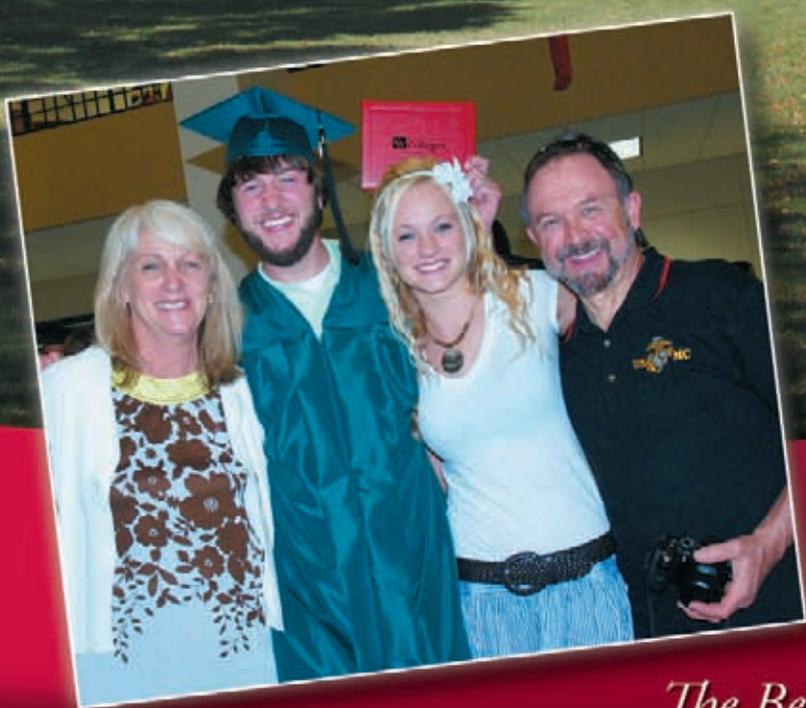




UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

# Fond du Lac

*A Campus of the University of Wisconsin Colleges*



## 2012 Report to the Community

*The Best Start for the Life You Want.*

# CAMPUS FACTS

## University of Wisconsin-Fond du Lac

400 University Drive  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
(920) 929-1100  
www.fdl.uwc.edu

## Accreditation

North Central Association

## Degrees Granted

Associate of Arts and Sciences (AAS)

## Enrollment Fall 2011

747 Students  
63% are full-time  
37% are part-time  
71% are 21 or under  
29% are over 22

## Published by UW-Fond du Lac University Relations

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# Dean's Message



Education can change a person's life. I see it every day.

We also know that the students we educate at UW-Fond du Lac come back to the greater Fond du Lac area and make a difference. They are entrepreneurs. They are leaders. They are our teachers, our nurses, our doctors, and so much more. They are your friends and neighbors. They got their Best Start right here at UW-Fond du Lac.

It's a proven fact that those with a four-year college degree earn more and are far less likely to be unemployed during their lifetime. Today, that holds truer than ever before.

Statistics also show that students who start at one of the 13 UW Colleges like UW-Fond du Lac and then transfer to a UW System four year campus, stay in school and graduate at higher rates than the students who transfer from other schools.

I have been so impressed by this area's commitment to education since I joined the UW-Fond du Lac campus as Dean and CEO in July of 2010. And, we are equally committed to providing a high quality, affordable University of Wisconsin education to today's students and future generations.

With the budget cuts and economic challenges facing all of us, we know that we will rely more and more on the generosity of private giving for scholarship assistance to our students and for support of professional development of our faculty and staff. I appreciate and thank you for your gifts to our campus.

I invite you to visit the campus at any time to meet with students, faculty and staff for a first-hand look at campus facilities and activities.

Sincerely yours,

John N. Short  
Campus Dean and CEO

## UW-Fond du Lac tuition and fees are the lowest in the UW System

School	2011-12 Tuition & Fees	at UW-Fond du Lac you SAVE
UW-Madison	\$9,665	\$4,811
UW-Milwaukee	\$8,675	\$3,821
Average of other four-year UW campuses	\$7,283	\$2,429
<b>UW-Fond du Lac</b>	<b>\$4,854</b>	



## ALUMNI PROFILE –

# Education in Action: Internship sets student writer on path to editorial leadership



## Katie (Kleine) Larson

*UW-Fond du Lac 2004-2007*

*Marian University: Bachelor's Degree 2011, Major in English and Creative Writing  
Managing Editor, Action Publications and her home-based editorial and print business, Creatively INKlined*

When Katie Kleine began delivering the Action Advertiser newspaper in Campbellsport neighborhoods as a seventh grader, she had no idea her relationship with the paper would be continuing 13 years later. Married last March and now Katie Larson, she was named managing editor of Action Publications in October 2011 - capping years of increasing service to the organization and continuing a legacy of leadership with deep ties to UW-Fond du Lac education.

"I saw Scott's name a thousand times," Larson said of her six years delivering papers produced under the 22-year editorship of Scott Wittchow (UW-FDL 1969-71), "and then, I met him."

That meeting turned to mentoring.

Wittchow first noticed her Katie Kleine byline in the Falcon Flier student newspaper, printed as part of The Reporter and later as part of the Action Advertiser.

"I was really impressed with her skills, especially her people skills," Wittchow said. "Katie knew what to ask. She came up with interesting feature and news stories for the Falcon Flier. As she continued with that, we were looking for an intern with the possibility of hiring into a position. She applied. I knew she could handle a camera and was a good, skilled news writer. I was very excited we could get her on staff at the Action Advertiser."

