Dear Friends,

To succeed in tomorrow’s economy, one trend is very clear – knowledge is power. Post-secondary education will be critical in manufacturing, business, teaching, health care, and human services leadership. Preparing for the future means investing in two-year and four-year college education programs.

At UW-Fond du Lac, we are expanding our access mission through several programs. Our new high school concurrent enrollment program allows students to complete college classes at their high school. They earn UW-Fond du Lac credits that are guaranteed to transfer, get a head start on their college education and save substantially on tuition costs. We are also expanding our bachelor’s degree completion programs where students can complete selected bachelor’s degrees without leaving Fond du Lac.

The accomplishments of our alumni are truly astonishing to me, and we are pleased to share some of their stories in the pages that follow.

The father of one of our graduates recently called to let me know how pleased the family had been with the quality of the educational experiences here at UW-Fond du Lac. His son applied to college as an undecided major, was concerned about the cost of a college education, and was apprehensive about enrolling in a large university. He enrolled at UW-Fond du Lac, took advantage of our small classes and student-centered atmosphere, and was able to choose a major that met his career goals. All of his credits transferred to another university. Living at home, he worked at a part-time job and graduated with his associate’s degree debt free.

This is just one of many stories we hear about how UW-Fond du Lac changed someone’s life. They are stories that motivate us to continue our emphasis on providing a world-class University of Wisconsin education with the lowest tuition in the UW System. Our goal is to graduate effective citizens and community leaders.

As we look forward to the future, we remain committed to our mission: student-centered education and UW quality inspired by creativity.

We join with the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation in thanking you for your financial support for scholarships and general campus needs. Your contributions make an extraordinary difference in the lives of our students and campus community.

Sincerely yours,

John N. Short
Campus Dean and CEO
ALUMNI PROFILE –
Kyle Kaniecki

From undecided to genetics researcher: love for learning began at UW-Fond du Lac

The right school and the right teachers can change the future. Kyle Kaniecki learned that when he chose to attend UW-Fond du Lac, a first step that set him on a much longer, focused course through higher education.

Kaniecki points to UW-Fond du Lac as his local launching point, where a once disinterested student found the learning spark and followed it to additional degrees from nationally acclaimed universities en route to a career in genetics that could hold far-reaching implications for humankind.

“I was a mediocre student, at best,” he said of his high school performance. Among the first Fond du Lac High School graduates in 2002, Kaniecki immediately joined the workforce, where he soon realized the work he was doing offered little opportunity for intellectual stimulation or promotion. By January of 2003, he enrolled at UW-Fond du Lac.

“I knew I wanted more, but with a borderline C average in high school, it was unlikely that I would have been accepted to many colleges,” he acknowledged. “UW-Fond du Lac gave me my first opportunity to learn in an environment with friendly, knowledgeable professors and respectful peers. I didn’t know it until then, but it turned out that I loved science and was pretty good at it, too.”

Mentoring Makes a Difference

The mentoring of then-instructor Jennifer Radtke was especially inspiring. “She and the other faculty members I encountered there gave me a passion for learning that has only grown exponentially since,” Kaniecki said, adding that he continues to use a note-taking style learned in Radtke’s classes.

“It’s nice to know that I played a role in encouraging him,” said Jennifer Radtke Sloan, former UW-Fond du Lac biology instructor. “Kyle stood out as being inquisitive and strong academically, as well as being both studious and a pleasure to have in the classroom.”

From UW-Fond du Lac, Kaniecki headed to UW-Madison to complete his undergraduate studies through the Guaranteed Transfer Program. Initially, he enrolled in the School of Education, with a goal of becoming a science teacher for deaf high-schoolers. He discovered that science held more allure for him than teaching, and transferred to the College of Letters and Sciences where he completed a degree in zoology in 2008.

“I found exactly what I love,” he said, of his undergraduate work with Dr. Yevjenya Grinblat investigating the molecular pattern of a genetic disorder called holoprosencephaly. “I am more at home in a lab than anywhere else in the world.”

With his undergraduate degree completed, Kaniecki accepted a research and development position with Promega, a Madison biopharmaceutical company. “I worked with a team of brilliant scientists, developing the current gold-standard for forensic genetic identity that is used in FBI, CIA and INTERPOL crime labs around the world,” Kaniecki said. “However, the appetite for learning that I first found at UW-Fond du Lac was still unsatisfied.”

Return to Academia

When the 12-month Promega contract ended, Kaniecki felt drawn to work in academia, and landed a position at the Johns Hopkins University Institute of Genetic Medicine. Working as a senior research specialist, he maintained the lab, ordered supplies and performed administrative tasks, while also completing DNA extraction from blood samples and other genetic tests.

With the encouragement of a Johns Hopkins mentor, Kaniecki enrolled in a master’s program at the university and earned an M.S. degree in biotechnology, drug discovery and molecular targets with highest honors in May 2012. The cystic fibrosis research completed with his mentor is expected to be published in a well-regarded scholarly journal in the near future.

“Promega encouraged me to look at genetics more,” he said. “I already had an interest in neuroscience. Now, I’m trying to fuse them.”

Neuro-genetics in NYC

That academic fusion is happening at Columbia University in New York City, renowned for its programs in genetics and neuroscience. Kaniecki accepted a full scholarship plus stipend and began a Ph.D. program in genetics and development in fall 2012. The average time for completion of this type of program nears seven years.

