

LANTERN

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Volume 39, No. 1
WINTER 2012-13



Working
FOR WISCONSIN

Page 16



12



24



27

FEATURES

- LISTEN TO THE MUSIC 12
- 'WE DID IT' 24
- AT HOME 27

DEPARTMENTS

- CAMPUS NEWS 4
- ALUMNI NEWS 7
- FOUNDATION NEWS 12
- ATHLETICS NEWS 14
- CAMPUS & BEYOND 21
- CLASS NOTES FEATURES 24
- CLASS NOTES 30

ON THE COVER

WORKING FOR WISCONSIN: A team of UW-L alums is working to serve people in the Wisconsin Department of Justice. They include, from left, David Wambach, '81, Tara Jenswold, '95, and Kevin Potter, '77. See story on page 16.

EDITOR

Brad Quarberg, '85 | Director of News & Marketing
University Communications

ART DIRECTOR

Sanja Dojčinović | Assistant Director of Creative Services
University Communications

WRITERS

Dave Johnson, '92
Kjerstin Lang
Brad Quarberg, '85
Janie Spencer, '85 & '86

PHOTOGRAPHY

Mark Fei, '12
Sue (Sullivan) Lee, '82 & '87
Pa Moua-Yang, '11

EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE

Florence Aliesch
Keli Highland
Lynn Holzworth
Greg Reichert
Al Trapp

The printed Lantern is published in winter and summer for UW-L alumni. Deadlines for copy are April 1 and Oct. 1. Submit news items to: Brad Quarberg | University Communications
UW-La Crosse | 115 Graff Main Hall | 1725 State St.
La Crosse, WI 54601 | 608.785.8572 | bquarberg@uwlax.edu

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

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



GO TEAM!

Being part of the team — it's something we strive for throughout life.

In elementary school, we hoped to make the kickball team. In middle school through college, we joined sports, organizations and discipline-oriented groups.

Whether it was the football team, biology club or marching band, we experienced teamwork while playing our heart out. We learned life skills through fellowship and leadership.

Throughout this issue, you'll discover the importance of teamwork — and how you remain part of the UW-L team.

How do you use the team skills you learned in college? Those skills are just another reason to be a proud UW-La Crosse alum.

Proud to be a UW-L alum,

Brad Quarberg, '85

A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD

I became Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in July 2012. Prior to coming to UW-La Crosse, I spent 22 years in the United Kingdom.

This experience — living abroad for half my life — has fundamentally transformed who I am and what I value. It should come as no surprise, then, that I think international education is so important.

My sophomore year in college, I spent six months living in Alnwick Castle, in Northumberland, England. I met people who became lifelong friends. Some were U.S. students who accompanied me on my trip and have stayed in my life ever since, while others were U.K. citizens who became personal friends and family.

After graduating from college, I returned to the U.K. on a six-month work visa — and ended up staying more than two decades. I undertook my Ph.D. on North American women's writing, and became very involved in the British Association for American Studies. I had never even heard of American Studies when I lived in the U.S.!

My perspective on my birth country changed with a different lens, and I felt both very American and very much a citizen of the world. When I chose to take on dual citizenship, I really cemented this feeling: it was a matter of choice that I belonged



to the country I lived in.

I miss England, but I am also very happy to be 'home' in the Midwest. I also think I have a very expanded definition of 'home' now, since England is now and will forever remain a home of mine, too.

My diverse educational experiences have reinforced the importance of cultivating and maintaining an international perspective.

One of the great benefits of a global experience is the opportunity to see your own country from the outside and to view familiar things in new and unusual ways.

So for me, this is a perfect fit, and an opportunity to call yet a new place — La Crosse — my home.

*Heidi Macpherson,
UW-L Provost & Vice Chancellor*



UW-L Geography and Earth Science Assistant Professor Ryan Perroy holds a core filled with soil from the La Crosse River marsh that he and fellow researchers will later test for lead.

GET THE LEAD OUT?

Marsh lead contamination studies continue

A \$60,000 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant will help UW-L researchers further investigate high levels of lead in the La Crosse River marsh, as well as help educate students and others about the marsh ecosystem.

Four UW-L professors collaborated to write the grant after studies more than a year ago uncovered high levels of lead contamination in the soil, which could potentially be toxic to wildlife. The grant will allow further analysis of the impact of lead levels.

"Now the question is — is

the lead stable within the sediment or is it a greater biological concern?" says Colin Belby, professor of Geography and Earth Science.

The grant also allows researchers to increase public awareness and understanding of the marsh. Two or more public meetings will be held at the Eco-Park in fall 2013 to discuss results of the lead studies.

Professors involved along with Belby are Ryan Perroy, Geography and Earth Science; and Tisha King-Heiden and Gretchen Gerrish, both Biology.

Teaching adds up to System award

Associate Professor of Mathematics Jennifer Kosiak has poems to compare and contrast rectangles and rhombi. She has been known to sing in class: "You got to fight for your right to use synthetic division." She creates new ways for her students to unravel the mystery of math. Her dedication as a teacher and her ability to inspire enthusiasm for math and learning landed Kosiak the 2012 Regents Teaching Excellence Award. Two UW System teachers received the \$5,000 award.



Mary Heisel, left, a senior majoring in math education; and Michele Satter, right, a senior majoring in math education, had Associate Professor of Mathematics Jennifer Kosiak, center, as an instructor. "Dr. Kosiak has been one of the most influential and personable instructors I have had at UW-L," says Heisel. "She is one of the reasons I am so passionate about math education."

FOUR IN A ROW

UW-L earned a spot on G.I. Jobs 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools, the fourth year it has made the list of the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide that deliver the best experience for military students.

This year UW-L offered even more benefits to an estimated 250 student veterans. A new office assisting veterans and dependents with federal and state benefits opened, along with a Veterans Center for doing homework, connecting with peers or relaxing.

FRESH CLASS

profile



Interesting facts about UW-L's 1,900 incoming freshmen in fall 2012:

- Higher than average ACT — 24.7. UW-L freshmen have an average ACT higher than both the national (21.1) and the state (22.1) average.
- Top 10 percent of their high school class: 26 percent
- Median class rank: 82nd percentile
- More diverse: 9.4 percent are U.S. students of color, compared to 6.9 percent in fall 2011.

UW-L still tops UW

UW-L remains the top-ranked comprehensive university in the UW System — for the 12th year in a row. U.S. News & World Report's 2013 America's Best Colleges list of Best Regional Universities in the Midwest lists UW-L as the state's best and the No. 4 public university in the Midwest among institutions providing undergraduate and master's programs.

"We're delighted to once again be the top-ranked campus of our kind in the UW System," says Chancellor Joe Gow. "It's helpful to have this external validation of the great work our faculty and staff do to ensure our students receive a high quality education."

Record enrollment (again)

UW-L reached a record enrollment again this fall with 10,227 students compared to 10,074 in fall 2011, also a record year. Over the last seven years, enrollment has increased by 16 percent from 8,814 students in fall 2005. The enrollment numbers are strengthened by UW-L's retention rate (86%), which continues to lead UW comprehensive campuses.



More parking spaces

Construction crews began excavating and pouring footings for UW-L's new parking ramp in July. The project includes an approximately 600-space parking ramp and an 8,700-square-foot police services building on the gravel lots west of the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center. Crews will continue to build throughout the winter, with the ramp and building expected to be substantially completed by late summer 2013.

STELLAR SPEAKERS



John Mather



Brian Deer

A Nobel Prize winner in physics and an award-winning investigative journalist brought their messages to campus this fall. John Mather, a senior astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, explained in September the history of the universe in a nutshell — from the Big Bang to

now. In October, Brian Deer, a journalist for the Sunday Times of London, explained one of his most prominent investigations that uncovered fraud behind research linking the MMR vaccine and autism. Both gave multiple lectures and met with students, faculty and staff.



Buildings achieve major affirmation of sustainability

Evidence of UW-L's commitment to sustainability is visible all over campus from low-flow showerheads to energy efficient lighting. But perhaps the most notable mark is the university's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification on two major construction projects. LEED is a green building certification system which provides third-party verification that a building was designed and built using strategies aimed at increasing performance, reducing waste and improving quality of life. UW-L received LEED Gold certification for Eagle Hall (residence hall) and anticipates LEED Gold for Centennial Hall (academic building) as well. Both buildings opened in fall 2011.