After her 2005 internship, Larson continued to write for the paper and was named associate editor in 2008.

Their six-plus years as colleagues heartened Wittchow as he considered retirement plans. "She has always been my right-hand person. I knew Katie could step in and continue to do what we do, serving the readers in Fond du Lac County and putting out a great product," said Wittchow. "And she has."

### Career path

Larson's path from delivery to editor passed squarely through the UW-Fond du Lac campus. She ended her newspaper delivery days with high school graduation and enrolled in classes immediately that summer. She wasn't yet aware of how the campus would lead her back to the

paper in a new role, but she was confident that UW-Fond du Lac was the best place to be.

"My siblings went to LaCrosse and Milwaukee, but I knew I was a homebody," said Larson, who remains committed to the area and now resides in Mayville. Several high school friends had also chosen to continue their educations close to home. Together, the seven rented a house - guys upstairs, girls downstairs. They car-pooled and ate dinner together. Monday nights found them on campus, playing cards in the Commons. "It was a good support system," Larson recalled.

Her writing aspirations began as a second-grader, but she wasn't sure where they would lead. She credits UW-Fond du Lac faculty for seeing her strengths and providing the tools to bring those strengths to the surface.

Then-instructor Marihelen Denning-Stolz commented after a composition assignment that Larson should be writing for the campus paper. Larson joined the paper that first semester, and landed the Action Publications internship the next semester. By the time her UW-Fond du Lac education was complete, she had earned the outstanding journalism student award and was on her way to a degree in English, which she completed as a non-traditional transfer student

at Marian University.

"I liked to poke and prod - to bring things to the surface," Larson said of her UW-Fond du Lac campus reporting.

And she enjoyed sharing the good news of the campus in other ways. She worked as a campus tour guide and served on panel discussions for high school students: "I liked to do that - to tell them this is attainable." Recognizing that many of her peers were serving overseas, Larson also helmed a campus philanthropic project, gathering care package donations for military personnel stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Additional personal growth developed through another campus class, one that involved action, not writing. "I was scared to death of public speaking," says the now-poised and personable Larson. "Richard Gustin (communication and theater arts professor) said he was going to put us all on a stage and embarrass us; that we'd feel like a dork and be cured. It worked. I learned a lot of life skills in his classes.

"If I hadn't gone there, I'd still be scared and not know what to do with myself," said Larson of her UW-Fond du Lac experience. "It's not just a two-year school. It's a foundation."

*By Monica M. Walk*

## UW-FDL education imprinted on Action Publications leadership

When Katie (Kleine) Larson stepped into the top editorial post at Action Publications, she joined an organization long linked to the UW-Fond du Lac campus.

Her predecessor, managing editor Scott Wittchow (UW-FDL 1969-71), led the publication for 22 years before retiring in October 2011.

Wittchow was hired in 1989 by then-president and publisher Bob Carew (UW-FDL 1973-74/1975-76), whose father Jim Carew founded the weekly advertising shopper in 1970. According to Wittchow, the whole family worked on the publication, including Bob and his siblings Tom (UW-FDL 1968-70), David (UW-FDL 1968-69) and Julie.

That shared education base says a lot, Wittchow noted.

"A lot of people know the value of the campus," he said, citing that more UW-Fond du Lac alumni work in other areas of the news organization, whose publications serve Fond du Lac, Dodge and Green Lake counties. "It really provided me with a great base to get a degree. I'm glad we have it here in Fond du Lac. It's an asset."

# Always Lost

## National Touring Memorial/Exhibit



*The Always Lost/Never Forgotten exhibit included a series of large scale panels designed by John Scotello, art professor, to specifically honor the fallen soldiers from the Fond du Lac area.*

*The historical photos used were provided by area veteran organizations. Each panel represented one of the wars from the Civil War to the present. Alongside each panel was hung a black panel carrying the names of area soldiers who lost their lives in these wars.*



*A series of panels with photographs of nearly every soldier lost to date in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were on display in the University Center Commons balcony area as part of the exhibit.*

An exhibit honoring and recognizing those who have served and continue to serve our country filled the University Center Commons balcony when UW-Fond du Lac hosted the nationally touring exhibit "Always Lost: A Meditation on War," Sept. 16-Oct. 28, 2011.

A collection of photographs, poems and prose, the exhibit originated in 2008 at Western Nevada College where professors Don Carlson and Marilee Swirczek worked with students to create an exhibit that began as a consideration of the effects of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and evolved into a powerful meditation on the effects of war on the individual.

Central to the traveling exhibit is a collage of photos and the names of United States military war casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001.

Locally, the exhibit was expanded to include a "Never Forgotten" memorial to those soldiers from the Fond du Lac area who died serving our country from the Civil War period to the present day.

The Fond du Lac aspects of the exhibit engaged the community in both a remembrance and celebration of the sacrifice, dedication and contributions of local veterans and their families.

"Hosting the exhibit 'Always Lost' permitted us to honor those who sacrificed their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq and also to celebrate the accomplishments of living veterans from Afghanistan, Iraq and all of our other armed conflicts," said John Short, UW-Fond du Lac Dean and CEO.

UW-Fond du Lac Art Professor John Scotello was curator of the exhibit and worked with UW-Fond du Lac student veterans and art students, local veteran organizations and the Fond du Lac Historical Society to localize the exhibit.

