

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

C O M M E N C E M E N T



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LA CROSSE

Dear friends, alumni and distinguished guests:

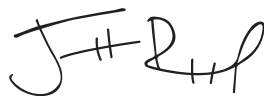
From our storied beginnings in 1909, when the La Crosse Normal School was founded, to our place of prominence today in 2025, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse has grown into one of the best public universities in the country. Thus we can be proud of many things—in particular, today's graduating class.

For more than 20 years, U.S. News & World Report has ranked UWL the top school in the UW System and among the top five public universities in the Midwest that offer undergraduate and master's programs. Also, for more than a decade UWL has been one of only two UW campuses ranked in Kiplinger Magazine's list of the Top 100 Values in American Public Higher Education, further recognition of our strong national leadership in higher education.

A commitment to excellence exists throughout the UWL campus, and the accomplishments listed on page 5 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,



James Beeby
Chancellor

The graph shows a signal that is zero for most of the horizontal range. It features a central, prominent peak with a jagged, stepped top. On either side of this central peak, there are smaller, secondary peaks that also have jagged tops, followed by a gradual decay towards zero. The overall shape is symmetric about the center.

Graduate & Extended Learning
School of Education
College of Business Administration
Colleges of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities
College of Science and Health

"Pomp and Circumstance" Edward Elgar, *UWL Brass Ensemble*
 "Trumpet Voluntary" Purcell/arr. Harold Walters
 Processional Narration Andrew Jones

Welcome	James Beeby, <i>Chancellor</i>
Graduating Class Student Introduction	Vitaliano Figueroa, <i>Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs</i>
Student Address	Avery Ladd-Winders
New Alumni Welcome	Lynda Welsh, <i>Chair, UWL Alumni & Friends Foundation Board of Directors</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees	Betsy Morgan, <i>Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</i>
Conferring of Degrees and Awarding of Diplomas	James Beeby, <i>Chancellor</i> Stacy Narcotta-Welp, <i>Vice Chancellor for Access, Belonging & Compliance</i> Stephanie Pope, <i>Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance</i> Allison Ziegelman, <i>Vice Chancellor for University Advancement</i>

Graduate & Extended Learning	Meredith Thomsen, <i>Dean</i>
School of Education	Marcie Wycoff-Horn, <i>Dean</i>
College of Business Administration	Taggart Brooks, <i>Dean</i>
College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities	Karl Kunkel, <i>Dean</i>
College of Science and Health	Gubbi Sudhakaran, <i>Interim Dean</i>

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

"Triumphal March" Verdi/arr. Claire Johnson

"Trumpet Tune and Air" Purcell/arr. Elgar Howarth

"Sonata from Die Bankelsangerlieder" ed. Robert King

Andrew Jones
Art Fahey

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.

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.

Scholarship Pins

Students who received a scholarship from the UWL Foundation during their time at UWL are wearing pins on their gowns.

Medallion Symbolizes Academic Excellence

Wearing a medallion or seal of office has been a symbol of academic excellence 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 UWL 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 Heberd 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 Sashes/Stoles

International sashes/stoles are worn by UWL graduates to represent the location of their study abroad/away location and/or home country. Graduating this December 2025/January 2026 are 46 students who have studied abroad/away and 7 international students representing Australia, Caymen Islands, China, Croatia, Denmark, England, Eswatini/Swaziland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Myanmar/Burma, Nepal, New Zealand, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom and other U.S. states and territories including Puerto Rico.

Even more reasons to be a proud UW-La Crosse graduate ...

- **UWL welcomed the largest first-year class in school history this fall**, with 2,362 students enrolled. This eclipses the previous mark of 2,325 set in 2024. Overall enrollment is also on the rise, reaching 10,584 students on the 10th day of the fall semester – an increase of 92 students. These trends underscore the growing appeal of a UWL education.
- **UWL is the top public regional university in the tri-state region** of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois – according to U.S. News & World Report's 2026 Best Colleges ranking. In the overall Midwest rankings – which include both public and private colleges – UWL climbed to No. 14, up 14 spots from last year.
- **On May 2, Chancellor James Beeby was inaugurated as the 11th leader in UWL's history.** Beeby, who has served as chancellor since July 1, 2024, has prioritized building relationships across campus and the broader community, advocating for additional resources to support the university's mission, and keeping student success at the forefront of key decision-making.
- **Betsy Morgan has announced she will retire** in June after 11 years as provost and 33 years of dedicated service to UWL. A social psychologist by training, Morgan began as an assistant professor of psychology, later serving as department chair and ultimately provost. She also led the university as interim chancellor in spring 2024.
- **UWL's retired Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance Bob Hetzel continues to leave his mark.** After making the largest gift in university history last year (2.5 million, primarily through an estate gift), Hetzel is expanding his support with a \$1 million estate gift supporting the College of Business Administration. The endowment will fund a variety of initiatives designed to support student and faculty growth, retention and success.
- **The Wisconsin Legislature in July approved funding for the completion of the Prairie Springs Science Center**, a facility that will transform science education and workforce development at UWL. The project, set to begin in spring 2026 and be completed in late 2028, will replace the outdated Cowley Hall with 30 new labs, classrooms and specialized learning spaces.
- **UWL athletic teams won four national championships** during the 2024-25 season, bringing the university's all-time championship total to 80. The men's cross-country team, the women's gymnastics team, and the men's indoor and outdoor track and field teams all brought home first-place honors.
- **La Crosse is the best small college town in Wisconsin** and among the best in the country, according to Preply, an online language learning company. Its list of the best small college towns in the U.S. has La Crosse at No. 4 – the only Wisconsin city to crack the top 10.

