was 10. He

knew he wanted to specialize in the southwest region when he was 11. And he knew he wanted to make this happen by attending UWL when he graduated from middle school.

"It's the only school I applied to — the only school I wanted to come to — because of the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center and the faculty here," he says.

Rogers' senior thesis helps tell the story of how a complex society evolved before its collapse. And that gives archaeologists more

clues about how this prehistoric culture transformed into the more modern pueblo.

"It's really a phenomenal piece of research — a credit to him and his senior thesis advisor Dr. Jessi Halligan, and

Dr. David Anderson, who has also worked closely with Thatcher on his research," says Timothy McAndrews, professor of archaeology. "Every year our students do outstanding research, but it is so satisfying for one of them to be recognized at such a high level."

### DID YOU KNOW?

**UWL's Archaeological Studies major is one of the few comprehensive undergraduate archaeology degree programs in the US and the only one in the Midwest.**



# BIKE BATTLES

Book Explores History of Sharing the Road

**T**he bike is back in America. So are arguments about where it belongs.

UWL Associate Professor of History James Longhurst offers a historical perspective on current transportation policy, funding and legal rights in his new book *Bike*

“Much of this is forgotten history. Since Americans don’t entirely take bicycles seriously, historians haven’t always done so either.”

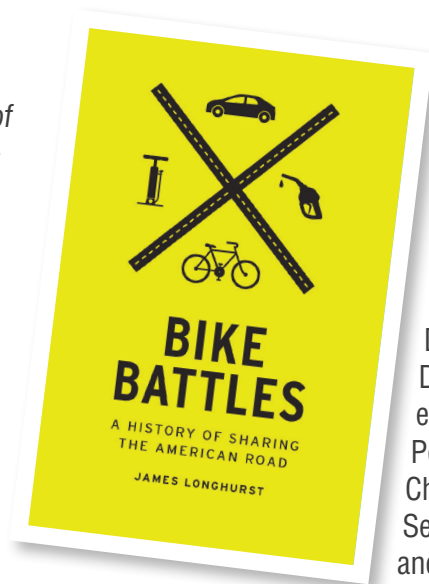
JAMES LONGHURST

*Battles: A History of Sharing the American Road.*

In the book, Longhurst examines debates over bicycles and their place in society over the last century and a half.

“Much of this is forgotten history,” says Longhurst. “Since Americans don’t entirely take bicycles seriously, historians haven’t always done so either. So stories about 19th century bike laws, cycle paths in the 1890s, and bicycle rationing in World War II haven’t gotten the attention they deserve.”

Longhurst, an avid cyclist, took to the road this summer to explain matters discussed in his book, ped-



dling from Minneapolis to Chicago on a book tour. By fall, he had spoken about the book in Washington, D.C.; Wilmington, Delaware; Rochester, Minnesota; Portland, Oregon; Chicago, Illinois; Seattle, Washington; and Bainbridge Island, Washington.

He’s also made Wisconsin appearances in La Crosse, Madison and Milwaukee. To get to these public talks, he’s driven, flown, taken trains and — wherever possible — ridden his bike.

The book is available in bookstores, Amazon.com and through University of Washington Press.



Learn more at: [www.bikebattles.net](http://www.bikebattles.net)

# NATURE FOR ALL

Author's Book Highlights Role of Citizen  
Action in Wilderness Preservation

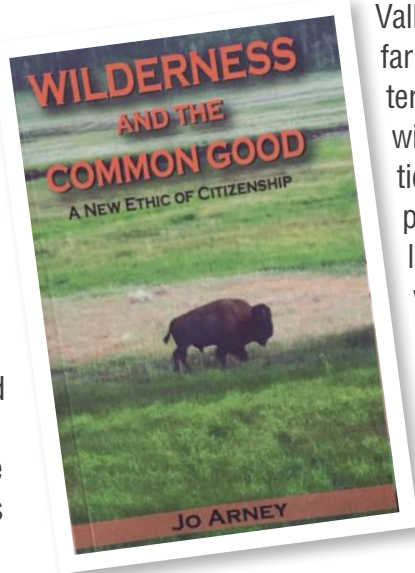


**U**WL Associate Professor Jo Arney weaves philosophy, political science and personal stories into her new book to demonstrate why the wilderness is important for society and the role citizenship plays in its protection.