He converted historical photos provided by the veteran organizations into digital images which were displayed as eight foot tall prints hung from the ceiling.

Scotello explained that the "Always Lost" traveling exhibit was personal and introspective while the "Never Forgotten" memorial shows that the impact of war is shared with the community, especially family.

"The images in the exhibit were challenging and difficult to look at," said Scotello. "This project brought together the veterans from the different wars in this experience and I hope that through the pairing of these two exhibits at UW-Fond du Lac, everyone realizes that personal experiences like these are shared."

"Always Lost" was funded, in part, by the Nevada Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. It was brought to UW-Fond du Lac by the Student Life and Interest Committee (SLIC) and the Engaging Students in the First Year (ESFY) Committee.

This exhibit was part of a year-long theme "War at the Personal Level" at UW-Fond du Lac. In addition to UW-Fond du Lac, the exhibit has traveled to a number of UW Colleges campuses. After Fond du Lac, the exhibit was headed for New York and ultimately, Washington, D.C.

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**"I would have to say this exhibit was shockingly up front and personal... Never Forgotten is true. Although some of us may not know personally someone who has died in war, the pain in these photos will stick with someone for life."**

*– Comment written by a visitor to the Always Lost/Never Forgotten exhibit.*

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# Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient Kim Mooney

UW-Fond du Lac selected Kim Mooney of Fond du Lac to receive its 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mooney is director of the Fond du Lac County Department of Social Services with oversight of numerous department programs which ensure the safety, self-sufficiency and well-being of individuals and families. She began her career as an intern in the department in 1985, and went on to become a social worker, supervisor and deputy director. She was appointed director of the department in July 2006.

She attended UW-Fond du Lac for the fall 1982 and spring 1983 semesters and went on to finish her undergraduate work at UW-Oshkosh earning a Bachelor's of Social Work. Mooney then completed a Master's of Public Administration at UW-Oshkosh.

In the community, Mooney has served as president of the Family Resource Center Board and was named "Honorary Lifetime Board Member" by this organization. She has been a member of the Women's Fund Board and completed the Fond du Lac Area Association of Commerce Leadership Fond du Lac program. Mooney has served on the Fond du Lac Area United Way Impact Panel reviewing grants from community agencies.



*UW-Fond du Lac Dean/CEO John Short (left) presented Kim Mooney with the university's 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award. The award was presented as part of the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation's annual donor and scholarship reception. Kim Mooney is the director of the Fond du Lac County Department of Social Services.*

She was honored at the annual UW-Fond du Lac Foundation's annual donor and scholarship reception.

## Previous Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

2010	Mark Strand	2006	Paul Rosenfeldt
2009	Sandi Roehrig	2005	Don Noe
2008	Oscar Kraus	2004	Brenna Garrison-Bruden
2007	Robert (Bob) Carew		



## State Champions!

Congratulations to the 2010-2011 UW-Fond du Lac Women's Basketball Team! They beat UW-Fox Valley (53-47) on Feb. 27, 2011, to win UW-Fond du Lac's first ever State Tournament Championship.

Two players, Leslie Wochos and Kasey Schwartzmiller, were also named to the All-Tournament Team based on their performance throughout the tournament.

Members of the championship Falcons shown with their trophy are left to right, front row: Kelsey Weiglein, Margaret Flood, Jenna Washuleski, Breanna Buerger, and Tracy Harris. Back row: Head Coach Allison Zimmerman, Leslie Wochos, Kelsey Figel, Kasey Schwartzmiller, and Asst. Coach Karen Engel.

## WCPA Award



*Melissa Luedtke*

Student Services Coordinator Melissa Luedtke was selected by the Wisconsin College Personnel Association (WCPA) as the recipient of the 2011 Nora McGuire Outstanding Professional Award.

Luedtke joined the UW-Fond du Lac campus in 2007 and works with area high school students, teachers and counselors. In her role she has the lead responsibility for special events related

to recruitment, orientation, the integration of students new to the campus, as well as educational counseling, academic advising and career planning. She also has been leading the growth of the UW-Fond du Lac Student Ambassadors group.

The award was established to honor a longtime UW Colleges employee, Nora McGuire, who served as chief student affairs officer until her retirement in 2006. WCPA established the Nora McGuire award after her passing to honor her contributions to WCPA and to the field of student affairs.

WCPA is a state division of the American College Personnel Association.

## Kaplan Awards

The Kaplan award recognizes individuals or teams for significant and innovative improvement in instruction and service to students.

This award honors Arthur M. Kaplan, who retired in 1993 as vice chancellor of the UW Colleges. Kaplan was committed to improving the quality of instruction and service to students at the UW Colleges' campuses.

Recipients of the award receive a \$250 grant that can be used to further enhance their creative approaches to education.

**Khaled Hussein**, mathematics professor, received an award for inspiring and engaging the interest of students by connecting mathematical concepts to real-world applications. He used technology and web-based materials and implemented new methods of teaching that targeted the different learning styles of students.



*Khaled Hussein*

**Richard Gustin**, communication and theater arts professor, received an award for engaging students from his acting class in planning and executing a Diversity Workshop. Students were able to exercise leadership, time management and critical thinking skills in a creative team-building environment while providing a valuable service to the campus community.



*Richard Gustin*

## Faculty Promotions

Four members of the UW-Fond du Lac faculty were recently promoted and received new titles.

**Richard Gustin**, communication and theater arts, was named professor with tenure. Gustin has taught at the campus since 1994.