- **On a record-breaking One Day for UWL, the university community donated more than \$600,000 to support student success** through scholarships, research opportunities, academic and extracurricular programming, and more. It was the most successful UWL giving day to date. Since its launch in 2020, One Day for UWL has generated 10,000 donations totaling more than \$2.3 million.
- **UWL is launching a new major in the high-demand field of criminology.** Beginning in spring 2026, this new program will prepare students for impactful careers in law enforcement, courts and corrections, but also in health services, counseling centers, schools, private industry and community-based prevention programs.
- **Assistant Professor of Biology Arthur Grupe and graduate student Mariah Rogers played a key role in an exciting discovery:** a previously undescribed truffle fungi growing in northern Wisconsin. This was part of their ongoing efforts to identify, research and document the state's little-understood population of truffles.
- **UWL's Community Engaged Learning (CEL) initiative continues to match students and faculty with local organizations that can benefit from their expertise.** Since the program launched in 2021, approximately 1,500 students have taken a CEL course, and 36 instructors currently hold a CEL designation for one or more of their courses. These partnerships provide real-world learning opportunities for students in addition to supporting community projects.
- **Through UWL's Undergraduate Research & Creativity program, students turned ideas into discovery** – with 92 research grants awarded in 2024-25. Nearly 400 students showcased their innovation and dedication by presenting more than 250 projects at UWL's 2025 Research & Creativity Symposium.
- **UWL students have logged nearly 50,000 hours** of volunteer service over the past three years – one of the many ways in which students use their time and talents to make the La Crosse community a better place.
- **UWL was named a Research College and University in the 2025 Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.** The classification, based on total research expenditures and doctoral degrees awarded, underscores UWL's commitment to providing hands-on, high-impact learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom.
- **UWL is making its mark as a leader in health professions education.** Over the past several years, UWL Health Professions Department programs have added new degrees, expanded clinical partnerships and grown advising infrastructure – all while maintaining excellent outcomes with near-perfect pass rates on licensure and certification exams across all health professions programs.

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Associate Degree Candidates

Gabriella Bernabei-Grassi Raya Bohnsack*

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

School of Education

Samantha Abts**	Mckenna L. Gilbertson**	Madison A. Mauss	Zachary Slevin**
Jacob R. Anderson	Griffin Ginder	Katelyn McKittrick**	Alexsey P. Smith*
Jazmin Avilez**	Lilly M. Griffith*	Warren Moreau	Rena M. Sotos**
Lindsay S. Bailey**	Kiarra L. Grosbier**	Emily M. Morgan**	Ava H. Stieve**
Joseph A. Beda*	Elaina Gwidt**	Ava F. O’Leary Zovic	Alexander W. Stumpner
Maya A. Bieneman**	Maya Hale**	Kathryn Olson	Alyson M. Theilen**
Samuel J. Bonesho	Annika Ilg	Cameron M. Perik	Emily V. Tokarski
Olivia L. Boray*	Molly R. Jaeggi**	Camille J. Quade**	Evan C. Voge
Tucker M. Bouche**	Hannah J. Jensen*	Leah M. Ravenhorst	Addison F. Wallenkamp*
Lauren E. Bronek	Brandon R. Johnson	Elli S. Renzelmann	Ashley N. Weinberger**
William D. Brown**	Jordan S. Kenyon*	Nathan Retterath	Alexis D. Wielepski**
Collin Caulkins	Brianna L. Kiesling**	Samuel E. Rodgers	Nathaniel R. Wilcher
Terrance Clark	Alicen R. Kjorlien	Kyler A. Rohde**	Alaena S. Wolf**
Anja M. Clauson**	Jordan M. Kolehouse	Avery E. Rox**	Christopher J. Wolfe
Madeline M. Clemens**	Jayda D. LaFleur*	Brianna L. Sadlier**	Emma Wynveen**
Hailey M. Cole	Audrey N. Langworthy*	Emma G. Sampselle*	Zachary E. Zoromski*
Ethan M. Endres*	Brielle E. Lynde	Allison B. Saucerman**	Noah G. Zupke
Joey D. Erickson	Anna M. Maeckelbergh	Elizabeth C. Scheerer*	
Mitchel R. Fassbender**	Owen R. Marks**	David R. Schoening	
Lynzeekay L. Fox	Alexandra E. Marshall	Mack Sebert*	

College of Business Administration

Revyn H. Abbott- Beversdorf*~	Aaron J. Bain	Taylor R. Block~	Ian M. Cesar, Sr~
Carter Ackerman	Samuel C. Barlow	Emily J. Boehme	Charisse L. Chan
Max G. Amundson	Jonah T. Baumann**	Kasidy M. Brecht**	Joshua Cherba
Nick S. Anderson	Louisa Benning**	Ryan T. Brown	Carson H. Church
Olivia G. Anderson	Ethan Bergmann	Ethan D. Burrows	Ty G. Corcoran
	Elizabeth L. Berkvam	Brandon T. Carew*	Kendal Crawford*