In *Wilderness and the Common Good—A New Ethic of Citizenship* Arney lays the groundwork for how citizens can find common ground and develop lasting solutions to preserve America's wilderness areas.

"A difference of opinion doesn't have to lead to a stalemate and destruction of the other," notes Arney. "The only way we'll solve our challenges is through compromise."

Arney's book draws from her personal and professional experiences with nature and public policy. Between each chapter, Arney shares a personal story such as moving to a Coon Valley, Wisconsin, farm and encountering bears in the wilderness. She ties some of the practical lessons learned back to what it means to be a citizen.



Arney also wraps in her professional experience of citizenship and public policy. She is a lead scholar in creating a nationwide blended course about the stewardship of public lands.

Arney also leads a Stewardship of Public Lands faculty

**"A difference of opinion doesn't have to lead to a stalemate and destruction of the other. The only way we'll solve our challenges is through compromise."**

JO ARNEY

seminar every summer. Both are set at Yellowstone National Park, which provides a living laboratory to explore public policy issues.

The book is available in La Crosse bookstores, online at Amazon.com and Fulcrum Books.

# UW SYSTEM FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

‘Gets to the Heart of Why We are Here’

**U**WL Assistant Professor Tesia Marshik is constantly reflecting on the teaching and learning that happens in her psychology classes. Being part of a year-long faculty development program provided the opportunity to dig deeper into teaching and learning through discussions, activities and presentations with other UW System faculty from a range of disciplines.

Marshik; Natalie Eschenbaum, English; and Adam Van Liere, Political Science and Public

Administration, were part of the Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars (WTFS) program in 2014-15. The Office of Professional and Instructional Development (OPID) program connects outstanding early-career and later-career teachers in a variety of planned events focused on promoting the scholarship of teaching and learning.

“I wanted to spend some focused time on my teaching, and connecting with colleagues across the System who were

“I wanted to spend some focused time on my teaching, and connecting with colleagues across the System who were similarly dedicated to helping their students improve their learning.”

NATALIE ESCHENBAUM





*Tesia Marshik*



*Natalie Eschenbaum*



*Adam Van Liere*

**“I was grateful for the opportunity to discuss pedagogy with instructors across Wisconsin. The program allowed us to reflect upon our pedagogical approaches and discuss the effects of those approaches with others who are committed to best practices in teaching. The experience was invaluable.”**

ADAM VAN LIERE

similarly dedicated to helping their students improve their learning,” says Eschenbaum.

Marshik calls the program conversations and feedback “invaluable.” It allowed the faculty members time to deliber-

ately and consciously reflect on what they are teaching and how students are responding. Van Liere says he was able to work through areas where he sees students continually get stuck.

“I was grateful for the opportunity to discuss pedagogy with instructors across Wisconsin in a structured manner that allowed us to reflect upon our pedagogical approaches and then discuss the effects of those approaches with others who are committed to best practices in teaching. The experience was invaluable,” he says.

Through the program, faculty completed a scholarship of teaching and learning project. The results were shared during a systemwide OPID spring conference in Green Lake, as well as UWL’s annual Conference on Teaching and Learning in early September.

Marshik looked at the extent to which a research project in

her Educational Psychology class enhanced students’ perception of psychology and the value of psychological research to teaching. Van Liere focused on the effectiveness of using group-based country projects to develop global knowledge and self-awareness in students. Eschenbaum examined how to get students to use historical context as a tool for interpretation of poetry without being prompted to do so.

“Forcing myself to think through how and why I think and I write in the ways I do has not only improved my students’ learning, but also my teaching, and my own writing and research,” Eschenbaum adds.

The program is helping them be better teachers and build a stronger UW System, says Marshik.