Backpacking Break

With an understanding of the commitment required for the longest leg of his academic odyssey, Kaniecki spent the summer of 2012 backpacking through Europe. Adventures included London, Budapest, Prague, Salzburg, Berlin, Paris and Edinburgh, among others.

“I planned a few weeks and left the rest of it open,” Kaniecki said. “I made friends and traveled where the winds blew me. I stayed on couches, in hostels and at a five-star hotel. I met local people and went to places I never would find on my own. It was a great time to take a break and put everything in perspective.

“Ten years ago, I never in a million years would have guessed I’d be doing this. Doors opened,” Kaniecki said of his academic pursuits. “My career in science has been fast paced and exceptionally rewarding. I shudder to think that it might not have happened if it weren’t for those first infantile steps I made at UW-Fond du Lac. The university gave me a chance when no one else would, and for that, I am eternally grateful.”
Sunshine, blue water, coral reefs – and three academic credits.

The setting may feel like a vacation, but it’s actually the backdrop for a six-day/five-night, hands-on biology class offered by UW-Fond du Lac.

Two-dozen participants traveled to the Florida Keys with biology instructor Trish Strohfeldt in August 2012 to complete the “Biology of the Florida Keys Marine Environment” course. The appeal of the class was multi-fold: immersion in the topic; novel location; compressed time frame.

“I needed a science credit. Six days was better than six weeks,” said Joni Grams, 41, a special education major from Markesan, who commutes an hour each way to the UW-Fond du Lac campus. “I also always wanted to swim in the ocean, and I may never get to again. It was the best ‘vacation’ of my life – fun, interesting, never a dull moment.”

Grams heard about the class from fellow student Ann Davis, whose enthusiasm for the course made her its unofficial publicist as she talked it up to her campus connections.

“I thought it was a great way to earn natural science credits,” said Davis, 44, an environmental science major who has returned to her own education and enrichment now that her daughter is grown. “My husband, Randy, is a saltwater aquarium enthusiast and he took it, too, since it was open to the public. It was our 15th anniversary, so it was special for us. I expanded my interest in his hobby and look at it took us: to Florida and a research group that travels around the world. We’ve decided that all our vacations from now on will be learning vacations.”

Rigorous Schedule

Education was paramount on the Keys trip, and students maintained a rigorous daily schedule, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Learning activities included discussions on the Keys habitats, including sea grass, mangrove, and coral reef ecology; labs on water quality, and invertebrate diversity, morphology and behavior; snorkel expeditions for habitat exploration and species identification; and field trips to experience coral reefs, plankton, hard-bottom shoals, water quality monitoring, and a sea turtle hospital.

Strohfeldt’s long-term familiarity with the Marine Lab Experience (www.marinelab.org) headquartered in Key Largo made the course possible. She was introduced to the program as a high school teacher in East Lansing, MI, a number of years ago, and established a similar program while teaching high school in West Bend.

“Marine Lab has a standard program, and I’m able to pick what I want my students to do,” she said. “I chose to study the sea grass, mangrove and reef to see the relationship, how you need these others to keep the reef healthy.”

Before leaving for Florida, students participated in online discussions and article research about current issues in Keys ecology. They gathered for an evening lab on sea turtles and a discussion of their responsibilities as student ambassadors from Dean John Short. Students were required to compile a portfolio documenting their course experience.

Eco-Immersion

Still, it was being in the ecosystem that made the most lasting impression.

“I’ve done two tours of duty in the Army and I was able to swim in the Persian Gulf,” said Joshua DeGroff, 29, of Waupun who changed his major from environmental science to marine biology after the Florida trip. “The sky blue water was ten times more beautiful in Florida. I saw things I hadn’t seen. I saw an awesome sea turtle because of Trish.”

“It swam with us for 10 minutes,” Strohfeldt affirmed. “I like to find an organism and focus on it when snorkeling. That was the first time I swam with a sea turtle.”

Students also recalled the excitement of being close to stingrays, jellyfish, barracudas, large schools of fish, and sharks.

Freshman marine biology major Beau Schommer, 18, from Menasha, jumped at the opportunity to immediately immerse himself in study in his chosen field. “I want to be a marine biologist, so it was great for me to talk with the Marine Lab instructors,” he said. Close proximity to a six-foot blacktip reef shark was a highlight for Schommer, as was seeing a coral reef – although he was dismayed to observe tourists standing on the delicate, living organism.

The Keys themselves are ancient dead reefs,
with no natural beaches. The beaches in the area are man-made.

Schommer also appreciated being part of a true learning community, ranging from recent high-school graduates to returning adult students. Class participants were housed in dorm-style accommodations and ate together. “We all clicked and got along,” Schommer reported.

A lab on habitat diversity was a favorite for many students. Large rocks, immersed in saltwater, were shaken to dislodge their hidden inhabitants, including hermit crabs, snails, and mantis shrimp. “We saw a species of shrimp never seen before,” reported Davis. “One scientist was there 28 years, and it was new to him.”

The group harvested jellyfish eggs and grew them during the week.

Community Connections

Field trips often were by boat, and Davis made an observation not on the syllabus: “One of the first things I noticed when I arrived at Marine Lab was that every boat had a Mercury Marine Outboard motor. That may be something that most people would overlook, but I was filled with great pride knowing the Fond du Lac community built those motors.”