Caroline M. Crowley	Tyler M. Hug	Madeline M. Moczynski*	George J. Seaman
William J. Davis	Clayton Jahnke	Alec Moellenberndt*	Caden Shaw**
Kaia R. Davison	Evan Janecek	Izaiah M. Moore	Marlee Simpson**
Eric Dean**	Hansaja D. Jayawickrama	Blake T. Morrow	Taylor E. Skinner
Jordan J. DeGaetano	Cole P. Johnson**	William Mueller**	Dylan H. Smith
Logan A. Des Lauries**	Owen C. Johnson*	Ella M. Nelson**	Han Min Soe
Ismael Diaz	Hannah M. Judge*	Nathan Nevala	Gregory T. Sokup
Brody R. Doberstein	Cole J. Judickas~	Delaney G. Newcomb*	Bennett B. Spaeth
Allison Duerkop	Alyssa K. Junkins	Jadon L. Nienast	Harrison C. Stahn~
Michal A. Dul	Cole Kalander	Megan E. Nosbisch	MacKenzie M. Steding*
James Dunne	Adline C. Kaske	Griffin Nosek	Aidan D. Steele
Cassandra M. Emerson	Rachel R. Kasper*	Claire K. O’Dwanny	Xander T. Stejskal
Jared R. Engelkes*	Tanner J. Katers~	Janessa K. Olson	James A. Stippich
Emily A. Engen	Ryan W. Kelliher	Spencer E. Olson	Aubrey Syryczuk
Albert Gabriel Faeldonea	Jonathan A. Kennedy	Sergio Osuna-Lerma	Charlie M. Szohr
Ashley K. Fischer	Emma Kloiber	Blake E. Petrik**	Sophia M. Szymanski*
Bruno N. Galarza	Tanner A. Klubertanz*	Henry R. Pieters**	Jannon W. Tan
Courtney M. Gardner**	Leo A. Kopp	Jackson Plautz	Lucas A. Tipton~~
Gavin T. Gauger~	Danyelle L. Kottke*	Luke N. Polaske~	Tyler B. Tisch
Jenna R. Goodell	Peyton J. Kuhn	Jake Poller	Abigail J. Tittle
Sophie C. Graner	Avery D. Ladd-Winders	Abigail A. Polodna**	Saige Valentine
Michaela J. Greisen	Aaron Lagios	Devin R. Posvic	Anival Valtierrez Martinez
Katriana A. Grube*	Paige Langreder*	Israel S. Powell	Oliver M. Vandehey
Ella Q. Grunow	Ayden Larson**	Jada A. Prihoda**	Levi M. Vanderlinden
Luke M. Grunzel	Sean G. Lee	Exander D. Rains	Anthony C. Villarreal~
Riley A. Gunder*	Carter LeFevre-Tomlin	Marko Rajkovic	Makayla A. Vos**
Alexander J. Hansche~	Adam R. Loenser	Kya M. Raycher	Karis M. Weber
Kyle Hansen	Maggie M. Luedke	Owen H. Reller	Luke Weber
Samantha K. Hansen	Parker J. Lund*	Dylan T. Riemer*	Caleb A. Wegner*
Maxwell R. Helmke	Nicholas T. Marten	Michael C. Rosati	Karlie J. Weisenbeck**~
Carissa A. Hendricks**	Hayden A. Martine~	Brody D. Rud	Mason Wicinsky
Kaleb S. Herzog	Owen J. Martinson	Soraya Rudd	Carter L. Witt*
Jacob Hinman*	Talin J. Maves	Summer A. Rufsholm**	Charles M. Wolfgram
Reese E. Hoffarth*	Krista R. Mayberry*	Jack L. Runkel	Brady D. Ziegler*~
Grant Hohman*	Bridget L. McCarthy	Camden P. Schettle*	Hayden M. Zima
Jacob P. Hohmann*	Florent Merle~	Nicholas Schlampp	Wiley B. Zirbel
Paige J. Hopkins	Jovinelle J. Miguel	Tavia L. Schmidt*	
Rachel A. Hosch	Riley Miller	Owen R. Schuler*	

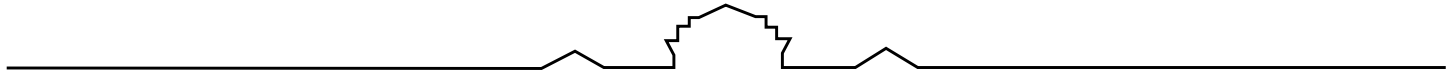
*Commencement Honors **Commencement Highest Honors + Spring 2025 ++ Summer 2025 ~ Winter 2026 ~~ Spring 2026