“It gets to the heart of why we are here,” she says.

# New Doctorate

The Planned Student Affairs Doctorate Would Be Second Doctoral Offering at UWL

People in student affairs and enrollment services on college campuses will soon have another option for training and earning a higher degree.

UWL Student Affairs Administration Department faculty are working to offer an education doctorate in Student Affairs Administration and Leadership. It would be the second doctoral offering on campus. The other is physical therapy.



*Chris Bakkum*

Chris Bakkum, who teaches in SAA. “The nature of higher education is changing and we need to be responsive to that.”

Bakkum has led efforts on the new degree with Jodie Rindt, chair of the department. The UW System Board of Regents ap-



*Jodie Rindt*

proved the degree in June. It is being reviewed by the Higher Learning Commission, which conducted an on-site visit Oct. 19-20.

The commission must approve the degree before recruitment can begin. A decision is expected by year’s end. If the program is approved as expected, students could enroll as early as next summer.

UWL’s current SAA master’s degree can be completed on campus or online. The new doctorate will be offered only online.

Curriculum has been developed with different doctorate proposals from UW campuses at Green Bay, Oshkosh and Stevens Point. While UWL faculty will teach most courses in the degree, UWL students may take elective courses from the partner institutions. Those in the program will be employed on college campuses and applying what they are learning to their own campus.

Currently 90 students are in UWL’s two master’s degree SAA programs, with about two-thirds in the online or hybrid partner program at UW-River Falls. Bakkum anticipates the doctorate will be popular. “We expect to replicate the online master’s degree success,” she says.

“This degree has great potential to raise the level of our campus visibility and to provide access to a high-quality graduate education for people already working in higher education.”

CHRIS BAKKUM

Current faculty will teach the classes. As the degree grows, additional faculty will be added.

Approximately 150 Student Affairs Administration programs are offered nationwide, with about 20 of them offering doctorates, very few of which are online.

“This degree has great potential to raise the level of our campus visibility and to provide access to a high-quality graduate education for people already working in higher education,” says Bakkum.



For more information about the new degree contact Bakkum at [cbakkum@uwlax.edu](mailto:cbakkum@uwlax.edu) or Rindt at [jrindt@uwlax.edu](mailto:jrindt@uwlax.edu)

# SAA International Study Abroad Graduate Experience

## Learning Collaboration with German Universities



**SAA faculty have developed partnerships with six German institutions of higher education to study student affairs administration work in an international context. This study tour is available to students in SAA's face-to-face, online, blended, and partner program at River Falls.**



1. Staff members of the Office Against Sexual Discrimination at the University of Oldenburg speak to SAA students and faculty.

2. Students in the SAA program—face-to-face, online, blended, and partner program at River Falls — pose in front of The University of Oldenburg prior to the colloquia.

3. SAA students await a presentation by staff at The University of Bonn.

4. Drs. Jorg Vianden and Tori Svoboda listen to presentations at The University of Oldenburg.

5. SAA students mingle with international staff and other students prior to a career services presentation at The University of Oldenburg.

6. A career service member speaks to SAA students about career services at The University of Oldenburg.

# PURE EXO

## *Grad Continues Path on Life Journey*

It took May graduate Mai Zoua Vang eight years after high school to know what she wanted to study in college. She found a passion in communication studies, and ethnic and racial studies. Now that she has a degree, she's taking her time to find the perfect career.

"We all have our own pace and sequence of events that is right for us," says Vang. "Don't allow what is expected of you to force you into making decisions that are wrong for you."

Vang was one of more than 30 students honored at the CLS annual "Evening of Excellence" Awards ceremony in April. Eight faculty and staff members were also recognized.

"I was amazed and touched to be recognized with this," says Vang.

The Onalaska native found her path in college by getting involved.



*Onalaska native Mai Zoua Vang was one of more than 30 students honored at the CLS annual "Evening of Excellence" Awards ceremony in April. Eight faculty and staff members were also recognized.*

She took part in the Asian Student Organization and on the leadership council for Student Support Services. "It takes a lot of time and commitment to get involved, but you gain skills and experience in the process," notes Vang.

