Dear friends, alumni and distinguished guests:

From our storied beginnings in 1909, when the La Crosse Normal School was founded, to our place of prominence today in 2012 the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse has grown into one of the best public universities in the country. Thus we can be proud of many things — in particular, today's graduating class.

 Earlier this year, U.S. News & World Report ranked UW-L No. 2 among public universities in the Midwest who offer bachelor's and master's degrees, the highest ranking of any UW institution in this category. And we also now are ranked No. 43 in Kiplinger Magazine's list of the Top 100 Values in American Public Higher Education, further recognition of our strong national leadership in advanced education.

A commitment to excellence exists throughout the UW-L campus, and the accomplishments listed on page five showcase some of our most notable achievements. But the greatest testament to our tradition of academic excellence is the group of outstanding students who make up today's graduating class. Each one of them is a point of pride, and we're so very grateful for that.

So on behalf of the staff and faculty here at UW-L it’s my pleasure to thank you for joining us today to celebrate the crowning achievement of the university experience. The future holds great promise for our graduates, and I hope you are as proud of them as we are!

Best wishes,

Joe Gow
Chancellor
One Hundred Second Annual Spring Commencement  
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse  

Sunday, the thirteenth of May, two thousand twelve

10 a.m. ceremony  
College of Liberal Studies | College of Business Administration

2 p.m. ceremony  
College of Science and Health

Processional  
“Pomp and Circumstance” ................................................................. Edward Elgar  
UW-L Brass Ensemble, student directors  

Processional Narration ................................................................. Terry Wirkus, Academic Technology Services

Ceremony  
Welcome ......................................................................................... Joe Gow, Chancellor

Graduating Class Student Remarks ........................................... Paula Knudson, Assistant Chancellor/Dean of Students

Student Address  
College of Liberal Studies ......................................................... Student Speaker | Sean Mobley  
Graduate Speaker | Ka Lia Lo

College of Science and Health .................................................... Student Speaker | Rachel Boldt  
Student Speaker | Cassandra De Haro

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees  ................... Betsy Morgan, Interim Provost/Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs

Conferring of Degrees and Awarding of Diplomas ......................................................... Joe Gow, Chancellor  
Robert Hetzel, Vice Chancellor, Administration and Finance  
Greg Reichert, Assistant Chancellor for University Advancement

College of Liberal Studies ......................................................... Ruthann Benson, Dean

College of Business Administration ..................................................... William Colclough, Dean

College of Science and Health ......................................................... Bruce Riley, Dean

New Alumni Welcome ................................................................. Corey Sjoquist, Class of ’96 & ’03  
UW-L Alumni Association Board President
Singing of Alma Mater

The Alma Mater

Morning sun greets many banners
On its westward way,
Fair to us above all others
Waves maroon and gray.

Colors dear, flag we love
Float for aye;
Old La Crosse to thee,
May we all be ever loyal
To thy memory.

Closing Remarks ................................................................................................................. Joe Gow, Chancellor

Recessional

“Triumphal March from Aida”........................................................................................................ Verdi

Please remain seated during the processional and until all graduates and faculty have completed the recessional from commencement.

Mace Carriers

Letica Pena, College of Business Administration
Pat DiRocco, College of Science and Health

Commencement Marshals

Lori Anderson        Scott Cooper        Linda Levinson        Brad Seebach
Tracie Blumentritt  Guy Herling         Mo McAlpine          Will Van Roosenbeek
Carla Burkhardt     Julia Johnson        Nick Nicklaus         Gary Willhite
                  Angie Lee             John Palmer

Name Reader ................................................................. Terry Wirkus, Academic Technology Services
                                              Kristine Wirkus

Commencement ushers are members of the Vanguard organization.

Note: Sound-enhancement earphones are available for hearing-impaired guests. Ask an usher if you would like to use the earphones. Please return them to an usher after the ceremony.

A reception for graduates and their family and friends will be held immediately following the ceremony. Please proceed to the Ballroom to meet your graduate.

Master Degree Recipients: Prior to the ceremony, please gather in the Zielke Suite to greet program faculty and be hooded.
Academic Dress

The academic apparel worn by faculty and staff in the processional has its origins in the universities of the Middle Ages. Because the universities grew out of church schools, both faculty and students were regarded as part of the clergy, and wore clerical clothing based on monastic dress.

The head covering developed from the skull cap worn to protect tonsured heads in cold weather. In the universities, the skull cap acquired a point at the top which gradually evolved into a tassel. In Europe, the bonnet with a tassel is still worn, but has been replaced in America by the mortar board cap or tam with a tassel.

The style of the gown may have been borrowed from the Benedictine monk’s habit. In the Middle Ages, those with bachelor’s and master’s degrees could be distinguished by the simplicity or elaborateness of their gowns. The master’s gowns were often furred, a decoration surviving as the three velvet bars now used on the sleeves of the doctoral gown.

The hood was originally worn over the head in bad weather, and otherwise dropped onto the shoulders. First worn by faculty and students, the hood is now added to the apparel of those with master’s and doctoral degrees. The color of the velvet trim on the hood indicates the scholarly field, for example, dark blue (philosophy), golden yellow (science), light blue (education), pink (music), apricot (nursing), drab (business), and white (arts). The colors of the satin lining are those approved and authorized by the college or university from which the degree was earned.

Medallion Symbolizes Authority

Wearing a medallion or seal of office has been a symbol of authority since the Middle Ages. The seal marked official documents then; heads of institutions wore the seal around the neck to keep it in their possession. The chancellor’s medallion features a design and materials that reflect UW-La Crosse. The mokume-gane or “wood grain metal” used is a specialty of the campus jewelry studio.

Mace Shows Quest for Truth

Once a weapon in medieval combat, the mace was adopted by universities as a symbol of the power of the quest for truth. The mace is carried in the commencement ceremony by a distinguished senior faculty member. William R. Fiorini, a UW-L art professor, designed and made the medallion and mace, which were used for the first time at the inauguration of Chancellor Judith L. Kuipers in September 1992.

The mace and medallion were given to the University by Mary Hebberd and Ruth Nixon-Davy, professors emeriti. Silver plaques on the medallion box and mace stand acknowledge these gifts.

Symbols of Academic Achievement

Many undergraduate students are wearing items that reflect high academic achievement. Commencement Honors are designated by silver cords, and are worn by students who have at least a 3.50 cumulative grade point average. Those wearing gold cords have earned Commencement Highest Honors with at least a 3.75 average. Members of the Golden Key International Honour Society are wearing a medallion on a blue and gold neck ribbon. The organization is open to the top 15 percent of graduating seniors in various fields of study. Discipline-specific honor organizations are represented by a variety of other cords.

International Flags and Sashes

The international flags displayed on the commencement platform represent the home countries of international students attending the University. Sashes are worn by graduates who studied abroad. Each sash represents the country in which the student studied.

College Banners

The banners used in the processional represent the colleges of the university and the colors indicate the scholarly fields within the colleges. The banners were designed by Arla Wojahn, Educational Technology Center, class of ’04 and were produced by Chris Jackson, Mt. Borah, class of ’91. They were first used at the inauguration of Chancellor Joe Gow in October 2007.
The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse: Points of Pride

• History Professor Greg Wegner was named the 2011 Wisconsin Professor of the Year. He was selected from college educators across the U.S. by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

• UW-L ranks No. 2 in the Midwest among public universities offering bachelor’s and master’s degrees in U.S. News & World Report’s 2012 America’s Best Colleges — the highest ranking among Wisconsin public and private colleges.