College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities

Austin Anderson*	Lucas C. Fischer	Jill Knudsen	Tate Pitcher
Kiersten V. Bakalars*	Emily B. Flottmeyer	Robert L. Knutson**	Michael J. Purney
Mya E. Baumer	Sydney A. Franco*	Eleanor G. Koch~	Abriana L. Rainey
Samuel J. Beckman	Pablo J. Garay	Stella Kosin	Jack Reinardy
MaKenna Boerboom*	Allison Hafeman**	Kendall A. Krueger	Trinity R. Rietmann**
Zene Boney	Tatum I. Hammen	Isabella J. Kubik	Kyla A. Roades**
Erica A. Bormann	Lana Hansen	Mikah Ladd	Alexis M. Scaffido**
Sara Botova**	Lauren J. Harmening	Brooke K. LaPlount*	Karissa Schmit**
Madison E. Braam	Emily A. Hassell	Mason J. Lawlis	Colin Schuster
Mason A. Brown*	Hilary B. Hauser	Olivia R. Lawver	Hannah R. Seidel
Megan Calvey	Karsyn A. Heath	Libby A. Leis*	Peyton Seiler
Adelaide H. Carlson	Jonathan T. Heck	Valerie A. Letter	Makenna Slaminski*
Gabriel Carter	Mia Herro	Krystal K. Lieder*	Maeve K. Sokolowski*
Hada Cerezo Diaz	Alexis M. Highfield**	Megan E. Lillicrop	Jacqueline A. Sporie
Kailey E. Chapman**	Alexandra N. Hill	Bailey R. Long*	Anna C. Stoll
Wyatt Cook	Erin Hoffman*	Julia A. Lorbiecki	Sydney Stoner
Ryan Cooksey*	Grant M. Horkan	Murelle M. Lund	Parker Tabor*
Marcus Cramer*	Lila Houwers	Avery Maly	Sophia G. Tamez*
Kaia L. Culver	Maria Howard	Clare H. Matott**	Olivia Tang**
Grace N. Dachel**	Meghan Jansen	Ella Mattmiller	Laura L. Topper*
Maxwell J. Deaton	Morgan C. Jennings**	Liberty A. Maxson**	Grace Toutges**
Mikayla M. DeGroot*	Ellie K. Jillson	Louis McGuire, Sr	Monika Tracey+
Sid R. Diong	Austin J. Johnson	Matthew J. McKenna	Evan Udovicic~~
Abigale G. Dirks	Brooke M. Johnson	Ryan Mckenzie~~	Chloe Van Hise
Nina M. Donny*	Riley E. Johnston*	Mia E. Meissner*	Noelle M. Voegeli*
Laurn Dresen	Blake Kane	Adrian M. Moreno	Nora E. Waltz**
Charles E. Dyar**	Emma R. Kindler	Alexis M. Morris	Greysen M. Wixom
Ella M. Eck	Cameron King	Hailey A. Mraz	Mikayla C. Wzientek++
Natalie R. Edge	Jackson Kinney	Loren M. Neitzke	Isabel Zdroik
Elsa G. Fahleen	Ellie T. Klingner~	Nikita M. Nielsen*	Cassandra M. Ziegler**
Sean G. Fernan*	Riley G. Klokow	Chloe M. O'Connell**	Evan Zimdars
Sydney A. Feucht	Ella E. Kluck	Lukas W. O'Connell	Zoey K. Zunker
Logan D. Fischer**	Marcus P. Knight	Maura E. Phillips*	

College of Science and Health

Landin D. Ahrenholz*	Isaiah M. Heilman	Zachary T. Mommaerts**	James B. Sinclair
Abby Ausprung**	Taylor E. Heinis	Justina E. Morey	Audrey M. Sorensen
Sebastian J. Baker*	Kelly L. Heinzen**	Megan Mumaw-Flury	Samantha C. Spencer**
Logan Bell	Holly Herminath**~~	Kayla G. Murphy	Miah Sprangers*
Olivia R. Belland*	Isabella B. Horwath	Riley A. Nesbitt	Michael J. Stack*
Andrew Brandmeier	Brady L. Hurner*	Abigail K. Norlinger*	Gavin Stankovsky
Jaclyn L. Brekke**	Trisha Jajtner	Cassidy A. O'Hagan**	Macaïd R. Stanley
Carter D. Brunclik	Tauna L. Janssen**	Jonathan C. Pella	Gavin J. Stebbins*
Payton M. Carothers**~	Aaron A. Jeyaraj*	Emma E. Peltier	Luke D. Stelling
Jordan J. Casper	Aaron Jones**	McKenna Pence*	Hannah R. Stickler
Zhuliang Chang	Brandon N. Kabelowsky**	Emily R. Pettersen	Alexis B. Story
Zephyr Cramer	Tyler A. Kaiser**	Lilliann L. Pickett	Graham V. Stramara
Ava L. Dercks	Jonathan M. Kaster*	Zachary A. Pielhop	Brigid M. Straub
Sarah M. Derksen	Patrick K. Kennedy	Preston A. Piranio	Nathan Streveler*
Aiden T. Devine	Jake Krause	Alanna R. Pogachnik	Chase X. Tessness**
Samantha N. Dinnel**	Lillianna M. Kreibich*	Alyssa B. Poncius*	Owen A. Tisdale**
Abbygail Estabrooks	Nathan T. LaBeff	Annake K. Ramsey	Alejandro X. Tofstad
JonaLee A. Feller**	Alexa J. Lang	Allan J. Ransom**	Carsen Vande Hei
Ryan D. Fitzgerald~~	Bailey Langton*	Jack Rilling	Brooke B. Vergin**
Olivia R. Foss*~~	Lauren R. Larson*	Alexander Roedel	Madison R. Waldrop
Otto R. Fredrick*	Emma E. Lawrence	Mackenzie Rogers**	Alex A. Walker
Josie L. Freitag	Elijah Lee	Cade J. Rundle**	Madison Wall
Matthew A. Friess	Orion C. Lee	Jesus L. Santiago, Jr	Henry P. Walsh
Logan E. Fritsch**	Huayang Liu	Emma Sawall*	Cael Weinzwieg
August A. Frost	Jaime E. Lowitz**	Brady Scanlon*	Austin J. Weis
Abigale R. Furlano	Bennett G. Malone	Emily R. Schlangen**	Xavier N. Wendt
Gaden Geiser	Zachary M. Marshall**	Isabelle Schmiesing*	Lauren E. Wernimont**
Luke A. Gentry	Ava Matthai*	Kylie Schmitz**	Olivia N. Wight**
Elijah Giovingo~~	Megan K. McDonald*	Tyler Schultz	Tyler Wright*
Rayana Gottschall	John T. McEwing**	Margaret M. Scrobel	Mason Young
Kaden I. Griesmer*	Gavin J. McKenzie	Benjamin L. Seiler	Peyton A. Young
Emma D. Grueneberg*	Naomi L. Meek**	Jamie M. Sessody**	Ellie Zhovtis
Alexis M. Gugliotti	Brock Mergen	Tyr Severson	Makenna M. Ziebart-Doyle**
Willow Haase*	Nicole Mikkola	Michael J. Shields	
Timmy D. Handlin~~	Kyle M. Miller*	Hailey J. Shnowske	
Abby G. Hanson**	Molly L. Moberg*+	Brady M. Siegersma	



