



University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
Class of 2021
Student Affairs Administration

M.S.Ed.
Graduation
Celebration

MAY 8, 2021 - BLENDED (UWRF) COHORT

MAY 15, 2021 - ONLINE COHORT

MAY 16, 2021 - ON-CAMPUS COHORT

MAY AND AUGUST 2021 ED.D. GRADUATES WILL CELEBRATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AT A LATER DATE. PLEASE CHECK THE SAA WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Event Program

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Tori Svoboda

SPEAKERS

Deanna Cahoon-Draus - Blended (UWRF) Cohort

Lo Moser Klink - Online Cohort

Ting Wang - On-Campus Cohort

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Dr. Jörg Vianden - Blended (UWRF) Cohort

Dr. Adele Lozano - Online Cohort

Dr. Becki Elkins - On-Campus Cohort

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Tori Svoboda

We would like to recognize that the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse occupies the land of the Ho-Chunk people. Please take a moment to celebrate and honor this ancestral Ho-Chunk land, and the sacred lands of all Indigenous people.



Blended (UWRF) Candidates

DEANNA P. CAHOON-DRAUS

Developing Staff Understanding of LGBTQ+ Students' Mental Health and Sense of Belonging

SAMUEL M. ELINSON

International Students and Racism in Western Education

TREVOR C. KNITTER

First Generation Students & Sense of Belonging

ANNJEANETT URBANO

Re-examining "Return on Inclusion" Modules: Developing a Deeper Understanding for Black Student-Athletes

SPENCER P. WAKEFIELD

Indigenize UW River Falls: Creating Community Collaborations and Cultural Engagement

KATHRYN J. WITT

No More Postponing: Help-seeking Behaviors of College Men with Anxiety and Depression

PHONG YUE YANG

Assessing Hmong College Students' Experiences at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls

Online Cohort Candidates

ALYSSA M. BOVINETTE*

COVID-19 Response: The Need to Assess Student Satisfaction and Support

JORDAN M. BRICK

Increasing the Population of Men Students Studying Abroad at the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

CARISSA GARLETTS

Eliminating the Final Barrier: Removing Standardized Tests From the College Admissions Process

JAZZMA HOLLAND

Elite Essence: Creating a Mentorship Program for Women of Color at the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

LAURA A. JONES

A Call for Mentorship: Faculty and First-Generation Students of Color

***AUGUST 2021 GRADUATE**



Online Cohort Candidates (continued)

AMELIA KIMMES KNESER

Repairing Harm: Navigating University Conduct Sanction Success and Equity

LO MOSER KLINK

Funding Higher Education: How Implicit Bias Impacts Scholarships

PULANE MALEFANE*

Student Leadership and Development Support at the University of the Free State

MOLLY E. MCANDREW

Opting In: An Assessment Consortium to Combat Survey Fatigue in Higher Education

JOSHUA B. NESJA

Identifying the Invisible: An Early Identification Program for Students with ADHD

SEAN P. PAYETTE

We Belong Here: Addressing Impostor Phenomenon in New Student Affairs Professionals

SEANNA PETR

Food for Thought: Meeting the Needs of Food Insecure Students at Vanderbilt University

CHRISTOPHER J. PORTER

Think Outside the Box: Discrimination of Formerly Convicted Applicants in Higher Education

COLLIN D. SCHROEDER

Building Virtual Communities: Expanding University Housing Programming for a Virtual World

ANDREW M. SELLA

Equitable Leadership: Evolving Selection Process to Better Empower Students of Color

KAYLA L. SYGULLA

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention: Engaging College Men Athletes and Fraternity Members in Bystander Intervention Training

DEANNA VANDERWIELEN

Winnebago Area College Partnership Program

ANGELA YANG

First-Generation Multicultural Living Community



On-Campus Cohort Candidates

MAGANN E. DYKEMA

Virtual Engagement: Student Activities Initiatives in a Technologically Focused Era