A visit to the Turtle Hospital (www.turtlehospital.org) resulted in several “adoptions” of injured creatures by the Fond du Lac students. Their monetary support will aid the rehabilitation of the turtles, with injuries resulting from boat collisions, predator attacks and cancer.

“It was eye-opening to see all the dangers humans put on wildlife,” Davis said of the field trip. “Human impact on marine life stood out for me. Plastic floats around in the water, and they think it’s something to eat, because it looks like a jellyfish. We can act locally and think globally, and make small changes – like not using plastic bags. It’s like Nemo said, ‘All drains lead to the ocean.’ Our watersheds go to the Atlantic, to the Mississippi, to the Gulf. Plastic in the waterway here ends up there.”

That type of student understanding and action are at the core of the class for Strohfeldt.

“I fell in love with science and teaching science because of trips like this: hands-on learning in a community. You see real appreciation for the learning,” Strohfeldt said. “For those who will teach, they now have real-life experience to share. That stays with you forever. We all saw the pipeline where all the water comes to the Keys and how the fish are impacted. We’ll never forget that. It impacts them and their daily choices. We can see how we are connected to the ecosystem.”

Course Continuation

The Florida Keys location is so lovely and the learning atmosphere so novel, that several students from the August 2012 class are making plans to repeat the course. “How many educational experiences do students want to repeat?” Strohfeldt mused.

They’ll have the opportunity next summer, when “Biology of the Florida Keys Marine Environment” will be offered again, with sections for both college and dual-enrolled high school students. Until then, Strohfeldt and a half-dozen UW-Fond du Lac students have made plans to become S.C.U.B.A. certified, to increase their ocean immersion experience.

Save the Date 2013

“Biology of the Florida Keys Marine Environment” is open to all interested adults, and some qualified high-school students. Prior to heading to the Keys, students complete online orientations and assignments and attend a face-to-face orientation. Following the trip, students complete their lab notebook and final assignments. For more information about the next course, visit the website at www.fdl.uwc.edu/ce or call (920) 929-1155.

High School Students: July 17–23, 2013 (open to high school juniors and seniors)
Current College Students: August 7–13, 2013
Building local and national community with Habitat for Humanity

Building instead of beaches – that was the uncommon 2012 spring break choice made by eight UW-Fond du Lac students in March.

In a rented Chevy Suburban decorated with drawings of the Falcon mascot and the words “Georgia, here we come,” the group drove to a Habitat for Humanity site in southern Georgia to build bridges between communities while aiding construction on homes for two veterans.

“I wanted to show students there is lot out there they can do,” said Kate Bauer, returning adult student and campus Habitat club founder, recently honored as a Newman Fellow by Campus Compact for her community commitment. “I’m a Habitat homeowner, so I’m familiar with the program. I knew there were some obstacles to overcome, but it means a lot to reach out to help.”

Making the connection with Habitat’s Collegiate Challenge program was easy, Bauer said. The harder part was narrowing down the location choices to a drivable distance. Bauer was entrusted as the project and group leader. “I didn’t have to lay down the law too often,” she joked. “They know I am the mother of six kids.”

**Location, Location, Location**

The ideal location for volunteering proved to be Albany, GA, birthplace of musician Ray Charles and hometown of recent American Idol winner Phillip Phillips.

After nearly 20 hours in a car followed by communal living at a Lutheran retreat center – a novelty for many of UW-Fond du Lac’s commuting students – the Fond du Lac contingent got along well and found their friendships deepening. Their volunteer community grew exponentially as they lived and worked with a student group of 30 from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA.

“I was moved to see people from different states come together to help these two families,” said Joan Wright, a UW-Fond du Lac student from the Fox Valley area who joined the campus group to make connections in Fond du Lac. “It was a large group who chose not to go to Florida for spring break, but to make a difference.”

**Mad Skills**

While Wright brought some construction skills to the trip – “I grew up in a family where we built things,” she said – most of the UW-Fond du Lac students had more modest skills, or skills not yet tapped. They received on-the-job training and learned about paneling, siding, insulation made from recycled jeans, measuring and cutting materials, tool use and methods for moving materials.

“This was my first time to build anything, ever,” said Amanda Fellion, a Campbellsport native. She hopes to encourage more students to commit to a similar trip next year. “I’ll never forget the first time I used a table saw. We had a good supervisor – Mr. Ed – he was picky, but knew what he was talking about. I wasn’t scared. It felt pretty empowering, and I feel like I could do anything. I know I can go to the Fond du Lac build and be helpful.”

“I had never built before,” said first-year student Kayla Binner of Fond du Lac, who enjoyed time spent with Fellion while painting the front of a house in a single day. She was interested in joining the Habitat for Humanity group because her mother has a friend with a Habitat home. “This was a way to start, and when else will I get a chance like this? It was nice to do, for myself and others. It will shape my life in important ways, like communication and teamwork.”

Joshua Giese had experience with hammers, drills and miter saws from completing projects with his dad prior to the trip. His work in Georgia focused on installing siding and paneling. “I could put in paneling all day now,” he laughed.

“I enjoy this type of work, so it was a perfect fit,” he added. “People clearly wanted to be there, and it was truly inspiring…I’ll never forget the passion.”