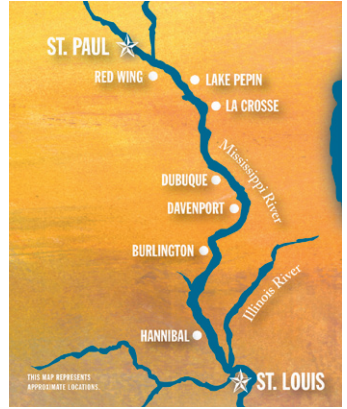
Credit card offered through UW Credit Union

The UW-L Alumni Association has partnered with the UW Credit Union to offer credit cards with iconic campus imagery. A variety of card options are offered with different rates (some below the national average), along with cash back or rewards, and more. For more info visit www.uwlalumni.org. Those with a UW Credit Union card can change designs by calling 800.533.6773.



ALUMNI NEWS

Take the riverboat tour



A fall tour on the Mississippi will take alums upriver from St. Louis to St. Paul — with a stop in Riverside Park. The nine-day tour includes other stops in Hannibal, Mo.; Burlington and Dubuque, Iowa; and Red Wing, Minn., amid the spectacular fall colors of autumn in the river valleys. "Autumn in America's Heartland" aboard the American Queen runs Oct. 10-19, 2013. Packages start at \$1,995. For details, contact Go Next at 1.800.599.2934.

CAMPUS MEDALLION HUNT RETURNS

UW-L Junior Luke Klefstad (*right*) found the Eagle Eye medallion on campus and became a lifetime member of the UW-L Alumni Association. The marketing major from Prairie Farm, Wis., found the elusive medallion under a bush near Graff Main Hall. He found it at 1:50 a.m. Friday, Oct. 19, the day the final clue was to be posted. "I did the River Watch patrol from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. then headed out for another look," says Klefstad. The hunt — open to students, staff and alumni — returned after a four-year hiatus. University Communications and the Alumni Association sponsored the hunt. Find out how to become a lifetime member at www.uwlalumni.org.



TIME FOR A *Reunion*

Choir colleagues, devoted Delta Sigs and alums faithful for 50 years return to campus to share stories and induct class members into the Rexford Mitchell Society, named for former university President Rexford Mitchell.

Need help planning your next reunion?
Contact us at alumni@uwlax.edu or
877.UWL.ALUM.



Alumni gathered at the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center to reconnect and enjoy special music by Dave Evans.



The Class of '62 poses with the check made to honor the class for donating \$3,215 toward a scholarship through the UW-L Foundation.



Sharon Baenen Salm receives her Mitchell Society gifts.

Don & Norma Vinger, both from the class of '62, page through the yearbook with Chancellor Joe Gow as Assistant Chancellor of Advancement Greg Reichert looks on.



Dion Wheeler, '63, shared many stories with the group.

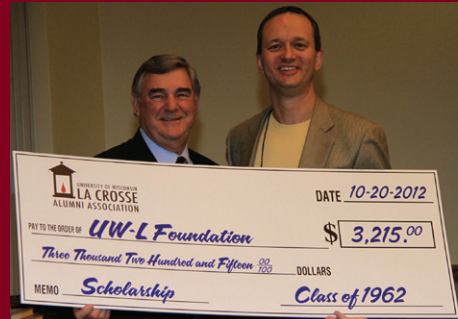


Delta Sigma Phi fraternity brothers gathered in La Crosse in October to celebrate their 45th reunion.



Assistant Chancellor of Advancement Greg Reichert, right, and Class of '62, president Ken Reagles pose with a check thanking members of the Class of '62 who donated \$3,215 toward a class scholarship.

Classmates share a special song/dance from their college years.



Concert Choir alumni returned to campus in October to reconnect and perform with the current Concert Choir.

Door prizes were a part of the fun. Joanie Oviatt Schemp was one of the lucky winners.



Ann Boyd Chamberlain, the '62 Homecoming Queen, enjoys the stories.



LISA BUTTERFIELD

Q & A with UW-L Alumni Marching Band leader and Alumni Association President Lisa Butterfield, '83

Q. What's most memorable about your college days?

A. Finding Dale (Butterfield, her eventual husband) on the football practice field during Hell Week for marching band. Also, marching across the London Bridge with the Marching Chiefs!

Q. Why did you become involved with the Alumni Association?

A. For the past 29 years I've been part of the alumni band. I think it is a huge asset to UW-L — it gets the school's name out for everyone to see that UW-L is a great university. So, it was just natural to join the Alumni Association.

Q. What has been the most eye-opening experience working with the Alumni Association?

A. I've really been impressed with how much staff and alumni volunteers care about the institution, other alumni and the students. It makes me proud to be part of such a great organization.

Q. How have you seen the Alumni Association impact students and alums?

A. The Alumni Association contributed \$100,000 to campus building projects, (\$25,000 – Cleary Alumni & Friends Center; \$25,000 – Centennial Hall; and \$50,000 Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex). In addition, we support multiple scholarships and provided assistance to the students affected by the Drake Hall fire last spring. We provide

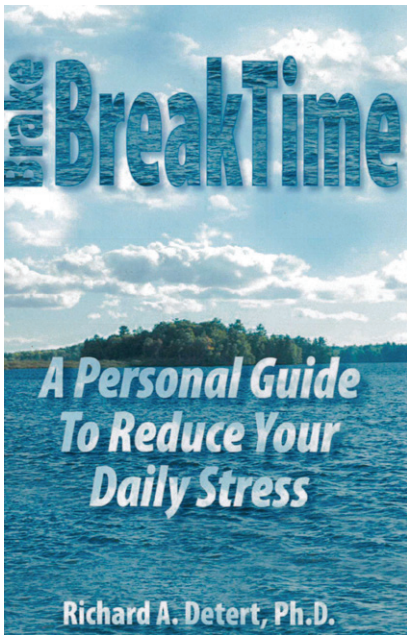
networking opportunities for students and alumni, and offer support to groups planning reunions on and off campus.

Q. Why should alumni become involved with the Alumni Association?

A. It's a great way to give back and help current students. You can share your knowledge or time, and support a scholarship. And, it's just fun to meet and greet many people from so many aspects of life.

Q. How can alumni become involved with the Alumni Association?

A. You can join by going to our website — www.uwlalumni.org — or attend programs listed on the calendar of events.



TAKE A BREAK

Dick Detert, '69 & '78,
compiles relaxation
techniques for book

Inhale. Exhale. Relax. During this teaching career, every time the office phone rang the retired UW-L Health Education Professor Dick Detert, '69 & '78, would remind himself to do a breathing technique. Eventually, he caught himself doing the stress-reduction exercise at the phone's ring without having to remind himself. It had become a habit.

Today, a relaxation reminder with an incoming email would offer more opportunity. Based on the cue one uses, Detert says it's important to find a three- to five-minute practical relaxation technique at work or home — wherever a person feels mounting pressure. "The secret is to do them nearly every hour throughout the day," he explains.

To help with that, Detert has collected relaxation techniques from his 30 years presenting stress-reduction programs and put them in a book, "Brake/Breaktime: A Personal Guide to Reduce Your Daily Stress." The collection includes an array of relaxation techniques including breathing,

meditation, imagery, ponderings and more.

"There's nothing in the book that I haven't tried myself," says Detert, noting that different techniques are needed for different people. "There's no one technique for everybody."

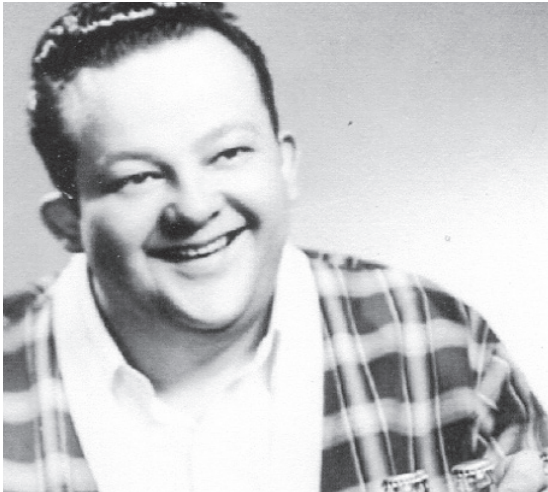
A major irony in the workplace has been the growth of personal technological devices — smartphones, iPads and others — designed to add convenience and make life simpler. Instead, technological advances have actually had the opposite impact. "Here we are many years down the road and many of us have more stress in our lives as we find ourselves constantly tuned in and available most of the day," he notes.