• UW-L ranked No. 62 nationally among Kiplinger’s Personal Finance February 2012 issue’s Top 100 Best Value Schools with “top-flight academics and affordable costs.” UW-L has been on Kiplinger’s Top 100 for more than a decade.

• G.I. Jobs placed UW-L on its 2012 list of Military Friendly Schools, honoring the top 15 percent of higher ed schools embracing America’s student veterans. UW-L’s Student Veterans of America chapter has been identified by the national organization as an example of ‘best practices’ for treating vets on campus.

• UW-L was again chosen to host the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, this time in 2013. The event is expected to attract 3,500 faculty and students from more than 300 colleges and universities nationwide.

• The UW-L Water Ski and Wakeboard Team was voted the 2011 National Collegiate Water Ski Association Team of the Year among 72 collegiate teams nationally.

• UW-L’s new academic building, Centennial Hall, was selected by the Wisconsin State Department of Facilities as its Best Project of 2011.

• Wisconsin Distinguished Professor James Wiener in the UW-L River Studies Center received a 2011 Midwest Regional Director’s Natural Resource Award from the U.S. National Park Service.

• UW-L Health Professionals/Physical Therapy Professor Gwyn Straker received the Wisconsin Physical Therapy Association’s Otto Cordero Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing individuals who have made sustained and significant contributions to the profession and association.

• The Adapted Physical Activity Council has given the UW-L Center on Disability Health and Adapted Physical Activity its 2012 Program Recognition Award, which recognizes the center for enhancing high-quality physical activity opportunities for people with disabilities.

• Two UW-L Master of Education graduates were Teachers of Year in 2011. Bradley Markhardt, ’00, agriculture education teacher at Black River Falls High School, is Wisconsin Teacher of the Year. Katy Smith, ’03, an early childhood family education parent teacher at Goodview School in Winona, is Minnesota Teacher of the Year.

• Distinguished Concerts International in New York City invited UW-L’s Vocal Jazz Ensemble to participate in its Vocal Jazz Festival at Carnegie Hall in May 2011.

• The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families praised the UW-L Campus Child Center for providing “excellent care for children.”

• UW-L is in the top 20 colleges and universities nationwide for the percentage of students who study abroad. (Source: Institute of International Education - Open Doors Report.)
Candidates for Graduation

Associate Degree Candidates

10 a.m. ceremony
Alicia A. Brown
Amy J. Sloan

Baccalaureate Degree Candidates

College of Business Administration

10 a.m. ceremony

Laurel D. Allison**
Saad R. Almesalm
Benjamin R. Andersen
Kayla M. Anderson
Kristen Jo Anderson
Alexander A. Anton*
Joshua P. Arbanas
Karmin R. Arnold**+
Kyle J. Barman*+
Alexander C. Barr*
Matthew J. Baumann
Nicholas W. Becker
Ellyn D. Berg
Karl J. Betchner
Zachary S. Biel
Bruce J. Boeckmann
Josh S. Boehning
Benjamin M. Boerschinger*
Monica J. Bohl
Eric J. Born
Joshua C. Box
Diane L. Brien**
Kelsey M. Brinker*
Derek J. Brom
Joshua A. Brown
Leroy D. Brown
Ashley S. Brumm
Russell B. Brunner*
Patrick E. Bryan
Marcus O. Buchholz**
Zachary C. Burch
Shawn R. Burrus
Samuel D. Cable
Kayla E. Carlson**
Christopher B. Chard
Kelly J. Chase*
Qian Chen*
Shiyan Chen
Daniel E. Chipman
Taylor C. Christy*
Matthew T. Cimpl
Brennen T. Clark
Paige N. Conforti*
Brittany F. Craig
Kevin A. Crass
Ryan A. Curwick
Jessica L. Donahue
Jacob A. Duda
Sulaimon A. Elegbede+
Jeffrey M. Ellis
Jessica D. Elsberry**+
Delane S. Emery
John O. Erickson
Nicole C. Evers*
Megan R. Fallon
Kristin J. Farina*
Tyler S. Felber
Steven L. Flood
Terrell J. Gamble
Kyle R. Gassenhuber
Kelsey F. George
Travis J. Glasrud
Kory L. Grey+
Camden A. Halverson
Jacob B. Hanson
Zachary J. Harazin+
Alison M. Harguth
Jennifer M. Heckner
John R. Holt
Caitlin E. Holterman
Jonathan L. Holthaus
Joseph A. Holtz
David Hromadka
Jana M. Huisman
Rebecca M. Jacobson*
Corey A. Jansen*
Maria C. Jansen**
Erik C. Jensen*
Jason M. Jensen
Mengying Jiang
Elizabeth A. Johns
Matthew R. Johnson
Andrew M. Kane
Matthew I. Karls*
Andrea J. Klaus
Melanie R. Klitzke
James B. Klusmeyer
Tyler W. Knobec**
Erin J. Knudson
Nicholas J. Koeune+
Benjamin J. Kolo
Quint S. Koplitz
Cole T. Lambert
Jay T. Larson
Garrett J. Lau
Steven Le Jeune
Jack C. Leahy
Tyler M. Lebrocq
Bethany R. LeCocq
Jonathan A. Leon
Sean M. Lewandowski**
Matthew A. Liberacki
Blake L. Liermann+
Jenifer K. Linzmeyer
Kaylanie L. Lomibao
Alan D. Manix+
Stephanie M. Martens
Alyssa R. Matson+
Kelwyn R. McCormack
Zachary W. McKeeth
Nathan E. Melby
Robin M. Melville
Nathan M. Meuer**
Michael J. Miller
Ryan T. Miller
Riley C. Moore*
Matthew F. Mueller
Michael W. Munz
Brianna L. Murray
Kyle D. Nelson
Matthew D. Nelson
Keegan D. Nesvacil+
Chau M. Nguyen*
Dung Nguyen**
Giang H. Nguyen
Nam H. Nguyen
Thao Thi Phuong Nguyen**
Logan T. Nienhaus*

