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 2020, 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 UWL No. 3 among public universities in the Midwest who offer undergraduate and master’s programs, the highest ranking of any UW institution in this category. And we also are ranked 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 UWL campus, and the accomplishments listed on page 3 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 UWL, 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
• U.S. News & World Report named UWL the No. 1 regional university in the state and the No. 3 regional university in the Midwest in a ranking of schools with undergraduate and master’s programs for 2020. It’s the 19th consecutive year UWL earned a top ranking. UW La Crosse also finished first in the magazine’s “Top Performers on Social Mobility” ranking, which assesses how schools assist students with Pell Grants.

• UWL has been named among the nation’s top 20 colleges for ROI — return on investment. Great Value Colleges ranked UWL No. 16 among its “100 Most Affordable Public Schools with the Highest ROIs.”

• UWL is No. 13 among four-year public institutions nationally with the highest, five-year repayment rates for Pell Grant recipients. Eighty-two percent of students receiving Pell Grants in the 2010 or 2011 fiscal years had paid toward their principal five years later. And, UW La Crosse students who began repaying federal student loans during 2015 have the lowest loan default rate over a three-year period among all UW System institutions. Only 1.6 percent of UW La Crosse students defaulted on their loans, compared to the 5.1 percent UW average.

• Students in fall 2019 set a record enrollment: 10,586. The first-year class included a record 2,194 students. The number of undergraduate degrees awarded has steadily risen over the last decade, from 2,020 undergraduate degrees awarded in 2018-19, up from 1,688 in 2010-11.

• UWL retains and graduates a higher percentage of its students than any other comprehensive university in the UW System.

• December 2020 grad Lilli Minor was named the 2020 National Student Employee of the Year by the National Student Employment Organization, and contributions to NCTA and testing.

• The largest single gift ever to UWL — $2.1 million — in fall 2019 was a game-changer for the College of Business Administration and the region. It establishes the Monard Family Midwest Initiative for Economic Engagement and Research, which provides students more opportunities to learn economics through hands-on experiences and community engagement.

• The Therapeutic Recreation Program received the Program of Merit for Health Professions designations from The Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education in 2019 — the first health professions program to receive this honor.

• In addition, UWL’s Therapeutic Recreation Program received the American Therapeutic Recreation Association’s Excellence in Education award in 2019. The annual award goes to a clinical agency or program that has distinguished itself through outstanding contributions to the profession.

• UWL is ranked among the nation’s top Military Friendly Schools for 2020-21. UWL earned a bronze rating among “Large Public” colleges and universities. Military Friendly is the standard that measures an organization’s commitment, effort and success in creating sustainable and meaningful benefit for the military community.

• Associate Professor of Physics Shelly Leisher received a Yale Presidential Fellowship for 2019-20 — one of about 10 awarded each year. She is teaching a Yale University class about the history of the atomic bomb and its implications on society.

• Three sport clubs earned national honors in spring 2019. The Archery Club won the gold medal for Most Bowhunter Team. The Bowling Club took second place in its league. And the Men’s Volleyball Club team earned third place in its Division II league.

• 2017 graduate Timothy Fallon was one of 110 nationwide to receive the Elijah Watt Sells Award from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants in 2019. It cites outstanding performance on the CPA exam by obtaining a cumulative average score above 95.50 across all four sections and passing all four on the first attempt.

• AffordableCollegesOnline.org, a leading online organization that lists affordable colleges, ranked UWL No. 6 among the Top LGBTQ-Friendly Colleges for 2018-19.

• A staff member has received a lifetime achievement award. Criss Gilbert, office manager and testing coordinator in Counseling & Testing, was honored with the lifetime achievement award. Criss Gilbert, office manager and testing coordinator in Counseling & Testing, was honored with the lifetime achievement award.

• In 2018, Criss Gilbert, office manager and testing coordinator in Counseling & Testing, was honored with the lifetime achievement award.

• The international award honors his unique approach to teaching Medieval History.