Detert compiled the book to help people become more relaxed and find more balance in their lives — "That is the message in the book," he explains.

TRY 'THE DARE TECHNIQUE'

- Inhale normally.
- Exhale and Detach from your task.
- Inhale and Assess what you want to do next.
- Exhale and Relax, be loose.
- Inhale and Energize and respond to your next task.
- Repeat once or twice.

Get the book at
relaxwithdrdick.com



Organizers of concerts honoring La Crosse rock 'n' roll enthusiast Lindy Shannon (pictured left) handed another check over to the UW-L Foundation following a concert in August. They established a scholarship for musicians in 1992 after the first concert, and have donated more than \$52,000 to the fund. The organizers, from left: Dan Hanson, Al Trapp, president of the UW-L Foundation, Bill Harnden and Tari Tovsen.



Listen to the music

Endowment does what DJ did: supports young musicians

The influence of a La Crosse music legend lives on thanks to an endowment established through the UW-L Foundation.

In 1992, friends of rock 'n' roll enthusiast Lindy Shannon organized a concert to honor the local icon who helped many budding musicians. With some of the profits, they created an endowed scholarship that's awarded annually to music majors.

Bill Harnden, '77, one of Shannon's fans and an organizer of the concerts, says he and others decided to honor Shannon because of his ailing health. "A group of us wanted our dear friend Lindy Shannon's name to continue to have an impact not only for the decades it had already, but for decades to come," explains Harnden.

More than 5,000 showed up for that concert featuring those who Shannon had helped with their careers. Crowds were enthusiastic at other concerts in '94, '96, '02, '07 and '12. "The great support of all the concerts by the fans and musicians makes a statement as to how important of a contribution Lindy made to the local music scene and the lives of everyone involved," says Harnden.

Since the scholarship was created, 53 awards have provided nearly \$23,000 to students. This year after the concert held in September, organizers helped the endowment reach more than \$50,000 — ensuring budding musicians will get financial help for many years to come.

The organizers not only set

up scholarships, they also made sure Shannon was memorialized. Following his death in 1995, they purchased a headstone and set up perpetual flowers at his gravesite.

Harnden says the final large concert was held in August, but "the door is still open" for some smaller shows.

"We were blessed with great weather, great fans and some of the most incredible reunions ever," says Harnden. "During the final songs of the final set by the headliners at Lindy 2012, there wasn't a dry eye in the house. What a great run; ending on top feels good."



BETTY ROGSTAD'S LEGACY

Future students won't get to meet Betty Rogstad, but they will experience her passion for education. Rogstad, '59, left her lasting legacy through a scholarship fund that she established in her estate.

"Betty left behind a very generous scholarship fund for current and future students at UW-L and we are proud that we can continue her legacy at her alma mater," says UW-L Foundation President Al Trapp.

As a student at the then Wisconsin State College, La Crosse, Rogstad was active in many groups including The

Association for Childhood Education International and Jeks, the Junior Elementary Club. She also served as an officer for Kappa Delta Pi, the national honor society in education, and Pi Tau Epsilon, the fine arts society.

After graduation, Rogstad moved to Eau Claire where she spent her entire career at Longfellow Elementary School teaching kindergarten. Rogstad was an avid traveler and participated in several trips led by UW-L geography professor Margaret Chew.

LEAVE A
Legacy

Find out how you can leave a legacy. Call the UW-L Foundation at 608.785.8489 or go to www.foundation.uwlax.edu

Alum returns to raise funds, coach

Matt Kelliher, '96, has been hired as a development specialist in the UW-L Foundation. He will work with fundraising campaigns and major gifts, along with serving as Assistant Women's Basketball Coach.

Kelliher, who earned a degree in recreation management, says landing the positions is a homecoming. "Coming back to UW-L and to be able help this great university is a dream come true," he says. "My experiences and the people I have built rela-

tionships with while attending UW-L are priceless."

Kelliher had been a claims specialist at Nonn's Design Showplace in Madison. On the basketball court, he was an assistant coach at Edgewood College and head coach for the girl's team at Mount Horeb High. "Coaching has always been a passion of mine and I look forward to working with the great student athletes of UW-L," he says.



‘STRYKER’ is eagle’s new name



A naming contest has struck out the eagle mascot's old name. Stryker is the new name of the Athletic Department's eagle.

"We want to thank Colbert for his years of service," says Director of Athletics Josh Whitman. "But as we looked at ways to build the brand of UW-L Athletics, it became clear to us that we wanted a mascot more in line with the iconic figures seen around the world of college sports – Bucky Badger, Brutus the Buckeye,

Michigan State's Sparty. Our hope is that Stryker can become a similar rallying point for the UW-L faithful and will patrol the sidelines for generations to come."

Stryker's introduction kicked off efforts to increase the mascot's visibility on campus and in the community. A secret group of four students, selected after a rigorous try-out, perform as Stryker. To get the mascot at an event, visit Stryker's home page at www.uwlathletics.com.

NEW PRACTICE FACILITY

The Eagles' gymnastics team will soon practice in a new facility. Construction of the 10,000-12,000-square-foot building should start in summer 2013 near the Eagles' baseball and softball complex. UW-L's home gymnastics meets will continue to be held in Mitchell Hall.

"It is truly an exciting time for the UW-L gymnastics program," says head coach Barb Gibson. "We are busy planning a gymnastics facility that UW-L gymnasts past, present and future, will be proud of having."

The facility will be a stand-alone practice venue for the gymnastics team, the Jr. Eagle's Gymnastics Program and to develop a community club program. The Eagles currently practice in Wittich Hall, the original physical education building that opened in 1916.



Four new scoreboards ...

including this one at Roger Harring Stadium at Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex — have been constructed for UW-L Athletics. New scoreboards are also in place for soccer, swimming and diving, and softball.

FIVE ADDED TO WALL OF FAME

Students shape an ever-evolving campus

Five former student-athletes, one a longtime football coach on campus, entered the Wall of Fame during Homecoming, Oct. 7. The wall in Mitchell Hall pays tribute to former athletes and coaches for exceptional ability and enhancement of school tradition. This year's inductees included:



JOHN E. MIELKE, JR., '83

Athlete: 1977-81

Athletic highlight: being part of the basketball team his senior year when the team went 20-5 after being picked to finish in the bottom half of the conference standings; being named Conference Player of the Year in 1980-81.



NORRIS M. THOMAS, '93

Athlete: 1987-88; 1991-93

Athletic highlight: playing on the 1992 NCAA III football championship squad and the 1993 NCAA III indoor track and field championship team. "To be a part of the tradition and contribute in a lasting way proves nothing replaces hard work and faith," he says.



JULIE (WATERHOUSE) REGAN, '99

Athlete: 1994-98

Athletic highlight: uniting the swim team for a conference championship. "It took all of us working together and supporting each other to make it happen," she says.



JENNIFER IGNACIO, '01

Athlete: 1996-2000

Athletic highlight: setting records in soccer that still stand: most goals in a game; most goals in a season; most goals in a career; most assists in a game; most assists in a season; most assists in a career.



LARRY TERRY, '77

Coach: 1988-2010

Athlete: 1973-76

Athletic highlights: being named WIAC Coach of the Year in 2002, '03 and '04; ranking third in school history with 65 wins in football, behind Harring (261) and Bill Vickroy (86); coaching NCAA III national titles in 1992 and 1995.

Alums prosecute criminal cases statewide to serve people, preserve justice



Working FOR WISCONSIN

Kevin Potter, '77, left, Tara Jenswold, '95, and David Wambach, '81, are three of four UW-L alumni who work for the Wisconsin Department of Justice.





Kevin Potter stands in his office on the eighth floor of the Wisconsin Department of Justice overlooking the capitol. From a shelf filled with UW-L football memorabilia, he grips a coffee mug with a picture of himself and three other teammates in UW-L jerseys. The picture is from one of the years they won the conference championship under Coach Roger Harring.

“You don’t always appreciate some of the things coaches imparted on you, but looking back you realize how smart they were,” says Potter, ’77. “They’re not just teaching you about football, they’re teaching you about life.”

