The University of Wisconsin—La Crosse recently welcomed its newest Student Affairs Administration cohort. Not only is this our largest cohort yet, it is also a makeup of students that reflects experiences from all over the country with membership extending from Pennsylvania to Colorado. All of this shows the growing power and influence of the UW-L SAA program!
As told by... The SAA Org

In this monthly feature, we will look for opinions and perspectives from different people involved with the SAA Program. This month’s perspective comes from our very SAA Org on why they chose this program and the SAA Organization:

“As grad students we have many opportunities to learn outside the classroom—assistantships, internship, practicum opportunities in a number of different offices. Another hugely beneficial learning opportunity is the Germany study tour. I’m excited to have the chance to learn more about student affairs practices in another country.”

Katy Zart ’16 Cohort

“I think it’s important to be involved in an organization, that isn’t a required membership, within your field of interest. It shows future employers that you get outside of the office or classroom and gives you more stories to tell in interviews. I like that we do professional and social development, in addition to interacting with other grad programs.”

Alyssa Gostonczik ’15 Cohort

“I originally joined the SAA Org as a way to reach out to professionals on campus and make connections that were not available within my internship. Later it transferred into an interest in educating undergraduate students on what Student Affairs is as a profession, which is still an area I think the SAA org could explore.”

Katie Van Wyk ‘15 Cohort

“I choose the SAA Program at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse because I felt that I could make a difference.”

- Bailey Steckbauer ’15 Cohort
Shout Outs - These people are doing amazing things

To Rick Schimka, Anna (Hunter) Kessenich and Kenney White for their webinar presentation "Bridging the Gap: Integrating OrgSync to Enhance Student Engagement"! The presentation went superbly and resulted in multiple campuses contacting the group to do something similar for their own campuses—including the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign! Way to go! Check out the link here - http://uwrf.orgsync.com/home

To Kaila Henry for being an amazing student resource, graduate student, and friend! Your kindness is always noticed and extremely appreciated!

To every member of the SAA Program at UW-L, UW-RF, and our online colleagues that have participated and/or presented at recent conferences—your contributions to this program and profession are never overlooked! We’re proud of how you’re representing us!

BIG SHOUT OUT to everyone who helped make our 1st Annual Pumpkin Potluck such a success! From our gracious hosts to fantastic chefs, the night could not have gone any better!

Your daily dose of goodness

As we enter into change of seasons, let us take a minute to reflect on why we’re here. We want to impact our students, community, institution, and world. The next few months will be challenging with new weather patterns, ever changing expectations, and life stress. As we go forward, remember that this is a fun career—we do things that people dream of and we get to make a difference. It’s easy to forget in the chaos of daily life, but your work matters. You are helping to shape the future and your actions today will mean a world of difference for the student tomorrow. Enjoy the ride and keep smilin’.
SAA in Germany

The UW-L SAA Family is very fortunate to have one of our own working and studying in Germany. Every month we will work to get a short message from her work across the Atlantic! Take it away, Noelle!

Classes have officially begun here at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences! I’m currently working with the dean’s staff in the School of Business and Law. During the past few weeks, I’ve sat in on meetings, attended faculty government sessions, and observed advising sessions in the Career Center. Some of the practices at Frankfurt UAS, such as the admissions process, are very outdated and it has been interesting to observe the reactions of various parties to new ideas. An exciting project that is coming to Frankfurt UAS is the Digital Campus, which will improve many of the outdated processes, such as admissions. During these meetings, I’ve had the opportunity to actively participate and offer suggestions based on what I’ve learned about university organization and administration in my SAA classes and draw comparisons between the United States and Germany.

Prior to working in the School of Business and Law, I worked in the Central Student Advising Services. Because I was working in this office before classes started, I was able to observe and participate in the orientation planning process for incoming students, which is much more intensive than the orientation process for international students. Additionally, I participated in a meeting for student advisors from the various universities of applied sciences in Hessen. The meeting took place at the Hochschule RheinMain in Wiesbaden. I also visited German high schools in Frankfurt as part of the Chancen bilden project (Building Chances – similar to Upward Bound).

That’s all for now! Viele sonnige Grüße aus Frankfurt!
This Month in Photos

Above: The SAA 1st Annual Pumpkin Potluck

Right: Shannon Edminster, Jamie Alt, Andrew Ives, and Hannah Wright participate in a make a Difference Day Project.

Above: A beautiful sunset outside of Cartwright Center

Right: Katy Zart, Shari Schoohs, Anna Turriff, Jamie Alt, and (a very excited) Jorg Vianden at the 1st Annual Pumpkin Potluck
UWL SAA Needs Your Help

- Want to help out the future SA Professionals?
- Got a fundraising or professional development idea?
- Want to write, give a shout out, or contribute to the newsletter?
- Contact Klinton Blair (blair.klin@uwlax.edu) to find out how you can help.

Be sure to follow @UWLSSAAORG on Twitter!
If you want anything shared, feel free to DM us!