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College of Business Administration continued

Chase M. Sather
Jakob K. Schappel
Abigail R. Schauer
Lucas Scherr
Mackenzie D. Schieble**
Ahna V. Schinn
Remington C. Schink+
Hayden J. Schlough
Olivia G. Schmit+
Lexi J. Schneider
Jacob Schnepper+
Remington C. Schink+
Ahnna V. Schini*
Mackenzie D. Schieble**
Anna M. Schmitt
Alec T. Bouchard
Kaitlin R. Lubsinski
Madeline L. Maas
Natalia R. Maher
Marcus D. Mahum**
Kelle R. Maier**
Grace Marco**
Jacob M. Marxou+ Dominic A. Maretti
Kayleigh M. Marshall**
Joel Martin*
Jackson E. Martinez
Rachel S. Maxfield
Anna G. Mayer*
Calvin D. McClellan+ Patrick T. McCormick
Karson E. McEwen
Makenna R. McGilvray
Katherine M. Milgire
Carly H. McGrath
Sydney R. McKenzie*
Jessica M. Mehegy
Payton E. Medick
Nathan G. Melhak*
Haylee L. Meyer**
Michael P. Meyers, Jr
Jonathan P. Middleton+ Madeline E. Mihm
Demi M. Miller
Lizzy Miller**
Lauren T. Minnette
Kristin T. Mitchell
Edward Moberg
Mark R. Moralez*
Charlee F. Mous
Kari E. Mrak
Kaylee G. Mulholand**
Danielle M. Mumma
Cassidy L. Murphy
Matthew J. Murphy++

College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities continued

Alexa A. Acker+
Luca Alcota, Jr
Sara L. Adams**
Hope M. Adelmejer
Aiko S. Akeri
Rachel E. Aderton
Benjamin M. Alaga
Lucas E. Anderson**
Trevor T. Andersen
Hannah N. Anderson*
Ashley A. Ary*
William C. Ayers, Jr+
Madeline M. Bah+ Nathaniel T. Baier
Mikayla Baker*
Cassondra L. Bartisch
Andrea N. Bauer
Jacoby E. Baumgartner
Rachael A. Beck+
Benjamin H. Taft
Morgan N. Talbott
Christian A. Thao
Blake E. Thiele
Alison A. Thul
Carly J. Weiss
Sarah E. Ziolkowski**
Camryn W. Zimmerman
Hongbing Zhan*
Siri I. Zeinert*
Jayden B. Zarda
Quentin H. Woods
Jessica A. Wolf*
Catherine J. Wilson
Katherine A. Wilkinson
Samuel J. Wiersma
Kendra J. Wiltz
Grant L. Wainio
Conner J. Waddell
Allison M. Deisting
Benjamin L. DeDeker
Julia M. Dawson**
Karissa N. grapes**
Evangelina R. Kapanke
Marlo M. Kastner
Alexander J. Katzka
Theodore D. Kearney
Owen G. Keenan
Jacob C. Keeneland
Payton N. Kefal
Paige M. Kelly
Abigail R. Kettinger
Ayjasa C. Kidd+
Sofia K. Kinzie**
Dylan Klein
Sarah A. Klemm
Megan L. Klitzke**
Logan F. Knollenberg
Natalie P. Knope
Rebecca R. Kohlmeier
Amy Kolly*
Molly R. Korinek
Jessica L. Koski*
Hannah E. Krecak
Courtney N. Kron
Devon N. Kraemer*+
Ally S. Karst**
Jordan R. Kuske+
Ari C. LaBarge+
Anna C. Langdon*
Kayla K. Larson*
Remi L. Larson*
Grant T. Latus*
Aden A. LaVine
Michael A. Lemery
Olivia R. Lewis+
Evan E. Libetrau
Susan M. Lindstrom
Sophia S. Littin
Judy C. Lof
Chloé J. Lorenz
Chloe J. Lorenz

College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities

Derek T. Smiley+
Ashley A. Smits
Sarah R. Snoeyenbos
Natalie J. Speers+
Luke M. Spelman
Jacob M. Sponholtz
Zachary K. Stahle
Alex R. Stevenson
Bradly T. Stolzman
Mitchell R. Streble+
Abigail J. Strohfeldt*
Carrie E. Strong
Robert C. Stuart, III
Brett D. Sullivan+
Benjamin H. Taft
Morgan N. Talbott
Ako S. Akheri
Sara L. Adams**
Alexa L. Acker+
Alec T. Bouchard
Hannah L. Bontrager*
Kilian M. Boland*
Erika Boehme*
Maci E. Blommel*
Bryn A. Bierman
Brittany A. Beyer
Noah W. Bertrand
Cassandra K. Behm
Alex J. Becker**
Molly R. Brown
Benjamin L. Brown+
Natalie C. Brey
Jacklyn C. Brown
Jackson C. Brown
Elizabeth C. Clair
Benjamin R. Christensen
Emma G. Clough
Elizabeth M. Cloyd
Taylor D. Creel
Alyssa C. Clevenger*
Sara L. Conn
Sarah J. Coppenbarger
Alex J. Becker**
Molly R. Brown
Benjamin L. Brown+
Natalie C. Brey
Jacklyn C. Brown
Jackson C. Brown
Elizabeth C. Clair
Benjamin R. Christensen
Emma G. Clough
Elizabeth M. Cloyd
Taylor D. Creel
Alyssa C. Clevenger*
Graduate Degree Candidates continued