**Alayne Peterson**, English, was named associate professor with tenure. Peterson has taught at the campus since 2004.

**John Scotello**, art, was named associate professor with tenure. Scotello has taught at the campus since 2005.

**Lee Watson**, health, exercise science & athletics, was named associate professor with tenure. Watson has taught at the campus since 2005.

## Alumni Profile -

# Fond du Lac transplant experiences connections and firmly rooted life



## Ger Xiong

*UW-Fond du Lac: 2004-2006*

*UW-Oshkosh: Bachelor's Degree - Business Finance, May 2010*

*Employment: Advocap's Business Development Program,*

*Fond du Lac, WI*

Home and community resonate deeply for Ger Xiong. She relishes her roots in Fond du Lac - perhaps because her connections have blossomed so fully after transplantation.

You wouldn't know when meeting the vivacious and articulate Xiong, but she wasn't born in this country and English is not her first language. She was born in a Hmong refugee camp in Thailand to parents escaping the horrors of "The Secret War," in which the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency recruited the Hmong of Laos to fight against North Vietnamese army intruders during the Vietnam War. More than 100,000 Hmong lost their lives by the time the U.S. decided to pull out of Vietnam; those war dead included six of Xiong's older siblings.

Her father - who had endured combat - and mother escaped to Thailand, and there Ger Xiong was born and lived until she was 11, separated from the rest of the world by the refugee camp's wire fence.

In 1992, her family emigrated to the United States. They followed the path to Wisconsin blazed by earlier Hmong immigrants in the mid-1970s. While welcomed into a Hmong community in LaCrosse, Xiong's parents quickly relocated to Fond du Lac where they observed better education opportunities for their children, whose numbers would again grow to six. While neither parent had been educated, they valued that opportunity for their children.

"I was eleven-and-a-half, and I had limited English," Xiong recalled. "I could say 'yes,' 'no,' 'bathroom,' 'drink.' I attended Franklin Elementary and I really wanted to talk to my teachers and tell them this was a great place to be - and I couldn't."

Her English language education included the daily help of volunteers in the Advocap Foster Grandparents Program. Together, they reviewed the alphabet and read books. Xiong recounts with a happy laugh a chance encounter with her fourth grade teacher years later, and being delighted by her teacher's reaction to her growth from once-quiet child to communicative adult.

Still, she remained a quiet person throughout high school, shy but studious. It wasn't until her senior year during a presentation in a German class - Xiong has learned German, French and Thai along with English and her native Hmong - that anyone heard her speak at length, and she discovered a new confidence in her language skills. Married at age 16 to her husband Jia, a fellow refugee, she had two children while in high school and still completed her high school degree a semester early.

### Commitment to family and education

That dual commitment to family and education continued to drive her. With the support of her husband and his parents, she enrolled in evening classes at UW-Fond du Lac while working full-time as a bank teller. The proximity to family was important, and financial aid made her dream possible.

"We were staying with my in-laws at that time and I had two children and work, and UW-Fond du Lac is right in town," said Xiong, noting she is a first-generation college student. "I drove there and saw all the parking spaces, and knew it would be a good start for me as a mom. Even with two children, I couldn't imagine stopping after high school. My parents said go for it and do your best."

She continued that pace - parenting, working, attending school - until, combined with another pregnancy, it took a toll on her health and she realized she needed to leave the job and focus on the education.

"Education is a big thing," she said.

And the one-on-one interaction with educators at UW-Fond du Lac inspired her. "At other colleges, you are more of an I.D. It's not like that at UW-Fond du Lac," she said. She cites the influences of faculty members Carolyn Polodna, Paisley Harris, Michael Nofz, and Sayeed Payesteh while on campus and their continuing interaction as Xiong completed her degree and moved into a new career.

She has particularly strong, positive feelings about the campus writing center and the students who work there. "I have a hard time with writing," said Xiong, noting that English is a difficult language and that she continues to learn it. "The writing center had great people who helped me with papers. The writing lab was a great place to feel secure, open up and not be afraid. They would help correct my writing and I had peace of mind. Now, I still recommend to my children and friends to get help with writing."

A communication class also helped Xiong hone her interpersonal skills. "Debating in that class was hard to do, but I learned how and it helped me stand up for myself," she said. "I learned how to discuss things: Let me throw my ideas out there. Arguing is different from debate. As a Hmong woman, in our culture we don't like to hurt feelings, but I am more than happy to say I have an opinion."

### Community connections

Xiong is happy to keep a connection with the campus and has been on-site for several featured events. At the 2009 dedication of the Hmong story cloth in the University Center



*Ger Xiong (left) along with Nhia Neng Xiong (right) explained the importance of the Hmong story cloth acquired by UW-Fond du Lac's Multicultural Club at a special dedication ceremony in March 2009. The intricately hand stitched story cloth is part of the campus artwork collection to honor the Hmong people.*

Commons, she provided interpretation for featured speaker, Nhia Neng Xiong, a Hmong community leader. Her father, Bliia Choua Vang, was recently featured on a panel discussion on war from the perspective of soldiers. Her father, who is also a shaman and a Hmong musician, fought in hand-to-hand combat, and continues to have nightmares from those memories.

"Our parents don't speak English, so it's up to me to share our experiences and what I've been through," Xiong said, "to provide Hmong culture and background. I told my father we need to tell it to people interested in learning about it. There were so many great questions."

Earning a degree in finance brought Xiong full circle in the Fond du Lac community.