*Commencement Honors     **Commencement Highest Honors     +Summer 2012 Graduate
Brianna M. Niesen
Matthew L. Neighbor**
Alyssa T. Nimmo
Samuel W. Nolden
Kylene B. Noren
Patrick T. Nugent
James M. Orewiler
Megan M. Paetz*
Scott J. Pagenkopf
Alyssa M. Parr*
Zhihuan Peng+
David J. Pergande
Alyssa A. Ryan**
Bryan J. Rastello
Jennifer L. Rattray
Daniel W. Reineke
Daniel T. Richards
Joshua J. Roethle
Seth D. Rooker
Matthew J. Rubenzer
Bryant M. Rude+
Jordan A. Rumpel*
Alyssa A. Ryan**
Andrew G. Sailer
Katherine A. Schmitz
Laura C. Schmitz
Elyse M. Schneider
Mikel L. Schneider
Alicia M. Schnorr
Hannah R. Schoenberg
Sara J. Schoonover
David P. Schuette
Travis R. Seitz*
Lindsey A. Sjobeck
Nicholas W. Skibba+
T. T. Pham
Christopher C. Phillips
Francesca A. Bautista
Stacy L. Beartse
Nicole L. Becker
Nicole L. Beistle*
Jared D. Bender*
Allison C. Benish*
Alison R. Benson
Kirk T. Benson
Kaitlin M. Berg
Brianna J. Berhow
Megan E. Bernhardt
Breeann J. Biederman
Brent S. Binder
Jacqueline R. Bisson
Kayla M. Block
Adam M. Blom+
Aiyana D. Bloome
Heather M. Boelke**
Bethany Boersma*
Joshua S. Smale
Nicole M. Sobczak
Hailey E. Sommer
Aaron W. Sonsalla
Jesse P. Sorenson
Jonathan L. Steede
Matthew S. Story
Jonathan M. Stubbe
Jessica J. Subach
Xiaoran Tang*
April R. Taylor+
Vang Houa Thao
Sara E. Theis
Elizabeth A. Toellner
Derek F. Tomesh*
Zenas Underwood
Karen M. Vadnais*
Becky L. Vang
Ger Vang
James B. Vang
Emily A. Vercauteren
Jocelyn R. Verick+
Abby J. Videen
Jared A. Vike
Hoang Vo**
Linglong Wang*
Shayue Wang
Madelyn R. Wargowski
Christian J. Wiese
Adam J. Wilcox
Michael L. Wilson
Xun Xu
Danielle N. Yager
Jiaxue Yang
Sony Yang
Mai Der Yang-Vue
Bryan P. Young
Kristopher J. Zachary*
Melissa M. Zavadil
Yuankun Zhao
Ashley M. Zweep+

Nikolina Adzic*
Amy L. Alcott*
Trevor J. Allen
Erin M. Anderson*
Ross C. Anderson
Kimberly R. Andring*
Andriana C. Angeli
Emma A. Angoli**
Katherine L. Arista
Tonisha N. Atkins
Ashley C. Atkinson**
Elizabeth Austad
Elizabeth A. Bader+
Brett D. Bailey
Kasey L. Baker*
Lauren N. Bannon
Nicole M. Barnes
Jason D. Bartsch**
Kelsey M. Bauer**+
Francesca A. Bautista
Stacy L. Beartse
Nicole L. Becker
Nicole L. Beistle*
Jared D. Bender*
Allison C. Benish*
Alison R. Benson
Kirk T. Benson
Kaitlin M. Berg
Brianna J. Berhow
Megan E. Bernhardt
Breeann J. Biederman
Brent S. Binder
Jacqueline R. Bisson
Kayla M. Block
Adam M. Blom+
Aiyana D. Bloome
Heather M. Boelke**
Bethany Boersma*
Casey A. Bohlman
Jacob R. Boll**
Kelsie K. Bolz*
Katherine M. Bourgeois**
Brian S. Boyea
David S. Brandt**
Sarah J. Branson**
Samuel G. Bratz
Emma E. Bremer**
Melissa K. Bremer**
Trinity Breuer*
Danielle R. Brey**
Aaron M. Brock+
Adia A. Brooks**
Devin L. Broome
Brittany L. Brown
Micah J. Brown
Angela M. Brunett*
Jocelyn J. Brunker*
Larisa A. Brusky
Jaleesa L. Burdick
Kristen M. Burke
Kelsey E. Burkett
Sarah M. Camann
Cassie S. Carley*
Emily R. Carlson
Angelina M. Carrimon
Brendan C. Carroll+
Katie A. Cerniglia
Elizabeth M. Charnell
Marisa M. Christiano*
Jenalee K. Christopherson*
Chassiti C. Clark
Megan M. Clark*
Suzanne K. Clum**
Daniel J. Collins
Annie K. Confer+
Abby G. Curley*

College of Liberal Studies
10 a.m. ceremony
Commencement Honors
Commencement Highest Honors
Summer 2012 Graduate

Sean M. Dalpra
Zachary T. Daniels
Abebe O. Dashew
LaVonne M. Daveler
Jacqueline E. David
Rourke D. Decker
Tiara G. Delapp
Ericka V. Dibelius
Jillian J. Dickson-Igl
Daniel J. Dodge
Sara C. Donahoe
Danya K. Dravis
Erin K. DuBois
Kelly J. Ehleiter
Amanda R. Engelien
Laura A. Enriquez
Celia M. Erdman
Anna L. Erickson
Jennifer L. Faber
Kevin D. Fanshaw
Caitlin C. Farrell
Sarah K. Fender
Amanda R. Fink
Tylor J. Fischer
Jasmine E. Fitzsimmons
Jesse S. Fletcher
Miranda J. Flock
Seth J. Forecki
Holly A. Freeman
Stephanie M. Friedman
Jessica L. Gable
Alyssa L. Gajewski
Megan L. Galdes
Amy J. Garinger
Chelsey M. Gates
Brittany V. Gaustad
Sam M. Gavic
Corey B. Geary
Rachel L. Gerke
Gretchen V. Gerrard
Brett M. Gerspach
Megan K. Glidden

Grant D. Goettl
Courtney J. Gonzales
Taylor M. Goodine
Gerald C. Goodwin
Kathryn B. Gorman
Joseph M. Graves
Amber L. Gray
Kelsey Greenwood
Kelsey O. Griffin
Ericka A. Grimm
AnnaMarie E. Gross
LaVonne M. Daveler
Jacqueline E. David
Rourke D. Decker
Tiara G. Delapp
Ericka V. Dibelius
Jillian J. Dickson-Igl
Daniel J. Dodge
Sara C. Donahoe
Danya K. Dravis
Erin K. DuBois
Kelly J. Ehleiter
Amanda R. Engelien
Laura A. Enriquez
Celia M. Erdman
Anna L. Erickson
Jennifer L. Faber
Kevin D. Fanshaw
Caitlin C. Farrell
Sarah K. Fender
Amanda R. Fink
Tylor J. Fischer
Jasmine E. Fitzsimmons
Jesse S. Fletcher
Miranda J. Flock
Seth J. Forecki
Holly A. Freeman
Stephanie M. Friedman
Jessica L. Gable
Alyssa L. Gajewski
Megan L. Galdes
Amy J. Garinger
Chelsey M. Gates
Brittany V. Gaustad
Sam M. Gavic
Corey B. Geary
Rachel L. Gerke
Gretchen V. Gerrard
Brett M. Gerspach
Megan K. Glidden

Sarah J. Horstmann
RoseAnna J. Howerton
Qixi Huang
Xiaofei Huang
Jenna M. Hudziak
Kahlynn M. Hunt
Samantha M. Husman
Hailey A. Hyland
Zachary B. Iler
Thomas M. Isaacs
Sarah L. Jacobson
Holly S. Jarrett
Rebecca A. Jeanes
Christina C. John
Alex M. Johnson
Brent H. Johnson
Chelsea J. Johnson
Darcy J. Johnson
Janie L. Johnson
Katie M. Johnson
Luke J. Johnson
Mitchell L. Johnson
Robert D. Johnson
Elizabeth A. Jones
Sarah M. Jones
Danica F. Joosten
Leann M. Karl
Megan N. Kasten
Zachary A. Kaszynski
Kristen L. Kauphusman
Abigail Kelley
Kathryn J. Kelly
Kara A. Kenzler
Kelsey L. Kilroy
Jessalyn M. Kimball
Emily S. King
Eric R. King
Joseph A. Klingle
Trisha M. Kluck
Allen J. Knappenberger
Evan A. Knoespel
Ryan R. Knudtson
LeeAnn Knutson
Angela Y. Ko
Cynthia A. Kocik
Elizabeth A. Kohn
Luke J. Konkol
Kelsey L. Kopf
Samantha J. Kraft
Richard R. Krause
Marla R. Kuchler
Rimpal R. Kumbhani
Paul M. LaCount
Anna E. Lamm
Hanna M. Lang
Lee B. Lang
Brady A. Langer
Kyle B. Larkin
Jill K. Larson
Mai Chee S. Lee
Elizabeth Lee Lo
Ryan S. Leibforth
Emily V. Leschisin
Shelby L. Linnerud
Kirstin M. Long
Lynn M. Loughan
Courtney C. Lovas
Dustin G. Lovell
Jeffrey J. Ludovisii
Brittany E. Luecke
Allyson M. Lynn
Katelyn B. MacKay
Austin D. Mackenzie
Andrea R. Magness
Madeleine S. Major
Clare M. Malinowski
Alyssa J. Martinson
Jennifer E. Maruyama
Kelsey Matherne
Matthew D. Matuseski
Kristen D. Maziarka
Tiffany R. McClintock
Bailey J. McCorkell
Julia McCune
Philip J. McGovern