She also received a research grant to go to Thailand for three weeks and look at Hmong Thai experiences as a marginalized group. "That experience was amazing," recalls Vang. "I learned so much

about life outside of the U.S. and better understand my ties to South East Asia and my cultural identity."

As Vang continues on her journey to self-discovery, she tells others to listen and learn every chance they get.

"Fight and stand up for what you believe in," she says. "Be strong and don't allow others to diminish your self-worth and ambitions."

# CELLENCE

## *Three CLS Evening of Excellence Honorees*



### **RYAN MCKELLEY**

*FACULTY RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR TEACHING*

Professor Ryan McKelley was busy with the administrative part of being a new department chair when he learned of this honor. The award reminded him why he changed careers and came to UWL. “I love teaching more than any other professional role,” he says. “There are few things more rewarding than to be recognized for doing something you love.”



### **DEB HOSKINS**

*INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR AN INDIVIDUAL*

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Chair Deb Hoskins says honors like this are rare and incredibly meaningful. In her 21-year tenure at UWL, Hoskins has been involved in several diversity efforts. “I decided long ago that a community must break down barriers to build and sustain relationships if it wants to succeed,” says Hoskins.



### **TERRY SMITH**

*INSTRUCTIONAL ACADEMIC STAFF RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARD*

Communication Studies lecturer Terry Smith has an infectious positive attitude. He works hard to be upbeat and energetic, which results in smiles and laughs for him and those he interacts with. Smith was flattered to be recognized by colleagues he looks up to, but the response from his children was his favorite. “Having your kids say ‘wow dad, you rock’ is not something you hear too often unless water slides and ice cream is involved,” says Smith.



Read more about all award winners at:  
[www.uwlax.edu/CLS/Recognition-of-Excellence](http://www.uwlax.edu/CLS/Recognition-of-Excellence)

# ‘MAIS, OUI!’

## SECOND LANGUAGE OPENS NEW DOORS FOR GRADS



*Three UW-La Crosse students who graduated in May didn't have to worry about finding a job after commencement because they studied French in college. From left, Zak Barnetzke received a prestigious graduate studies assistantship in Maryland, while Amy McCubbins and Kayla Sanger have been accepted to the Teaching Assistant Program in France.*

Assistant Professor of French  
Virginie Cassidy often hears prospective students and their parents ask, “Why study French? What can I do with it?”



*Virginie Cassidy*

“Lots!” explains Cassidy. “Learning a second language provides a path to develop skills in global communication, which are required in many professions these days.”

In fact, knowing a second language can help students in ways they might not be thinking about — for example, paying

for graduate school or enhancing their professional experience.

Three May 2015 graduates realized this while researching for Cassidy's course, “French for Professional Communication.”

Amy McCubbins and Kayla Sanger were accepted to the Teaching Assistant Program in France. They will receive a monthly salary and health insurance for teaching 12 hours a week.

Another of Cassidy's students, Zak Barnetzke, wasn't considering graduate school because he was worried about taking on more student debt. But Cassidy knew of Barnetzke's passion for learning different languages and cultures and encouraged him to apply to the master's

program in intercultural communication at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. He was accepted and offered a teaching assistantship that provides a stipend and tuition waiver.

Cassidy is excited about the opportunities offered to her students who chose to study a language other than English. She says knowing additional languages and cultures can also provide an edge when students begin looking for work.

“Students entering a business field with knowledge of an additional language not only have the upper hand in landing a job, but they also tend to make more money,” she notes.



See the complete list of foreign languages offered at UWL at [www.uwlax.edu/modern-languages](http://www.uwlax.edu/modern-languages)



# DIG THIS



*TOP LEFT: Archaeology Associate Professor Dave Anderson was selected to the ARCE Board of Governor's. TOP: A student photographs Associate Archaeology Professor Dave Anderson as he uncovers an artifact. LEFT: Associate Archaeology Professor Dave Anderson sifts through dirt along with student Piper Howe.*

## Faculty Member Selected to Serve on National Board

After spending more than 30 years digging into the history of Ancient Egypt, Associate Archaeology Professor David Anderson is taking on an additional role to help others do the same.



