In 2008, UW-Baraboo/Sauk County celebrated its 40th anniversary. It was a great occasion to celebrate our history of providing a quality UW education to our local communities, and to renew our commitment to providing those opportunities for many years to come.

Part of looking back meant also looking forward. The college and the Friends of the Campus worked to find current contact information for more than 13,000 alumni. You may be among them. We held our first Alumni Homecoming event on October 12th. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with our alumni.

If you are a UW-BSC alum, you already know that you received a world-class liberal arts education — and, because of taxpayer support, it was at a very affordable price. But state support for the UW System is dwindling: from two-thirds of the average cost to educate a student when my parents attended UW campuses, to less than one-third today.

This year the UW System and UW-BSC also experienced significant cuts to our state support; we reduced our course offerings, and like many UW campuses, we are making do with fewer services. Unlike larger UW campuses, UW-Baraboo/Sauk County does not have a wealthy endowment or surplus money from research, grants or contracts.

To ensure that current and future students receive the same quality UW experience that alumni received, we need your help. Please consider making a donation to help maintain our current programming and to expand our facilities and offerings so we can meet the higher educational needs of the communities we serve. Feel free to get in touch with our foundation (see page 15), or contact me directly.

In addition to connecting with our alumni base, we continue to move forward with projects that have been outlined in our Campus Master Plan. We are currently pursuing possible federal funding and grant money to support our Living and Learning Center project. This summer we undertook the remodeling of our largest lecture hall classroom, A-4, in a collaborative effort between the City of Baraboo, Sauk County, the Campus Commission, and the UW System.

We are also steadily increasing the number of tenure-track faculty positions, from 12 when I arrived three years ago to 17.5 this fall. We will continue to work with our Legislature, UW Colleges and UW System administration to meet our goal of 20 tenure-track professors for 600 students. In these tough economic times, we are seeing many highly qualified applicants for our positions, and I am extremely pleased with our new faculty hires this fall: Dr. Noah Anderson (Biology) and Dr. Frances Auld (English).

Moving forward with our mission of bringing UW opportunities to our local communities is as important now as ever. We continue to be an outstanding value, and we are seeing more students take advantage of our affordable tuition and accessible location to start their UW degrees. Helping enrich the lives of those students — and our greater community — is the UW-Baraboo/Sauk County’s great privilege.

We thank you for joining with us.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Pleger, Ph.D.
Campus Executive Officer & Dean
thomas.pleger@uwc.edu
Both Umhoefer and Pleger credited the faculty and staff with dedicating themselves to teaching and inspiring in their students a love of lifelong learning – a cornerstone of a liberal arts education.

John Whitney, who became the campus art professor in 1969 and stayed for more than three decades, said early skepticism about the campus quickly faded as the community realized what it meant to have a local UW campus. “The campus has evolved to better serve the students and the community,” Whitney said. “That’s a reflection on the value that the community feels the campus has.”

Being part of an exciting new venture 40 years ago was part of what attracted him to Baraboo, Whitney said, but the opportunity and challenge of teaching hundreds of diverse students about art was what kept him here. “Not all people you teach the arts to are going to become artists,” he said. “You’re part of a liberal arts structure, so you’re trying to expand everybody’s understanding of the world.”

Paschen, whose own son Mark is a UW-BSC alumnus now practicing dentistry in Baraboo and serving on the Friends of the Campus, said the campus is a gem in the region. “We are an addition to the community, an addition to the state, and we can be proud of what we have out there,” he said. “I believe we are here to stay.”
UW-Baraboo/Sauk County continues to enhance the academic experience for our students by providing strong curriculum and support from our top-notch UW professors and academic staff. In addition to being great teachers and scholars, our professors are known for going the extra mile to help students succeed during the critical first two years of college. With an average class size of twenty-two and our many services for support, UW-Baraboo/Sauk County student success continues to develop and grow.