*Commencement Honors    **Commencement Highest Honors    +Summer 2012 Graduate
College of Science and Health

2 p.m. ceremony

Kaitlin A. Achsel**
Corey J. Adams
Heather L. Aderman*+
Jessica L. Adler
Emam M. Albarwani
Allison M. Albers
Sarah L. Albertson
Christopher J. Allison
Liesl Amon
Andrew J. Anderson
David L. Anderson
Tyler J. Anderson*
Abigail C. Arenz
Greg Aspenson*
Sara R. Avery*
Benjamin J. Axell
Dylan J. Bahr
Maureen A. Baker
Katherine Balfany*
Jaimie L. Ballweg*
Alexander J. Bangs
Adam M. Barta*
Melanie J. Bates*
Emily M. Bauer**
Laura A. Becker**
Lindsey M. Becker**
Kaylee E. Beckwith**
Shauna R. Beisler
Patrick X. Bell
Christiane J. Berdan*
Kelsey M. Berg +
Jared M. Berger
Brandon H. Berning
Jaclyn M. Bero
Rebekah Kathryn Bickel**
Kristina L. Bjerve
Alicia A. Block+
Rachel Elizabeth Boldt*
Janelle Marie Boll**
Bronson T. Bomkamp*
Tessa L. Boorman
Melanie A. Braunschweig
Nicholas J. Brengosz
Brett M. Brockman
Jens C. Brown
Christopher D. Bryant*
Laura V. Buchholz+
Rachel A. Budeier*
Pamela E. Buntin**
Jeremiah J. Burish
Tyler D. Burmeister*
Harlan W. Burnett
Jessica M. Burnham
Gabrielle A. Busch
Heather M. Bushman
Leah R. Calawerts*+
Anthony R. Campbell
Ariel A. Canzoneeri
Shannon E. Carlin+
Abby S. Carlon*
Rita K. Carlson
Thomas E. Carter
Brittany A. Check**+
Sasha M. Chihak*
Mallory D. Christopherson
William L. Close
Danielle D. Cloutier
Elizabeth C. Collins**
Patrick A. Copp
Adam J. Cordova**
Kurt M. Costigan
Mickayla M. Cottor
Angela Cramer+
Jessica P. Crelly*+
Kyle J. Crosby
April M. Crowder*+
Sarah E. Cumnuta-Gerbig
Sarah L. Curtin
Allison Davies+
Whitney M. Davis
Carly A. De Bruin*
Kathryn M. DeBrunye**
Cassandra L. Deharo*
Joshua A. Demoret
Katherine R. Dercks**+
Marc A. DeSardi
Jacqueline J. Devilye+
Adam C. DeZeeuw+
Amanda K. Dietzen*
Andrew P. Doyle
Tiffany Dreaving**
Alexandra E. Dymoke
Ashley D. Eide*
Kayla J. Eilenfeldt+
Thomas D. Eisenhauer+
Stephanie L. Ellingen
Zachary R. Ellis
William R. Emery
Amanda M. Emmrich*
Bonnie L. Erickson**
Alexa R. Ernst
Andrew T. Ernst**
Jay A. Fanta+
Cole K. Farley
David J. Farrow
Alyssa A. Fedor*
Nathan T. Fekete
Jacob W. Ferris
Christopher J. Fischer
Zachary A. Fischer**
Molly J. Flanagan
Ryan P. Flood+
Krista R. Flynn
Greta R. Foley
Bethany M. Forseth
Danielle J. Frank
Eirin C. Fraundorf*
Eric M. Frawley
Nissa K. Fredrich
Benjamin M. Froehling
Kaitlin N. Fuchs*
Sasha R. Gajewski
Mari R. Galle
Brett L. Galligan
Kenneth R. Gast
Michael S. Gates
Melanie A. Gearhart**
Nadine E. Geraldson
Angela H. Gerlach*+
Ali F. Gerow
Kathryn M. Gestach
Blaise N. Geyer*
Jennifer Gibb*
Eric M. Giese+
Tyler J. Gilbertson
Christopher M. Glodosky
Alison M. Glodowski*+
Kelsey A. Gnewikow
Mallory E. Gohl**+
Whitney J. Graf
Christina M. Gray
Stephanie M. Gray
Amanda J. Gresel*
Kelli A. Grillely+
Jana J. Groeschel*
Kaitlin Gromacki
Dana C. Groom
Brandon M. Groth**
Alexander M. Gueldenzopf
Brianna M. Gunnerson+
Ye Guo
Robert E. Haeger
Adam J. Haggerty
Trever L. Hallock**
Shelly A. Hampton*
Jenifer L. Handel*
Chase D. Hanson
Leah A. Harms
Michael W. Harper**
Ashley J. Harrop++
Shawn R. Hart+
Levi A. Hartman**
Brittany L. Hei*+
Sophie G. Helgren
Sarah A. Helmer
Rae Henning*
Jacilyn A. Herman*
Scott D. Herman
Timothy J. Herman*
Nicholas J. Higgins++

*Commencement Honors
**Commencement Highest Honors
+Summer 2012 Graduate
College of Science and Health continued