*David Anderson*

Anderson was chosen to serve on the Board of Governors for the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE). ARCE is a non-profit foundation that promotes the research and understanding of all aspects of Egyptian culture.

“For me it’s an honor and represents recognition of the years of research I’ve done in Egypt,” says Anderson.

As a board member, Anderson serves as an ambassador of the organization, promoting its mission, and helping others who want to do research in Egypt get there.

Part of the reason he was selected is his expertise in early Egypt. “A lot of research is done on the monuments, tombs and temples in Egypt,” explains Anderson. “My research looks at the origins of that.”

Anderson fell in love with ancient Egyptian culture in 6th grade, when he picked the country out of a hat for a

“For me it’s an honor and represents recognition of the years of research I’ve done in Egypt.”

DAVID ANDERSON

school project. Now he has the chance to help others get to where he is today.



You can hear Anderson talk about the opportunity and see him in action with UWL students at <http://news.uwlax.edu/david-anderson-arce/>

# WISCONSIN 101

## STUDENTS JOIN STATEWIDE PUBLIC HISTORY EFFORT

The big sunfish in Onalaska. The “Simpler Time” sculpture of children and their dog greeting boats at Riverside Park. A metal 1960s Wisconsin National Farmers Organization (NFO) sign. What do they have in common? They’re objects UWL students have selected for a statewide public history project.

The idea of “Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects” is simple. Students,

“This project allows students to expand their work out of the classroom. Students can take the objects in the direction they want to go.”

MIRANDA KUNES

amateur historians and others can select a material object and provide researched information about its importance in state history. For UWL classes, objects were selected from the university’s Area Research Center, La Crosse Historical Society and students’ homes.

Assistant Professor of history Patricia Stovey says the new project —launched online at [www.wi101.org](http://www.wi101.org)— was perfect for her survey course on Wisconsin History.



LEFT: Catherine Krus, '15, from Chicago, selected the Riverside Park sculpture “A Simpler Time” as her object for a history class project based on a new statewide website. BELOW: Miranda Kunes, a senior from Melrose, Wisconsin, selected an NFO member sign for the “Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects” project. Kunes was surprised to discover that many NFO demonstrations in the '60s and '70s were tumultuous.

“This project allows students to expand their work out of the classroom,” she explains. “Students can take the objects in the direction they want to go.”

Miranda Kunes, a senior from Melrose, selected an NFO member sign after talking with her dad about Wisconsin’s agricultural industry in the '60s and '70s. She was surprised to find that many NFO demonstrations included guns, explosives, threats, roadblocks and vandalism that often resulted in harm to people, animals or property.

“When I think of Wisconsin farmers, I do not imagine them as ... politically radical individuals,” says Kunes, a communication studies major. “However, my research has proved this assumption wrong.”

Catherine Krus, '15, from Chicago, says the river has intrigued her since she moved to La Crosse. “I often find myself leaning on the railing like the kids in the



sculpture, looking out at the bluffs as they fade into the horizon,” she says.

The website launched earlier this year has only a few objects identified, mainly from Milwaukee. “Hopefully, we can offer a La Crosse spin on state history,” says Stovey.



Learn more about the Wisconsin 101 public history project at [www.wi101.org](http://www.wi101.org)



# FUN IN THE DIRT



The vast fields at the Tremaine archeology site on the south end of Holmen are full of ancient artifacts. It's where, for more than 30 years, UWL students have been uncovering history.

"It's hard work," says Eric Nordstrom, a senior who has been taking part in the annual five-week field school for the past few summers. "But at the end of the day it's very rewarding."



The UWL archaeological studies major is one of the few comprehensive undergraduate degree programs in archaeology in the U.S. and the only one in the Midwest.