Enrollment and Recruitment
UW-Baraboo/Sauk County again exceeded its enrollment target with the second-highest head count in the college’s 40-year history. In fall 2008, the campus enrolled 604 students, of which 46% were full-time and 54% were part-time. Returning adult students continue to be an important part of our campus and comprised 35% of the student population.

Student Activities
Life at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County is about more than academics. The many clubs and groups on campus continue to provide fun and positive opportunities to learn, network, and promote student development. The Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored 17 events, including:

- Voter registration for Fall 2008
- Thanks-For-Giving bake sale for the food pantry
- Blood drive collecting more than 50 pints
- Free lunch for veterans on Sept. 11
- Rock for a Reason benefit concert
- 9th Annual Boo Bash
- 40th Annual Codger-Brat softball game

Tutoring Services
The Academic Success Center (ASC) continues to provide advising in addition to math, writing, and science tutoring services for our students. In 2008-09, expanded tutoring hours increased both the accessibility and the success of the students that utilized the many services within the ASC.

First-Year Seminar
The First-Year Seminar (FYS) course continues to help new students learn what it takes to be successful in college and connect them with resources and classmates during their first days on campus. FYS assists in this transition and helps students to think about where they are now, where they think they may like to go, and how to get there. The Peer Mentor program (which matches second-year students with a class) and a service learning component help make our FYS course a model for other campuses in the UW System.

A4 Lecture Hall Renovation
After remaining nearly unimproved since the 1960s, lecture hall A-4 underwent a major renovation this summer. Funded through a three-way partnership between the City of Baraboo, Sauk County and the UW System, improvements included carpeting, new tables and chairs, a white board and a state-of-the-art audio-visual system. The hall, host to both classes and campus and community events, is now a 21st Century classroom the campus can showcase for many years to come.

Continuing Education Offers Wealth of Programming
Continuing Education Extension (CEE) held 178 noncredit programs, serving 1,686 participants. CEE also expanded its reach to area seniors and youth and increased outreach to meet the needs of the local business community.

Senior Programming
CEE collaborated with the Sauk County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to highlight current programs and to market new programs that may be of interest to seniors. In April, Continuing Education also hosted its first “Add Learning to Your Life” senior conference in conjunction with ADRC. Participants heard former UW-BSC Dean Aural Umhoefer highlight the 40-year history of the campus, attended presentations, and enjoyed lunch on the Lange Center terrace.

Business Collaborations
Since participating in Sauk County’s Workforce Education Summit in the fall of 2008, Continuing Education has offered programming in response to identified area needs of the area business community. CEE collaborated with MATC-Reedsburg, Sauk County Development Corporation, Reedsburg Area Entrepreneurial Initiative, and UW-Madison Small Business Development Center to create the successful class “Small Business Fundamentals” for 20 participants interested in starting their own business.

A well-attended workshop entitled “Understanding Generational Diversity” was followed by offerings of leadership training customized to meet the needs of area businesses and organizations.

Youth Programs
CEE also reached out to six area public school districts after budget constraints reduced services for gifted and talented students and cut back fine arts programs. As a result, summer youth programs targeted the needs of academically talented elementary and middle school students and provided opportunities for youth to explore visual and performing arts.

Outreach
Credit outreach programs included classes for Ho Chunk Language apprentices as they learned strategies for teaching a second language. In response to requests by area law enforcement officers and health care providers, CEE is developing Spanish outreach courses that will be customized to meet the needs of both groups.
FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Annette Kuhlmann (Sociology) presented a paper entitled “Women, Crime, and Prison Across Time and Cultures” at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology held Nov. 12-15 in St. Louis, Mo.

Letha Kelsey (Art) exhibited paintings in four juried shows and received two awards, including: First place, 40th National Juried Exhibition, Octagon Center for the Arts, Ames, IA; third place, 61st National Juried Biennial Exhibition, Sioux City Art Center, Sioux City, IA; 41st National Juried Exhibition, Octagon Center for the Arts, Ames, IA; Wisconsin Biennial 2009, Rahr West Museum, Manitowoc, WI.