Lisa Raetzman  
Priti K. Rana**  
Allissa A. Rankin*  
Kate H. Raplinger**  
Michael P. Rask  
Erik L. Rasmussen+  
Julie B. Rath  
Jeffrey L. Reamer, Jr  
Shawn M. Reinen  
Daniel T. Rendler  
Kyle S. Retzki**  
Matthew A. Reyburn*  
Brian H. Rich  
Kristin M. Ristow*+  
Larson E. Roeder*+  
Blake R. Roemer+  
Nichelle L. Roessler*+  
Alyson B. Rogers**+  
Trisha M. Roeseck*+  
Andrew C. Rosekrans+  
Emily M. Rosenbecker  
Emily E. Ross  
Brittany A. Rud**  
Samantha I. Runingen*  
Alexis M. Rusch*  
Steven M. Russell  
Reece L. Rykal  
Brent A. Sacia  
Andrew D. Saether  
Adam J. Salwey**  
Katelyn A. Schommer**  
Jeffrey D. Schoonoover+  
Paul W. Schroeder-  
Hannemann  
Katrina K. Schuch*  
Andrew D. Schuelke*  
Ashley A. Schuldes**  
Jacob J. Schultz  
Brittany N. Schwartzlow  
Dustin S. Schwob*  
Abigail A. Schyvinch+  
Kelsie M. Seibel  
Andrew J. Seidlitz+  
Marcus R. Sepnafski**  
Geneva W. Segerian  
Andrew Severn**  
Tyler S. Shaker  
Jane L. Sherman*  
Jamie L. Shervey**  
Jenna J. Shircll*  
Tyler M. Shirel**  
Sarah A. Shudlick  
Elizabeth M. Sisko*  
Scott A. Skoog  
Kristyn T. Skotzke  
Britton L. Slowey*  
Aaron P. Smith  
Rachel J. Smith*  
Charles K. Spanbauer  
Nicholas D. Springer  
Samuel W. Stanley  
Elizabeth M. Stark**  
Allison K. Steder  
Jeffery D. Steele+  
Sarah L. Stefoni+  
Ryan M. Steinhoff*  
Carrie A. Stella  
Alison N. Stenzel**  
Jill M. Stenzel+  
Nicolette M. Stenzel+  
Jennifer M. Stepaniak  
Kristina J. Stevenson+  
Ashley C. Stitt  
Hannah M. Stofflet  
Natalie A. Stoll*  
Crystal M. Stundahl**  
Molly J. Stuyvenberg+  
Megan E. Sullivan**+  
Allison N. Surber+  
Adam E. Suttner  
Abby L. Swanson*  
Jonathan D. Swanson  
Corinn L. Tanel  
Samantha J. Tarmann*  
Carolyn E. Temanss**  
Megan M. Thiel+  
Daryl L. Thomas  
Joshua S. Thomas  
Kathryn C. Toberman  
Ngoc Thi Hong Tran  
Kahili Z. Trocmie+  
Katie L. Tucker  
Brianna M. Upp+  
Brady R. Vaassen  
Jorge P. Valdivieso  
Kacie L. Van Calster  
Jess A. Van Every+  
Stacie M. Van Handel*  
Jessye M. Van Rensselaer+  
Katie E. Van Wyk*  
Jaron J. Vandelarschot  
Jonathan T. Vannatta**  
Kyle R. Vara  
Christine E. Vick  
Rachel K. Vik*  
Ross C. Von Glahn*  
Ahren Von Uhl+  
Trang H. Vu  
Mai Vue+  
Shoua Vue  
Rachelle M. Wall*  
Brandon E. Walser  
Brittney R. Wandling**  
Jacob T. Warden  
Travis K. Warmka**  
Hayley M. Watson  
McKenzie R. Watzka  
Lauren W. Webb  
Alexander J. Wegner  
William W. Welacha  
Katherine M. Wenman  
Elizabeth J. Wenzel**  
Jennifer L. Wern*  
Amber L. Wesela**+  
Melissa M. Wheeler  
Bergetta L. Wichmann+  
Kaela N. Wickersham+  
Joel R. Wickesberg  
Marcie M. Wiederholt+  
Brianne M. Wienkers**  
Ryan J. Wilder**  
Jenna L. Willem**+  
Teesha M. Willenger+  
Mark D. Wilson  
Carly R. Windschitl*  
Ellery M. Winghart*  
Rochelle J. Wink*  
Morgan M. Winkler**  
Kelsey A. Witt  
Kai Wu*  
Mai Xiong*+  
Pengsue Yang+  
Yang Yang*  
Paul W. Yerhot**  
Christopher T. Yingling+  
Vince C. Zander  
Kurt F. Zehel  
Britney A. Zeimentz+  
Benjamin D. Zellmer  
Emily A. Zellmer  
Kayla M. Zelm*  
Tai-Shan Zen**  
Yu Zeng  
Calvin M. Zenz*  
Andrew J. Zink*  
Yiwei Zou  
Trisha G. Zwiers  

*Commencement Honors  **Commencement Highest Honors  +Summer 2012 Graduate
Honors Program Candidates

University Honors
  Mallory D. Christopherson
  Carly A. De Bruin*
  Erin C. Fraundorf*
  Maria C. Jansen**
  Megan N. Kasten**
  Sara L. Mitchell*
  Sean A. Mobley

Archaeology Department Honors
  Emma E. Bremer**
  Erin K. DuBois**
  Amber N. Hawley
  Chad J. Heemstra*
  Mitchell L. Johnson**
  Megan N. Kasten**
  Cynthia A. Kocik**
  Simon W. Payne**
  Mitchell D. Running
  Ian M. Watts**

Psychology Department Honors
  Sarah J. Branson**
  Kelly J. Ehlieiter
  Kelsey Greenwood
  Sarah L. Jacobson**
  Angela Y. Ko
  Alyssa J. Martinson*
  Vanessa L. Schwartz**
  Sigrid G. Splinter*

Economics Department Honors
  Dung Nguyen

Sociology Department Honors
  Danielle R. Brey**
  Marla R. Kuchler*

Political Science/Public Administration Department Honors
  Adia A. Brooks**
  Jillian J. Dickson-Igl*
  Gretchen V. Gerrard*
Graduate Degree Candidates

Doctor of Physical Therapy
2 p.m. ceremony

Jordan S. Bjorhus
Stephen R. Bodine
Jessica M. Bollinger
Nate Bothfeld
Carrie A. Broz
Lori B. Brunner
Emily N. Carroll
Kimberly M. Check
Mao Cheng
Eric R. Christensen
Elizabeth B. Chrobak
Robin G. Constantino
Liane M. Corwith
Chelsea L. Craig
Elizabeth N. Dobbins
Jennifer L. D’Orazio
Alicia H. Duerst
Michael R. Erickson
Sara J. Frederickson
Jocelyn C. Frey
Kimberly J. Gehrke
Katlin E. Genthe
Angela M. Guist
Amanda M. Harke
Christopher Hart
Angela K. Holan
Chelsey S. Koehler
Megan E. Kramp
Lisa A. Lallensack
Thi X. Le

Patricia D. Mans
Katelyn A. Manske
Krysta A. Millis
Christina M. Mixdorf
Brehn Pagel
Isaac Petrowitz
Megan D. Plante
Chelsey A. Schadler
Britni L. Schickert
Jessica M. Schultz
Anna P. Stoecleklein
Tiffany R. Switlick
Matthew M. Thom

Master of Business Administration
10 a.m. ceremony

Michael S. Allen+
Adam J. Binsfeld+
Shu-Wei Chang+
Pai-Hsiang Chen+
Mark E. Collom
Shasha Du+
Samantha M. Harrison+
John P. Hoeft
Yi-Wen V. Hou+
Meng-Hsin Hsieh+
Hatem A. Jandal
Hsiao C. Lai+
Kongnyuy H. Lambiv+
Yue Li+
Yang Liu+
Sandra Matson
Sarah Moeschl+
Michelle M. Noronha
Xiaowei Qu+
Aaron M. Reinert
Katherine R. Rick+
Ryan T. Sullivan
Zachary R. Tevis
Charles H. Wilfer+
Ke J. Xia+
Yishu Xie+

Education Specialist Degree Candidates
10 a.m. ceremony

Michelle Anderson
Kelly T. Blackburn
Angela S. Goethel
Maureen Hampton-Trim
Melanie S. Hill
Claire E. Knoll
Allison M. Kolberg
Ashley E. Morris
Emilie A. Ratter
Stephanie L. Polzar
Marie T. Schmidt
Jenna K. Semling
Raechel Torf