HONORS PROGRAM CANDIDATES

Archaeology Program Honors
Ryan Cooksey*

Microbiology Program Honors
Tyler A. Kaiser**

Psychology Program Honors
Bailey R. Long*
Olivia Tang**

Geography and Environmental
Science Program Honors
Zachary A. Pielhop

Political Science/Public
Administration Program Honors
Sean G. Fernan*
Liberty A. Maxson**

Sociology Program Honors
Cassandra M. Ziegler**

GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Emma M. Grapentine
Kaycee M. Irwin
Cameryn A. Koch
Kayla A. Loeber
Ella Rusnacko
Quinn A. Shannon
Hannah E. Shimanek
Abigail Stafslie-Dumale
Justine Thicke

Data Science

Mark P. Calcott
Barrie Chileen Martinez
James P. Fanguy
Colin D. Fitzpatrick
Brianna L. Karls
Lon Kelley
Courtney A. Kirkeeng
Nicholas S. Koranda
Eric Knutson
Alicia Lowe
Anne Roesler
Anthony J. Salls
Bradley Schweitzer

Medical Dosimetry

Julie A. Andersen
Jordan Anderson
Shaghayegh A. Azazil
Nazifa Bakar
Nate J. Bowman
Joshua D. Carey
Jacob De Los Santos
Katelyn DeBacker
Callie Degnan
Caitlin Evans
Katie Felt
Nadia Finerty
Kelli Gilliland
Leia Haugland
Viandra M. Hayden
Anna Hietpas
Melissa L. Hodges
Nicole Johnson
Amber Labbe
Laura Laskorski
Kelsey Leverty
Jessica K. Li
Suzanne R. Louvat
Sejal Mathur
Karen McKenna
Brenda D. Montemayor
Kyle Nielsen
Abigail Onesti
Haley N. Paletta
Brandon Reisinger
Jerusha H. Ryan
Anna Siefker
Kelsey Slater

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Biology

Jacob A. Hansel
Bug Hartsock
Michael Malone

Exercise and Sport Science:
Physical Education Teaching
Jadee Christiansen
Josephine R. Walsh

Biology: Aquatic Science

Courtney N. Baker
Avery J. Lettenberger
Max F. Monfort
Nathan D. Schimanski

Healthcare Administration

Winifred L. Commers
Anna G. Jobe
Craig Kann
Emily Lindquist
Lily C. Scallon
Carissa M. Weber

Biology: Environmental Science

Danielle M. Hudson
Jason J. Tendler

Information Technology Management

Joshua T. Kuester
Ryan Marotz
Antwaun Sanders

Biology: Physiology

Libbie Sienna Miller
Tristin Studer

Cassandra L. Sonnicksen
Leah N. Statz
Alina Stratulea
Jayne E. VanderVelde
Matthew R. Villegas
Elizabeth Wade
Patrick J. Wirball
Jared S. Wulfekuhle

Recreation Management
Zackary W. Peterson

Professional Development:
Learning Community

Recreation Management:
Professional Development
Zoe C. Niemuth

MASTER OF SOFTWARE
ENGINEERING

Eric Coursin
Quinn M. Dekker
Bishal Karki
Connor Ludwigson

Burlington
Austin Boatman
Amanda J. Effinger
Abigail A. Hancock
Jennifer A. Harris
Paige Healey
Megan A. Hesselbach
Sarah Klahs
Cailin Q. Lawton
Mary Rachelle Parker
Chad Redmer
Ximena H. Rouse
William Weidert
Tyler Wiemer