Marc Seals (English) published “Notes on Raymond Chandler’s ‘Red Wind,’” Eureka Studies in Teaching Short Fiction; and several submissions to the Student’s Encyclopedia of American Literary Characters.

Diann Kiesel (Geography/Geology) presented “Scouring on Buried Baraboo Quartzite Surfaces: Implications for Devils Lake State Park, WI, Potholes” at the North-Central Section of the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, Northern Illinois University, Rockford, IL, in April.

Tyson Kreiger (Psychology) co-presented “When Blue Acts Pink: Gender-related Behaviors as Predictors of Peer Acceptance and Victimization” at the biannual meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO, in April.

Kelly Dwyer (English) was an instructor at The Iowa Summer Writing Festival at the University of Iowa, and gave workshops including “Novel Ideas,” “Plotting the Plot,” and “Stinky Magic: The Middle Grade Novel.”


UW-Baraboo/Sauk County sports teams received recognition for their success and sportsmanship in the 2008-09 season. Among the highlights for the Fighting Spirits:

**Co-ed Soccer**
- Winner of the WCC Sportmanship award for the second year, with zero yellow or red cards all season. Athletic Director Rick Yanke credited coaches Jason Schulte and Shannon Werhane’s positive influence on the team.
- Brandon Bolar voted WCC 1st team All-Conference.
- Mike Bielawski and Eddie Pike voted WCC 2nd team All-Conference.
- Team placed 5th at the Conference Volleyball Tournament.

**Wrestling**
- UW-BSC added club wrestling and became the only two-year college in the state to offer wrestling as a sport. The addition drew attention both on and off campus. Highlights included:
  - The first wrestling meet was held Nov. 20 in the Lange Center Gymnasium vs. UW-Madison Club wrestling team. Over 80 community members attended.
  - David Kratky placed 5th at the Loras College Open.
  - Hayden Sivers and Paul Satter were runners-up at the Minnesota/Wisconsin Regional Tournament.

**Men’s Basketball**
- Jim Weland moved up from Assistant Coach to Head Coach.
- Matt Schultz was named a WJCAA All-State player.
- Matt Schultz, Matt Walker, and Jordan Taylor voted WCC Honorable Mention All-Conference.

**Tennis**
- Jessie Kirkling placed 3rd at the WJCAA State Tournament and earned WCC Honorable Mention All-Conference. Paul Sutter placed 4th.
- Hope Fisher and Jessica Horlos each placed 3rd in the WJCAA State Tournament, each earned WCC Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Athletic Updates: Fighting Spirit Teams Enjoy Success

FRIENDS & ALUMS:
VISIT THE SPIRIT STORE!

We are pleased to announce that the Spirit Store is now open on campus! Now you can stop in and get your UW-Baraboo/Sauk County campus and athletic logo items. Great for yourself or for gift giving.

The Spirit Store has great new merchandise as well as closeout specials on last year’s items. They also have merchandise available downtown, at the Karobyx building, 148 3rd Street, Baraboo.

Stop in and check things out. And, if you have any suggestions regarding items you would like to see in the Spirit Store, please let us know. We’ll see what we can do!

THE SPIRIT STORE
(608) 356-4113 • (608) 963-3017 • brb-spiritstore@uwc.edu
Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Professor Kenneth Grant Retires After 31 Years

Looking at English Professor Ken Grant today, with his gentle manner and trademark white ponytail, one might never guess he showed up to interview for his job on campus 31 years ago in combat boots and a starched set of fatigues. But fresh out of National Guard summer camp, it was the dressiest ensemble he could pull together. If he got the job, he’d be teaching two classes a semester at the Federal Correctional Institution in Oxford.

“I must’ve looked like a fancier version of an Oxford inmate,” he quipped.

With a wife and two young children at home, he wanted more than anything just to be employed. He had accepted a civil service job at the U.S. Tank Automotive Repair Command in Warren, Mich. — a dismal prospect after completing his Ph.D. in English Literature from Marquette University — when he landed the position at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County.