+Summer 2012 Graduate
Master of Science

2 p.m. ceremony

Biology
Benjamin Walker
Liza R. Walleser
Rebecca L. Werren

Biology: Aquatic Science Concentration
Alissa M. Ganser
Katri H. Laukkanen
Rebekah L. McCann

Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology Concentration
Tim Demmer

Biology: Clinical Microbiology Concentration
Katherine A. Josephson+
Kelly E. Rock+

Biology: Nurse Anesthesia Concentration
Tiffany A. Baker
Robert A. Bisenius
Sara J. Dickenson+
Lisa Golden
Adam J. Krause
Peter J. Kucharas
Justin Maslowski
Gabriel A. Morrison
Lee L. Webber

Exercise and Sport Science: Human Performance
Ashley E. Brown
Kasey Crawford
Sarah J. Hudson+
Mark Isaacson
Allison M. Seifert
Justin T. Soukup
Timothy J. Suchomel

Exercise and Sport Science: Physical Education Teaching
Andre Bailey+
Kimberley A. Brasil+
Casey E. Ebeling+
Judith A. Ellis+
Melissa D. Fromm+
Ali J. Jaafar+
Allison M. Livelsberger+
Jeremy D. Marzofka
Matthew M. Maurer
Erin A. Siebert+
Rachel L. Smith+
Nicholas J. Williams+
Ashley E. Zimmerman
Dana T. Zimmerman

Health Education:
Community Health Education
Lauren E. Gibbs
Yolanda L. Grimmius
Jamie Klonowski
Jin-Yu Wu

Medical Dosimetry
Gregory R. Kohlhapp
Kathryn B. Sytsma
Shun Hsin Tsai
Jon T. Wells
Lisa C. Wojtowicz

Occupational Therapy
Katherine D. Rasmussen

Physician Assistant Studies
Michael Breunig
Kyle J. Burkhamer
Ivy L. Elsbernd
Elizabeth A. Froelich
Adam C. Grimm
Jennifer Hildahl
Kristine L. Jensen
Jaklyn K. Kumm
Hilary B. Nelson

Recreation Management
Yutong Bo
Eric D. Cheney+
Anna R. DeMers
Gina M. Diliberti+
Jeanine Dillig
Wan-Chun Fang
Holly M. Femal+
Alex Gion+
Kelleen R. Gorenc+
Catherine J. Hines
David J. MacDonald+
Laura C. Mooney
Karyn D. Peterson
Casey J. Pivonka
Amy Schmied+
Katie A. Ulezelski+

Therapeutic Recreation
Ashley M. Lawinger
Trevor M. Redlin
Lisa N. Savarese

Master of Public Health

2 p.m. ceremony

Alexandra E. Price
Master of Software Engineering  
2 p.m. ceremony

Paul Benzschawel  
Peter Bougie  
Tianqi Cai  
Rajagopal Chandrasekaran  
Connor Doyle  
Ke Gong  
Qi Lai  
Jason M. Lefebvre  
Craig K. Lenz  
Chen Lin  
Jacob A. Schroeder  
Fan Wang  
Yiwen Wang  
Tingting Wu  
Yao Xiao  
Jun Zhao  
Wei Zhao  
Yehua Zhong  
Yongying Zhong

Master of Science in Education
10 a.m. ceremony

School Psychology
  Cory Cooper  
  Paul Fitts  
  Jaden Ganser  
  Emily Gorski  
  Kevin Lewandowski  
  Sarah Payne  
  Megan Pulvermacher  
  Andrea Tirabassi  
  Emily Van Eyll  
  Angelica Wegman  
  Katie Wiersma

Special Education
  Kathryn A. Carroll+  
  Brianne L. Frawley+  
  Charissa L. Knepper+

Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education
  Jenna Alsteen+  
  Richard B. Anderson, Jr  
  Emily A. Ascher+  
  Ryan J. Banaszak  
  Kristan M. Bartley+  
  Brianna Cacchione  
  Amy Chisnell+  
  Lydia M. Dworshak  
  April A. Farmer  
  Kara L. Good  
  Jessica L. Hacker  
  Julie A. Hallman  
  Jennifer M. Hooke  
  Jill R. Hopper+  
  Jessica L.Joanis  
  Jennifer L. Johns+  
  Heidi A. Johnson

Master of Education – Professional Development
10 a.m. ceremony

Andi J. Cloud+  
Gregg J. Farrell  
Phanat Lor+  
Jacob I. Sciammas  
Hannah E. Walleser+

+Nora J. Kanzenbach+  
Jeffrey J. Keenan+  
Michelle A. Kipp  
Andrew H. Lam  
Frank A. Lanko+  
Ka Lia Lo  
Theresa M. Martin+  
Andrew J. Meyer  
Taumi D. Miller  
Danielle M. Mortag  
Melissa S. Murray  
Miranda J. Panzer  
Julie Pfitel  
Katy A. Rand+  
Melygn G. Rousseau+  
Joshua D. Rybaski  
Allison S. Rygh  
Jennifer Schoenecker  
Kara J. Scholten+  
Shane D. Springer  
Bradley S. Stepan+  
Steven R. Strope  
Lisa J. Taylor  
Kari E. Thiel+  
Brian A. Turk  
Andrea M. Wagner  
Jennifer E. Weber  
Collin A. Zimmerman
### Master of Education - Professional Development – Learning Community

10 a.m. ceremony

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<tr>
<th>Hudson</th>
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<td>Janet L. Anderson</td>
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<td>Lori Aschenbrener</td>
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<td>Adam Coyer</td>
<td>Matthew B. Boberg</td>
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<td>Julie R. Flood</td>
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<td>Jason P. Cognac</td>
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<td>Abigail E. Marish</td>
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<td>Sheri E. Finnigan</td>
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<td>Amanda J. Schmidman</td>
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<td>Stephen J. Mulich</td>
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<td>Tony L. Thielke</td>
<td>Jamie Prahl</td>
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<td>Alisa A. Schepp</td>
<td>Sarah Mumaw-Flury</td>
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<td>Erin R. Young</td>
<td>Jennifer L. Thil</td>
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### 2012 Graduate Academic Achievement Awards

- **Richard Anderson**
  - College of Liberal Studies
  - Master of Science in Education

- **Katie Bauer**
  - College of Science and Health
  - Master of Science

- **Alexandra Price**
  - College of Science and Health
  - Master of Public Health
2012 Outstanding Graduates

The Murphy Awards for Academic Excellence recognize the university’s top two graduating scholars, as chosen by the Scholarship and Awards Committee. A grant from the Murphy Foundation created the awards in 1980. Marjorie P. Murphy, then foundation president, cited a desire to recognize outstanding and exceptional scholastic ability. Recipients receive $2,000 and $1,000, respectively.

Sean Harrington graduated with a bachelor of science degree in Physics and Mathematics. While on campus, he was a member of the UW-L cross country and track & field teams being selected as team captain for two seasons for cross country and one for track, a cross country representative in the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, a Mathematics and Physics tutor for the Mathematics and Physics Departments, and a member of the Physics Club and Sigma Pi Sigma – National Physics Honor Society. While an undergraduate, he was very involved in scientific research, investigating single-photon detection funded by campus and state fellowships. Currently, he is a research scientist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder, Colo. researching superconducting nanowire single-photon detectors. Harrington will be pursuing his Ph.D. in Materials at UC-Santa Barbara researching electronic and photonic materials. His professional goal is to advance current electronic and photonic technologies.

