

## There is a Hero Amongst Us: CST Professor Receives September's WKBT Everyday Hero Award

Professor Linda Dickmeyer, current chair of the UW-L Communication Studies Department was recently awarded the September Everyday Hero award from WKBT Channel 8.

The award is given to someone each month who is nominated for exhibiting characteristics that are extraordinary, outstanding, portraying heroic actions, or living a life that benefits or positively affects the lives of others. Dickmeyer's students have continually

described her as someone who is willing to go the extra mile for her students in ways that exceed the requirements of her job. She creates a fun learning environment that fosters growth and pushes students to improve daily. Her students

consistently say she is approachable as a professor, a mentor, and a friend, while also noting the value she places on her other roles as a loving wife (to fellow Communication Studies Professor, Scott Dickmeyer) and mother. The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse prides itself on its exceptional faculty and their concern for their students.



**Dr. Linda Dickmeyer receives WKBT News Channel 8 Everyday Hero award in September.**

Dickmeyer, concerning the award, says, "I was so honored to receive this recognition for simply doing something I love-- teaching and mentoring. In my mind, students are the real heroes today; I'm impressed with the way

they balance rigorous coursework, jobs and a social life. I'm happy to be a part of their success. Thanks to Kerri [for nominating me] and all the great students at UW-L."

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## Welcome College of Liberal Studies New Faculty!

### Jeremy Arney

Political Science and Public  
Administration



#### Education:

B.A., Colorado State University  
M.A., Colorado State University  
Ph.D., (In Progress), The University  
of Colorado at Denver

#### Areas of Specialization:

The formation of public policy  
involving:

Collective Action  
Social Change  
Social Justice

#### Courses Taught:

POL 102 State and Local  
Government  
POL 300 Urban Politics  
POL 317 Health Policy  
POL 361 Research Methods

### Ray Block

Political Science and Public  
Administration



#### Education:

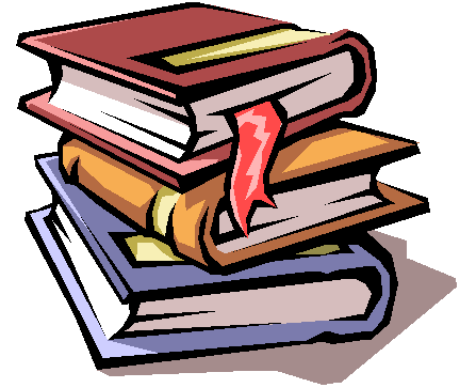
B.A., Howard University  
B.A., Howard University  
M.A., The Ohio State University  
Ph.D., The Ohio State University

#### Courses Taught:

POL 101: American National  
Government  
POL 301: American Presidency  
POL 361: Research Methods

### Kimberly DeFazio

English Department



#### Education:

B.A., English and Textual Studies,  
Syracuse University, Syracuse,  
NY  
M.A., English, State University of  
New York at Binghamton,  
Binghamton, NY  
Ph.D., English, Stony Brook  
University, Stony Brook, NY

#### Courses Taught:

British Literature II  
College Writing I

## **A Class with a Life Saving Goal: Public Relations Class Works to Prevent Suicide**

Last spring, Susan Schulyer's public relations students set out to apply the knowledge they had been presented with the first half of the semester. They were given the opportunity to work for a local non-profit organization, the Suicide Prevention Initiative, as a public relations firm. They met with their client, gathered background information, and assessed the organization to determine what their greatest needs were.

Then it was time for the class to work. They were split up into groups with different focus groups. Where one group was focused on suicide prevention for high school students, others were focused on preventing suicide for veterans. Each group had different obstacles to face and

various idiosyncrasies to consider.

When finals week came, Schulyer's class was busy putting the final touches on presentations and packets they had prepared. Staff from the Suicide Prevention Initiative came to campus and watched as each group creatively presented its proposal.

The Suicide Prevention Initiative staff left UW-L incredibly impressed by the work the students had done. Staff said the presentations provided them with ideas that were better than what they had paid for at professional ad agencies with other organizations. Comments staff made included "This is all stuff we can do in the next year" and "I'm blown away."