AISLINN HERNANDEZ

Retaining BIPOC Students at 2-Year Institutions: Programs and Support Embedded

SARA M. KARPIK

From Countryside to Campus: Supporting Rural Students' Transition to Higher Education

REBECCA L. PEARCE

The Eagle Domestic and Global Education Initiative: Reimagining Global Educational Experiences

MOLLY E. PONASIK

Are We Doing Enough? Supporting First-Generation Students in Their Career Development Process

KRISTINA SCHUBERT

Anti-Xenophobia: Orientation

ABIGAIL M. SHAW

Workers of the World: Addressing Issues in the Career Preparation of International Students

JOHNATHON T. SHAW

The Student Debt Crisis

COREY J. STILWELL

Men and Mental Health Literacy on the American College Campus

MYXEE M. THAO

Transcending Our Pain: Fostering Radical Healing Among BIPOC Student Activists

KAB VUE

Investing in Sustainable Equity: Social Justice Policy Making within UW System Universities

TING WANG

We Are Here: Disrupting Colonialism by Empowering Voices of Recovery

JOSHUA K. ZABEL*

Student Conduct Revision Process at the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse



Special Recognition

DR. HEIDI LANG

Rosandich Graduate Thesis and Dissertation Award

LO MOSER KLINK

Graduate Student Recognition of Excellence Award

MYXEE THAO

Graduate Student Academic Achievement Award - SAA Nominee

Thank you!

DR. LARRY RINGENBERG (UWL)

CARA RUBIS (UWRF)

DEBORAH NEWMAN (UWEC)

JENNIFER LEE (UW STOUT)

For their work as campus liaisons, assisting with recruiting, retention, and supporting supervisors of GA/GSI positions.

And to all of the many GA, GSI, and practicum supervisors for your support in educating our students.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Dr. Betsy Morgan - Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, AND HUMANITIES

Dr. Karl Kunkel - Dean

Dr. Charles Martin-Stanley - Associate Dean

Dr. Marie Moeller - Associate Dean

GRADUATE STUDIES

Dr. Meredith Thomsen - Dean of Graduate and Extended Learning

SAA GRADUATION PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Dr. Mary Beth Vahala (Chair)

Dr. Becki Elkins

Dr. Adele Lozano

Deanna Cahoon-Draus - Student Representative (Blended Cohort)

Sara Karpik - Student Representative (On-Campus Cohort)

Sean Payette - Student Representative (Online cohort)

Seanna Petr - Student Representative (Online Cohort)



SAA Mission

Using a theory to practitioner model, the mission of the Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education Master's degree program is to prepare Student Affairs professionals with the competence to work effectively within the complex political, economic, cultural, and social contexts of higher education.

SAA Faculty

TORI SVOBODA, ED.D., CHAIR & M.S.ED. PROGRAM DIRECTOR

BECKI ELKINS, PH.D., ED.D. PROGRAM DIRECTOR

ADELE LOZANO, PH.D.

LARRY RINGGENBERG, PH.D.

MARY BETH VAHALA, ED.D

JÖRG VIANDEN, ED.D

Clinical Faculty

DR. KRIS ANDERSON

MR. NIZAM ARAIN

DR. RICHARD BREAUX

DR. BETHANY BRENT

DR. CHARLOTTE DAVIDSON

DR. DRE DOMINGUE

DR. VITALIANO FIGUEROA

DR. MELANIE GUENTZEL

DR. ROBIN HART RUTHENBECK

DR. JAIMIE HOFFMAN

DR. LEILANI KUPO

DR. SABY LABOR

DR. ANH LE

DR. HEIDI LEVINE

DR. KRISTEN MCKINNEY

MS. STACY NARCOTTA-WELP

DR. MOIRA OZIAS

MS. INGRID PETERSON

DR. GWENDOLYN SCHIMEK

DR. PAUL SHEPHERD

DR. KERRI SMITH

DR. KRISTA SORIA

DR. BROOKE STRAHN-KOLLER