Hoang Vo graduates with a bachelor of science degree in Information Systems and Finance. During his four years at UW-L, he served as Chief Financial Officer and Student Court Justice of Student Association, President of the International Student Organization, the Aikido Club, and Information Systems Association, a member of Golden Key International Honour Society and Beta Gamma Sigma. He worked as a Mathematics and Statistics tutor, Web designer in Academic Technology Services and technician in Cartwright Center. He has been a Meritorious Winner of the International Mathematical Contest in Modeling for three years. In 2010, he received the Wall Street Journal Award, the Lloyd Meiners and Wells Fargo Merit Banking scholarships. In 2010, he was awarded the Barbara & Carl Wimberly scholarship. Following graduation, he will pursue a doctorate in Computer Science and Informatics at Emory University. His ultimate goal is to become a researcher and also a teacher like his parents.

The Jake and Janet Hoeschler Award for Excellence recognizes a College of Business Administration graduate for academic accomplishment and qualities of leadership demonstrated in campus and community activities. Janet Hoeschler, a 1940 graduate, established the award in 1992 to signify a partnership of business and the university. The award extends the Hoeschlers’ belief in excellence, education, philanthropy and the La Crosse community. Recipients receive $1,500.

Hoang Vo graduates with a bachelor of science degree in Information Systems and Finance. During his four years at UW-L, he served as Chief Financial Officer and Student Court Justice of Student Association, President of the International Student Organization, the Aikido Club, and Information Systems Association, a member of Golden Key International Honour Society and Beta Gamma Sigma. He worked as a Mathematics and Statistics tutor, Web designer in Academic Technology Services and technician in Cartwright Center. He has been a Meritorious Winner of the International Mathematical Contest in Modeling for three years. In 2010, he received the Wall Street Journal Award, the Lloyd Meiners and Wells Fargo Merit Banking scholarships. In 2010, he was awarded the Barbara & Carl Wimberly scholarship. Following graduation, he will pursue a doctorate in Computer Science and Informatics at Emory University. His ultimate goal is to become a researcher and also a teacher like his parents.

The Strzelczyk Award in Science and Health recognizes an outstanding senior in the College of Science and Health for academic achievement and service to the campus and community. Robert, a 1954 graduate and Judy Strzelczyk endowed the award in 1996. Also, they have provided funding for physical therapy research projects, research equipment, student loans, and four full-time tuition scholarships. Recipients receive $1,000.

Crystal Stundahl graduates with a bachelor of science degree in General Biology with a minor in Spanish. On campus, she was Secretary of the UW-L Circle K International Club, a tutor for the Microbiology Department, a member of the Eta Phi Alpha Honors Society and UW-L Biology Club, and an undergraduate research assistant. She was employed by UW-L Rec Sports and was also a past member of the UW-L Women’s Club Volleyball Team. Following graduation, Stundahl will begin a 12-month internship in Clinical Laboratory Science at Fairview Health Services in Minneapolis, Minn., as part of her second undergraduate degree from UW-L. Upon completion of her internship, Stundahl plans to work for a few years as a clinical laboratory scientist, after which she will consider attending graduate school in a health and science related field.
The John E. Magerus Award for the Outstanding Graduating Senior from the College of Liberal Studies recognizes an outstanding graduate for academic accomplishments, leadership, and involvement in the campus and community. The award is named for Magerus, who retired in 2004 after 28 years of teaching and serving as an administrator for the college. Recipients receive $1,000.

Vanessa Schwartz graduates with a bachelor of arts degree in psychology. On campus, she was a member of Eta Phi Alpha Honor Society, Psi Chi International Honor Society, an office assistant in the Art Department and a tutor, research assistant, and a teaching assistant in the Psychology Department. Vanessa was in the Psychology Honors Program as well as the McNair Scholars Program where she completed undergraduate research funded by a UW-L grant. The research project is titled, “Risky Business: The Influence of Affect on Risk-Perception and Risk-Taking.” Off campus, she volunteered at New Horizon’s Shelter and Women’s Center as a children’s advocate and worked as a line therapist providing in-home services for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Following graduation, Schwartz will begin graduate school at UW-Madison in the Educational Psychology Department. She will be pursuing her Ph.D. in School Psychology. Her professional goals include becoming a licensed school psychologist and working in both public schools and an autism resource center.

The UW-La Crosse Graduate Thesis Award recognizes the best graduate thesis annually, based on originality, impact and written quality. Associate Professor Tom Kuffel and his wife, Mary, ’80, created the award in 2006 to not only recognize scholarship, but also encourage more participation in thesis programs and others to fund awards that recognize scholarly work. The recipient receives $1,000.

Leslie Svacina graduated with a M.S. Ed. in Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education. Her thesis, titled, “From internship to classroom: A study of academic self-efficacy,” allowed her to research the relationship between students internship experiences and their academic studies. During her time at UW-La Crosse she completed graduate assistantships and internships with Career Services, University Centers, MBA Program and Western Technical College Alumni Association. She now is pursuing her interest in career and academic advising as a first-year adviser in the UW-Stout Advisement Center in Menomonie.
2012 Alumni Awards

The Maurice O. Graff Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes alumni who have achieved honor and distinction with recognition and reputations that extend well beyond the immediate environments in which they live and work. "I'd like to have the awards recognize persons who have come from a broad range of UW-L programs, and from a broad range of ultimate occupations," said Maurice O. Graff, vice chancellor emeritus in establishing the award. "I believe that merely 'doing one's job,' even though doing it in an outstanding manner, should not be enough to merit one of the awards.

The recipients should be widely known and recognized for their accomplishments outside their immediate work-service area." Graff was a professor and administrator from 1941-1972.

Robert Arnhold has impacted persons with disabilities nationwide.

The Slippery Rock University professor who earned a master’s in adapted physical education from UW-L in 1980 has done much more than research and teach about those with disabilities. He’s advocated for them for decades.

Arnhold was called to help revive programs for Camp Shriver, a Special Olympics initiative founded by Eunice Kennedy Shriver that focuses on developing sport skills friendship building. His students assisted Special Olympics coaches with volunteer training.

Arnhold was also key in helping Slippery Rock University establish the Storm Harbor Equestrian Center. The one-of-a-kind facility caters to those with mental and physical disabilities by using horses in their therapy, which offers physical and psychological benefits.

His expertise has landed Arnhold national leadership roles in advocating for persons with disabilities. He often heads to Washington, D.C., to advocate for getting people involved in physical activities.

"Robert is one of only a handful of experts in the U.S. who specializes in the areas of legislative issues for health and wellness among persons with disabilities, and horseride training as a therapy for persons with disabilities," notes UW-L Professor Garth Tymeson.

Robert W. Arnhold

- Respected professor.
- Advocate for people with disabilities.
- Recognized internationally and nationally for work in adapted physical education.
- Successful grant writer, obtaining more than $2.5 million for adapted physical initiatives.
- Long-time professor at Slippery Rock University.
- Earned a master’s in adapted physical education from UW-L in 1980; bachelor’s in physical education and health from Temple University (1977) and doctorate in adapted physical education from Texas Women’s University (1988).

The Parker Multicultural Alumni Award recognizes outstanding multicultural alumni who have graduated from UW-La Crosse and have significantly contributed to or advanced multicultural understanding. History Professor James Parker, Ph.D., initiated the award in 1997.