Fellion says she will continue to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity after she transfers to complete her degree. “I know for sure it will be part of my life from here on out,” she said. “It really does teach good values and morals.”

**Walls Built, Barriers Broken**

Habitat work crosses racial barriers, Bauer noted. While the group was working in an African American neighborhood on homes that would be occupied by veterans, Bauer felt strongly connected to all the area homeowners she met. “We meet on common ground,” she said in reference to her own Habitat home ownership.

Student volunteers all recalled with pleasure their invitation into an Albany Habitat home, owned by a woman named Miss Lulu, who had been in her home for 11 years. “She welcomed a bus load of us into her house,” said Wright. The visitors filed through a buffet that included homemade fried chicken, exited out the back door and picnicked in the back yard.

“Habitat runs on the hearts and souls of people,” said Bauer, who is making a short documentary of the experience for a film class led by UW-Fond du Lac instructor Richard Klein before she moves on to the UW-Milwaukee campus. “It brings out the best in people. A lot of people do a lot of good in this world. Be part of it, and see the good.”
UW-Fond du Lac professor Boos receives international appointment with African Union

Boos will serve as an advisory counsel for international law division

By Laurie Krasin

UW-Fond du Lac philosophy professor Eric Boos, Ph.D., J.D., LL.M., has received an international appointment with the African Union to serve as an advisory counsel for their international law division. This appointment recognizes his long term work in Tanzania as a Fulbright Scholar since 2003 on land tenure laws, the rights of women and pastoralists, and most recently human rights issues related to albinos.

Boos, his wife Dr. Karene Boos, and their children, have been to Tanzania numerous times over the past 17 years.

Boos recently taught a law class at St. Augustine University in Mwanza, Tanzania, as part of his work as a Fulbright Scholar. He used the human rights issues related to albino children as a class project in international human rights law. His efforts were noticed and the president of the international law division of the African Union, Adelardus Kilangi, asked Boos to join as an advisory counsel to the Union for the duration of his term.

“A chance to advise the international law division (of the African Union) is a remarkable opportunity,” said Boos. “The future of the planet runs through Africa.”

Boos explained that Africa has the resources the planet must share in the future. “Africa has the largest untilled tracts of arable soil left on the planet. Africa has one of the world’s largest supplies of untainted fresh water in its Great Lakes. Africa has the largest supply of precious metals and minerals that the world so desperately needs for its future.”

His first two research projects for the African Union International Law Division will be on developing a context for non-proliferation treaties and human rights advances for albinos. “The right way to access Africa’s great resources is through political, economic and social relations that put Africa’s people first and shore up the unstable politics so the independent nations can compete openly in the global market,” said Boos. “Hence, the best we can do to position ourselves to have strong relations with African nations and open trade agreements is to procure the rights of individuals and groups within African countries and cultures…. and an advisory role which deals with international law and human rights is a great start.”

Though the albino issue is the most recent target of his scholarship in Africa, Boos believes it was really a combination of his long term commitment to several human rights issues that drew the attention of Kilangi. “The commitment to the albino children really just sealed the deal because then he (Kilangi) saw that my concern is really for human rights and therefore as an advisor on international law he could be fairly certain I didn’t have a hidden agenda.”

During his most recent time in Tanzania, Boos not only taught the college law course, he also worked to help create a safe haven for albinos in a village near the western gate to Serengeti National Park. The safe haven is needed because albinos are believed to be demons or bad spirits and it is believed that their body parts have supernatural powers. “They are actually hunted and mutilated with their body parts used in witchcraft. They live in daily fear and a normal life is impossible,” said Boos. “In the last year alone, there have been more than 250 albinos murdered or mutilated.”

It was through the class that Boos met Bonifice, a 6 foot-5 inch college student and albino, whose story moved Boos to action. “I didn’t expect to take up an international human rights project in coming to Mwanza this time,” said Boos. “Thanks to Bonifice, I am, happily, I think, stuck with a new cause.”

Boos has been a philosophy professor at UW-Fond du Lac since 2008 and has an extensive range of teaching experiences in a variety of colleges and universities. He is a licensed attorney with experience in litigation and international law. UW-Fond du Lac students awarded Boos the Teaching Excellence Award in 2010, 2011 and 2012.
Temporary indecision leads to best life decision

Who: Kathryn Kampfer Tasch from Chilton and Joseph Tasch from Fond du Lac


Why UW-FDL: “It was the right size for someone from a little town,” said Kathy.

“Tuition was affordable and I had work study.” A letter from Coach Dick Knar brought Joe to campus: “I was undecided about college, but all about playing basketball. The letter tipped it.”

Met how: Kathy was undecided on her major, so stayed an extra semester. They met in classes and talked in the halls; campus was a social hub, with dances, pool tables and a “stereo room.”

Knew this was “it”: “I was only 18 when we met,” Joe said. “I’d had high school girlfriends, but knew this was different.” According to Kathy, “I knew there was something very special there to hang around for.” Romance influenced their decisions to complete degrees nearby. After five years of dating, they married in November 1980 at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac.

Campus memories: Mr. Griffiths, my art teacher, exposed me to so much. He made a point that we knew about all types of art and job opportunities,” said Kathy. “I never would have thought about graphic design without him.” Joe recalled, “Coach Knar went out of his way to recruit from Indiana and Chicago. It was our first exposure to other races. And it was like a family, a very tight-knit community.”