Little did he know it would become his dream job: “They pay me to read books,” he said. “What could be better?”

Spoken with another Ken Grant trademark: modesty. In fact, when he retires this year after 31 years of service, he will leave behind untold numbers of admiring students and colleagues, and a legacy of thoughtful academic inquiry, compassionate teaching and effective leadership that many a new professor would hope to emulate.

Assistant Professor of English Marc Seals has spent his first several years on campus in the office next to Grant, learning much just by listening in on Grant’s interactions with students.

“I have heard him deal with some students firmly. Others he has shown mercy giving second chances. With all, he has been fair and kind and gentle,” Seals said. “When I have a difficult decision with a student, I ask, ‘What Would Ken Grant Do?’”

Seals even printed 100 buttons with that slogan before Grant’s retirement send-off last spring. They were quickly snatched up by friends and colleagues.

Though he joked about being paid “to read books,” Grant has never been the kind of college professor who is buried in intellectual pursuits, to the neglect of face-to-face interaction.

For him it has always been about the students — helping them grow as human beings, and ensuring they take an appreciation for literature and writing into whatever field they pursue.

“You meet wonderful students every semester,” he said. “I suspect they are not as privileged as some students are, and consequently they appreciate their educational experiences more.”

Some students in Grant’s Literature and Composition classes have known they want to be English majors, but many are exploring their options — or know they’ll take a different path altogether.

“You get them when they’re starting to think about what they want to be,” he said. “With Literature, it may be the only introduction many of them will have. You want them to be open to reading throughout their career.”

Having lived and taught in the community for so long, Grant often runs into former students in unexpected places — like at the hospital.

“I must have taught a quarter of the nurses in Sauk County,” he said with a grin and just a hint of pride. “I’m usually hopeful I’ve treated them well, otherwise I’ll be hurting.”

That’s unlikely. Though Grant can “play intellectual hardball with the best of them,” said former UW&BC English Professor Bill Drennan, it’s his compassion and his gift for relating to students and colleagues that has set him apart.

“What I most celebrate about my friend is his capacious humanity — the goodness of his heart, the light and kindness of his wit, the unquenchable warmth of his spirit,” Drennan said. “Without intending to, Ken humbles us. He sure humbles me.”

After five years as instructional academic staff, teaching two classes at Oxford and two on campus, Grant transitioned to teaching on campus full-time.

From his office with the “second-best view on campus,” with its sweeping view of the Baraboo Bluffs second only to the Dean’s suite, Grant has quietly and successfully filled many leadership roles.

He was the English Department Chair for the UW Colleges for six years beginning in 2001, helping bring new people to the English Department at 13 campuses. He then served as Chair of Chairs for one year, representing all the department chairs in the UW Colleges.

Most recently he was Associate Dean at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County — a position he’ll keep until next spring. Dropping all those titles will allow him to pick up the one he most envisioned himself having back in grad school: writer.

A specialist in Wisconsin writers, Grant is working on a biography of August Derleth, the prolific author and Sauk City, Wisc. native.

“When you write a biography, it comes very close to writing fiction, because you never really know another person,” Grant said. “You’re making intelligent decisions about what he might have thought. I want an interesting story, because I think that Derleth’s life was interesting.”

Grant also looks forward to spending more time with his children, including a daughter who now teaches English at UW-Marshfield, and his beloved grand- daughter, Hadley.

But the campus undoubtedly will feel his absence. “Throughout my years as dean, one of the faculty I could always count on was Ken Grant,” said former longtime dean Aural Umhoefer. “He was a loyal, thoughtful colleague who helped keep the campus running smoothly.”

Though Grant will likely continue to serve as associate dean until May 2010, the first bit of withdrawal came when classes started this fall. After his official retirement Aug. 21, everyone else went back to the classroom, but he didn’t.

He’s slowly drawing down the piles of books so common of an English professor’s office, packing and bringing home one box at a time. He’ll likely serve as associate dean until May 2010, when he’ll make his final exit from campus.