Education Specialist

School Psychology
Alyssa J. Anderson
Lindsey L. Bucki
Em J. Graff
Adalyn R. Green
Anna G. Hamer
Victoria R. Klaas
Samantha J. McGarvey
Mikayla K. Minna
Alicia J. Olsen
Hannah M. Pical
Ashley M. Schuh
Will Vogt

Biology
Biology: Environmental Science
Robert P. Crowley

Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology

Biology: Aquatic Science

Applied Statistics
Calvin J. Corey
Susan M. Franki
Austin W. Goodrich
Felipe A. Pincheira-Berthelon

Community Health Education
Teri L. Boardman
Heidi L. Ogedaard
Jere L. Villanueva

Data Science
Carlos E. Amiel+
Ilya Boksin+
Deane F. Buckingham
Garrett Burt
Julian Cook
Ashley M. DeLacy
Allison C. Del
Kelly L. Douglas+
Mark Hoferle
Arun Prakash Janakiraman
Josef W. Kimm
Tracey A. Kroll
Eleonore S. Molstad
Pik Wahl Eveline Mou+
Laurie F. Nekola
Thanh Hƣong T. Nguyen+
Marc Petta
Mohan Rajendran+
Taylor D. Rickman
Mark E. Riley+

Exercise and Sport Science:
Physical Education Teaching
Jared L. Anderson+
Lauren E. Bach+
Douglas J. Bradley+
Richard C. Finco+
Jacob T. Rugen+
Querten K. Fisher
Rhiyanne E. Hartwig+
Jonai M. Lloyd+
Steven T. Otterson+
Serena L. Sandvig+
Erika M. Shady+
Felicia-Ann K. Urbanyczky+
McKenzie Werner+

Microbiology
Christopher P. Kalinka
Matthew Murowy

Occupational Therapy
Keely A. Janssen

Physician Assistant Studies
Avery Bartylak
Allison K. Chorzempa
David R. Cullen
James Dorrance, IV
Madeline L. Eischen
Allison M. Emblerson
Ashley E. Hanson
Caitlin M. Higer
Ingrid A. Hoorka
Allison R. Kosobud+

Reid S. Lundell+
Courtney E. McKeever
Jocelyn J. Perry
Kendra K. Ruffalo
Alexandra M. Schwartz
Aliza B. Stevens
Courtney E. Strom
Haley E. Taylor
Alyssa R. Teksu
Cullen R. Vos
Alyssa M. Wentworth+
Anika M. Whiting
James L. Wise
Karla E. Zemba

Recreation Management
Kaleb D. Miller
Maren A. Singer
Sarah M. Stefanik
Chang Ju Wu

Therapeutic Recreation
Alexandra Gold+
Shaytie M. Ryan+
Miranda M. Snortheim

Master of Public Health
Mariah E. Welke

Master of Software Engineering
Joshua R. Chanelli
Jianmu Deng
Tyler M. Durr+
Joseph T. Fedor+
David W. Ferentchak
Ge Ge
Jeroen Ketelaar
Hui Li
Lijuan Li
Dong Yi Liang
Mingja Lin

Yuanqing Suo
Feifan Zhang

Master of Science in Education

Reading Teacher
Courtney Brown

Reading Teacher/Specialist
Angela L. Femal
Kayla Finn
Hannah E. Hokenson
Kristina J. Maurer
Amy K. Suralski

School Psychology
Anthony J. Bacchi
Melissa M. Brant
Joel C. Delwiche
Kathryn G. Fischer
Ashley V. Hault
Jordan R. Jozefacki
Ryan J. Kuser
Courtney A. O’Brien
Bobbi Jo A. Loomis
Theresa M. Maurer
Kayla J. Scheevel
Jenna A. Sether

Online Learning Communities
Hannah M. Bauer+
Jenna Buss+
Christina Cassano+
Lisa Colburn+
Hannah C. Evers+
Anna M. Kass+
Julia A. Massino+
Ashley N. Rossman+
Joseph J. Stodola+
Courtney M. Street+
Sara J. Swenson+
Logan D. Thole+
Andrew N. Wieser+