Completed education: Kathy, art degree from Marian College; Joe, business degree from UW-Oshkosh.

Where they are now: After graphic arts jobs in print shops and ad agencies and raising their three children, Kathy is now the office administrator for the Downtown Fond du Lac Partnership. Joe joined Nielsen after graduation and has worked there for more than 30 years; currently in operations and project management, he is in charge of the downtown Fond du Lac facility. They have raised three children: Kerry, an art director in Milwaukee; Kelly, a school media specialist in Waunakee; and Kyle, a biology major working for Epic software in Verona.

Campus connection: Oldest daughter Kerry attended UW-Stevens Point for graphic design, but married in the UW-Fond du Lac University Center Commons in June 2010. Joe now serves on the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation board. The couple appreciates campus shows and events, and supports the Gottfried Prairie and Arboretum. They remain life-long friends with people they met at UW-Fond du Lac.

Late meeting proves lasting

Who: Jenny Nieman Zacherl and Peter Zacherl, both from Fond du Lac

On campus: Both enrolled fall 1981; Jenny from Goodrich High School, Peter from St. Mary’s Springs.

Why UW-FDL: It was a “nice start” for Jenny, who kept her job at K-mart and lived at home. Peter was able to help at the funeral home and do his apprenticeship. “It was nice to be available to people who needed me here.”

Met how: In Roger Wall’s political science class – March 1983 – their final semester on campus. A group assignment in Judy Kostad’s English class then got them talking. Jenny also recalls seeing Peter standing by the science hall coffee machine as she came into the building.

“I was watching the girls,” he acknowledged.

Knew this was “it.” They can recall their first date at Ledgeview Lanes, and the room with live music called Windjammer East. Both had higher education plans in place when they met; their courtship included weekend three-hour drives between campuses as they completed their degrees. They dated seven years, and married in August 1989 at Jenny’s home church, Immanuel Trinity Lutheran Church, whose former building now houses Fond du Lac’s Trinity restaurant.

Campus memories: The “best fish sandwiches” in the cafeteria, and Friday afternoon videos in the Commons basement with 25-cent beer. Being paid a $3-$5 per game honorarium on the then-new soccer team, and then being voted the most valuable player by his teammates meant the most to Peter. He recalls watching pre-med students in auditorium classes at the University of Minnesota scramble to understand material covered by biology instructor Elizabeth Hayes during his first semester on the UW-Fond du Lac campus: “I was well-prepared...finding I had a superior education surprised me.”

Completed education: Jenny, mass communication degree at UW-LaCrosse. Peter, mortuary science degree at the University of Minnesota.

Where they are now: Jenny works part-time as an administrative assistant at the Fond du Lac Area Foundation. Peter is the fifth-generation owner-operator and funeral director at Zacherl Funeral Home in Fond du Lac. Son Danny and daughter Claire are students at St. Mary’s Springs High School.

Campus connection: Peter was among the first to play on the campus soccer team, which was also the first team in Fond du Lac.

The couple’s wedding rings were made by long-time campus art instructor William “Griff” Griffiths.
Student ambassadors continue partnership beyond campus

Who: Krystal Brown Buhler from Mayville and Mark Buhler from Fond du Lac


Why UW-FDL: Krystal was able to work 40 hours per week in Waupun and attend school full-time. For Mark: “It was a great value for my money and very little commute from my house.”

Met how: Mark noticed Krystal in the Commons and then in a choir class. Krystal said he used to “sit at a lunch table and wink.” He really got her attention when he added her on Facebook.

Knew this was “it.” Their first date was to an Army Band concert at Fond du Lac High School. From then on, they mingled their schedules, including more shared classes and time in the Commons. At six months, when Mark asked a hypothetical question about marriage, Krystal didn’t feel ready. But, when he officially proposed on her late-September birthday before he left for boot camp in early October 2010, she said yes. They married in secret at Christmas break in 2010 at the Winnebago County Courthouse while Mark was on a leave, then had a full ceremony with family on New Year’s Eve 2011 in Racine, with Mark’s cousin officiating.

Campus memories: The couple worked together as student ambassadors. Krystal fondly recalls going to work for UW-Fond du Lac Student Services Coordinator Melissa Luedtke on a day when Mark had given her a rose, which she carried. “I loved UW-Fond du Lac so much,” Krystal said. “It felt like a big family.”

Completed education: Mark joined the U.S. Navy in October 2010 and was trained in nuclear engineering. Krystal enrolled at UW-Oshkosh for a year before she joined her husband as he moved for service; she continues to take business classes online.

Where they are now: The couple is stationed in Newport News, VA, where Mark is a Nuclear Machinist Mate 3rd Class, whose duties include maintaining, repairing, and operating nuclear propulsion power plants for the United States Navy ships. Krystal is working at a restaurant and continuing her online studies, and reports the Navy provides excellent support for families: “Wherever we go, we already have met somebody.”

Campus Connection: Krystal follows UW-Fond du Lac on Facebook: “I like to see what people are doing. I know people still graduating, and I love to keep track. It brings back good memories.”

UW-Fond du Lac Student Named Newman Civic Fellow

Campus Compact, a national organization of college and university presidents, honored UW-Fond du Lac student Kathleen (Kate) Bauer as a 2012 Newman Civic Fellow. The Newman Civic Fellows Awards recognize inspiring college student leaders who have worked to find solutions for challenges facing their communities.