“And then,” he said, “I’ll be academic history.”
SGA PRESIDENT HONORED

The UW-BSC Student Government Association (SGA) received the 2009 Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Student Government. SGA President John Hanson accepted a plaque and $100 award on behalf of the organization at Commencement.

Some of the special accomplishments the award recognized were:

- Creating SGA’s monthly campus newsletter to keep the student body informed.
- Providing voting information to new students on campus for the national presidential election.
- Obtaining more than 100 signed letters for state representatives for the promotion of domestic partnership benefits for UW faculty and staff.
- Holding an informational session to help students understand issues such as domestic partnership benefits and the state’s biennial budget cuts.
- Honoring local veterans on Veterans Day by providing a free lunch and drawing.

Hanson also received the Lee Grugel Memorial Leadership Award for the UW Colleges, presented to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities over the past academic year.

UW-Oshkosh Degree Available on Campus

Students now have the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree from UW-Oshkosh without leaving Baraboo. On March 30, leaders from both institutions entered into a collaboration to offer a UW-Oshkosh Bachelor of Liberal Studies (BLS) degree that will be delivered on the UW-BSC campus.

With an emphasis in leadership development, the BLS program will serve adult students using a combination of face-to-face classes, distance learning technology and online learning. “We are committed to increasing access for Sauk County area residents to UW System resources, including baccalaureate and graduate degrees,” UW-BSC Dean and CEO Thomas Plager said, “because we know that by producing more degree holders in Wisconsin we produce stronger communities.”

Students in the program can earn credits toward both their associate and bachelor’s degrees simultaneously. The collaboration expands the flexible options available at UW-BSC, including bachelor’s degree programs through UW-Green Bay, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville and UW-Superior, and a Master of Education degree through UW-La Crosse.

Collaboration with FCI Oxford Draws to a Close

Since 1974, UW-Baraboo/Sauk County had collaborated with the Oxford Federal Correctional Institution to provide inmates with access to post-secondary education. The mission of the program was to actively promote adult lifelong learning for personal dignity, respect, responsibility, growth, interest, and employability.

This year, the Federal Bureau of Prisons decided to redirect the focus of their post-secondary educational offerings to pursue vocational, job-ready education instead of the liberal arts mission of UW-BSC. In the campus’ final academic year of a collaborative liberal arts education, it granted AAS degrees to three deserving students. The program will rely on its students to promote learning as they travel the path to personal dignity as productive citizens.

Regents Freeze UW-Baraboo/Sauk County Tuition

For the third straight year, the UW System Board of Regents approved a tuition freeze for the 13 UW Colleges campuses, including UW-BSC. This move helps the campus maintain its long-held reputation as an affordable choice for students of all ages who can then complete a baccalaureate degree at UW-BSC or at any four-year UW campus. The tuition for two semesters at UW-BSC will remain at $4,268 for 2009-10. This is approximately $1,100 less than the four-year comprehensive campuses, $2,600 less than at UW-Milwaukee and $3,000 less than the tuition at UW-Madison.

“Maintaining tuition at 2006 rates for the 2009-2010 academic year means that the UW Colleges will continue to be the most affordable access point for anyone who wants to start, continue or complete a degree,” said UW Colleges and UW-Extension Chancellor David Wilson.

Regents Freeze UW-Baraboo/Sauk County Tuition

On May 16th, UW-BSC ushered out the 39th graduating class since its 1968 founding with a commencement ceremony that included 92 Associate of Arts and Science degree candidates. Speaker Chloris Lowe, two-time former president of the Ho-Chunk Nation, addressed students, faculty and staff at the event.

The campus also honored awards recipients from the community. Ann Burke, director of public relations at the International Crane Foundation, received the Distinguished Alumni Award. Jim Kieffer received the first annual Dean’s Community Service Award for his volunteer work with the campus and throughout the community. Judy Spring received an honorary degree for her work with Sustain Sauk County and other causes.