Microbiology: Clinical Microbiology

Elizabeth M. Dickey
Hailey M. Dyce
Julia A. Gall
Skylar M. White

Occupational Therapy

Kiley B. Akey
Madeline M. Anderson
Tori A. Bott
Camryn M. DeSando
Madelyn Devos
Olivia M. Drummer
Noah Ecclestone
Shelby Flesher
Maija Fredrick
Morgan Harrison
Tess Hauer
Megan L. Hill
Claire Hoge
Trinity E. Janowski
Christian T. Kiepke
Carissa M. Konop
Katlyn McCarty
Alexa Pomerleau
Haleigh A. Rehrauer
Dawson D. Ringhofer
Macie R. Schmeiser
Amber M. Shedivy
Meghan M. Timler

MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN EDUCATION

Reading Teacher

Jodi Dowe
Morgan K. Ducat
Miranda Flock
Alysabeth Lantz
Bailey J. Lawson
Rachel Lopez
Emily MacCallum
Abigail Rogers

La Crosse

Misty Araguz
Morgan C. Bertoia
Breanne Campton
Jinesis C. Her
Amy J. Kendall
Jason Krug
Matias H. Marchan
Jessica McKinney
Breanna R. Moore
Kaylee A. Olson
Morgan Ricker
Alex Robideau
Kevin M. Sandstrom
Jill Schams
Kennedy L. Schneider
Austin J. Stalsberg
Abigail C. Voss
Grace A. Worden

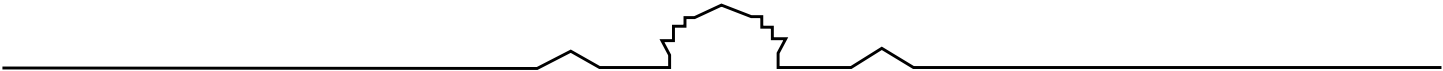
Reading Teacher/Specialist

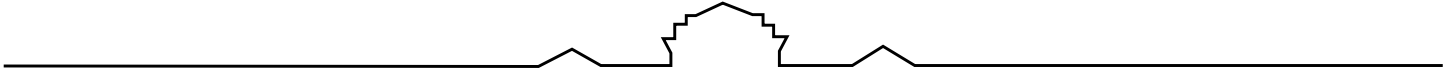
Autumn Albrecht~~
Jazmine H. Yambor~~

Professional Development:

Educational Leadership

Rebecca Brockman
Christopher G. Gould
Joseph H. Hintz
Anna R. Kutil
Erin Liljedahl
Dakota W. Lovell
Jake Schmitt





Graduate Thesis and Project Titles

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH

Data Science

Barre Chileen Martinez - *Predictive Dredging Models for the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway*

Medical Dosimetry

Julie Andersen - *Evaluation of Lung Dose and Breast Conformality Using Noncoplanar Volumetric Modulated Arc Therapy for Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation*

Jordan Anderson - *Head and Neck Monaco Template Creation and Evaluation of Robustness for Simultaneously Integrated Boost (SIB) Treatment*

Ava Azazil - *Evaluating Dosimetric Differences Between Flattening Filter-Free (FFF) and Flattened Beams for Small Bowel Sparing in Abdominal Soft Tissue Sarcoma*

Nazifa Bakar - *A Case Study of Inhale and Exhale Split Course VMAT Treatment to Minimize Dose to Ribs*

Nate Bowman - *A Case Study Evaluating a Dynamic PRV Margin Around the Stomach to Improve Cardiac PTV Coverage for Patients with Ventricular Tachycardia*

Joshua Carey - *Influences of Sphere Geometry on Planning Characteristics of Lattice Spatially Fractionated Radiotherapy*

Jacob De Los Santos - *A Case Study of Inhale and Exhale Split Course VMAT Treatment to Minimize Dose to Ribs*

Kaitlyn DeBacker - *A Case Study Analysis of Low-Dose Radiation Therapy for Bilateral Thumb Arthritis*

Caitie Evans - *A Case Study Analysis of Low-Dose Radiation Therapy for Bilateral Thumb Arthritis*

Katie Felt - *A Case Study of Reproducibility and Dose Sparing of Testis During Radiotherapy*

Nadia Finerty - *Evaluating Dosimetric Differences Between Flattening Filter-Free (FFF) and Flattened Beams for Small Bowel Sparing in Abdominal Soft Tissue Sarcoma*

Kelli Gilliland - *Automated Field in Field Treatment Planning Function for Deep Inspiration Breath Hold Left Breast Radiotherapy Using Raystation 2023b*

Leia Haugland - *The Dosimetric Impact to Bladder Utilizing the Varian Edge Treatment Machine for Prostate Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy*

Viandra Hayden - *A Comparison of Varian Halcyon and 2100iX Treatment Plans for Left-Sided Whole Breast Radiotherapy*

Anna Hietpas - *An Introduction to Low Dose Radiation Therapy for Osteoarthritis of the Hands*

Melissa Hodges - *A Case Study Comparing VMAT Treatment Techniques to Reduce Dose to Femoral Heads for Postmenopausal Women During Pelvic Radiotherapy*

Nicole Johnson - *A Case Study of Reproducibility and Dose Sparing of Testis During Radiotherapy*

Amber Labbe - *A Case Study of Radiotherapy as a Treatment Option for Multifocal Pseudomyogenic Hemangioendothelioma of the Lower Extremity*