Student Affairs Administration
in Higher Education
Laura Abellera
Eve X. Altman
Jasmin T. Barnhill
Kyleah Bell
Rachel A. Berry
Katelynn K. Bozich
Kathleen A. Bratwick
Eva J. Clark
Garrett O. Denning
Corrine O. Dillman
Laurens E. Fekete
Anthony J. Gabriella
Heidi M. Germain
Nicholas M. Gordon
Ellen W. Halvorson
Ryan A. Hathaway
Beck Hawkins
Erin E. Hazen
Kelsey J. Jones, Jr
Mai Lee
Mai N. Lo
Kathryn J. Marten
Melissa A. Moore
Katherine P. Moua
Paula M. Myatt
Danielle Olson
Katie A. Phipps
Megan Sippel
Taxin T. Swaberg
Maney Thao
Yeng Housa X. Thao
Morgan E. Theobald
David Toles
Larkin Tyl
Jessica L. Valentin
Lukas J. Wymer
Karissa K. Zastrow
Graduate Dissertation, Thesis, and Project Titles

2020 GRADUATE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Hannah Hokenson - Master of Science in Education in Reading
Kayla Scheevel - Master of Science in Education in School Psychology
Maria Lee - Doctor of Physical Therapy
Jared Anderson - Physical Education Teaching

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, & HUMANITIES

Doctor of Education - Student Affairs Administration and Leadership
Curis L. Coleman - “We’re the Bottom”: African-American Student Perceptions of Racial Order at a Predominantly White Institution
July P. Coleman - Dame la Mano, Somos Hermanos: Examining Latino Male Students’ Path to Success at a Minority Serving Institution
Bradley E. Duckworth - NCAA Division III Student Athletes’ Perceptions of Title IX
Christopher J. Jorgenson - “I don’t want to be here”: Perceptions of Persistence among LGBTQ+ Students of Color at Predominantly White Institutions of Higher Education
Heidi E. Lang - The Impact of College Union Involvement on Student Perceptions of Belonging and Campus Climate
Kelley L. Martin - Undermatch: The Role of Familial Involvement in College Choice among Working-Class Students
Darrel Renier - Leadership Expression in Four-Year Public Institutions: An Exploration of Characteristics and Strategies of Academic Deans
Anne A. Thurner - Changing the Price of the Ticket: A Critical Analysis of High Impact Practices Presented to First-Generation College Students via College Admissions Sites
Christine L. Workman - Formerly Incarcerated Black Men and Their SYFY Registration: First-Year Students Perceptions of Sense of Belonging and Campus Environment
Rachel A. Berry - Choosing a Major: Intersections between Gender and Trauma
Jasmin Tiana Barnhill - Weighing Needs: Student of Color Student Perceptions of Sense of Belonging and Campus Environment
Jordi A. Loomis - Are You an Ally? School Psychologists’ Support of LGBTQ Students
Theresa M. Maurer - Mindfulness and Our Youth: Examining Differences Among Gender and Trauma
Kayla J. Scheevel - Professional Development: Effects of Mandated Training on Teachers’ Perceived Competency
Jenna A. Sether - The Impact of a School-Wide Calming Space on Teacher Self-Efficacy

Master of Science in Education – Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education
Lauren F. Haur - Uplifting the Drivers of Equity Work: Providing Structural Support for Social Justice Activism
Evelyn Utman - The Effect of Gender Inclusive Housing on the Social Integration of LGBTQIA+ Students
Jasmyn T. Barnhill - Weighing Needs: Student of Color Food-Insecurity at Predominantly White Institutions
Kyleah D. Bell - Black Women Staff and Faculty Navigating Predominantly White Work Environments
Rachel A. Berry - Choosing a Major: Intersections between First-Generation Status and Racial Identity
Katelynn A. Bozich - SFPY Registration: First-Year Registration for Second-Generation Standing First-Year Students
Niki Charlestone - Formerly Incarcerated Black Men and Their Entry to Higher Education
Garrett O. Denning - About Us and With Us: Improving Persistence of #ActuallyAutistic Students at UW La Crosse