It was the mid-70s when Gregory Banks came to campus. He was among the first students recruited into a newly designed pre-collegiate program aimed at making UW-L’s student population more diverse.

Banks excelled at that role, recalls Professor Emeritus of English Robert Treu. “Gregory performed ably both as a student and as an advocate for a number of multicultural issues," recalls Treu.

Professor Emeritus of History William Pemberton remembers Banks as a leader among his peers and in the classroom. "He had an unusual ability to take remote historical forces, understand how they applied to his life, and then use his excellent verbal ability to show his classmates how such abstractions shaped their lives."

Banks worked with the Social Security Administration in La Crosse, Eau Claire and Madison. He eventually became a policy research analyst at UW-Madison before becoming a Madison Metropolitan School District administrator.

Banks was forced to retire early when he was diagnosed with ALS. But, his impact remains. "Greg cared deeply for all the people he came into contact with," notes friend and fellow alum Bill Coleman. "His humanitarian spirit was immediately apparent in his sparkling eyes and his affectionate nature."

Gregory Banks

- Worked with the Social Security Administration in La Crosse, Eau Claire and Madison.
- Served as a policy research analyst at the UW-Madison Center for Health Systems Research and Analyses.
- Served as administrator for the Madison Metropolitan School District.
- Member of Madison Mayor’s Commission on People with Disabilities; Madison’s Affirmative Action Commission.
- Diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis in 1996.
- Died Sept. 30, 2011.
- Graduated with a bachelor’s in political science and public administration from UW-L in 1981; attended The Robert M. La Follette Institute of Public Affairs in Madison.
The Rada Distinguished Alumnus Award
The idea for the award came after Ron Rada and his wife, Jane, attended the university’s alumni award ceremonies for many years. “It was inspiring for us to see graduating students recognized for excellence and to see alumni honored for long, outstanding careers and service to their professions and communities,” said Ron Rada, emeritus professor. In 2002, they established the award to recognize alumni who are in the early to mid stages of their careers and making exceptional contributions to their professions and communities. The award provides another point on UW-L’s continuum for recognizing excellence in the various career stages of alumni – from those just embarking on their careers to those who have demonstrated excellence in the mid and latter stages of their careers. “We believe these types of awards also honor family, friends, faculty, and colleagues who were influential in the success of the recipients,” said Rada, a professor and administrator from 1975-2006.

Thomas Harris has done much to advance diversity on campus – and in the La Crosse community.
Harris came to campus as a hall director in 1990. After three years, he moved into the Residence Life Office to advise the Residence Hall Association Council and National Residence Hall Honorary, provide leadership development and serve as a liaison with Multicultural Student Services.
Retired Assistant Director of Residence Life Ruth Kurinsky says Harris quickly became highly respected by students, colleagues, administrators and those in the community. “People actively sought opportunities to work with and learn from [him],” notes Kurinsky. Former La Crosse Mayor John Medinger calls Harris a friend, as well as a key contributor to the betterment of the community. “He has influenced and made life better for countless individuals over a long period of time,” notes Medinger. “He continues to do that today.”

Thomas Harris
• Distinguished professional in the field of student affairs.
• Leader of efforts to pursue racial equity and social justice.
• Honored by the Wisconsin United Resident Hall Association, a student-run leadership organization, when it renamed its top adviser award the “Thomas Harris Advisor of the Year.”
• Founder and president of the 7 Rivers Region Diversity Collaboration Initiative Inc.
• Assistant Director of the UW-L Multicultural Student Services Office since 2003; worked in the UW-L Residence Life Office from 1990-2001.
• Graduated with a bachelor’s degree from UW-Stevens Point, 1988; earned a master’s in college student personnel from UW-L, 2011.

2012 Honorary Degree recipients

David Skogen
Onalaska native Dave Skogen grew up excelling in sports and dreaming of coaching. While he didn’t end up coaching athletes, he’s become a team leader among supermarket staff for more than 50 years.
Skogen worked in the meat department of his family’s Skogen’s IGA in Onalaska. In 1974 when the store began to expand, he stepped into store operations. He’s been a leader in the family business since, which has expanded into 16 Festival Foods stores statewide.
Skogen has achieved success in his business. He was named IGA International’s “Retailer of the Year” in 1989, and in 2005 received the honor of “Wisconsin Grocer of the Year.” He’s been successful in the community as well. Skogen has served with many non-profit and service organizations throughout the area.
Skogen and his wife Barb, a ’67 UW-L graduate, have been leading philanthropists. Among the projects they have supported: YMCA, United Way, Boys and Girls Club, Onalaska First Lutheran Church, and the UW-L Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex and Centennial Hall projects. The Association of Fundraising Professional – Upper Mississippi Valley Chapter named them “Outstanding Philanthropists” in 2007.

Donald J. Weber
Weber has led numerous creative health service programs for more than a quarter century. His latest is Logistics Health Inc., which has become a world-class leader in military medical and dental readiness.
Under Weber’s direction LHI has grown from a handful employees to more than 900. In 2012, the U.S. Department of Defense gave LHI the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Freedom Award, the department’s high honor given to an employer.
Weber’s connection to the military – he served in Vietnam from April 1967 through May 1968 and earned a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars – remains strong. Not only does his company assist veterans, it honors them. He generously supported the UW-L Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex and its Hall of Honor, and an on-going program that provides scholarships for UW System veterans.
Weber and his wife, Roxanne, have established the Weber Family Foundation and are involved in various community service projects. Weber received the La Crosse Tribune’s Person of the Year honor in 2006 and the La Crosse Area Chamber of Commerce’s Community Service Award in 2012.


Retiring Faculty And Staff

Russell Stockel, University Centers, 2003
Karen Hansen, Continuing Education & Extension, 1991
Katherine Ghelfi, Residence Life, 2008
Jeannie Hanley, Counseling & Testing, 1995
Phillip Bice, Accountancy, 1981
Patrick DiRocco, Exercise & Sport Science, 1989
Margaret Finders, English, 2006
Leticia, Pena, Management, 1992
Sara Sullivan, Psychology, 1987
Gregory Wegner, History, 1989
Joseph Toce, Chemistry, 2005
Kathryn Kiefer, Admissions, 1988
Virginia Kreyer, Academic Affairs, 1979
Rhonda Olafson, Residence Life, 2006
Albert Gedicks, Sociology and Archaeology, 1985
Anita Evans, Murphy Library, 1987

University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents

Jeffrey Bartell, Madison
Mark J. Bradley, Wausau
Judith V. Crain, Green Bay
John Drew, Milwaukee
Tony Evers, Madison
Michael J. Falbo, Hartland
Tim Higgins, Appleton
Edmund Manydeeds, Eau Claire
Katherine Pointer, Madison
Charles Pruitt, Milwaukee
Gary Roberts, Onalaska
Troy Sherven, Oregon
Brent Smith, La Crosse – Regent Vice President
Michael J. Spector, Milwaukee – Regent President
S. Mark Tyler, Woodville
José F. Vásquez, Wauwatosa
David G. Walsh, Madison
Gerald Whitburn, Wausau

Spring 2012 commencement ceremony can be viewed on the Web: www.uwlax.edu/commencement

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A reception for graduates and their family and friends will be held immediately following the ceremony. Please proceed to the Ballroom to meet your graduate.