Laura Laskorski - *A Case Study of Radiotherapy as a Treatment Option for Multifocal Pseudomyogenic Hemangioendothelioma of the Lower Extremity*

Kelsey Leverty - *An Introduction to Low Dose Radiation Therapy for Osteoarthritis of the Hands*

Jessica Li - *Automated Field in Field Treatment Planning Function for Deep Inspiration Breath Hold Left Breast Radiotherapy Using Raystation 2023b*

Suzanne Louvat - *A Comparison of Varian Halcyon and 2100iX Treatment Plans for Left-Sided Whole Breast Radiotherapy*

Sejal Mathur - *A Comparison of Varian Halcyon and 2100iX Treatment Plans for Left-Sided Whole Breast Radiotherapy*

Karen McKenna - *A Single Institution Case Study Evaluating Efficiency of EZFluence Software for Conformal External Beam Radiotherapy*

Brenda Montemayor - *A Case Study of Radiotherapy as a Treatment Option for Multifocal Pseudomyogenic Hemangioendothelioma of the Lower Extremity*

Kyle Nielsen - *A Case Study of Reproducibility and Dose Sparing of Testis During Radiotherapy*

Abby Onesti - *A Case Study Evaluating a Dynamic PRV Margin Around the Stomach to Improve Cardiac PTV Coverage for Patients with Ventricular Tachycardia*

Haley Paletta - *A Case Study of Inhale and Exhale Split Course VMAT Treatment to Minimize Dose to Ribs*

Brandon Reisinger - *A Single Institution Case Study Evaluating Efficiency of EZFluence Software for Conformal External Beam Radiotherapy*

Heidi Ryan - *Evaluating Dosimetric Differences Between Flattening Filter-Free (FFF) and Flattened Beams for Small Bowel Sparing in Abdominal Soft Tissue Sarcoma*

Anna Siefker - *Influences of Sphere Geometry on Planning Characteristics of Lattice Spatially Fractionated Radiotherapy*

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Cassie Sonnicksen - *The Dosimetric Impact to Bladder Utilizing the Varian Edge Treatment Machine for Prostate Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy*

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Alina Stratulea - *A Case Study Analysis of Low-Dose Radiation Therapy for Bilateral Thumb Arthritis*

Callie Tatman - *A Single Institution Case Study Evaluating Efficiency of EZFluence Software for Conformal External Beam Radiotherapy*

Jayne Vandervelde - *A Case Study Comparing VMAT Treatment Techniques to Reduce Dose to Femoral Heads for Postmenopausal Women During Pelvic Radiotherapy*

Matthew Villegas - *Evaluation of Lung Dose and Breast Conformality Using Noncoplanar Volumetric Modulated Arc Therapy for Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation*

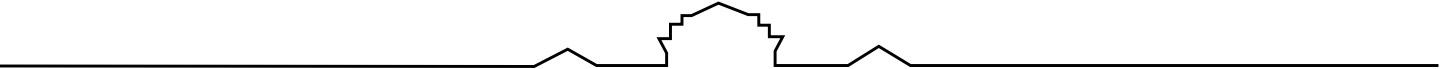
Ellie Wade - *Influences of Sphere Geometry on Planning Characteristics of Lattice Spatially Fractionated Radiotherapy*

Patrick Wirball - *Automated Field in Field Treatment Planning Function for Deep Inspiration Breath Hold Left Breast Radiotherapy Using Raystation 2023b*

Jared Wolfekuhle - *Head and Neck Monaco Template Creation and Evaluation of Robustness for Simultaneously Integrated Boost (SIB) Treatment*

Microbiology

Hannah Willingham - *Establishing Universal Methods for Studying Hemocyte Populations in Invertebrates*



Microbiology: Clinical Microbiology

Elizabeth Dickey - *Impact of the BolA Gene on Cellulose Production in the Acetic Acid Bacterium Komagataeibacter Xylinus*

Hailey Dyce - *Transcriptional Regulation of Staphylococcus Aureus Biofilm-Associated Genes in a BrpR Mutant Compared to Wildtype*

Shadia Escorcia Cure - *Characterizing the Growth and Morphology of Candida Albicans after Treatment with SK-03-92*

Skylar White - *Investigating the Role of the NmpRSTU Multicomponent Signaling System in Oxygen-Dependent Phenotypes of Myxococcus Xanthus*

Software Engineering

Eric Coursin - *Blu-203: A Video Game with Procedurally Generated Levels and Enemy Swarm AI*

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Professional Development: Educational Leadership

Rebecca Brockman - *Animal-Assisted Therapy in Education*

Christopher Glenn Gould - *Student-Staff Relationships and Academic Performance*

Joe Howard Hintz - *Building Student Rapport and Connections Through Advisory*

Anna Rae Kutil - *The Effects of Gamified Phonics Practice on Second Graders’ Oral Reading Fluency*

Erin Liljedahl - *The Impacts of Social Emotional Learning Instruction on Students in the Classroom*

Dakota William Lovell - *The Effects of Family Involvement on Student Academic Achievement*

Jake Schmitt - *Parent Involvement: How it Impacts Learning*

Professional Development: Learning Community

Misty Araguz - *Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Self Perspectives in the Middle School*