*TOP: Sophomore archaeology major Brandon Emerson looks for artifacts at the UWL field school.*

*ABOVE: UWL archaeology students dig into the Tremaine Site near Holmen, Wisconsin, for the field school.*

*LEFT: Archaeology student Brenda Hofschulte surveys the dig site during the UWL field school. The UWL program is unique to other archaeology programs in requiring an extensive amount of hands-on experience.*

During the five weeks, students learned how to use proper field techniques to excavate areas. "We require our students to get an extensive amount of hands-on experience," notes associate professor Dave Anderson.

At this site, the students are finding pieces of pottery and chips from ancient tools. "It's basically real archaeology," says junior Piper Howe. Students and faculty believe this real archaeology experience sets them ahead of their peers at other institu-

tions. "Most other schools you don't get to do this under you're in graduate school," says Nordstrom.

Classmates agree. "It's having fun in the dirt," says student Kittrell Anderson.

# STUDENT SUCCESS

UWL FACULTY MEMBER LEADS STATEWIDE GRANT PROJECT



**T**im Dale, UWL Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, is one of six UW educators leading a UW System project to build a faculty-led, statewide “innovation hub” focused on developing individual course and program learning outcomes, as well as general education reforms. The project will lead to students who are better prepared for lives of work, civic engagement and personal and social responsibility.

The project, a partnership with the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) and four other states, aims to improve student engagement, as well as retention and graduation rates.

The AAC&U has developed a set of learning outcomes

**Tim Dale, Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, is leading a UW System project to build a faculty-led, statewide “innovation hub.”**

and rubrics for promoting and assessing student learning. Part of the goal of the Faculty Collaboratives project is to better understand how these AAC&U resources have been used by UW

System campuses and how they have impacted curriculum and assessment. Dale was interested in joining the project because he’s used AAC&U resources to design courses. They’ve also been a topic of discussion on other educational projects he has worked on.

“The work that the AAC&U has produced is influential in my own teaching and the way that I think about the purpose of a college education,” he says.

Supported by a grant from Lumina Foundation, Faculty Collaboratives is part of AAC&U’s Liberal Education and America’s Promise, or LEAP Campaign, a national public advocacy and campus-action initiative promoting student learning outcomes.



*Public and Policy History major Ariel Reker, left, with La Crosse Historical Society's Peggy Derrick at the La Crosse Historical Society. The [art]ifact project will bring more La Crosse Historical Society artifacts into public display when their physical presence in the community is limited.*

15 artists who will use those artifacts as inspiration to create new artwork for the exhibition. Historic artifacts and corresponding new artwork will be displayed side by side at a Pump House exhibit in spring 2016.

Much of the work for the \$82,000 [art]ifact project is in-kind. The WHC grant was the largest grant Beaujot applied for and goes far in making the project happen, she says.

"It means a great deal to me and my students to be supported by a competitive statewide grant for humanities projects," says Beaujot. "The public and policy history faculty at UWL believe that art and culture are important aspects of any thriving community and we are proud to be chosen to represent Wisconsin in this way."

A \$10,000 grant is the maximum amount the Wisconsin Humanities Council awards. WHC supports and creates programs that use history, culture and discussion to strengthen community life in Wisconsin.

# [art]ifact

## Campus-Conceived Project Receives State Humanities Grant

La Crosse history will be soon turning into art.

A \$10,000 grant from The Wisconsin Humanities Council will help fund a project that blends local history and art. The [art]ifact project, originally conceived by three UWL students, is a collaboration among UWL's History Department, the Pump House Regional Arts Center and

the La Crosse County Historical Society.

During 2015-16, students in UWL Assistant Professor of History Ariel Beaujot's classes, HIS 300 [art]ifact and HIS 300 Exhibition Design, will choose 15 artifacts made in La Crosse and represent the community's diverse history. Then, a jury from the Pump House will select



# CREATIVE IMPERATIVES

*Third Annual Event Will Highlight the Intersection of Science, Art*

The annual UWL School of Arts and Communication Creative Imperatives festival continues to attract growing crowds. The second festival last March offered more events and provided ample opportunities to showcase SAC talents.

