

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE "LA CROSSE TALK"

FALL 2011

WISCONSIN EDITION

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 1,950 new freshmen
- 8,945 undergraduates
- 1,003 grad students
- 500 transfer students
- Average class size of 24
- 20:1 student to faculty ratio
- 20% of students study abroad
- All classes taught by faculty
- 86% retention rate of new freshmen

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR...

After receiving a lot of positive comments for our newsletter inserts last year, enclosed again are our "New Freshman Admission" expectations sheet and a copy of the document sent with a new freshman's admission letter. We want you to be aware of what type of students we are admitting, and what we tell them when they are admitted (maintain grades, what they need to do next, etc.). We hope the newsletter helps you develop a better understanding of our admissions process and what we have to offer your students. We look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Kathy Kiefer, Director of Admissions | kkiefer@uwlax.edu

WHAT WE NEED (AND A LITTLE ABOUT WHAT WE DON'T)

UW-La Crosse does require an official standardized test score to review a student's application for admission. We must receive the score directly from either ACT or, in the case of the SAT, the College Board. We do not require letters of recommendation to review a student's application for admission. Letters of recommendation are most useful when a student has an exceptional circumstance that needs further explanation than what is provided in the application, or if a student is placed on our postpone list. We do encourage postponed students to submit one or two letters of recommendation if they would like further consideration for admission. Finally, we cannot accept transcripts that are emailed to our office as official transcripts. We must receive the transcript via a secure transcript service, such as Docufide, or through the U.S. mail.

TOTAL COSTS (2011-2012)

Tuition and Fees	\$8,320
Textbooks are included!	
Room & Board	\$5,960
Total	\$14,280

SCHOLARSHIPS AT UW-L

Students who are admitted to UW-L can apply for scholarships through the UW-La Crosse Foundation. The scholarship application is due on February 15, 2012, and can be accessed online at <http://www.foundation.uwlax.edu/sch.html>. As you can see on the enclosed sheet, we provide this information with the student's admission letter to UW-La Crosse. There are also academic merit and academic merit/multicultural scholarships that students are automatically considered for during the application process. There is no separate application required; students will be notified by the Admissions Office if they receive one of these scholarships.

APPLICANT STATEMENT: THE BIG QUESTION

What do we look for in an applicant statement? We really don't want to read a novel – nothing more than a page is necessary. The statements/essays that are most helpful are the ones that give us more insight into the student, providing additional information not found on a high school transcript or via a standardized test score. We would like to know what inspires them, why they are focused on a particular area of study, why they are interested in attending UW-L and/or any other personal information they would like us to take into consideration when reviewing their application for admission. And, they should be well-written, organized, grammatically correct...and **proofed!**

MYSTERIES OF THE POSTPONE LIST

Each year we postpone decisions for some applicants. The number of applicants admitted from the postpone list depends upon the number of applications received and the space available in the freshman class. Here are the answers to some "Frequently Asked Questions" about the postpone list:

- Students are not assigned a specific number when placed on the postpone list.
- The postpone letter does not address specific weaknesses in the student's application. Instead, it encourages students to submit supplemental materials common to many applicants, including first quarter senior year and/or seventh semester grades; a higher composite score on either the ACT or the SAT; one or two letters of recommendation; and/or documentation of addition of college-prep courses to the senior year schedule.
- We begin reviewing applicants on the postpone list in December and continue until we close admission. All students on the postpone list will know of their status by May 1st.

The most important thing for a student on the postpone list to know is that they should **do something**. Students on the postpone list who submit additional materials will be given further consideration. Students who do nothing will not.

LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITIES

With the opening this fall of our new residence hall structure, Eagle Hall, UW-L will now have living-learning communities available to interested students. The inaugural communities are *Global Villages* and *Social Justice*. *Global Villages* will be a diverse group of students with interest in international themes, including world languages. *Social Justice* community will actively explore peace, justice, and equality for all peoples. Students planning to attend UW-L in Fall 2012 can learn more about these living-learning communities at www.uwlax.edu/reslife. Placement in a living-learning community typically requires an additional application beyond the application required to live in the residence halls.

**UNIQUE
PROGRAMS OF
STUDY AT
UW-L**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
STUDIES**

**CLINICAL
LABORATORY
SCIENCE**

**COMMUNITY
HEALTH EDUCATION**

**EXERCISE AND
SPORT SCIENCE**

**INFORMATION
SYSTEMS**

**NUCLEAR MEDICINE
TECHNOLOGY**

**PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION**

**RADIATION
THERAPY**

**THERAPEUTIC
RECREATION**

WINGS STUDENT CENTER: NEED TO KNOW

When a student applies to UW-L, they are sent an email to the email address provided on their application with a username and password to allow them to access their WINGS Student Center.

Through their WINGS Student Center, they will:

Track the status of their application

Pay the \$100 enrollment deposit

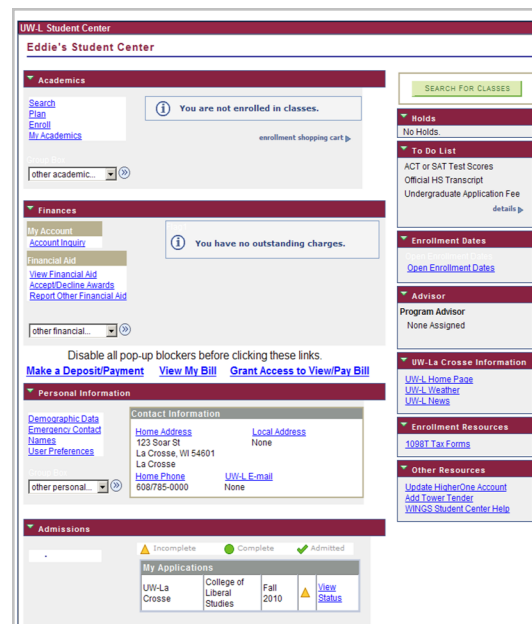
Pay the \$75 housing deposit

View information about Financial Aid

Once enrolled at UW-L, register for and change classes

Review information about transfer credit

In order to sign up for on-campus housing, students will also need to go to the Residence Life homepage at www.reslife.uwlax.edu and complete the online housing application AFTER paying the \$100 enrollment deposit.



STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The UW-L Admissions Office is committed to helping students with special circumstances who demonstrate the likelihood for academic success on our campus. In particular, we receive questions from counselors and other community members about how to assist students who are from low socioeconomic backgrounds, including students who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program. Counselors can request an *application fee waiver* by emailing our office at admissions@uwlax.edu. The Admissions Office can also *waive the enrollment and housing deposits* for admitted students who are seriously considering UW-L but for whom the burden of paying those deposits is too great.

In addition, we receive many questions about how *students with disabilities* are considered for admission to UW-L. First, the student or the school counselor need to disclose the information about the disability on the student's application so we are aware of this circumstance. We will review the student's application for admission, consulting with Disability Resource Services if we need more information about the types of accommodations that we can provide for the student at UW-L. Please keep in mind that while we do consider the success the student has achieved, we must balance this with the academic information we have that indicates that a student can be successful at UW-L.

WISCONSIN COVENANT COORDINATOR

As you may know, each UW System campus has a Wisconsin Covenant Coordinator. The Wisconsin Covenant Coordinator at UW-L is Jamin Whitman. She is available to answer any questions that you or your students might have about the Wisconsin Covenant, including the deadlines by which paperwork needs to be submitted to the Wisconsin Covenant Office in order to receive the financial aid available through the Covenant program. You can reach Jamin at jwhitman2@uwlax.edu or 608-785-5096.

WEB RESOURCES

UW-L is no longer printing the course catalog. You can access it at www.uwlax.edu/records/Catalogs.htm.

In addition, we publish the information about our policies for accepting AP, IB, and CLEP credits through our **Credit by Exam guide**, available at www.uwlax.edu/admissions/html/creditbyexam.htm.

VISITING CAMPUS

Option 1: Campus Close-Up

UW-La Crosse has six Campus Close-Up days for students and their families. Each Close-Up provides information on admission guidelines, academic programs, financial aid, residence life, extracurricular activities and what students think about

UW-La Crosse. Dates for 2011-2012 are:

Friday, October 21, 2011 | Thursday, October 27, 2011 | Friday, October 28, 2011
Friday, November 11, 2011 | Friday, February 17, 2012 | Friday, April 27, 2012

Option 2: Campus Tours & Appointments with Admissions Counselors

Prospective students and their parents may schedule an appointment with the Admissions Office Monday through Friday. Campus tours are offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, when school is in session. Summer tours are given at 11:00 a.m. only. **Reservations are required.** Students can log-on to www.uwlax.edu/visit to make reservations and print a parking permit. We recommend that students schedule their visit two weeks in advance.

HIGH SCHOOL VISITS

If you would like a member of our Admissions Staff to visit your high school, please contact our Assistant Director of Admissions, Corey Sjoquist, at csjoquist@uwlax.edu. We will try our best to work your school into our travel schedule.

MEET THE UW-L ADMISSIONS STAFF

Kathy Kiefer, Director of Admissions, kkiefer@uwlax.edu

Corey Sjoquist, Assistant Director of Admissions, csjoquist@uwlax.edu

Stefanie Huber, Freshman Admission Assistant/Youth Options, shuber@uwlax.edu

Scott Johns, Transfer Admission Coordinator, sjohns@uwlax.edu

Ken Koelbl, Admissions Counselor, kkoelbl@uwlax.edu

Barbara Martin-Stanley, Multicultural Admissions Counselor, bmartin-stanley@uwlax.edu

Sarah Piñon, Nonresident Admissions Counselor, spinon@uwlax.edu

Joshua Rybaski, Communications and Campus Tour Coordinator, jrybaski@uwlax.edu

Laura Scholz, Admissions Counselor, lscholz@uwlax.edu

Natalie Solverson, Admissions Counselor, nsolverson@uwlax.edu

Pheng Xiong, Multicultural Admissions Counselor, pxiong2@uwlax.edu

Please call 608.785.8939 or email us with questions or concerns about your students!

COUNSELOR PAGE ON UWLAX.EDU / ADMISSIONS

The Fall 2011 La Crosse Talk is also available on the school counselor area of the UW-L Admissions website if you would like this information electronically. We will continue to post information on this website (www.uwlax.edu/admissions). We also encourage you to review the "Admitted Students" and "Parents and Families" areas of the site to see the information communicated to your students throughout the year.

UW-L Admission Process

1. **Apply for Admission**— Priority filing period is Sept. 15–Feb. 1. Admissions decisions are typically returned within 4-6 weeks. Applications after Feb. 1 may be considered on a space available basis. The online application is available at apply.wisconsin.edu.
2. **Enrollment Deposit**— Admitted students must submit a \$100 enrollment deposit. Students will receive enrollment deposit information with their admission letter. The \$100 enrollment deposit will be refunded if a written request is received in the Admissions Office by May 1, 2012.
3. **On-Campus Housing Deposit**— Upon receipt of the \$100 enrollment deposit, campus housing information will be sent. Students who complete the online housing contract and submit the \$75 housing deposit by March 1 will be assigned a regular room. After this date, students may be assigned to overflow housing. The \$75 housing deposit will be refunded if a written request is received in the Admissions Office by May 1, 2012.