Bauer was founder of the UW-Fond du Lac Habitat for Humanity student organization. No ordinary student, Bauer is the mother of six children, three of whom attended UW-Fond du Lac. She was inspired to resume her education after losing her job in 2010.

Campus Compact’s Newman Civic Fellowships honor students who are demonstrating a personal commitment to creating lasting change for the better in their communities.

Faculty Promotions

Two members of the UW-Fond du Lac faculty were recently promoted.

Tirza Shulman, Ph.D., psychology, was named associate professor with tenure. She began her career at UW-Marinette and has been a member of the faculty at UW-Fond du Lac since 2009. Her primary area of interest in psychology is the relationship between the Big 5 personality traits and emotion regulation.

R. Carey Woodward, Jr., Ph.D., physics and astronomy, was named associate professor with tenure. He began his career at UW-Fox Valley in 2003 and has been a member of the faculty at UW-Fond du Lac since 2006. He conducts astronomical research, primarily studying Jupiter’s moon Io and the Earth’s upper atmosphere.

Kaplan Award

The Kaplan Award recognizes 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.

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

Eric Boos, philosophy professor; Richard Gustin, communications and theater arts professor; Paisley Harris, history professor; Valerie Mumm, world languages professor; and Erica Strauss, English lecturer share an award for production of the new and original play “My Soldiers” by Richard Kalinoski and for hosting an open forum discussion on the impact of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) on individuals, families and communities.

John Scotello, art professor, received an award for planning, designing and creating the art exhibit “Never Forgotten: A memorial to those from the Fond du Lac area who died in combat serving our country.” The exhibit was displayed as part of the campus exhibition of the nationally touring exhibit “Always Lost: A Meditation on War.”
Michael Jurmu, Ph.D., UW-Fond du Lac geography and geology professor, is one of four recipients of the UW System’s 2012 Alliant Energy Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Award.

This prestigious award recognizes extraordinary teaching at UW System institutions within Alliant Energy’s service area. A $3,500 award is presented to recipients, funded by an endowment from Alliant Energy. He is the second professor at UW-Fond du Lac to receive the Underkofler award. Sayeed Payesteh, economics professor, received the award in 1998.

“I’m so honored,” said Jurmu. “There are so many extremely talented instructors in our UW schools. It is overwhelming that I would be considered worthy of an award for teaching.”

Jurmu has been a member of the UW-Fond du Lac faculty since 1999 and teaches five to six classes per year. He has served on numerous committees at UW-Fond du Lac including six years as campus representative on the UW Colleges Senate. He has received Kaplan Awards for significant and innovative instruction and service to students in 2001, 2006 and 2008.

As the first person in his family to earn not only a bachelor’s degree, but also earn a master’s degree and a Ph.D., Jurmu had many of the same experiences that his students currently have. “I began at a two-year school right after high school and was also employed full-time as a designer/draftsman,” he said. “My classes were selected to fit my work schedule.”

He left school for a while, but returned at the age of 28, as a non-traditional student working full time to pay for school. “I always keep this in mind when I think about the types of situations my students are dealing with.”

Approximately 30 percent of UW-Fond du Lac students are non-traditional age students and many are a first generation college student in their family.

“As much as I would like to think all students are as excited about learning as I am, their learning is purely their own for whatever reason they have,” said Jurmu. “I’m here to facilitate that learning as best I can and hopefully spark something inside them to excel.”

Jurmu is very involved in the local community and often welcomes school groups and clubs into his classroom lab at UW-Fond du Lac to explore the geosciences.

“This is a well-deserved honor for Dr. Jurmu,” said UW-Fond du Lac Dean and CEO John Short. “He engages students both in and out of the classroom and is a leader in involving students in service-learning in the community.”

Since 2006, students in Jurmu’s Weather and Climate class become the teachers by using fun activities to teach youth at the local Boys & Girls Club after school program. He collaborated recently with the Children’s Museum of Fond du Lac as UW-Fond du Lac students helped lead a Scientific Saturday event investigating science topics.

“The service-learning piece of some of his courses really allows students to become involved in the Fond du Lac community beyond the borders of our campus,” said M. Geoffrey Murray, UW-Fond du Lac 2011-12 Student Government Association president and a former student in Jurmu’s classroom. “This can lead to more civically engaged students who give back to their community going forward in their lives.”

Former and current students wrote letters of recommendation for Jurmu in support of this nomination. “They overwhelmingly describe him as not only a great teacher, but also as a role model and mentor,” said Short. “Students have expressed how much they love his enthusiasm for the subjects he teaches. His classroom engagement along with his community involvement is recognized and is valued by the students.”

Jurmu says his approach to instruction is simple; give students an organized set of activities with specific instructions and feedback that help them better understand a topic. “Learning shouldn’t be a ‘paper chase’ where students have to guess what the instructor wants them to know,” he said.

“I also try to get to know a little about each of my students so I can have a rapport with them that I can then use to make them feel more comfortable in asking questions and become better engaged in their learning.”

His teaching style works. When being nominated for this award, Jurmu didn’t want to put anyone on the spot by asking for recommendations. So, he just announced in his classes that if students would like to, they could write a letter of nomination. “I was overwhelmed by the number of letters I got,” said Jurmu. “I was very touched by this. What was even more emotional for me was when I read the letters and realized how much my students appreciated my work. I got a little choked up.”

