A Note from the President [Pamela Morris]

First I want to say, Thank You for being an OCW member! If you enjoy being a member, pass it on! We are in need of some additional leaders next year; the more members we have, the more interesting people we can meet; the more fun and networking we can have at events!! Elections are fast approaching—consider taking on a more active role and get elected to the Steering Committee. We meet formally once a month. So far this year, I have particularly enjoyed the Holi-day Social and a recent Wine Tasting Retreat. New this year, we had a “metalworks” custom logo created for members. There are extra pendants or key chains available so let a Steering Committee member know if you would like one.

OCW does so many things, some behind the scenes, which you may not be aware of. By being an active member, you can take part in a wide variety of service and networking opportunities the organization participates in. Not only that, but you will bring your fresh ideas and leadership qualities to make new and better things happen. With the many changes and pressures happening in higher education today, support for women, be they employees, students or potential students, is even more important. OCW has it all; whether you are meeting a new best friend or just a friendly ear, participating in a stress relieving activity, or volunteering for a service that makes you feel good inside.

As the year rolls on, we are putting together a fantastic Spring Symposium Luncheon for you. I just can’t wait to hear our speaker and be able to network with all of you. There will be a silent auction fundraiser at the Symposium to add to our scholarship fund. We seek donations and buyers—donations should be in the form of a “basket of goodies” or a theme (larger items or gift certificates may stand alone). Know a local business owner? Often times they will give free or dis-counted merchandise for fundraisers. More info will be mailed out soon!
Highlights from the 2015 Holiday Social
[Article and photos by Becki Viner]

The OCW Holiday Social was held on December 7, 2015 in Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall. Members and guests enjoyed the singing talents of the children from the Campus Child Care Center again this year. Special guests included parents of the singers and Chancellor Joe Gow. Much socializing took place, many door prizes were meted out and great food and sweet treats were in abundance to the delight of all. Supplies and food were collected for the Catholic Charities Warming House in downtown La Crosse.

Reporting on the 2015 WWHEL Conference
[Article by Deanna Wachter]

The WWHEL Conference was held October 29-30, 2015 at Mount Mary University in Milwaukee this past year. Mount Mary was founded in 1913. This 80-acre campus was nestled among many beautiful trees in peak fall foliage.

The theme for 2015’s conference was “Moving the Needle.” The keynote address by Genyne Edwards, J.D. encouraged attendees to think about innovation and advancing future opportunities to “move the needle.” She also provided insights into the kind of change that is necessary to move institutions of higher education forward in innovative ways. Three breakout sessions were offered after the keynote address. Participants had the opportunity to attend two of the three sessions. The sessions offered were Crucial Conversations, Design Thinking for Leadership Advancement, and Lean for Education. A recommended book is The Confidence Code by Katty Kay and Claire Shipman. The book discusses the importance of confidence and offers advice on how to achieve it. The author argues that the key reason men still predominate in the corporate world is due to confidence.

It was an excellent conference and a wonderful opportunity to network with other women in higher education.
OCW WINE TASTING RETREAT

[Article and Photos by Pamela Morris]

OCW members gathered to “warm up” at the Lost Island Winery in Onalaska on January 13. We were treated by Todd and Jennifer Wiedenhaft (owners) to a wonderful wine tasting accompanied by snacks provided by OCW members. While pouring out a seemingly endless number of tastes from their lovely wines, Todd and Jennifer answered all kinds of questions; told us the story of how they got their start, and showed us how ‘wine experts’ taste wine. The Wiedenhafts are active in their community; bringing their wine to events and doing charitable work that includes support for Veterans and children with cancer. Many OCW members took home favorites for gifts. We definitely cheered up from our ‘winter moods’ for a few hours!
UpComing OCW Events


The OCW Spring Symposium presents Aging is a Women’s Issue; keynote speaker, Nancy Richeson, Associate Professor at UWL, April 29 in Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall. Cost -$5, includes light lunch. RSVP by 4/24/16 to kvandomelen@uwlax.edu.

Women Moving Ahead Conference, April 2 at the Lunda Center, Western Technical College in La Crosse, WI. For more information and to register: www.womenmovingahead.org.

MEMBERSHIP

OCW Meetings - open to all. Meet in 2200 Centennial Hall. Thurs., March 3, 11:00-12:00; Fri., April 8, 12:00-1:00; Thurs., May 5, 11:00-12:00. See you there!

A membership drive was held on October 22, 2015. There are 33 OCW members across campus. The next membership drive will be held in October, 2016. You are always welcome to join anytime of the year.

BOOK CLUB NEWS

We encourage anyone to attend the Book Club meetings, even if you haven’t read, started or finished the current BC book! Jaralee Richter is our Book Club coordinator. Our meetings typically take place at Noon in Murphy’s Mug, but this is always subject to change. Jaralee will keep everyone updated through e-mail and FaceBook!
RETIREMENTS ANNOUNCED

December, 2015- Maureen Wilson*
January, 2016 - Kary Aubie*
April, 2016 - Janet Abnet*
June, 2016 - Nancy Jones

* - DENOTES OCW MEMBER

...& A LITTLE BIT MORE

RECIPE FOR EASTER EGG DYE

A simple and easy recipe for making and dying your own Easter eggs:

Hard boil your eggs. Cool completely. Mix 1/2 c. boiling water, 1 tsp. vinegar and 10-20 drops (to desired color) food color in a non-staining cup. Repeat for each color. (McCormick's now has neon colors!)

Color with crayon before dipping if desired. Dip hard boiled eggs in dye for approx. 5 minutes (longer if you desire darker colors). Remove from dye. Allow eggs to dry.

2016 IS A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR - PLEASE VOTE!

LEARN MORE ABOUT US; VISIT OUR WEBPAGE AT http://www.uwlax.edu/OCW/,
or CONTACT US AT: OCW@UWLAX.EDU.
SEEKING

Passionate and interested people to fill our 2016-2017 Steering Committee seats. The following positions are open for nominations:

1 - OCW President-elect

1 - Faculty Representative (1 - open, 1 - expiring)

1 - University Staff Representative (1 - open)

2 - Academic Staff representatives (2 - expiring, reps can re-run)

Nominees are invited to attend the April 8 meeting to introduce selves or read a statement. Ballots will be distributed online.

Also seeking a YWCA Tribute Committee Chair for 2016.