Graduate Dissertation, Thesis, and Project Titles continued

Conroe Q. Dillman - Home Away from Home: Supporting International Students in the U.S.
Lauren Ficker - Caregiver Advising with Specialty Areas: A Proposal for St. Louis Community College
Anthony J. Gabriella - The Help Students Need: Universality Moving toward an In-Residence Counselor Model
Heidi Germain - Polytechnic Universities Prepare You for the Workforce, Not the Adult World
Nicholas M. C. Gordon - Student Athlete Academic Success: Improving Retention at a Division III Athletic Institution
Ellen Halvorson - Promoting Productive Help-Seeking Behaviors in College Men: A Campus Men’s Center
Ryan A. Hathaway - Implicit Bias Training Model
Beck L. Hawkins - It’s Our Responsibility; Preparing White Student Affairs Professionals to Talk about Race
Eric Hazen - Four-Year Contracts to Shorten Graduation
Nathan Hilgart - Supporting Student Service Members and Veterans through Advising: An Advisor Education Program
Kelsey J. Jones, Jr. - Rethinking International Student Retention in the U.S.
Ma Li - Doubly Invisible: Graduate Students of Color at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Ma Nue Lor - Academic Resources and Support at PWIs: How are We Helping College Students of Color on Academic Probation Persist?
Kathryn Martin - Assessing the University of Wisconsin System Transfer Student Experience
Melissa Moore - The Inclusion Project: Incorporating the Multicultural Organization Model to Programmatic Efforts
Katherine Pajukangas - Diversity and Social Justice Consciousness Training Program for Student Affairs Professionals
Paula M. Myttä - Meeting in the Middle: The Impact of Race in Addressing Roommate Conflict at Western Technical College
Danie L. Olson - Increasing Retention Rates of Students of Color at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Kate A. Phipps - Addressing Dating Violence at Johns Hopkins University
Megan M. Reed Sippel - Improving Academic Persistence: Targeted Support for At-Risk Students
Tavin Swanson - Two Day Orientations: Proposing Change at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
Maryn Thao - Persistent Challenges Facing HMOOB Men in Higher Education
Katelyn A. Bozich - Using Structural Equation Modeling and Data Cleaning Techniques to Determine Sedentary Behavior

Lakin K. Tyll - Persistence in Higher Education: Support for First-Generation Students in the U.S.
Jessica Valentino - Helping Animals on The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire’s Campus
Lukas J. Wymr - Taking the Wheel: Improving Commuter Student Retention Through On-Campus Engagement at UW-Platteville
Karissa K. Zastrow - Incorporating a Blended Training Model for Student Staff Training at UW-Stout’s Memorial Student Center

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH

Doctor of Physical Therapy
Jacob D. Anason - Effect of Increasing Running Cadence on Peak Impact Force in an Outdoor Environment
Jacqueline A. Cleerean - Drop Landing Performance in Female Collegiate Athletes: Effect of a Four-Week Training Intervention
Katelyn R. De Starkey - Achilles Tendon Stress During Added Load Running
Danielle M. Goulette - Patellofemoral Joint Loading during Forward and Backwards Lunes
Patrick J. Griffith - Patellofemoral Joint Loading during Forward and Backwards Lunes
Ashley M. Grath - Achilles Tendon Stress During Added Load Running
Mark J. Lee - Drop Landing Performance in Female Collegiate Athletes: Effect of a Four-Week Training Intervention
Taylor L. Musgjerd - Effect of Increasing Running Cadence on Peak Impact Force in an Outdoor Environment
Ryan R. Thiessen - Achilles Tendon Stress During Added Load Running

Master of Science in Applied Statistics
Calvin Carey - Applications of Time Series Analysis for Forecasting Fuel Sales and Change Point Detection
Susan M. Franks - Impact of Adjunct Chemotherapy on Overall Survival of Patients With Pathologic Stage I Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: An Analysis of the National Cancer Database
Austin William Goodrich - Who Do I Support Now? A Case Study of Twitter User’s Second Choice Candidate After Their Preferred Candidate Withdraws From the 2020 Democratic Party Presidential Nomination Race
Felipe A. Pincheira-Berthelon - Using Structural Equation Modeling and Data Cleaning Techniques to Determine Sedentary Behavior

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Felipe A. Pincheira-Berthelon - Using Structural Equation Modeling and Data Cleaning Techniques to Determine Sedentary Behavior
Graduate Dissertation, Thesis, and Project Titles continued

Master of Science in Biology
Sabrina R. Apperson - A Twenty-Year Morphological and Molecular Study of Macrofungi in the Driftless Region of Southwestern Wisconsin
Emile Ciavette - Social and Ecological Considerations of Urban and Non-Urban American Elm Management
Sarah Rand - Investigating the Genetic Basis of Resilience to Iron Starvation Using Chlamydomonas reinhardtii
Annie Schauster - Genetic and Genomic Insights into the Successional Patterns and Reproductive Methods of Fire-Associated Morchella

Master of Science in Biology - Aquatic Sciences
Jeffrey G. Henderson - The Role of Large Wood in the Restoration of Habitat in the Upper Mississippi River

Master of Science in Biology - Environmental Sciences
Alexandra C. Oines - Influence of Flooding, Gap Size, and Surrounding Forest Characteristics on the Fate of UMR's Floodplain Forest Canopy Gaps