The campus again awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to recognize and support academic achievement and leadership for new freshmen, continuing students, and returning adult students at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County.
Alumni Profile: Ann Burke

In the years since Ann Burke began her college education at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County, she has been an incredible steward for the environment. And like the endangered cranes she has studied, Ann has taken flight. From her hometown of Baraboo, her work has taken her to Saskatchewan, where she studied the whooping crane who would eventually find a summer home at the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge. She has lived in South Africa consulting with captive breeding facilities there and monitoring birds in the wild. And in what she describes as her dream job, she was a field researcher in the Foundation, where she helps area residents and visitors from across the globe understand the majesty of cranes.

Though them,Ann says, we get a window to the world – a chance to learn about biology, the cultures that revere the cranes, and the governments that need to interact and cooperate to secure their protection.

Ann is a prime example of how the foundation of a liberal arts education can take you anywhere. The UW-Baraboo/Sauk County campus is proud to call her one of our own.

A Letter from the Friends

Since 1973, the Friends of the Campus foundation has raised funds to provide scholarships for hundreds of students. If you’ve received a scholarship from UW-Baraboo/Sauk County, the Friends probably helped make it possible. Our group meets every other month and holds one or two fundraising events each year. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact us. We are always looking for dedicated, enthusiastic people.

Grape & Gourmet Gala

For the past seven years, the Friends’ main fundraiser has been the Grape and Gourmet Gala, a spectacular event held at Fields at the Wilderness in Wisconsin Dells. Featuring gourmet food and award-winning wine tasting, the Gala includes a silent auction, a wine raffle, entertainment, and a grand prize drawing. In 2009, a lucky participant won a travel voucher valued at $2,000.

Proceeds from the Gala have helped establish new scholarships for UW-BSC students. This truly memorable evening is a sell-out each year. Next year’s Gala is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, April 22nd. Please contact us if you would like to be added to an early reservation list.

Century Club

When it comes to supporting scholarships, fundraising events aren’t always enough. For this reason, the Friends developed the Century Club Partners Endowment Fund. The total endowment for this fund is now more than $160,000. The capital for the fund remains intact and the interest is used to fund new and existing scholarships. Each fall, the Friends hold a solicitation for Century Club membership. For just $100, you too can become a member. As a special benefit, a contribution of $350 or more to the Century Club enables you and a guest to enjoy a one-year access pass to the state-of-the-art campus athletic facilities, including racquetball courts, weight room, and fitness center.

It’s a great way to contribute to scholarships and to stay in shape at the same time. Please consider becoming a Century Club Partner at this level! Some or all of your contribution is tax deductible, and your money goes directly toward scholarships or improving campus athletic equipment. If you are interested, call Athletic Director Rich Yarke at (608) 355-5247 to arrange a tour of the outstanding facilities.

Alumni Scholarships

Last year, the Friends funded more than $20,000 in scholarships. We’d like to help even more students reach their educational goals and give our alumni an opportunity to participate, so we’ve been considering two new scholarships:

• A Named Alumni Scholarship, funded by an individual (minimum donation of $500 per year)
• A General Alumni Scholarship, funded by alumni donations

Because of cutbacks in state funding, the need for student financial assistance has never been greater. We’d like to be able to increase our scholarship funding, and we invite you to help us in our efforts. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Please see our attached Contribution Form.

Thank you for your support!

—Mark Paschen
President, Friends of the Campus

calling all alums!

If you are UW-BSC campus alum, we’d like to hear from you! Update us on your job, family, travels, or other exciting things in your life. Many of you have very fond memories of UW-Baraboo/Sauk County. This is your campus. Get involved...and remember where you got your start.
In 2008, UW-BSC completed a comprehensive Master Planning process, which supports the idea of creating a new state-of-the-art Living & Learning Center (LLC) on campus.

The campus is currently planning for a capital campaign to fund the construction of the LLC: a “green” residence hall and conference center. Please see the enclosed envelope to make a contribution to support this important project.

Watch for more information at: www.baraboo.uwc.edu

Contact us at:
(608) 355-5200

Start any major today...and go UW all the way!