Principles he learned from Harring such as teamwork and camaraderie apply to the team of prosecutors he manages today within the WDJ’s Division of Legal Services.

“When you have a private practice, you can represent one person and work for their interest. But when you are working here, you are working for the citizens of this state,” says Potter. “You need to be part of a team benefiting the whole.”



Kevin Potter, '77, economics major, is Administrator for the Division of Legal Services within the Wisconsin Department of Justice. He oversees all components of the Division of Legal Services including the criminal litigation department where alums Tara Jenswold, David Wambach and Michael Schaefer work.

Prosecutors on his team come together to score their own kind of touchdown. They have to piece together a collage of evidence, testimony and background interviews to find what is just — and then do what is right.

It sounds simple enough, but Potter and his staff say the line between what's right and wrong isn't always clear. Finding the truth requires collaboration. Three UW-L alums and WDJ attorneys — David Wambach, '81, Tara Jenswold, '95, and Michael G. Schaefer, '84 — regularly work with local law enforcement and district attorneys around the state to prosecute criminal cases with the goal of seeing that justice is done.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE IN WISCONSIN

Sometimes finding what is true and just requires sleepless nights and a lot of questions from national news media. Wambach, an assistant attorney general with WDJ, attracted cameras from “48-Hours Mystery” while digging up the 30-year old Marilyn

McIntyre Cold Case. McIntyre, 18, was murdered on the morning of March 11, 1980, while her three-month old baby slept nearby. The jury found Curtis Forbes, a long time family friend, guilty. Wambach's dedication to solving the case earned him the 2011 Wisconsin Association of Homicide Investigators Prosecutor of the Year award.

But he debates whether it was his toughest case. That title likely goes to an investigation where he had no crime scene or forensic evidence. He was tasked with proving that a young man — Derek Nicholas Anderson — killed his family on the Fourth of July weekend in 1998 in Jefferson County, Wis. and buried the evidence 800 miles away in the remote North Carolina woods. He first had to convince the jury that the crime actually took place in Wisconsin.

He called the case an “uphill battle,” but, in the end, “extremely satisfying” because he was able to do justice by putting the son behind bars.

Tara Jenswold, '95, a political science major, is assistant attorney general and traffic safety resource prosecutor for the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Her most challenging case to date has La Crosse ties. She was the lead attorney on the case involving La Crosse County Sheriff's Deputy Trisha Stratman who was charged with homicide by negligent operation of a vehicle after hitting a teenager in her patrol vehicle. Stratman was acquitted in the case.



Michael Schaefer, '84,

political science major, is an Assistant Attorney General for the Wisconsin Department of Justice. He is the legal liaison/adviser to the Wisconsin Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. He says his UW-L political science education has assisted him today as he works through the sometimes byzantine legislative process. "I currently have a couple of recurring civil commitment cases in La Crosse County Circuit Court and always look forward to the opportunity to return to La Crosse. My trips to La Crosse are usually not complete without a nostalgic trip through campus and/or past one of my old homes or haunts."

"There are two sides to justice," notes Wambach. "You take people who created horrible, heinous offenses and see that they are held accountable, and, on the other end, you are making sure only someone who should be charged is."

But when the offenses aren't so "cut and dried," justice becomes a bit more blurry. In the vehicular homicide cases that UW-L Alumna Tara Jenswold prosecutes, some of the defendants are careless in ways we've all been at least once. They text while driving, speed or don't pay attention for a brief moment on the road.

"The victims of these crimes are, for the most part, truly innocent, in the wrong place at the wrong time," she says.

She prosecuted a landmark case this summer involving a Sun Prairie woman who a jury found was criminally negligent for texting as she drove, causing her to hit and kill a UW-Madison student in 2010. Jenswold's case was the first time someone in Wisconsin was convicted of homicide by texting and driving, and one of only a handful in the U.S.


WORKING FOR THE PEOPLE

"There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about the victims," says Jenswold. "That's what motivates me. That's why I work 90 hours a week during a trial."

Wambach recalls the 11-year-old victim he called up to the stand to tell the jury her stepfather had murdered her mother. That was 16 years ago, but Wambach still vividly recalls the crime scene and the young girl who saw justice when the trial was over and her stepfather was put behind bars for life. Throughout those 16 years Wambach has kept in touch with that same young girl, now a mother of three with a nursing degree.

"How rewarding that is to make that kind of positive difference in someone's life," he says. "There are attorneys who make six figures, but I don't think they'll ever have that kind of satisfaction."

Successful results don't just happen. A case with holes won't be prosecuted, says Potter. And the team needs to work together — just like he learned on the UW-L football field.



David Wambach, '81, political science major, is an Assistant Attorney General for the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Wambach prosecutes criminal cases with an emphasis on cold cases. He has successfully prosecuted more cold case homicides than anyone in Wisconsin.

PUTTING SKILLS TO THE TEST



Student teaching has always been a part of preparation for new teachers at UW-L.

ABOVE: Senior Ben Sturomski, a physics education major and math education minor, student taught at La Crosse Central High School during the first quarter in fall. He completed his student teaching at West Salem Middle School.

The first day a student teacher sets foot in front of their class can be a bit nerve wracking.

“You think ‘this is kind of for real now,’” says UW-L student teacher Ben Sturomski. “I’m in charge of 100 or more kids — for their well being and learning.”

Luckily, Sturomski makes this transition with the help of a cooperating full-time teacher by his side.

In any given year, approximately 300 UW-L students are completing their student teaching experience at an area school alongside a pK-12 teacher. Sturomski, a senior in his final semester at UW-L, was placed at La Crosse Central High School for the first quarter before moving to West Salem Middle School in November.

“I think it’s invaluable to us,” he says. “You can read about in a book or be told — this is what you are going to experience — but that only goes so far. You need to do it.”

HANDS-ON THROUGHOUT HISTORY

A hands-on teaching experience has long been an essential component of teacher preparation at UW-L. Dating back to the university's founding in 1909, future teachers came to UW-L to learn the latest teaching strategies based on educational research. The university — then named La Crosse Normal School — housed a Training School in Morris Hall where school-aged children came to learn and future teachers taught under supervision.

Parents in the community waited up long nights in line to enroll their children in the Training School. They preferred the quality of the teaching and educational opportunities offered, according to a history of the Campus School "Recollections 1909-1973."

Today teacher training is still central to the mission of UW-L. Although UW-L no longer has a training school housed within the university, education majors spend approximately 1,000 hours off campus in area pK-12 schools throughout their teacher preparation program.

"At UW-L we are applying research and best practices. That's why we ensure that students' course work is woven together with teaching experience in the classroom," explains Marcie Wycoff-Horn, director of UW-L's School of Education. "Students should be given multiple authentic opportunities to practice the skills they are learning. This ultimately helps them to make data-driven decisions as they plan, implement and assess learning."

Sturomski says at first he was most concerned about speaking in front of the class. But, as he has gotten more comfortable, the delivery of the content has become second nature and he can focus on the more important aspects of being a teacher, such as reaching the students.

It has been eye opening to see the diversity of the student body — developmentally, emotionally and socially, he says. A constant challenge is adapting his style to meet diverse student needs.

"You have to be able to understand each student — where they are coming from, where their struggles and strengths are — to be able to reach them and educate them effectively," he says. "There is not a cookie-cutter method."

TEACHER PREPARATION TODAY:

UW-L has approximately 900 students majoring in education. Programs in teacher education are fully approved by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Through the experience, student teachers are learning the art of adapting.

"It's exciting to start learning everyone's names and personalities and talking with the students," notes UW-L Senior Mary Heisel. "You get to know them more personally so that when you start focusing on the content, it's easier to relate to how they think."

USING THE LATEST TECHNIQUES

Although no one teaching strategy will work with every student, teachers today have plenty of technology tools to adapt to student and overall classroom needs. And UW-L students learn how to incorporate these tools effectively.

In one of Sturomski's physics class experiments, students connect probes and sensors to computers to detect the speed of an object and obtain real-time data to generate a graph.

"It makes it more interesting for students," he says. "They don't just see a picture of what's happening, they can watch it happen through a simulation."

In Heisel's math classes, all students have their own laptop. She posts assignments online and uses a smart board to explain lessons. One class activity involves students creating their own instructional video on how to solve fractions.

Both Heisel and Sturomski are thankful for the classrooms where they teach — and learn. Just as student teachers long ago learned in Morris Hall.