Master of Science in Biology - Nurse Anesthesia
Megan G. Bisco - Antibiotic Timing and Surgical Site Infection Rates for Total Joint Arthroplasty
Emma M. Brandenburg - Effectiveness of Sugammadex in Reversing Steroidal Neuromuscular Blocking Drugs
Joseph W. Egbert - Ketamine Use for Analgesia in the Perioperative Period
Andrew J. Larson - Neuromuscular Anaesthesia Techniques in Laboring Women
Patrick J. McHenry - The Use of Ketamine-Propranol (Ketofol) in Anaesthesia
Christopher P. Nelson - The Role of Large Wood in the Restoration of Habitat in the Upper Mississippi River

Master of Science in Data Science
Carlos E. Ameli - The use of NOAA Buoy Data for Time Series and Machine Learning Forecasts

Master of Science in Exercise and Sport Science: Human Performance
Layne Nowlin - Fatigue and Performance Differences Between Incoming Freshmen and Returning Division III Collegiate Women Soccer Players When Completing a Repeated Shuttle-Sprint Protocol

Master of Science in Microbiology
Christopher Kalinka - Does the YCJII Operon Contribute to Uropathogenic Escherichia coli Fitness When Cultured in Human Urine

Master of Science in Physical Education Teaching
Jared Anderson - Pre-Service Teacher Socialization and Self-Efficacy While Learning to Teach
Lauren Bach - Modifications and Adaptations for Successful Inclusion in Athletics for Individuals with Visual Impairment
Doug Bradley - Equipment Modifications on a Budget
Rocky Finco - Assessing Homeschool Children's Fundamental Motor Skills Using the TGMD-3
Quenton Fisher - Adventure/Outdoor Education Programs in Schools: Starting and Advancing
Rhyanne Hartwig - Implementing Self-Protection Units in Adapted Physical Education
Jacob Rogen - Research-Based Strategies for Increasing Motivation and Engagement in Physical Education
Alex Kurtman - Implementing Adventure Education in Physiotherapist Teacher Education
Joni Lloyd - Consideration for Inclusive Adventure Education in K-12 Settings
Steve Otterness - Research-Based Strategies for Increasing Motivation and Engagement in Physical Education
Serena Sandvig - Choice Reading Time on Below Grade Level Readers in a Second-Grade Classroom

Master of Science in Public Health
Mariah E. Welke - A Mixed-Methods Needs Assessment of Diabetes-Self Management Education in Rural Wisconsin

Graduate Dissertation, Thesis, and Project Titles continued

Master of Software Engineering
Benjamin R. Carbins - The Gamification of Canocial Optimization Problems
Josh Chanelli - A Project Tracking Tool for Scrum Projects with Machine Learning Support for Cost Estimation
Jianmu Deng - Tongue Diagnosis in Diabetes by Deep Learning
David Ferentchak - An Android UWL Campus Guide App
Ge Ge - Simulation of a Remote Patient Monitoring System
Jeroen Ketelaar - A Web Application to Manage Flekspaces in an Office
Tianru Li - Python-based Face Recognition
Dong Yi Liang - Route Recommendations Based on FourSquare Check-in Data
Qingruo Xu - Developing an Autonomous Driving Model based on Raspberry Pi

Master of Science in Therapeutic Recreation
Shaylee Ryan - Animal Assisted Therapy Professional Plan

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Master of Education - Professional Development
Hannah M. Bauer - How Can Mindfulness in the Classroom Impact Student Behaviors?
Jenna G. Buss - How Does a Daily School Schedule Impact Student Learners in Mathematics?
Christina J. Cassano - The Effects of Choice on Middle School Student Interest
Lisa Marie Colburn - Using Mindfulness to Develop Learning in the Secondary Classroom
Hannah C. Evers - The Effectiveness of a Constructivist Approach on Secondary Language Proficiency
Anna M. Kass - Reaching Exceptional Learners Through the General Educator
Julia A. Massino - Strategies that Best Benefit Third-Grade Students' Reading Development and Achievement
Ashley Rossman - How Does the Co-Teaching Model Impact Students Learning in a Secondary Classroom?
Courtney M. Street - Does Growth Mindset Positively Affect Academic Achievement?
Joseph J. Stodola - How Do Student Breaks Affect Student Engagement?
Logan D. Thole - How Does Project-Based Learning Affect Elementary Student Learning?
Andrea Wiesner - How Does Play Impact Student Learning?