“The festival took a big step forward in being integrated into the campus and greater La Crosse consciousness,” says Laurie Kingman, festival coordinator and associate professor of Theatre Arts.

“The festival took a big step forward in being integrated into the campus and greater La Crosse consciousness.”

LAURIE KINGMAN

The festival, March 1-3, featured more than 40 events, up from 25 the previous year. The events highlighted the work of students, faculty, staff and distinguished guests including Pulitzer-Prize-nominated Composer Chen Yi and TV actor Dulé Hill.

In addition to giving public performances and talks, distinguished guests also spent time with students. Hill, who postponed his appearance until April due to the filming of an HBO series, gave a public lecture that

## *2016 CREATIVE IMPERATIVES: FEB. 28-MARCH 1, 2016*

The Third Annual Creative Imperatives Festival will run Sunday, Feb. 28 -Tuesday, March 1, 2016. The theme will be the intersection of art and science.

These disciplines — as diverse and different as they appear at the onset — are also similar in many ways, explains Professor Joe Anderson, 2016 festival director

and CLS faculty fellow.

“I think many, if not most people are unaware of the influence of science on art and the beauty of art within science,”



# ERATIVES

attracted about 500 students, faculty, staff and community members. He also led a master class with theatre performance students.

Another major attraction was an interactive display, “Before I Die,” inspired by artist Candy Chang who wrote “Before I die I want to \_\_\_\_\_” on the side of an abandoned house in her New Orleans neighborhood in 2011. Since then more than 1,000 similar walls have been created in about 70 countries.

The UWL campus and La Crosse community wrote hundreds of anonymous responses on a wall in Center for the Arts, ranging from “learn to bake the perfect soufflé” to “change the world for the better.”

“It was inspiring and exciting to watch it take off,” says Kinckman.

Due to the wall’s popularity, festival organizers are looking for a similar interactive event for the next festival.

says Anderson. “For example, I use chemistry and geometry when dyeing and designing/drafting costumes for theatre, the beauty of a mathematical fractal is breathtaking to look at and

music is a complex combination of symbols, mathematics, sound waves and physical connections.”

Each year the festival is a way for people to see the exciting and diverse disciplines within SAC,

yet how connected each subject is to many different areas of study, notes Anderson.

“It is that connectedness that gives strength to the university,” he adds.

## PHOTOS, LEFT TO RIGHT:

1. A major attraction at Creative Imperatives 2015 was an interactive display, “Before I Die.” Hundreds of responses from the campus and community were collected and displayed on a wall in Center for the Arts.

2. Professor Joe Anderson introduces actor Dulé Hill for a talk during 2015 Creative Imperatives.

3. Featured guest Composer Chen Yi works with the UWL Wind Ensemble.

4. The UWL Orchestra rehearses Composer Chen Yi’s music for the festival’s closing concert.

5. An art student finds a very small admirer during a Watch Them Work series painting session.



# CLS ALUM HONORED

Theo Howard, '94 & '95, Received  
The Parker Multicultural Alumni Award

**T**heo Howard, '94 & '95, received the UWL Alumni Association's Parker Multicultural Alumni Award in May. The psychology alum has been honored for his work with young children and mentoring young adults.

Howard has worked with youth at YMCAs and college students at numerous campuses. Currently associate vice

chancellor for Student Affairs at North Carolina Central University, he is known for his dedication and commitment to helping his students and staff grow.

"Daily he is influencing the lives of tomorrow's leaders," says Trae Cotton, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Winston Salem State University.

## Theo Howard file

- Respected and proven leader who promotes student learning and development.
- Currently associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs at North Carolina Central University.
- Director of Campus Recreation and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus Life at Winston-Salem (North Carolina) State University, 2003-2015.
- Held numerous leadership positions at Detroit area YMCAs from 1996-2001.
- Earned a master's in sports administration from UW-L, 1995; bachelor's in psychology UW-L, 1994.