She now works for Advocap, the organization that provided her with English language tutors in her own childhood, helped her parents purchase their first home, and offered early childhood education to her own children, two

sons and two daughters now ranging in age from five to 13.

Employed in Advocap's Business Development Program for the past three years, Xiong assists low-income entrepreneurs in Fond du Lac, Winnebago, and Green Lake counties to start or expand a business by providing technical assistance with writing business plans and learning business management skills. The organization is also a micro-lender, able to lend up to \$15,000.

"My background helps with serving people," Xiong said. "I have been there: I have received food stamps, I have been low-income. When people express their concerns, I totally understand."

"I take so much pride in my local job and this local agency," she said. "And, in the colleges and local businesses. I don't know where I would have ended up without so much support."

*By Monica M. Walk*

## Citizen dialogue event on national debt held at UW-Fond du Lac



UW-Fond du Lac hosted an overflow crowd for a citizen dialogue focusing on the national debt on Oct. 25, 2011. The event was one of a series of public deliberations being held across the state by the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service (WIPPS).

More than 100 students and community members filled the large group instruction room at the university to discuss the topic: A Nation in Debt: How Can We Pay the Bills?

UW-Fond du Lac student LuAnn Parish (left) and community members Michael McAuly (center) and David Fellenz were part of a group of about 20 moderated by Donald Schwartz (foreground), UW-Fond du Lac political science instructor.

The results of the dialogue event held at UW-Fond du Lac will be compiled and shared publicly at a statewide public policy forum in fall 2012.

# Student leaders enhance campus life, while gaining life-enhancing skills

by Monica M. Walk

## M. Geoffrey Murray



UW-Fond du Lac enrollment:  
Summer 2010-Spring 2012  
Age: 34  
Major: Economics  
Campus role: President,  
Student Government  
Association; President, UW  
Colleges Student Governance Council

Entrepreneurial spirit and Fond du Lac roots run deep in M. Geoffrey Murray's family. While Murray grew up in Libertyville, Ill., his grandparents are the long-time proprietors of Fond du Lac's renowned Kristmas Kringle Shoppe. Several years ago, Murray set up his own computer business in Fond du Lac, to be closer and of more help to his family.

Then, his drive for computers crashed.

"The computer business had stopped mentally engaging me," said Murray. "I decided I needed a change. I lived here, and UW-Fond du Lac made more sense than commuting to Oshkosh. The UW piece drew me in. Both of my parents are Madison grads, and the faculty here have the same hiring standards - professional development, terminal degree. I'm a data-driven individual, and I did my homework."

He started with a summer course, to decide if higher education was his best choice. In a conversation with advisor Jackie Morgan, he asked about campus options available for returning students like himself. Morgan noted that the then-student government president was the same age as Murray. Murray sought out the group.

"I tend to dive into things," he said. "I'm not usually a half-way person. When they told me the role of student government in Wisconsin is a state law for students to have a vote in how public universities are run - to vote on student life and interests - I was intrigued. It's different in Wisconsin than anywhere else in the country. There are a lot of details and information, and I feed on that. Minutia is not boring to me."

The student governing bodies of all 13 campuses of the UW Colleges system join together in the UW Colleges Student Governance Council. Murray quickly accepted an appointment as financial director of the Council, when a new student colleague queried, "You ran your own business. Why don't you do it?"

This year, Murray was elected president of

both the UW-Fond du Lac Student Government Association and of the Council, which has led to visiting all 13 campuses. The local campus organization works closely with UW-Fond du Lac administrators and plays an integral role on many campus committees. Between the two organizations, Murray volunteers 10-25 hours weekly on top of his academics and his continuing dedication to the family shop. He also provided tutoring in economics and statistics

"I'm busier than I intended to be," he admits.

Murray was invited by Senator Jessica King as the only student to testify with a group of educators before the Wisconsin State Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Higher Education in November 2011.

"I tried to express my feeling that the UW system is an incredibly important part of the state and of the community where they lie," said Murray, who plans to complete his economics degree at UW-Madison and is considering a future career providing economic analysis for governments. "UW-Fond du Lac gave me the opportunity to engage in education and come out engaged in the civic community around me. I want to be an advocate for public education. I feel it is very important."

He stressed that he found his UW-Fond du Lac coursework rigorous and engaging, and that the leadership skills he developed in groups are invaluable.

"I'm a fairly critical person, but I honestly have no complaints," Murray said. "Liberal arts' is a nebulous idea, but UW-Fond du Lac really does present the opportunity to learn and grow in so many directions."

## Kate Bauer



UW-Fond du Lac enrollment:  
Fall 2010-Spring 2012  
Age: 48  
Major: Psychology  
Campus role: Founder of  
Habitat for Humanity Club;  
President, Multicultural Club;

Diversity Director, Student Government Association

When returning student Kate Bauer delivered a persuasive speech assignment in Professor Richard Gustin's public speaking course last year, she nailed it: 11 students approached her

immediately after class and signed up for the new Habitat for Humanity Club Bauer had pitched.

Bauer then worked with campus administration to make her dream club a reality. As a long-time volunteer with the organization that partners with homeowner families to build simple homes through the investment of hundreds of hours of volunteer labor, Bauer quickly laid the club's foundation. The campus group is now known in town for their ability to swiftly mobilize volunteers, and a contingent will spend the spring 2012 break working on projects in Georgia.

Bauer's drive to build a Habitat club on campus was personal: In 1999, while a single parent to six children evicted from a long-time rental being sold, she became a Habitat home owner.