Master of Science in Education - Reading Teacher
Courtney Brown - The Impact of Having Second-Grade Students Record a Text Read Out Loud in Relation to Their Fluency

Master of Science in Education - Reading Teacher/Reading Specialist
Courtney Brown - The Impact of Having Second-Grade Students Record a Text Read Out Loud in Relation to Their Fluency
Angela Femali - The Effects of Daily Booktalks and Independent Choice Reading Time on Below Grade Level Readers in a Ninth-Grade Literacy Class
Kayla Finn - A Comparison of Vocabulary Strategies During an Interactive Read Aloud
Hannah Hokinson - The Mindful Approach to Reading Engagement and Achievement
Kristina Maurer - The Effects of Homogeneous Ability Grouping on Low-Level Students' Self-Esteem, Confidence, and Motivation in Reading
Amy Suralski - The Effects of Retrospective Misuqe Analysis on Overall Reading Growth and Motivation of Third-Grade Students
The Murphy Awards for Academic Excellence recognize the university's top two graduating scholars, as chosen by the Scholarship and Awards Committee. A Murphy Foundation grant supported the creation of the awards in 1980 to recognize outstanding and exceptional scholastic ability. The top recipient receives $1,500 and the second, $1,000.

Taylor Hackel graduates with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry. Hackel came to campus with an Eagle Apprentice Research Award and continued doing research. She was a Dean’s Distinguished Fellow and received a Research and Creative Grant. Hackel was a cadaver head teaching assistant and mentored children with special needs. She was co-president of the UWL Food Recovery Network, served meals at Salvation Army, was an intake and kitchen volunteer for Catholic Charities Warming Center, as well as a pen pal with prisoners. Hackel has received a Post Baccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award with the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. She is applying to medical school and hopes to earn a joint medical doctor/master of public health degree to address health disparities and improve social justice in health care. The 2018 graduate of Newman Catholic High School in Wausau is the daughter of Paul and Mary Hackel, Wausau.

Kaylee Mulholland graduates with a bachelor’s in communication studies, media studies emphasis, with a minor in business administration. Mulholland completed many research projects throughout college, including three published with The Journal of Undergraduate Research. She also had a presentation, “Creating a Nation to Consume: A Semiotic Analysis of South African Travel Advertisements,” accepted for the Central States Communication Association Conference in Chicago. Along with receiving an undergraduate research grant, Mulholland received numerous scholarships, including the Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship and the Coulee Region Professional Women Scholarship. The 2017 graduate of West Salem High School is the daughter of Jason and Tricia Mulholland, La Crosse.

The Jake and Janet Hoeschler Award for Excellence recognizes a College of Business Administration graduate for academic accomplishment and leadership on campus and the community. Janet Hoeschler, a 1940 graduate, established the award in 1992 to signify a business-university partnership. Recipients receive $1,500.

Sydney Emmerich graduates with a Bachelor of Science with majors in economics and finance: risk, insurance and financial planning concentration. Emmerich, a member of the women’s track and field team, was named to the NCAA III All-Academic Women’s Track & Field Team in 2018 and 2019. She received the Joe Laux Family CBA Top Scholar Award and David M. Cole Award in Economics and Finance, along with numerous scholarships. Emmerich was a member of the Financial Management Association and Investment Club. The Circle K member also worked with the campus Habitat for Humanity chapter. Emmerich has accepted a job as a fiscal analyst for the Legislative Fiscal Bureau in Madison, with plans to begin in June. The 2018 graduate of Medford Area High School is the daughter of Al and Michelle Emmerich.

The Strzelecky Award in Science and Health recognizes an outstanding senior in the College of Science and Health for academic achievement, along with campus and community service. Robert, ’84, and Judy Strzelecky, who funded many physical therapy projects and scholarships, endowed the award in 1996. Recipients receive $1,000.

Mitch Bunting graduates with a Bachelor of Science in biology and chemistry, with a pre-dental track. Bunting received numerous undergraduate research grants, studying breast cancer treatment and climate change effects on coral. He also earned fellowships and scholarships. Bunting was president of the Pre-Dental Club, chair of the Campus Organization Council, and served on other campus committees. He was a mentor for students with disabilities, a volunteer for a pediatric clinic and a volunteer at a nursing home. After graduation, Bunting will conduct a summer research fellowship through the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, where he will begin studying for his four-year dental degree. The 2017 graduate of Buffalo High School is the son of Randy and Nancy Bunting, Buffalo, Minnesota.

The John E. Magerus Award for the Outstanding Graduating Senior from the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities recognizes an outstanding graduate for academic accomplishments, leadership, and campus and community involvement. The award is named for Magerus, who retired in 2004 after 28 years of teaching and serving as an administrator in the college. Recipients receive $1,000.