"Without student teaching, I would have no idea how a first year teacher could function on their own," says Sturomski.



Pat Ruda, '76, executive director of Addiction Medical Solutions of Wisconsin, and her daughter, UW-L junior and biomedical science major Chelsea Ruda. Chelsea is a UW-L Student Alumni Ambassador and the 2012-13 SAA scholarship recipient of \$500.

CAMPUS CONNECTOR

Student helps mother, other alums reconnect

Pat (Yanke) Ruda, '76, says her daughter Chelsea has helped her reconnect with her alma mater. Chelsea, a UW-L junior, has been the impetus to bring Pat back to campus for theater productions, campus lectures and walks through its beautiful outdoors.

"It's interesting to see how the campus has grown and all the new buildings," says Pat. "Yet, at its core, the institution is still as strong as it was so many years ago."

This isn't the first time Chelsea has helped an alum reconnect. She does it regularly as a member of UW-L's Student Alumni Ambassadors. The campus organization builds bridges between UW-L students

and alumni through events and programs. Learn more about UW-L Student Alumni Ambassadors at www.uwlalumni.org under 'membership.'

Chelsea says the experience is great for her as she meets alums from all walks of life with real-world work experience. She gets plenty of networking opportunities. But she also sees the benefit for alums.

"It's not just about serving students, it's also about connecting alumni and bridging gaps between different generations,"

says Chelsea.

Chelsea anticipates she'll stay connected. She found UW-L to be a great fit after transferring from UW-Madison the second semester of her freshman year.

Although the move back home made her mother happy, Chelsea says it was a decision she made on her own. She enjoys the small class sizes and helpful professors and advisers.

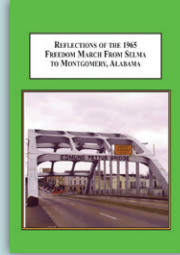
Her goal is to continue on to graduate school to become a physician assistant. But she says being part of alumni ambassadors has helped her see how important the UW-L connection is — no matter where life takes her.



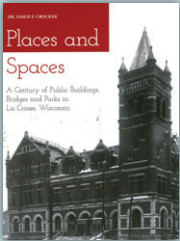
Creative endeavors



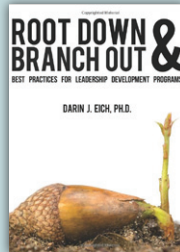
THE ZEBRA THAT LOST HER STRIPES Elaine Lockridge Roberts, '94, and co-author Oscar D. Hand, Sr., have written 18 books. They include historical coloring books and religious comic books for children, history books for adults and more. Their summer 2012 work was "The Zebra that Lost Her Stripes." The comic book is about a person being influenced by a sinful person and being saved by the foundation given to her through her parents. See more at www.literarygems.org



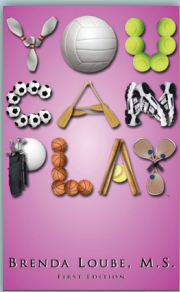
REFLECTIONS OF THE 1965 FREEDOM MARCH FROM SELMA TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA Susan Jans-Thomas, '86, revisited an important Civil Rights area and then wrote about the experience in "Reflections of the 1965 Freedom March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama: A Memoir of the United States Civil Rights Movement." Jans-Thomas walks through various places along the march from Selma to Birmingham, Ala. Her anecdotal, personal narrative paints a portrait of the towns, outlining how the culture has changed. Find the book at www.mellenpress.com.



PLACES AND SPACES Les Crocker, retired UW-L art professor's book, "Places and Spaces: A century of public buildings, bridges and parks in La Crosse, Wisconsin," is a 350-page, hard cover that includes history of 79 La Crosse buildings, sites and structures. It begins with the first County Courthouse in 1851 and ends with the 12th fire station from 1956. Find out more at lcrocker@acegroup.cc



ROOT DOWN & BRANCH OUT Darin Eich, '97, uncovers what impacts student learning and leadership development in "Root Down & Branch Out: Best Practices for Leadership Development Programs." He says the book is designed to help would-be and veteran program developers, suggesting 40 actions to take to have a positive impact. See more at: www.darineich.com



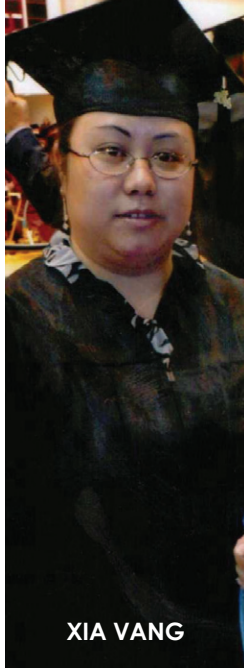
YOU CAN PLAY Obesity, stress, depression and lack of physical health are at an all-time high, says Brenda Loube. "These are symptoms of the root cause of decreased physical activity, play and pleasure in life," she notes. That's why the '76 master's graduate has published "You Can Play." She says the book brings to the forefront opportunities to live life with improved success, health and happiness by a lifelong commitment to play. "The fundamental premise of this book is that by doing what comes naturally, playing with others, you indirectly empower yourself to engage in those things you most desire," she explains. See more at: <http://www.youcanplay.org/>



KIA VANG



XIONG VANG



XIA VANG



MAO CHENG

‘WE DID IT’

Family recalls educational journey

Kia Vang, '11, recalls the many strangers who came up to congratulate her at a ceremony June 30 in Wausau. A crowd of about 100 or more gathered to celebrate five Vang siblings' high school and college graduations.

After so many stopped to congratulate them, Kia began to reflect more deeply on what she and her siblings had accomplished.

Twenty years ago, her family left Laos in the wake of the Vietnam War. The oldest children, Xia and Xiong Vang, migrated with their parents to a refugee camp in Thailand where Kia was born.

“For the most part, I have the memory of not knowing what to expect,” says Xiong,

the eldest sibling. “We could be shipped back to Laos or move to another country.”

They entered the U.S. in a wave of immigration March 1992 and started Wausau grade schools with no prior education. In second through fourth grade classrooms, they listened to teachers talking in a new language and slowly began to adjust to a new way of life.

At the ceremony, Kia thought of how far they've come. Now armed with college degrees, they had beaten the odds and stereotypes about Hmong people in the Wisconsin community where they grew up.

“I wanted to pat myself and my siblings on the back and say, ‘We did it,’” recalls Kia.

Kia, Xiong and Xia are all UW-L graduates. Kia earned her bachelor's degree. Her siblings, Xiong and Xia, both have master's degrees.

When Xiong, '07 & '08, started fourth grade in the U.S., he couldn't read or write. Being behind on language skills hindered his confidence throughout middle and high school, he says. He doubted whether he would ever go on to college.

But his parents had different expectations. “They didn't really have an educational background, but they understood the importance of education in the U.S.,” he explains. “Growing up they always reminded me how important it was to go to college and get a degree.”

During his senior year of high school, Xiong surprised himself when he was accepted to several Wisconsin colleges. He started at UW-Marathon County before transferring to UW-L.

Xia and Kia came to UW-L as well. The siblings lived together in a home off campus, shared transportation and took turns buying groceries. Together they adapted to being away from their family of 12 back in Wausau.

Xia recalls hearing the clock tick while they all studied in the house during exam time.

“That never happens at home because there were always little ones running around,” she says. “It felt lonely.”

But they found emotional, social and academic support through each other and they shared the various resources they found on campus such as Asian Student Organization, HOPE (Hmong Organization Promoting Education) and the Office of Multicultural Student Services.

“I am thankful for the relationships I had at UW-L with faculty and staff,” says Xiong.

“Without their support and commitment to student success, I don’t think I would be who I am today.”

As her elder siblings accomplished goals, it made Kia work harder. “My siblings held me up to a higher standard,” says Kia. “And they still are.” All the siblings are considering returning to school to pursue higher degrees. Xiong’s wife, Mao Cheng, has a doctoral degree in physical therapy from UW-L.

Motivation to succeed also comes from their parents. They remember trips to the food pantry and a tight budget growing up. But the siblings agree that their parents’ immigration to the U.S. ultimately gave them opportunity.

“If I could go back, I would appreciate more what my parents have done for us,” says Kia. “Every time I think of giving up, I think of what they’ve given up for us to be in this position today. They’ve given us their whole life here so that we can have an education.”