"It fell into my lap," she says of the Habitat home that was already under construction in Fond du Lac for another family, who became unable to move in. "All summer, I worked on that home. We were homeless for a bit." While her children were scattered among caring relatives, they reunited in their new home in time for Thanksgiving.

Volunteerism has been a driving force in her life since then. For ten years, her career was with the American Red Cross in Madison, where she managed a training program for the blood collection unit. When she lost her job in 2010 due to attrition, the timing felt right to continue her education.

Her three youngest children had attended UW-Fond du Lac, so Bauer was familiar with much about the campus. "It was scary at first," she said of enrollment. "But it has been such a comfortable place to be. I find the whole student body open to experiencing new things, and the professors are so respectful...and really embraced me and helped make UW-Fond du Lac a home."

That thread of respect and volunteerism led to her current roles as president of the Multicultural Club and diversity director for student government, where she can share and apply her past employment training as a diversity instructor. "As the mother of six who has experienced life, I know how important it is to value and accept everyone," she said.

Her first psychology class, combined with her life experience, launched Bauer on her career path. A parent of three children with Rheumatoid Arthritis, Bauer has set a goal to work with parents of children with chronic disease. She plans to continue her education at UW-Milwaukee.

## Megan Hinojosa



UW-Fond du Lac enrollment: Fall 2011, with expected completion of Fall 2012  
 Age: 19  
 Major: Political Science  
 Campus role: Student ambassador; office intern for Congressman Thomas Petri (R)

Megan Hinojosa found her future when she made a visit to her mother's new employer several years ago. After being laid off from a previous employer, Hinojosa's mom was working as a receptionist and legal assistant in a law firm.

"I loved the busy-ness," Hinojosa said of the law office atmosphere. "I observed, and it was fascinating." She has set her sights on completing her associate's degree in a year-and-a-half, finishing her undergraduate degree at UW-Madison or UW-Oshkosh, and attending Madison's law school. She intends to work in child protective services.

Pace appears to be a key component in Hinojosa's life. As a senior at Fond du Lac High, she held down three jobs, took both AP and college courses, served as a senate intern and page, competed in a sport, plus enjoyed the bustle of prom.

Still, as she pondered college - the first in her family to attend - she felt most comfortable staying close to home.

That comfort with UW-Fond du Lac led her to serve as a student ambassador, which involves providing tours for prospective students, participating in panel question-and-answer sessions during campus previews, and attending college fairs and staffing the UW-Fond du Lac information booth, as well as speaking to youth leadership groups of high-achieving high school students about the reasons UW-Fond du Lac is a good academic fit.

"All of my friends went off to school - Maine, California - and it has been very easy to make friends at UW-Fond du Lac," said Hinojosa, who continues to work 30 hours per week in addition to attending classes. "It is so easy to bond, to go for coffee between classes.

"My professors are amazing, and the majority are interested in who I am," she continued. "They communicate. I can email and text, and get an answer back within minutes."

Faculty connection led Hinojosa to her current exciting activity: a spring 2012 internship in Congressman Thomas Petri's Fond du Lac office. She applied for the position at the urging

of political science instructor Donald Schwartz.

The internship requires 100 hours of Hinojosa's time, and she works in Petri's office 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays. She answers the phone for constituent concerns, and is excited about the possibilities of reviewing bills on topics that particularly interest her, specifically child and adult protective services and environmental law.

Hinojosa long knew that she wanted to be involved in law, and she appreciates the opportunity to "get a foot in the door" of politics and learn more. She also hopes to become involved in campus student government.

While her main interest remains child protective services, Hinojosa said if that career path doesn't work out, she will focus on politics. "I'd run for City Council and take it from there," she said.

## Megan Wetherbee



UW-Fond du Lac enrollment: Fall 2010-Spring 2012  
 Age: 19  
 Major: Biology and pre-med  
 Campus role: President, Student Activities Committee; Work Zone tutor; faculty

research collaborator; Madison Connections student

A positive experience on student council at Horace Mann High School in North Fond du Lac cemented Megan Wetherbee's interest in contributing to student life when she arrived on the UW-Fond du Lac campus. She found specific enjoyment on the Student Activities Committee, which she now leads.

"I like that you plan activities that are fun, and my creative side gets use," said the biology/pre-med major. "You get to see the participation, and make campus more welcoming."

Wetherbee personally found UW-Fond du Lac welcoming. While she applied to UW-Madison and was accepted there, she chose to complete

her first two years of college close to home in Fond du Lac. She is part of an elite Wisconsin-resident student group known as Madison Connections, which provides the opportunity to begin bachelor's degree studies at a partner institution and finish at UW-Madison, while holding distinctive UW-Madison status the entire time. Staying local has allowed Wetherbee to continue working in the Fond du Lac County Airport office, and to maintain her rigorous twice-weekly dance lessons at two area dance schools.

She provides additional service to campus life as a Work Zone tutor. For the past two semesters, Wetherbee has helped fellow students improve their abilities in biology, English and math. She is contemplating creating a Student Activities Committee event that would bring tutors into the University Center Commons for a full day of help prior to final exams.

Campus size and faculty connection also provided Wetherbee with a collaborative research opportunity unusual at this level of education. She is working with biology Professor David Demezas to investigate the invasive properties of garlic mustard.

Their research began with a simple conversation.