The Underkofler awards are given by the Alliant Energy Foundation as a tribute to the company’s long-time senior executive, James R. Underkofler, a strong supporter of excellence in undergraduate teaching.
Distinguished Alumni Award Presented to Chief Bill Lamb

UW-Fond du Lac selected City of Fond du Lac Police Chief William (Bill) Lamb to receive its 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award.

This award honors and recognizes a former UW-Fond du Lac student who has attained notable achievement in their career field, demonstrated philanthropic or public service activity that supports the community or provided inspiration to others.

Lamb is a 23-year veteran of the law enforcement profession.

Born and raised in Fond du Lac, Lamb attended UW-Fond du Lac from 1986-88. He then transferred to UW-Oshkosh and later to Marian University where he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Administration of Justice. He is a graduate of the 209th session of the FBI National Academy, Quantico, VA.

Lamb began his career in 1988 with the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Department. In 1991 he joined the North Fond du Lac Police Department where he worked until June 2011. He served as North Fond du Lac’s Chief of Police for ten of those years.

Over the course of his law enforcement career Lamb has worked as a patrol officer, investigator, narcotics task force officer, patrol commander, deputy chief of police, operations commander and police chief. He has also held a number of specialized assignments and responsibilities including the positions of field training officer and unified tactics instructor. In addition to his duties as North Fond du Lac’s Police Chief, he was twice appointed to serve as the interim village administrator in North Fond du Lac.

Lamb is a past-president of the WI Chapter of the FBI National Academy Association and the Fond du Lac County Law Enforcement Executive’s Association. He currently serves as an executive board member of the WI Chiefs of Police Association.

Locally, he serves on the YMCA Board of Directors and is a member of the Knights of Columbus and Fond du Lac Noon Rotary. He has previously served as a board member of the Fond du Lac County Chapter of the Red Cross and the ASTOP Sexual Abuse Center.

UW-Fond du Lac launches high school concurrent enrollment program

A concurrent enrollment partnership with Fond du Lac high school began in fall 2012. Through this program, college level courses are taught on-site at the high school and provide the chance for students to earn both high school and UW System college credit at the same time.

The courses are taught by high school teachers under the mentorship of a UW-Fond du Lac faculty member.

Classes currently offered for concurrent enrollment at Fond du Lac High School include AP Statistics, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Chemistry and Spanish V. Tuition for these courses is charged at 50 percent of the normal UW-Fond du Lac tuition rates.

Some of the benefits of concurrent enrollment programs are that high school students can get a head start on their college education, they can shorten their time to degree completion and they can save money on tuition costs.

UW-Fond du Lac plans to expand its concurrent enrollment program to other high schools in 2013 including Wayland Academy in Beaver Dam.

For more information on concurrent enrollment call UW-Fond du Lac student services at (920) 929-1122.

Previous Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

2011 Kim Mooney
2010 Mark Strand
2009 Sandi Roehrig
2008 Oscar Kraus
2007 Robert (Bob) Carew
2006 Paul Rosenfeldt
2005 Don Noe
2004 Brenna Garrison-Bruden

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Did you attend UW-FDL?

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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11
Sometimes it just takes someone to believe in you. Since 1990, the family of Bernie Jones has believed in and supported the success of student scholarship recipients through a fund created to honor his memory.

The sudden death of Bernie Jones was a devastating loss to his family and a loss to Fond du Lac and the campus community. As a part of the healing process, the family started a golf tournament to raise funds for scholarships to carry on his legacy of community involvement and in the process has touched the lives of 44 students...so far.

“Somebody made a comment that it would be great if someone started a golf tournament to fund scholarships in his honor, and so we did,” said Brian Jones, one of Bernie’s three sons. “Being able to use a sport my father loved to pay back the institution that helped our family so much just seemed like a natural combination.”

Brian and his brothers, Jeff and Travis, along with their mom, Kathy, have carried forward Bernie’s spirit of giving back. Brian is also a member of the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation board of directors currently serving as vice-president of the organization.

Bernie Jones returned to school at UW-Fond du Lac as a non-traditional student when he was in his late 30s. He went on to complete a degree in business administration from UW-Oshkosh and was then hired as business manager at UW-Fond du Lac. He was also the golf coach at the campus.

Brian hopes that the scholarship recipients know that his dad was the perfect example of working hard and playing hard. “I remember getting up to go to school as a kid and finding him at the dining room table still pulling an all-night study session when he went back to college.”

At the same time, Bernie played on the basketball team for UW-Fond du Lac and was the team’s high scorer on the eve of his 40th birthday. “Somehow he managed to carry a huge credit load, raise a family and was a heck of a basketball player,” said Brian. “If you put your mind to it, you can do it and have fun doing it.”

When the scholarships are awarded at the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation’s scholarship and donor recognition event each year, the family members are proud to be able to provide some help to students that are already working exceptionally hard to get through college. “I think simply letting them know that we believe in them enough to financially support them sends a tremendous message that they can succeed and get to where they want to be,” said Brian.

The family appreciates that the UW-Fond du Lac campus is a tremendous resource for the community and both traditional and non-traditional students according to Kathy Jones. “We’ve seen first-hand what it is like for students to try to simultaneously make ends meet and excel in the classroom and feel great that we are able to help in a small way each year.”