## The Parker Multicultural Alumni Award

Recognizes outstanding alumni who have contributed greatly to the improvement of multiracial culture and understanding on the campus and in their careers. History Professor Emeritus James Parker initiated the award in 1997.

# CHICAGO

## Murder, Greed, Fame — and All That Jazz

The Department of Theatre Arts presented “Chicago” as the 2015 SummerStage production. The Tony Award-winning musical was performed in Toland Theatre, Center for the Arts, in late June and early July. The cast included: Kendra Andreska, Bobby Black, Lily Cornwell, John Divney, Olivia Dubiel, Gabby Fitzger-

ald, Erin Gassner, Mitchell Gray, Sophia Goodner, Beth Lakmann, Avital Maltinski, Quinn Masterson, Aamer Mian, Jenna Moilanen, Beth Ryan, Kara Shultz, Calahan Skogman, Michelle Walker, Julia Whalen and Lewis Youngren.



See more photos at [www.uwlax.edu/Theatre-Arts/Production-listing-archive/](http://www.uwlax.edu/Theatre-Arts/Production-listing-archive/)



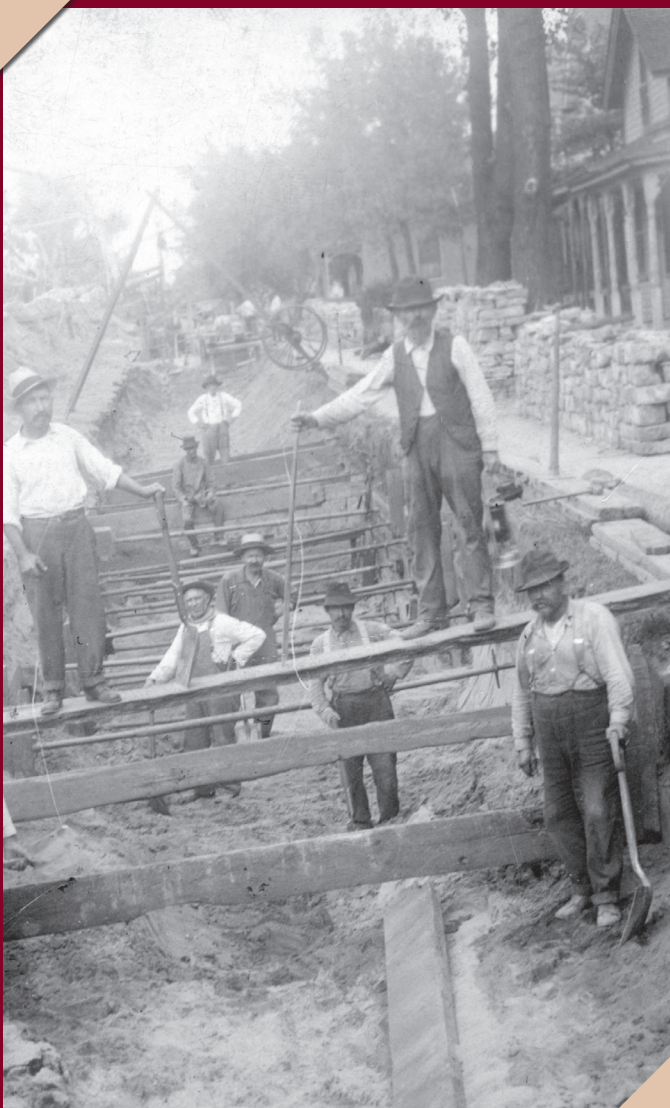


Images Courtesy: UWL Special Collections



# PICTURE PERFECT POSTCARD BOOK

Special Collections Librarians Laura Godden and Paul Beck dug through thousands of postcards at Murphy Library to find the perfect set to show La Crosse's history. They created a book showing a unique history the city and university from 1890-1940.



Hear more about it at <http://news.uwlax.edu/postcard-book/>