"I need to do research for med school, and went to talk with him," recalled Wetherbee, who links her long-time desire to become a pediatrician to her childhood relationship with a cousin with cystic fibrosis. She left Demezas' office with an invitation to work on his project. Wetherbee has collaborated with her professor her entire time at UW-Fond du Lac and has hopes the duo will be able to finish the research, write about it and submit a paper.

"I was a shy person, so leadership roles helped fix that," said Wetherbee of her UW-Fond du Lac campus service. "It's been great. I've been able to take the classes I need. The professors help and are there for you. It's smaller and easier to get around; it's been beneficial."

### UW-Fond du Lac: A Leader in Transfer Student Success

UW Colleges students who transfer within the UW System stay in school and graduate at higher rates than students who transfer from technical schools or private colleges.

Students transferring to a UW System campus from:	UW Colleges	UW System	WTCS	In-state private	Out of state
Retention*	81%	75%	70%	70%	74%
Graduation**	69%	70%	45%	50%	60%

\*Students entering baccalaureate institution in fall 2008 who returned in fall 2009

\*\*Earned a baccalaureate within six years of fall 2003 entry or transfer

## Original composition by Professor Rager chosen for FVSO performance



Dan Rager

An original composition by Dan Rager, UW-Fond du Lac music professor, was selected to be performed by the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra (FVSO) in February 2012.

Rager's composition "Millennium" was chosen by popular vote through the FVSO website.

The selection is from the first movement of Rager's first symphony, which has four movements in all. Rager spent 14 months writing the entire work.

"Millennium" was first performed by the Cleveland Chamber Symphony in 2000 and has had many international performances since then.

A member of the UW-Fond du Lac faculty since 2008, Rager is recognized internationally as a composer and conductor of symphonic music. He has over 100 compositions and arrangements published by major publishing companies.

## Did you attend UW-Fond du Lac?



If you attended UW-Fond du Lac, we'd love to hear from you. Give us a call or send us an e-mail and let us know what you've been up to. You can also become a fan of UW-Fond du Lac on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and keep up on all of the latest news from campus!

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## Continuing Education expands professional development courses



UW-Fond du Lac Dean/CEO John Short (left) and Clarity Care Chief Executive Officer Timothy K. Cook, CPA, recently signed a partnership agreement to provide a nursing assistant course at UW-Fond du Lac which prepares students to take the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) exam.

UW-Fond du Lac's Continuing Education Department recently began offering two new courses which prepare students for professional licensing exams.

### Certified Nursing Assistant Course

Many nursing programs at University of Wisconsin schools require students to have completed a nursing assistant course with clinical component and have a current CNA certificate at time of application.

The partnership agreement signed recently brings a nursing assistant three-credit course to pre-nursing majors at UW-Fond du Lac through Clarity Care. The course prepares students to take the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) exam and earn a CNA designation.

Both the course and clinical component will be provided by Clarity Care instructors. Laboratory furnishings for the course have been provided by Agnesian Healthcare.

### Pharmacy Tech Prep Course

This preparation course is for those taking the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board's (PTCB) exam.

The comprehensive 50 hour course prepares students to take the PTCB exam. Data collected from the first pharmacy technician certification test prep program offered by UW-Fond du Lac indicates that 100% of the students taking the PTCB exam passed the exam.

Course content includes medical terminology specific to the pharmacy, reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students learn dosage calculations, I.V. flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control and billing and reimbursement.

Pharmacy Technicians may work in retail pharmacies, mail order pharmacies, home infusion pharmacies, long term care facilities, hospitals, clinics, pharmacy benefit managers and large industrial complexes - working under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. The demand for Pharmacy Technicians continues to grow with demand expected to increase substantially. This high demand is the result of the constant availability of new drugs, the national shortage of registered pharmacists, the establishment of certified pharmacy technicians and the aging population.

## Habitat for Humanity Club participates in Shantytown

Members of UW-Fond du Lac's new Habitat for Humanity Club participated in the 2011 Shantytown event held on the grounds of Marian University. Participants requested pledges in return for their commitment to build their own houses in which they stayed overnight.

Proceeds from the event were donated to Habitat for Humanity of Fond du Lac County to support future house builds in the community. Shown left to right in front of their temporary Shantytown house are UW-Fond du Lac students: Calin Dahlke, Serena Rose, Kate Bauer (back), Joan Wright (front-center), Lillian Cintron and Geoff Murray.



## UW-Fond du Lac students raise money to support FDL Area United Way

The UW-Fond du Lac Student Government Association recently raised \$605 during the fall 2011 semester for the Fond du Lac Area United Way through a raffle and a preferred parking spot auction.

Presenting the check are Lillian Cintron (left) and Jordon Lefeber. Back row, left to right: Jessica Frame, Lacey Bauer, Kaela Kucera, Geoff Murray, Kate Bauer, Brad Schmitz, Lindsay Talbot, Randy Nimmer and Jamey Henning.



## Hands-on learning shared at Children's Museum

UW-Fond du Lac students helped lead a Scientific Saturday event held in November 2011 at the Children's Museum of Fond du Lac. Area youth were invited to investigate an array of science topics and experience hands-on demonstrations. Participating in the Scientific Saturday were (left to right) Victoria Vegter, Ava Vermillion, Ellison Vermillion, Emily Kiefer, Ivy Vermillion and Yvonne Stroik.

The collaboration between UW-Fond du Lac and the Children's Museum provided the perfect "lab" experience for curious learners. The UW-Fond du Lac students participating were in courses taught by Professors Michael Jurmu, geology/geography, and John Scotello, art.