KIA VANG, '11, sociology major, now works at the CVS Pharmacy in St. Paul and is considering pharmacy school in the near future. At UW-L Kia organized the first Asian Student Organization Talent Show. The event continues to be a popular annual event.

XIONG VANG, '07 & '08, earned a bachelor's and master's degree in exercise and sports science teaching. He is a high school career coach at Mid-State Technical College in Wisconsin Rapids.

XIA VANG, '09 & '11, earned an undergraduate degree in sociology and a master's in Student Affairs Administration. She is a financial aid counselor at UW-L.

MAO CHENG, '12, earned an undergraduate degree and doctorate in physical therapy from UW-L. Mao is a past recipient of the UW-L Foundation's Commitment to Diversity Award.



From left, Mao Cheng, '12; Xiong Vang, '07 & '08; Xia Vang, '09 & '11, Thomas Harris, UW-L assistant director of Multicultural Student Services; and Kia Vang, '11. The Vang siblings are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Pa Xao Vang. Mao Cheng is married to Xiong.



Flying High

RAMSDEN FINDING SUCCESS IN NEW SEAHAWKS ROLE



These five alums met before the Green Bay Packers-Seattle Seahawks game in September. They included, from left, Bryan Nerhing, '83; Sam Ramsden, '92; Josh Brelenthin, '10; Adam Barta, '12; and Kurt Fielding, '88.

Sam Ramsden is soaring into his new role with the NFL's Seattle Seahawks. The long-time, pro football athletic trainer is now the NFC West team's director of player health and performance.

Things are going well in his first season in the challenging and rewarding role. "I am looking at ways for our players to find major and marginal areas to improve in hopes of elevating their performance on the field and in the classroom," explains Ramsden, '92. "One player at a time is how I am attacking this new role. I believe I have already made inroads in the areas of performance nutrition, recovery and regeneration."

"I formed study habits at UW-L that I carry with me to this day."

Sam Ramsden, '92

Ramsden's work in athletic training dates back to college where he assisted student-athletes. After graduation he worked with the Packers from 1993 until 1999, when he headed to the Northwest when Packers Coach Mike Holmgren became the Seahawks' head coach and general manager.

Late in the 2012 season, the Seahawks were playoff contenders under Coach Pete Carroll — in part due to Ramsden's efforts. Ramsden attributes his quick adjustment and success in his new role to his La Crosse days.

"I formed study habits at UW-L that I carry with me to this day," he notes. "It is critical, in my opinion, to stay current with the field of sports medicine and exercise science. My education at UW-L gave me a great platform for future learning. It is important to me that I always keep pace or stay ahead of the curve, especially in a competitive arena like the NFL."



FAR LEFT: Second Lt. Jason Church would eventually like to coach at the high school or college level. He also has ambitions to return to school for a master's and doctorate degree in political science with an emphasis in international affairs. **LEFT:** Jason Church stands on his new legs with help from his mother, father and girlfriend during half-time of the Nov. 10 football game. His father, Col. David Church, presented Jason with the purple heart during the game.

AT HOME

ALUM RECEIVES PURPLE HEART AT LAST HOME FOOTBALL GAME

The purple heart is an award he never wanted to receive.

But UW-La Crosse alumnus Jason Church was grateful to be in the company of friends, family and the university community when his father presented it to him Nov. 10 at Roger Harring Stadium.

"The majority of the time, people who receive this award aren't there to receive it," says Church. "It's bitter sweet on my end. I guess, in a way, I'm lucky."

Church, '11, a political science major, lost both of his legs below the knee after an IED explosion in a small village in Afghanistan. Church, a U.S. Army Second Lt., has since

undergone 18 surgeries and was fitted for prosthetics. During the halftime show, Church stood up on his new legs before the crowd. Church's father, Col. David Church, presented him with the purple heart, a combat decoration reserved for those wounded or killed while serving their country. More than 70 UW-L ROTC cadets were on the field to support Church.

The recognition was part of a series of veterans-related activities surrounding Veterans Day and UW-L's Freedom Week, Nov. 5-11.

Church chose to receive his purple heart at UW-L because it's a central location for family

and friends. Also he has good memories of playing football and studying political science on the campus. He is grateful to his coaches and professors for the opportunities they gave him to grow.

Organizers of the veteran's tribute say they are grateful for people like Church who make sacrifices for their country.

"What we do in the Athletic Department involves tough people doing hard things. But it's not exactly what these men and women do to fight for our country," says Josh Whitman, UW-L's director of athletics.

JASON CHURCH BENEFIT SLATED ON CAMPUS JAN. 26

Former football teammates of Jason Church will host a benefit for him at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, in UW-L's Mitchell Hall Fieldhouse. Church will return for "No Eagle Left Behind." Admission is \$10 with proceeds going to Church and his family to help with his recovery. Tickets are available at the door or in advance at Cartwright Center and Festival Foods in La Crosse. The event will include special recognition for Church, guest speakers, music, raffle, food, beverages, and silent and live auctions. To donate or give something for the auctions, contact jasonchurchbenefit@gmail.com.



People's Food Co-op CEO Michelle Schry, '92, has helped the La Crosse People's Food Co-op become one of the best in the nation. Schry was the 2006 Rada Distinguished Alumni Award Winner.

ALUMNA HELPS PEOPLE'S FOOD CO-OP GROW

People's Food Co-op CEO Michelle Schry likes to remind her student workers of the value of finishing college. Schry, '92, a psychology and women's studies major, uses her liberal arts education to lead the La Crosse co-op as well as the recently-acquired Rochester location.

She says college equipped her with the critical thinking skills and tenacity needed in the real world.

Schry grew up in a small town and calls her life "sheltered" until college. UW-L was a good fit — small enough to feel comfortable, yet large enough to offer a broad range of experiences.

"The UW-L experience opened the world to me," notes Schry. "And there was a strong effort to help students develop leadership skills. That prepped me to take on leadership roles, not only in my job, but in the co-op world, serving on boards of national organizations."

Schry continually took on leadership opportunities, starting with her college job at the La Crosse People's Food Co-op when it was a tiny store on Adams Street. She shoveled snow and waxed floors and was thrilled when she was promoted to night manager. Even though the work wasn't glamorous, she found ways to motivate herself in the retail world.

“The UW-L experience opened the world to me. And there was a strong effort to help students develop leadership skills. That prepped me to take on leadership roles, not only in my job, but in the co-op world, serving on boards of national organizations.”

Michelle Schry, '92



After college she managed a fast food restaurant and other retail stores until she landed a management position in 1998 at the Magic Mill, the original natural foods store in Madison where she “put the values part of my life to work as well as nuts and bolts of how to run a retail store.” Schry earned a reputation for fixing problems and helping businesses expand. Her expertise brought her full circle to a management position at the La Crosse People’s Food Co-op in May 2001.

She’s worked to expand the store, now one of the largest co-op stores in square footage in Wisconsin, generating more sales than cities considerably larger nationwide. The La Crosse co-op merged with a smaller Rochester

co-op in January 2012. A new Rochester People’s Food Co-op will open three blocks south of the Mayo Clinic in September 2013.

As she looks down at the buzzing La Crosse store from the open hallway upstairs, Schry recalls her start at the Adams Street location. She thinks of how far not only she has come, but also the community.

“It’s amazing to think of what we’ve done in this community — even beyond groceries — supporting local agriculture, teaching people about sustainability and connecting us as a community to one another around something we jointly own and control,” she says. “Our community has a lot to be proud of in terms of what we’ve built.”

La Crosse People’s Food Co-op Store Manager Jen McCoy is also a UW-L alum, graduating in 1996 with a bachelor’s in English and creative writing. She started working at the co-op in 1993 as a student.

CLASSNOTES

49

George and **Arline Schubert** attended the 24th Annual Symposium on Baseball and the American Culture in June 2012 at Cooperstown, N.Y., where they presented a paper, "A Selected Chronological History of Assumption of Risk and Use of Waivers and Disclaimers Used in Major League Baseball (MLB)." In previous years Schubert has presented papers on baseball at this symposium and at the NINE Conference in Phoenix annually. Schubert continues to teach part-time in the Sports Business Program at the University of North Dakota. He teaches sport law in the fall semester and, on occasion, a special projects course in the sports law area.

66

Fred Jurewicz and his wife, Maetta, Shakopee, Minn., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 14, 2012.