To top off the experience, SPI staff invited the proposals to be presented at a workshop created specifically for that

purpose at their 2010 Suicide Summit at the Radisson in La Crosse. About 20 people attended the on-hour workshop titled "Marketing Hope" where the executive summaries from each of the CST 360 groups were presented. At this workshop, Professor Schulyer also gave a presentation about how nonprofits can begin to forge relationships with the media as a PR strategy.

The people who attended gave excellent feedback on the students' work. They were excited that the students had come up with so many opportunities to deliver the message of the Suicide Prevention Initiative to various audiences at no, or very low, cost. The ideas also sparked some creativity and excitement for the participants' own missions.



## Historical Bonding at UW-L: National History Honorary Society, Phi Alpha Theta, Comes to UW-L

The first-ever chapter of the national history honorary society, Phi Alpha Theta, has been formed at UW-L. Fifteen students, all history faculty members, Chancellor Joe Gow, Provost Kathleen Enz-Finken, and Dean Ruthann Benson were all initiated as charter members of the prestigious organization during a spring ceremony.

Phi Alpha Theta is an 89-year old national honorary society, that recognizes student excellence and promotes collegiality among

students of history, whether they are history majors or not. Membership is open to all students who have completed

12 credits in history, have received at least a 3.1 GPA in their history courses, and have at least a 3.0 GPA overall.

This year represents the culmination of a long process for the history process. Department faculty have expressed significant pride in

bringing Phi Alpha Theta to campus. They have high hopes of Phi Alpha Theta having a long and mutually beneficial life on our campus.

Student member Kelly Nussbaum would like to remind students that although “you cannot be initiated

right away, ...you can still participate in our activities and discussions as well as talk about the things that interest you as a history major that maybe most of your friends don't know about or understand.”



### Spread the Word!

Our goal is to inform all CLS alumni of activity at their alma mater. Our e-mail list is not fully updated, and we could use your help. If you know of anyone who would like a copy of the CLS Newslink, please pass it on!

To be added to the UW-L alumni mailing list, visit:

<http://www.uwlalumni.org/whatsnew.htm>





## **UW-L Making Marks Around the World: Professor Travels to the Middle East for Seminar**

“Making sense of the inequality that exists in Jerusalem is impossible and could easily create hatred of Israelis by Palestinians,” says UW-L Assistant History Professor Heidi Morrison who attended a faculty development seminar in the West Bank at the end of May.

“This is where the role of academics and intellectuals becomes so critical,” she explains. “Society depends on them to provide humane and informed guidance. The Palestinian intellectuals I met living and working in Jerusalem did just that. They never talked about the inequality around them in terms of hating Israel. Instead, they talked about it in universal human rights terms. The scholars in Palestine and activists are working on resisting their oppressor by liberating themselves. There are numerous theater groups and music schools, for instance, that seek to bring inner peace into children.” Morrison and nine other U.S.

academics toured West Bank universities, towns and refugee camps in an inaugural Palestinian American Research Center’s (PARC) Faculty Development Seminar. They explored opportunities for cooperation and



**Heidi Morrison Visited the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem while in the West Bank in May**

exchange with Palestinian artists, activists, students and academics.

Seminar participants were up at 8 a.m. and back at midnight almost every day. The group visited Palestinian universities in Hebron, Ramallah, Jenin, Nablus and Bethlehem; met with scholars at the Arab Thought Forum; and toured refugee camps. They also visited non-governmental

organizations that work with children to overcome the psychological damage of living in a war zone.

An assistant professor of modern Middle East history, Morrison says that most of her research has been based in Egypt, where she lived for nearly three years during graduate school. Morrison currently is on a Faculty Research Grant in Egypt conducting research on the cultural conception of childhood in early 20th century.