Mark Morales graduates with a bachelor’s in political science and public administration, along with a professional writing certificate. Morales was deeply involved in student government, serving as Black Student Unity Senator, Chair of Staff and Faculty Senate Student Representative, along with being a member of the Joint Multicultural Affairs Committee and SUFAC vice chair. He was a keynote speaker at a national American Association of State Colleges and Universities convention. Morales received CASSH recognition of excellence from the Political Science and Public Administration Department, as well as numerous scholarships. He will attend the University of Minnesota’s Hubert Humphrey School of Public Affairs to obtain a Master’s of Public Policy on a full-ride scholarship. The 2015 Rufus King High School is the son of Glenn Morales, Milwaukee.

The Rosandich Graduate Thesis Award recognizes the best graduate thesis, based on originality, impact and written quality. The award is funded through the generosity of Thomas P. Rosandich, ’54, president of the U.S. Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama. The recipient receives $1,000.

Allison Zank earned a Master of Science in clinical microbiology. Zank is one of only two UWL graduate students ever to be awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, which supported her work on campus. These fellowships more commonly go to students at large research-focused universities. Zank was selected for her research on a chemical compound that could become a new antibiotic to treat infections. She made several important discoveries that add to knowledge of how the drug works and makes it more effective. Her work directly applies to drug development, as well as providing scientists a greater understanding of the basic biology of the infectious bacteria she studies. Zank graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Augsburg College in 2014. She works with the Veterans Administration in Minneapolis, where she lives.
2020 Alumni Awards
Alumni from five decades have earned top awards bestowed by the UWL Alumni Association. They’re being honored for distinguished service and successful careers.

The alumni will return to campus in fall to speak with students and participate in a panel at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, in the Stzrelczyk Great Hall, Cleary Alumni & Friends Center. An Alumni Awards Brunch and Ceremony is planned for 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, in The Bluffs Room, UWL Student Union. Tickets are $25 per person and can be ordered through the Alumni Association at 608.785.8489.

The Maurice O. Graff Distinguished Alumnus Award Recognizes outstanding achievement of alumni who have brought honor and distinction to the university. Long-time administrator Maurice O. Graff instituted the honor in 1977.

Michael McGinley, ’82
• Revered for a dedicated career in animal health, improving the lives of animals by preventing disease and championing more effective vaccines and drugs.
• President of Biologicals & Pharmaceuticals, Heska Corp.
• Bachelor’s in microbiology, Master’s and doctorate from Iowa State University. Advanced management program at Harvard University.

James Burkhart, ’68
• Internationally recognized scholar in radon science and leader in developing high-quality radon measurement equipment to reduce radon-induced lung cancer.
• Professor emeritus in the Physics Department at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.
• Bachelor’s in physics and math, Master’s and doctorate from UW-Milwaukee.

Rada Distinguished Alumnus Award Recognizes alumni who have graduated within the last 20 years, achieved professional distinction and taken part in humanitarian activities. Professor emeritus Ron Rada and his wife, Jane, created the award in 2002.

Kara Pennoyer, ’06
• Respected leader in state government, including advisor to the Wisconsin governor and his chief of staff on planning, policy development and problem resolutions, along with overseeing numerous internal teams.
• Deputy Chief of Staff for Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers.
• Bachelor’s in political science and communication studies. Master’s from University of Illinois Chicago.

Parker Distinguished Multicultural Alumni Award Recognizes outstanding alumni who have contributed greatly to improve multiracial culture and understanding on campus and in their careers. History Professor Emeritus James Parker initiated the award in 1997.

Jennifer Miller, ’70
• Renowned career working with low-income, poverty stricken or abused persons; worked to revitalize neighborhoods in Rock County, Wisconsin, and Chicago.
• Retired but remains active volunteering for the Heartland Alliance for Human Rights and Human Needs.
• Bachelor’s in history.

Burt and Norma Altman Teacher Education Award Honors and recognizes outstanding educators and the significant contributions they make to children and communities. Professor Emeritus Burt Altman and his wife, Norma, long-time supporters of teacher education, created the award in 2015.

Penny Kroening, ’85
• National award-winning leader in empowering kids to live physically active lifestyles by promoting physical literacy using creativity, design and integrated arts into lessons; 2016 SHAPE America Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year.
• Executive director of the Wisconsin Health and Physical Education Association.
• Bachelor’s in physical education with a concentration in adaptive physical education. Master’s from Carroll University.

Steven Olson, ’85
• Respected educator with a reputation for putting students first, while leading with integrity; recently facilitated a five-year district strategic plan resulting in a mission statement of “Enter With Promise. Leave With Purpose.”
• Superintendent of Community High School Dist. 155 in Crystal Lake, Illinois.
• Bachelor’s in broadfield social studies, Master’s from Northern Illinois University. Superintendent Endorsement from Aurora University.

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The survey will take less than five minutes and is completely confidential.
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.