68

William C. Harris, Rio Rancho, N.M., has retired as a state of New Mexico Telecommunications Manger, a position he held from 1998-2010.

Kathy (Klus) Van Reusen, Tucson, Ariz., retired from her health educator's position at the Kern County Department of Public Health in Bakersfield, Calif., last year. She and her husband, Tony, relocated to Tucson where they met 25 years ago while both were working at the University of Arizona. They settled in Oro Valley and are enjoying "desert-living" again. Kathy stays active in the local branch of the American Association of University Women, participating in a book group and being on the board

of a neighborhood group. They also attend University of Arizona football and basketball games. "I think I'm busier in retirement than I was when I worked full time," she says.

Kristy (Anderson) Watson, Bainbridge Island, Wash., loves being retired and living with her husband, C. Thomas, on an island that is just a small town, but a suburb of Seattle with all of its benefits.

69

James J. Bird, Mooresville, N.C., has been promoted to associate professor and granted tenure at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in the Department of Educational Leadership, College of Education. He is the departmental coordinator of doctoral programs and teaches classes for school principals and district superintendents. This is a second career for Bird that comes after 31 years as a school administrator, the last 16 as superintendent of schools in Auburn Hills, Mich. He retired in 2006 and he and his wife, Linda, moved to North Carolina.

Diane K. (Adams) Hubbard, Norwalk, retired in June 2012 after 36 years of teaching elementary students in Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton Schools.

Mary (Tornowske) Lubner, Cedarburg, continues to be involved in 4-H activities by helping a project leader and chaperoning trips. She has been to South Korea and Mexico. She has been to South Africa and China through People to People with a physical education delegation. She holds a 5th degree black belt in Taekwon Do and teaches classes three times a month.

70

Margaret A. Ewert, spends summer in the La Crosse area and winters in Florida. The retired art teacher is in her 42nd year in the teaching arts, subbing all spring and leading summer enrichment art programs. She enjoys watching the kids have fun with all art projects. "It is not work, but a joy," she says. Ewert recently lead a tour to the Galapagos Islands. She plans another adventure for next year to somewhere in South America.

73

Michelle Finn Durmick, Bentleyville, Ohio, has retired from Nestlé USA. She has started an HR/OD consulting practice.

74

Leone (Larson) Pierce, '74 & '81, Mosinee, retired as assistant director of Financial Aid from UW-Stevens Point in June. She and her husband are busy helping family, traveling and providing church services at local Senior Living Centers/Nursing Homes. In January 2012 they became grandparents of twin girls.

Marti Sopher, Madison, works at UW-Madison.

76

Rob Cowan, Deerfield, Ill., and his wife, Christine, are retired teachers from the Illinois Public School System. He taught at Zion-Benton High School. They remain active in the teaching profession as substitutes, test proctors, and in academic assistance. Both

of their daughters are teachers as well. Cowan says he misses campus, citing "the fine Instructors I had" and the various sports teams that represent UW-L. He speaks highly of the school and is surprised how many alumni he runs into while wearing UW-L apparel or from the sticker on his car. "It's heartwarming just to talk about the memories," he says.

77

Gerald "Jerry" Clusen, New London, retired from Kimberly-Clark Corp. in 2008 after a 28-1/2 year career in information systems; manufacturing engineering, maintenance and operations; and research and engineering. He plans to complete his military career in the Navy Reserve in September 2013. As an Information Warfare officer and former enlisted Electronics Technician, he has served more than 41-1/2 years and is a Rear Admiral (lower half) assigned to U.S. Fleet Cyber Command/U.S. 10th Fleet.

80

John Hillmer, Waukesha, is director of IT Operations & Infrastructure for Northwestern Mutual's headquarters in Milwaukee and Franklin. Hillmer is an officer of the Milwaukee IT Leadership Forum, an organization with members from southeastern Wisconsin who come together monthly to leverage one another's experiences and best practices. Each spring they sponsor and host the Wisconsin IT Symposium in Pewaukee. Hillmer serves on the IT Advisory Board for Bryant & Stratton College, and supports and volunteers at numerous non-profit organizations in southeast Wisconsin. He and his wife, Bonnie, have four children. In June they became grandparents.

83

Bob Klein, Twin Lakes, has taken a new position with the Racine Family YMCA as director of Marketing and Resource Development. He worked in the YMCA from 1984 until 2011 as physical director of the LaPorte Family YMCA,

Indiana, executive director, Southlake YMCA, Indiana and President/CEO, YMCA of McHenry County, Illinois. He's busy raising a 12-year-old son, Mitchell, and 16-year-old daughter, Emilee.

84

Laurie (Docken/Severson) Marsh, Galesville, is in her second year as Title I Co-Reading Director at Blair-Taylor Elementary. Last year she completed the training for the English Language Learner A.C.C.E.S.S. testing that is required by law to be given to children of families that speak a language other than English in their homes. This year she will also be a major part of the Response to Intervention and Student Assistance Teams. In addition to working at school, Marsh was employed for the summer by UW-L alum and staff member, Laura Delaney, for childcare and at Laura's family owned and operated Elmaro Vineyard in Trempealeau.

85

Brenda (Lund) Stein, Nashville, Tenn., had her artwork featured in the Nashville Arts Magazine in August 2012. See the feature on pages 60 – 62 at: <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/53f2c9e8/608#/53f2c9e8/60>

87

Douglas Geiger moved to Brooklyn, N.Y., with his partner, Erik, in February, 2012, to become Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at St. John's University. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Stony Brook University in its master's program in higher education administration.

Julie Smith-Taylor, Oceanside, Calif., an accredited public relations professional and president of Taylor PR Inc. in Oceanside, has been elected 2013 chair on the Executive Board for the Western District of the Public Relations Society of America. The district represents five western states and more than 2,000 public relations professionals affiliated with 10 chapters. Smith-Taylor recently qualified

to become a lifetime member of the Worldwide Who's Who Association, a registry of executives, professionals and entrepreneurs.

89

Jeffrey Bakken, Bloomington, Ill., was appointed Dean of the Graduate School and Sponsored Research at Bradley University June 1. He had been at Illinois State University where he has served as the Interim Associate Dean for Research, Graduate Studies and International Education in the College of Education. Bakken has authored numerous books, book chapters and journal articles, and has been a member of research teams that received more than \$1 million in extramural funding.

Steven A. Knudson, Madison, was appointed administrator of the Wisconsin Department of Administration Division of Gaming in January, 2011.

90

Kristyn L. Ackley, Madison, has been named director of development for Easter Seals Wisconsin.

94

Samuel Anantadjaya, Bandung, Jawa Barat, Indonesia, completed a doctorate degree program March 16, 2011. He works for Swiss German University and successfully secured a research grant for about \$65,000. His wife, Irma Nawangwulan, '95, works for Universitas Pembangunan Jaya.

Jason J. Parr, St. Paul, Minn., is the owner and founder of JSP Properties, a full service property management company offering professional services for residential properties in the Twin Cities. JSP specializes in rental management of single-family homes, condominiums, townhomes, multi-units and apartments. JSP recently received Best in St Paul award for Property Management, and Best Manager award from CIC – Midwest. See more at: www.jspproperties.com

99

Carmen N. Couden, Waukesha, was named a Wisconsin Law Journal 2012 "Up & Coming Lawyer." Attorneys selected are recognized for contributing to their communities and making significant impacts on the legal profession and their own law firms early in their careers. Couden is a senior counsel in Foley and Lardner's Milwaukee office.

00

Chad E. Gilbeck, Onalaska, has been named 2012 Employee of the Year at Viterbo University for "Outstanding Service to the university." He has been the Help Desk Service Coordinator for 10 years.

01

Amanda Bergel, Green Bay, graduated from UW-Green Bay in January 2012 with a master's in management, with an emphasis in organizational and employee development.

02

Jamie McClendon, Racine, works as an attorney for the Wisconsin State Public Defenders. She represents indigent clients on criminal matters.

03

Aaron, '03, and Brooke, '04, Bowman, Big Lake, Minn., have two boys, Kaleb and Tyler, who will be in the high school graduation classes of 2024 and 2025.

04

Abigail (Foth) Holcomb, Chicago, is director of Residence Life at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Her daughter, Eve, is two years old.

05

Briana Schroeder, Austin, Texas, is working in development at the University of Texas-Austin.