Morrison plans to use the seminar experience to build the foundation to teach a course about Palestine, as well as to prepare for a new research project, facilitate study abroad programs in the Middle East, and present a series of film screenings on the UW-L campus regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

**Story Continued on  
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## Welcome College of Liberal Studies New Faculty! (Continued)

### Ann Epstein

Department of Educational Studies



#### Education:

Ph. D., University of Maryland  
M.A. Xavier University

#### Areas of Specialization:

Teacher-Family Partnerships  
Accommodations for Young Children with Exceptionalities  
Conflict Resolution  
Developmentally Appropriate Technology for Young Children

#### Courses Taught:

Early Childhood Education  
Infancy and Toddlerhood  
Kindergarten and Language/Literacy

### Jennifer Howell

Modern Languages



#### Education:

B.A. & B.S., Ohio University  
M.A., Bowling Green State University

Ph.D., The University of Iowa

#### Areas of Specialization:

Francophone Literatures of the African Diaspora  
North African Immigration  
Literature  
Post-colonial Studies  
Word & Image Studies  
(Photography, Art and Literature, Graphic Novel)

#### Courses Taught:

Intermediate French I & II  
Business French

### Tesia Marshik

Psychology Department



#### Education:

Ph.D. University of Florida—Gainesville

#### Areas of specialization:

Educational Psychology  
Developmental Psychology

#### Courses taught:

Educational Psychology  
Lifespan Development

## Welcome College of Liberal Studies New Faculty! (Continued)

**Kelly McDonough**  
Modern Languages



**Jennifer Butler Modaff**  
Communication Studies



**Daniel Modaff**  
Communication Studies



### Education:

B. A., University of Minnesota,  
Twin Cities  
M. A., University of Minnesota,  
Twin Cities  
Ph. D., University of Minnesota,  
Twin Cities

### Areas of Specialization

Latin American indigenous  
cultural production  
Nahuatl language & culture  
Mexican intellectual history  
Colonial writings

### Courses Taught:

Spanish American Civilizations  
and Cultures  
Advanced Spanish Composition  
and Communication  
Advanced Spanish  
Communication Skills  
(Beginning, Intermediate, and  
Advanced Spanish Language

### Education:

B.A., Ohio University  
M.A., Ohio University  
Ph.D., Ohio University

### Area of Specialization:

Organizational Communication  
Interpersonal Communication  
Gender Studies

### Course taught:

Organizational Communication  
Research Methods in  
Communication Studies  
Intercultural Communication  
Communication Theory  
Interpersonal Communication  
Small Group Communication  
Women in Leadership  
Interviewing  
Public Speaking  
Gender in the Workplace  
Cultures of Earning and Caring  
Management

### Education:

B.S., Northern Illinois University  
M.A., Northern Illinois University  
Ph.D., The University of Texas at  
Austin

### Area of Specialization:

Organizational Communication  
Public Speaking  
Interviewing  
Lakota Traditions, Culture, and  
Communication

### Courses Taught:

Business and Professional  
Communication  
Introduction to Organizational  
Communication  
Interviewing  
Advanced Presentations  
Advanced Organizational  
Communication  
Organizational Culture  
Communication in Organizations

## Welcome College of Liberal Studies New Faculty! (Continued)

**Marie Moeller**  
English Department



**Education:**

B.A., Buena Vista University  
J. D., Illinois State University  
Ph.D., Illinois State University

**Courses Taught:**

College Writing I (110)  
Writing for Management, Public  
Relations and the Professions  
(307)

**Bradley Nichols**  
Art Department



**Education:**

B.S., University of Wisconsin-  
La Crosse  
M.F.A., Cranbrook Academy of  
Art

**Area of Specialization:**

Metalsmithing  
Blacksmithing  
3D Foundations

**Classes Taught:**

All levels of Metalsmithing/Art  
220, 221, 222, 320, 321, 421,  
413, 425  
3D Foundations/Art 166  
Art Appreciation/Art 102

**Gita Pai**  
History Department



**Education:**

B.A., Hunter College (City  
University of New York)  
M. S., California State University,  
Hayward  
M. A., University of California,  
Berkeley  
Ph.D., University of California,  
Berkeley

## Welcome College of Liberal Studies New Faculty! (Continued)

### Mary Pearson

Department of Educational  
Studies



#### Education:

B.S., Utah State University  
Secondary Reading Endorsement,  
Brigham Young University  
M.Ed., University of Utah  
Ph.D., University of Kansas

#### Area of Specialization:

Transition, Special Education  
Moderate to Profound Disabilities  
Multiple Disabilities  
Differentiated and Inclusionary  
Practices  
Secondary curriculum  
modification and instruction