# A Night with the Stars

**UW-Fond du Lac Foundation and Solutions Center partner for an unforgettable evening**



*Wide receiver James Jones leads the lineup of celebrity waiters into the University Center Commons as they are introduced for the evening.*



*Smiles were everywhere on the faces of the more than 150 people attending "A Night with the Stars."*

The UW-Fond du Lac Foundation and the Solutions Center presented an evening of personality and pizzazz on Sept. 30, 2011.

It was a fundraising event like no other. Each of the dining guests were pampered and entertained while receiving personalized service from the celebrity wait staff.

Wide receiver James Jones was the spotlight celebrity of the evening. He was available to sign autographs and led a dance line of guests through the University Center Commons.

Numerous community leaders volunteered to be celebrity waiters at the event. They earned tips by performing a variety of entertaining tricks for their individual tables. The tips received were donated back to the two organizations.

The night included a silent and live auction of donated items including autographed prints, a diamond necklace, a year's membership at the YMCA, and many

other items.

The evening would not have been possible without the help of numerous volunteers and the generosity of businesses and the sponsors.

The main sponsors for the event were Michels Corporation, C.D. Smith, Grande Cheese Company and FloorQuest.

The joint fundraising event raised over \$19,000 in its first year, which was shared between the two organizations.

**Save the Date!**

Second Annual  
**"A Night with the Stars"**

**Friday, Sept. 28, 2012**

**Don't miss out!**

**Order your tickets early for this event!**

**Contact the UW-Fond du Lac  
Foundation Office at (920) 929-1335**

## Berger Book Bag Fund makes a difference in the lives of students

The Berger Book Bag endowment fund is doing exactly what Judith Berger, friend of the Foundation, had hoped it would do when she began this fund in memory of her late husband, Joseph S. Berger, Jr.

As Judith describes it, "Just like I always hope the seeds I plant in my garden will blossom easily and beautifully, I had hope that this fund would help take a little burden off of a student and allow them to blossom just a little easier!"

Judith met recent recipients of Berger Book Bag Fund grants at a special luncheon. Not only did receiving the funds to purchase books make a difference in the lives of the students, it also made a big impact on Judith as the creator of this fund. She was inspired as the students shared their hopes and dreams to make the world a better place by achieving their educational goals.

One student's goal is to earn a Ph.D., while another spoke of her love for chemistry. Another student hopes to become an entrepreneur by obtaining a degree in marketing and business and showcasing her mother's unique talent in culinary arts. Each of the students has a dream – a dream that is closer to becoming a reality thanks to the Berger Book Bag Fund.

For more information on how to donate to the Berger Book Bag Fund, or for information on how to create your own endowment fund at the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation, call the Foundation Office at (920) 929-1335.



*During a campus luncheon with some of the students who benefitted from her generosity, Judith Berger (front left in photo) shared her passion for education and the students shared their hopes and dreams for the future.*

FOND DU LAC  
FOUNDATION



Nearly 50 years had passed since Fond du Lac experienced a loss of a police officer in the line of duty. Unfortunately, on March 20, 2011, that changed with the loss of Fond du Lac Police Officer Craig Bircholz.

This incident affected the lives of many in only an instant. Fond du Lac and communities across the state united to support each other in a positive way.

On June 14, 2011, the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation hosted a "Community of Unity" fundraising luncheon. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Fond du Lac Police Dept. K9 Unit and the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation.

The honorary guest speaker was injured Officer Ryan Williams, joined by his K9 partner, Grendel. Officer Williams shared his emotional experiences associated with this tragedy with those attending. This powerful luncheon was very touching to all who attended.



*Wounded Fond du Lac police officer Ryan Williams shares the emotional details of the March 20, 2011, tragedy at the "Community of Unity" event held in the UW-Fond du Lac University Center Commons. His recollections of the day stirred a mix of emotions in those attending. His K9 partner, Grendel, was also wounded in the incident and rests beside Williams at the podium.*

## 2011-2012 UW-FDL Foundation scholarship recipients



The 2011-2012 scholarship recipients were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements and leadership qualities at the annual Foundation Donor and Scholarship Recognition Reception held on Sept. 21, 2011.

The Foundation awarded \$30,000 in scholarships to new and continuing UW-Fond du Lac students.

Friends of the Foundation were also honored, as their generosity makes scholarships for UW-Fond du Lac students possible. To create or contribute to a scholarship fund at UW-Fond du Lac, contact the Foundation Office at (920) 929-1335.

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Amanda Coehoorn  
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## FOND DU LAC FOUNDATION

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The "Investing in Excellence Funds" includes endowed gifts given to the campus that provide an ongoing legacy of support for UW-Fond du Lac, as well as those funds that are building toward endowment (indicated with \*).

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\*\* An additional endowment fund entitled "UW-Fond du Lac Foundation Fund" is held at the Fond du Lac Area Foundation.

### Honor Roll of Donors

The UW-Fond du Lac Foundation recognizes individuals, corporations, service organizations, and foundations for their cumulative giving during the academic fiscal year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011).

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**Every gift makes a difference at UW-Fond du Lac. We welcome and encourage gifts at all levels.**

It is through the support of the community, alumni and friends that the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation makes a difference by providing scholarships, awarding grants for professional development to faculty and staff, sponsoring educational and cultural events for the entire community to enjoy, and supporting campus initiatives that would not otherwise be possible.

Contact the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation today to find out more about giving the gift of excellence at UW-Fond du Lac.

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