When the golf tournament began, Kathy says it was really about providing scholarships for that next school year. “Fortunately that has not only persevered, but prospered and allowed us to both award scholarships and build an endowment for future students, all while remembering Bernie and enjoying the event that the tournament has become.”

After 22 years of holding the golf tournament, that support shows no signs of slowing down. People keep coming back year after year with as many as 232 players participating in the event.

While continuing Bernie’s incredible legacy of helping students is the main draw, the tournament continues to succeed for many reasons. “After 20 plus years, some people still play to remember my dad and have a good time like he would be doing if he were here today,” said Brian. “I think others are drawn to the unique format using eight-inch cups and challenging pin placements in a scramble format.”

Since the scholarship fund was established, it has awarded almost $22,000 and has helped two UW-Fond du Lac students fund their higher education goals each year. “It would be fascinating to see what a difference each of the scholarship recipients is making in the world,” said Brian.

Bernie Jones, the husband, father, coach, student, athlete and businessman, will be remembered for his impact on the community and the difference his legacy continues to make in the world.

The family is grateful to the players and supporters of the Bernie Jones Scholarship through the Big Cup Scramble over the years. “It’s truly a case of the entire community supporting UW-Fond du Lac and its students,” said Brian.

The 23rd annual Bernie Jones Big Cup Scramble is slated for Saturday, Aug. 3, 2013, at Rolling Meadows Golf Course. More information on the golf tournament can be found at the Bernie Jones Scholarship Fund Big Cup Scramble page on Facebook.

For more information about creating a scholarship or endowment fund at UW-Fond du Lac, contact the Foundation Office at (920) 929-1335.

If you are a Bernie Jones Fund scholarship recipient and would like to share your story, please contact UW-Fond du Lac University Relations Director Laurie Krasin at laurie.krasin@uw.edu.
Society Insurance donates to scholarship fund for UW-Fond du Lac students

Society Insurance, a longtime supporter of the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation, has created the Society Insurance Scholarship to be offered to a UW-Fond du Lac student for the 2013-14 academic year.

Society Insurance donated $2,200 to the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation and a $1,000 scholarship will be awarded next year.

“UW-Fond du Lac is a tremendous asset for our community,” said Rick Parks, Society Insurance president and CEO. “Whether it is a start for a young person coming out of high school or an avenue for non-traditional students to use after they have started their working life, UW-Fond du Lac offers an affordable option for students that can also accommodate their busy lives. Many employees at Society Insurance have continued their education at UW-Fond du Lac. We are happy to partner with them to help students.”

Announcing the donation at UW-Fond du Lac were members of Society Insurance’s Charities Committee. Pictured in the photo above are first row, left to right: Ken Stephani, Rick Parks, UW-Fond du Lac Dean and CEO John Short, Kathy Livieri. Second row: Tracy Schneider, Jill Wendt, Sommer Joslin, Amy Collett.

2012-2013 UW-FDL Foundation scholarship recipients

The 2012-2013 scholarship recipients were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements and leadership qualities at the annual Foundation Donor and Scholarship Recognition Reception held on October 3, 2012.

Approximately $30,000 in scholarships was awarded 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.

In alphabetical order:

Stacey Baker
Ashley Clobes
Christopher Farvour
Amanda Fellion
Nicole Fortney
Megan Hinojosa
Samantha Klug
Dana Loomans
Brenna McDermot
Alissa Morgan
Shari Null
Nathan O’Leary
Daniel Priest
Kelly Rybold
Mariah Scorcio
Emilee Sesing
Thomas Steininger
Lucas Stoffel
Dominic Tangredi
Grant TenPass
Austin Vanderhoof
Olivia Vegter
Victoria Vegter
Kelly Wagner
Jessica Zemlicka
Diana Zimdars
Stephanie Zuehlke
Investing in Excellence Funds

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 *).

Berger Book Bag Endowment Fund*
George J. Becker and Mary C. Becker Scholarship Endowment
Robert and Crystal Carew Endowment Fund
Jack Heil Scholarship Fund*
Susan M. Henken-Zibung Memorial Scholarship Fund
Richard A. Knar, Sr., Scholarship Endowment
Sadoff Family Foundation Scholarship Endowment
Claude E. Setser Scholarship Endowment
Marguerite J. Soffa Endowment Fund
UW-Fond du Lac Multicultural Scholarship Fund*
John K. and Sandra J. Wright Scholarship Fund

** 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, 2011 to June 30, 2012).

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Carey Woodward, Jr.
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Mark and Karen Wuest
Richard and Marilyn Zangl

If your name has been omitted, misspelled or incorrectly listed, please accept our apology and inform the Foundation Office at (920) 929-1335 or e-mail uwfdlfoundation@uwc.edu.

Giving the gift of EXCELLENCE...

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.

Phone: (920) 929-1335 Email: uwfdlfoundation@uwc.edu Facebook: facebook.com/uwfdlfoundation
UW-Fond du Lac welcomes Falcon mascot to support university’s athletic teams

The Falcon will spread its wings and cheer on the UW-Fond du Lac soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball and golf teams. You may also see the Falcon at special appearances at university events and representing UW-Fond du Lac at community events.

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