#### Courses Taught:

Introduction to Special Education  
Student Practicum and Clinical/  
Student Teaching Seminar and  
Supervision  
Assessment in Special Education  
Behavior Modification/Classroom  
Management

### Kelly Sulzbach

English Department



#### Education:

B.A., Yale University  
J. D., UC Davis  
Ph.D., University of Oregon

#### Courses Taught:

College Writing I (ENG110)  
British Literature II  
(ENG204,102)

### Jorg Vianden

Student Affairs Administration in  
Higher Education



#### Education:

Luther College the The University  
of Iowa  
Ed.D. in Higher Education/Student  
Affairs from Indiana University

#### Professional Experience:

Editorial review boards of: the  
Journal of Student Affairs  
Research  
Practice and the Journal of College  
and University Student Housing

## Welcome College of Liberal Studies New Faculty! (Continued)

**Julie Weiskopf**  
History Department



### Education:

B.A., Seattle University

Ph. D, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

UW-L Assistant History Professor Heidi Morrison was at a faculty development seminar in the West Bank in May. She's pictured here at the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem.

## Morrison Travels Middle East (Continued)

In spring 2011, she plans to teach “The History of Human Rights in the Middle East,” introducing students to the evolution in meanings of human rights in the Middle Eastern context, but also to the region’s key human rights issues of the 20th century.

“The experiences of the Palestinian people are at the forefront of these issues,” Morrison notes. “My experience in the PARC seminar and travel program to Palestine provided a space for me to explore how I can teach about Palestine through a lens of human rights, as opposed to the more commonly-used lens of land, religion and war.”

To find out more about PARC, go to <http://parc-us-pal.org/>.



## School of Arts and Communication Spring 2011 Events

### UW-L Jazz Festival

Jan. 22nd, 2011  
7:00 pm Valhalla Cartwright  
Tickets: \$15 adults, \$10 students

### Colloquium Series: The Nature of Art \*

February 10, 2011  
5:30 pm Room 116 CFA  
The Nature of Interpretation

### Big Band Cabaret

Feb. 19th, 2011  
7:30 pm Valhalla Cartwright  
Tickets at 608-785-8415

### Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

February 25-26 & March 3-5 at  
7:30pm  
February 27 & March 6 at 2:00pm  
A hilarious musical adapted from  
the wildly popular film

### All-Student Juried Exhibition

February 18—March 10, 2011  
Juried exhibit of artwork by  
UW-L students

### Kinesis Dance Theatre

March 24 & 25 at 7:30 pm  
Modern dance from our very own  
dance company

### WAEA, Visual Arts Classic

April 1, 2011  
www.wiarted.org

### Splendor in the Grass

April 6-9 at 7:30 pm  
April 10 at 2:00pm  
Ticket sales begin Monday, April 4  
at 1:00 pm  
Ticket Prices: \$12 adults; \$10  
seniors/non-UW-L students; \$4  
UW-L Students

### College of Liberal Studies Evening of Excellence

April 14, 2011  
Toland Theater, CFA  
Reception: 6 pm  
Ceremony: 7 pm

### Jazz Ensembles Spring Concert

April 17th, 2011  
3:00 pm Valhalla Cartwright  
Free performance

### Colloquium Series: The Nature of Art \*

April 21, 2011  
5:30 pm Room 116 CFA  
The Nature of Environment

### Dracula

April 29-30 & May 5-7 at 7:30pm  
May 1 & 8 at 2:00 pm  
Blood and seduction combine in this  
classic tale of horror

### Senior Acting Recitals

February 18, March 25, April 15,  
2011  
Frederick Theatre, Morris Hall  
Free and Open to the Public  
\* Donations accepted at the door

### Senior Exhibition

April 8—May 6, 2011  
Exhibition of art work produced by  
graduating  
UW-L students

### La Crosse High Schools' Senior Exhibition

May 13—June 3, 2011

\* Exhibitions and Colloquium Series  
are free and open to the public

## Check Out the Website

For more info on Arts events and programs visit:  
<http://www.uwlax.edu/ls/sac/>  
for information on the College of Liberal Studies, visit:  
[www.uwlax.edu/cls](http://www.uwlax.edu/cls)