06

Toby Garrod, '06, and Kristi L. Parker, '08, were married in December 2010. They live in Madison. Toby works for Alfalight; Kristi, is employed by the University of Wisconsin Medical Foundation.

07

Leslie A. Revers, Chicago, received a CPA license in May 2012.

08

Allison Gerland, Superior, was promoted to Assistant Director of Student Involvement at UW-Superior where she has worked for four years. Gerland advises the student programming board, oversees student organizations, coordinates campus wide events, and promotes school spirit.

08

Teri Passow, '08 & '10, married Christopher Durkin, '10, June 23, 2012. They live in Oshkosh. Teri is a program coordinator of the McNair Scholars at Marian University; Christopher works at UW-Oshkosh.

09

Kyle T. O'Brien married **Laura Barquest, '10**, June 23, 2012. They live in Sun Prairie. Kyle is a legislative adviser to Wisconsin Department of Health Services Secretary Dennis Smith. Laura is completing the graduate program in occupational therapy at UW-L.

10

Kate Slisz, Rochester, Minn., is a master's international economic and community development student studying in a joint program through Illinois State University and the Peace Corps. She finished coursework at ISU in June and was scheduled to leave in September for 27 months of Peace Corps Service in Botswana. She will work in the health sector with youth who have been affected by HIV/AIDS.

11

Megan Brandt, Baraboo, is an administrative assistant in the legal department at Fairway Independent Mortgage Corp.

Pa Moua-Yang, La Crosse, is the Operations Program Associate in the University Advancement and University Communications at UW-L. She received a 2012 Diversity Scholarship Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District Five. She and her husband, Chao Yang, are active members of their church, Hmong Faith Alliance Church.

12

Sarah Fender has moved to Taichung, Taiwan, for a teaching job. "It's nice to put my UW-L degree to good use," she says.

Class of 20??

Ryan and Kristin (Nagrocki) Skoraczewski, both '97, Gurnee, Ill., a son, Jack Robert, April 18, 2012. He joins brother, Owen (6) and sister, Quinn (3).

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

IN MEMORIAM

TO GIVE A MEMORIAL, SEND A CHECK TO:
UW-L FOUNDATION, 615 EAST AVE. N.,
LA CROSSE, WI 54601

Staff and faculty remembered

CLOYCE CAMPBELL, 96, died Aug. 30, 2012, in La Crosse. He became a professor of economics at UW-L in 1956, and was chair of the Economics and Business Administration departments for several years. Campbell was instrumental in developing the School of Business Administration in the 1970s. He retired in 1981. He is survived by his wife, Florence, and their two children. Send memorials to the Cloyce Campbell Scholarship at the UW-L Foundation.

ALLEN B. BIRCHLER, 86, died Aug. 14, 2012, in La Crosse. Birchler taught in the History Department from 1965-90. He taught European survey, along with English, world, church, military and specialized European history. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and their four children.

ERNEST J. GERSON, 97, died Sept. 23, 2012, in La Crosse. Gershon, '37, was a four-year letter winner in gymnastics. Following teaching stints in secondary education, Gershon returned to UW-L where he taught for 36 years. UW-L was his life. His students meant everything to him, each being a product of his love for physical education and desire for growth. He is survived by a son and daughter. Send memorials to the UW-L Foundation for non-traditional students.

HOPE O. HAGAR, 70, Onalaska, died Sept. 22, 2012, in La Crosse. Hagar was a faculty member in the Social Work and Sociology departments from 1974-1999. She was known for her compassion, caring and strong sense of social justice. She is survived by her husband, Larry.

THE REV. CALVIN F. HELMING, 85, died June 18, 2012, in La Crosse. Helming was director of student services during the late '60s and early '70s. He lived in Holmen and served as interim pastor in many area congregations. He is survived by his wife, Verona, and four sons.

WILLIAM "BILL" O. OTTO, 79, died Thursday, June 28, in La Crosse. Otto, a 1957 UW-L graduate, was on the recreation and parks department faculty from 1964-1991. He was appointed interim dean of the College of Health Physical Education and Recreation for 1988-89. He was also chair of the department for many years. He is survived by wife Mary Jo, and two sons.

For complete obituaries on most listed staff and faculty, go to www.lacrossetribune.com.

Alumni remembered

1932: Mary Svec, La Crosse
1934: Larry Sieger, Viroqua
1935: Frank James, Roswell, Ga.
1938: Melvin Olson, La Crosse
1939: Palmer Peterson, Burnsville, Minn.
1940: Thelma Cooper, Portland, Ore.
1942: Betty Hanson, Grass Lake, Mich.
1942: Elizabeth Sweet Herold, Stoddard
1943: Mary Sexauer, La Crosse
1945: Charlotte "Charlie" Marie Quarberg, Mondovi
1946: Randi Brye, La Crosse
1947: Merle (Moore) Mills, Viroqua
1950: Lois Hardt, Palm Springs, Calif.
1951: Frank Feally, San Jose, Calif.
1951: Raymond Kroner, La Crosse
1953: Lois Krubsack Heyerdahl, Sparta

1954: Robert Grabinski, Arnold, Md.
1954: Robert Lechnir, Marshalltown, Iowa
1956: James Mason, Viroqua
1956: Kathleen Raymond, Mountain View, Calif.
1956: Barbara Van Gent, Green Bay
1955: Sally Jenkins Quinn, Germantown
1957: Linwood Brann, Eau Claire
1957: Bill Otto, La Crosse
1957: Betty Rogstad, Altoona
1962: Gordon Borreson, Seattle
1962: George M. Hetherington, Bloomington, Minn.
1962: Karen Bach McDowell, Mabank, Texas
1965: James H. Potter, Hillsboro
1968: Coletta R. Schreier, Cashton
1970: Bonita Hoffman Weiland, Kendall
1970 & 1993: Patricia Copps, La Crosse

1971: Lyle Stanek, Sarasota, Fla.
1972: Patrick Umberger, Onalaska
1973: Charlotte A. (Knight) Mangan, Cashton
1974: Janet Gottbeheat Ray, Kendall
1975: Ann Henke, Onalaska
1977: Joseph Alan Kopiness, Columbus, Ga.
1979: Larry Halverson, La Crosse
1979: Frank Vondrashek, Rochester, Minn.
1980: Kathie Beckmann, Onalaska
1981: Bruce J. Jack, San Francisco
1986: Patrick Daul, St. Paul, Minn.
1990: Kevin Hurley, Chicago
1992: Kelly Lokken, La Crosse
1993: Patricia (Pedretti) Hansen, Viroqua
2000: Lisa Prokupek Wille, Westby
2010: Ashton May, Adams, Minn.
2011: Kayla Konemann, Lyndon Station

Leaving a legacy

MARY LOU THORNBURG, '58

Returning the favor

Mary Lou Thornburg knows what it's like to work hard to make it through college.

As a first-generation college student and the oldest of six children, she knew she'd have to fund college by herself. And she did. Along the way she worked many odd jobs and received two scholarships.

Now the retired Bridgewater State University physical education professor plans to help other college students struggling to get through financially. Thornburg has pledged a generous estate gift to further endow two scholarships honoring UW-L professors who left an impact on her.

One was Anna Thomas. "I feel a continuing bond in honoring her," explains Thornburg. The other is A.B. Culver, whom she met through a national physical education organization. "I admired her leadership, commitment to the profession and dedication to UW-L," she says.

These are only two awards to which she is contributing. She has established another scholarship and funded professional development opportunities for graduate students at Bridgewater.

"Knowing the financial burdens on today's college students and hearing stories of many working several jobs and taking out loans, I decided I could help through my estate," concludes Thornburg.

A close-up portrait of Mary Lou Thornburg, an elderly woman with short, wavy, light-colored hair. She is smiling warmly at the camera, showing her teeth. She is wearing a patterned, light-colored blouse and a red and gold earring. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting.

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE

Start a scholarship . . .

There are many ways to create a scholarship fund to help future generations of UW-L students. Please contact the UW-L Foundation at 877.895.3863 or foundation@uwlax.edu.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

*For you.
For La Crosse.
For a lifetime.*

*Your UW-L Alumni
Association membership
supports many valuable
programs and services,
including this magazine.*

*Help us spread the word
about UW-L and become
a member today.*



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BECOME A MEMBER ONLINE WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG

Questions? Contact the Alumni Association at 608.785.8494 or alumni@uwlax.edu