Austin Boatman - *How Classroom Management Affects Student Behavior*

Breanne Campton - *Play-Based Learning in Mathematics*

Mandy Jean Effinger - *Increasing Number Sense and Math Fact Fluency Through Movement*

Paige Healey - *An Analysis of Weekly Character Development Lessons and Students’ Social-Emotional Competencies, Conflict Resolution, Peer Interactions and Overall Classroom Behavior*

Jinesis Chivkeeb Her - *Student-Led Approaches and Participation in High School*

Megan Ann Hesselbach - *Exploring Techniquet to Improve Academic Resilience and Stamina in Secondary Education Students*

Jennifer Ann Kaplan - *What is the Best Way to Train and Supervise Education Support Professionals to Best Support Students’ Behavioral and Academic Needs in a Self-Contained Middle School Classroom*

Amy Jo Kendall - *Seating Charts in a Middle School Classroom*

Sarah Klahs - *Increasing Secondary Student’s Engagement and Motivation through Student-Choice*

Jason Krug - *Restorative Practices and Student Participation in Middle and High School Classrooms*

Cailin Quinn Lawton - *Successful Implementation of Understanding by Design for Learning Through Collaboration Between Special and General Education Teachers*

Matias Humberto Marchan - *Visual Classroom Management Tools and Classroom Expectations*

Jesi McKinney - *Movement Breaks and Academic Performance/Engagement in First Grade*

Breanna Rose Moore - *Vocabulary Instruction and Reading Comprehension in the High School English Classroom*

Morgan Neubauer - *Question Complexity and Student Engagement in the Middle School Science Classroom*

Kaylee Ann Olson - *Mindfulness Practices and Emotional Regulation Skills*

Mary Rachelle Parker - *An Analysis of the Effectiveness of Economic and Financial Education on Student Personal Financial Literacy in High School Using Simulation-Based Teaching Pedagogy*

Morgan Ricker - *Social Emotional Strategies and Anxiety in the Classroom*

Alex Robideau - *Activity Breaks and Student Engagement*

Ximena Hever Rouse - *Effects of Movement During Instruction on Student Engagement and Attitudes Toward Learning*

Kevin Michael Sandstrom - *Goal Setting in Middle School*

Jill Schams - *Targeted Strategies in Kindergarten Music*

Kennedy Leigh Schneider - *Brain Breaks in a Block Scheduled Secondary Classroom*

Austin Jeffrey Stalsberg - *Extending Student Learning in Algebra 1*

Abby Catherine Voss - *Morning Meetings and Student Engagement*

William Weidert - *Effective Communication of Standards Based Grading in High School Social Studies*

Tyler Wiemer - *An Analysis of the Effectiveness of PBIS and Student Academic Achievement and Behavior in Special Education*

Grace Audrey Worden - *Self Regulation Instruction on Young Children*

Reading Teacher

Jodi Dowe - *How Does Explicit Instruction in Spelling and Morphology Impact the Overall Reading Comprehension and Perceptions of Reading of Middle School Students?*

Miranda Flock - *The Effects of Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts Curriculum (CKLA) on Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Acquisition in Fourth-Grade Students*

Alysabeth Lantz - *Read-Alouds of Related Text Sets, Front Loaded with Key Vocabulary, Influence Listening Comprehension, and Vocabulary in Second Grade Students*

Bailey Jo Lawson - *The Effects of Multisensory Activities on Student Engagement and Retention of Phonemic Awareness Skills*

Rachel Lopez - *The Impact of Audio-Assisted Reading on Below Grade Level Middle School Readers’ Comprehension, Vocabulary Acquisition, and Self-Perception*

Emily MacCallum - *The Effects of CKLA Implementation on Student Self-Perception of Reading and Reading Comprehension*

Reading Teacher/Specialist

Autumn Albrecht - *The Effects of Multisensory Instructional Practices on Decoding Skills*

Jazmine Hailey Yambor - *The Impacts of Explicit Instruction in Orthographic Mapping on Student High Frequency Word Recognition and Reading Fluency in Early Elementary Students*



“We’ll hang the lantern in the old college tower over the south door. You won’t need a key – the door will be open.”

O.O. White, English Professor

EXTRAORDINARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Dawson Copley

May 12, 2001–October 22, 2025

Born in Red Wing, MN on May 12, 2001 and raised in Hastings, MN, Dawson graduated from Hastings Sr. High School with scholarships after a few years of being part of the Hastings show choir, then graduated from Inver Hills Community College with an Associates of Arts degree, then attended the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in pursuit of his Marketing and Performance degrees. He received an Extraordinary Degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse as recognition for all his hard work, resilience, and dedication to his education all while battling through his medical and personal journey.

He spent his 24 short years developing his relationships with those he loved and surrounded himself with. Dawson always tried to keep an open mind, remembering that everyone is unique in their own way and knowing the true meaning of life was accepting that life is coming from within you and not at you.

Dawson loved video games, Harry Potter, Marvel, Legos, his kitties, learning new things, cherishing time with loved ones and anything football. He hopes to be remembered for kindness, openness, loyalty, patience, and strength (obviously this is up for everyone else to determine, lol).

- By Dawson Copley

FIRST DESTINATION SURVEY

Graduates, please tell us about your post-graduate career plans.

Share the good news at

www.uwlax.edu/commencement

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



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Karen Walsh

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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.