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SPORT MANAGEMENT MAJORS SCORE HIGH LEVEL INTERNSHIPS

Chia-Chen Yu, Director, Sport Management Program, Exercise and Sport Science Department

An internship is a requirement for all undergraduate sports management students. The internships can be with professional sport organizations, fitness clubs, collegiate athletic departments, non-profit sport organizations, and governing organizations for all levels of sport. Sport management interns have varied job responsibilities depending on the type of organization, area of the sport industry, and level of management. Examples of responsibilities include: event management, promotion and marketing, sport sponsorship and public relations. There is a variety of opportunities for internships available in locations throughout the United States.



Former UW-L student James Misudek with "Slider", the Cleveland Indians mascot and Milwaukee's "Bernie Brewer".

Professional Team or Organization Internships. This past semester, ten sport management seniors completed an internship with various professional sports teams or organizations. Ten years ago, only one or two sport management students were offered an internship with professional sports teams or organizations. As a result, our sport management faculty members are delighted to see the results of students' internship placement.

Among the 16 students who were taking ESS450 Internship in this past semester, ten were doing a full time internship with professional sports teams and organizations as follows:

- Matthew Augustine, Management and Operations, Roger Dean Stadium in Florida, Jupiter Hammerheads, Minor League Baseball.
- Kimberly Cichucki, Sales and Marketing, Chicago Storm, Major Indoor Soccer.
- Brent Harring, Corporate Sales, Memphis Redbirds, Minor League Baseball.
- Joseph Hoff, Operations and Marketing, Brevard County Manatees in Florida, Minor League Baseball.
- Luke Hoffman, Marketing and Sales, Houston Aeros, American Hockey League.

- Erin Luethi, Saint Paul Saints, Minor League Baseball.
- James Misudek, Media Relations, Milwaukee Brewers, Major League Baseball.
- Markus Movrich, Corporate Marketing, Milwaukee Brewers, Major League Baseball.
- Hector Ramirez, Scouting, Milwaukee Brewers, Major League Baseball.
- Adam Schneider, Corporate Marketing, Milwaukee Brewers, Major League Baseball.

“I think we are doing the right thing to prepare our students for the competitive job market in the sport industry,” says Chia-Chen Yu, Sport Management Program Director. For the Exercise and Sports Science sports management major, students apply to the program when they have earned 30 credit hours. The application process is highly competitive as each semester only 15 students are selected from approximately 40 applicants by the sport management faculty screening committee. In order to submit well prepared application materials, students start to become involved in sport management experiences in their freshman or sophomore years. In addition, Marcia Naber, of Career Services, works with them on their interview skills, the writing of application letters and developing their resume. At the early stage of the student’s career at UW-L, they understand the importance of the sport management experience and the competitiveness of the field. For example, James Misudek, who interned with the Milwaukee Brewers, worked with UW-L Recreation Sports while he was a student at UW-L, and he also gained extensive sport management experience working with the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers baseball team in the summer. Yu comments that “as the sport industry is getting more popular, our students are not only competing with sport management students from other universities but also students from other majors.” With the collaborative practices of faculty, Career Services practitioners and alumni, UW-L sport management students work on their competencies and still continue to get involved in the sport management experience, even after they are admitted to the program.

Frequently, professional sports teams and organizations seek full time professionals from their group of current or past interns. For example, Erin Luethi, while a sport management intern with the Saint Paul Saints in Minnesota, received a job offer as their box office manager, even before she finished her internship hours. The following sport management alumni were also offered full time positions after their internship: Ben Gunning (Chicago Rush), Casey Klein (Chicago Bulls), Dan Mielke (Chicago White Sox), Mark Mueller (Milwaukee Brewers), Angela Murphy (United States Olympic Committee), Matthew Ritzer (Wisconsin Woodchucks), and Scott Van Someren (NASCAR).

American Junior Golf Association Internships: Two senior ESS sport management students, Ryan Jesberger and Jordan Schneider, are currently doing an internship with the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA), based in Atlanta, Georgia. The positions began in May. The AJGA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the overall growth and development of young men and women who aspire to earn college golf scholarships through competitive junior golf. AJGA conducts tournaments throughout the five regions of the United States during the summer months. Each region has a specific team of interns.

As interns, both Jesberger and Schneider are traveling extensively with their teams throughout a predetermined region of the United States to help conduct the tournaments. The major responsibilities and duties of Schneider include on source officiating, general tournament set up, and media/public relations. Jesberger is primarily in charge of all on site communications and media relations duties for the tournaments.

The faculty members of sport management are excited about Jesberger and Schneider’s internship opportunities with AJGA, as obtaining a position is very difficult. Only 42 interns for the summer program of AJGA were chosen from 522 applicants nationwide. Jesberger and Schneider had to compete with a diverse group of finalists from colleges and universities across the country. In addition, with the growth of the golf industry, Jesberger and Schneider’s success is testimony to the opportunities available beyond the professional sport level.

“The AJGA is a wonderful opportunity for sport management students to get a foot in the door to the golf

industry,” says Schneider. The AJGA looks to its intern class to offer fulltime employment opportunity, and strictly hire only past interns. Furthermore, employees of AJGA have more opportunities to move on to such organizations at the PGA and LPGA tours, and United States Golf Association (USGA).

For further information on the undergraduate sport management program, you can contact Chia-Chen Yu at 608-785-6549 or yu.chia@uwlax.edu.

THE FULBRIGHT EXPERIENCE AT UW-LACROSSE AND THROUGHOUT THE REGION

Gary Gilmore, Professor, Health Education and Health Promotion Department



From left to right, Gary D. Gilmore, President Seven Rivers Region Fulbright Chapter, Kristjén Lundberg, Director, National Fulbright Association Chapter Relations, Victoria Christman, Luther College faculty member, History Department, Robert Christman, Luther College faculty member, History Department, and Christopher Squier, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, University of Iowa.

Since 2005, UW-La Crosse has had a Fulbright Chapter called the *Seven Rivers Region Fulbright Chapter*. The Founding President is Gary D. Gilmore, Graduate Community Health Programs, and the Vice President is Dean Stroud, Foreign Languages. The Chapter became the 50th national chapter authorized by the National Fulbright Association in Washington, D.C.

Since its inception, the chapter has sought to be inclusive in its activities and in its encouragement for professionals from across the region (Western Wisconsin, Northeastern Iowa, and Southeastern Minnesota) to become involved in the Fulbright experience. Drawing on the establishment of the premier global exchange opportunity in 1946 by an act of Congress, Senator J. William Fulbright

stipulated that the experience “aims to bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason, and a little more compassion into world affairs, and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn to live in peace and friendship.”

The chapter meets each semester, and to date has held all of its meetings at UW-L. In order to reflect its mission of inclusiveness, Gilmore and Stroud have called for future meetings to be held throughout the region to better facilitate others connecting with the chapter activities. In this vein, the Fall, 2007 meeting will be held at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa on a date yet to be established.

The spring, 2007 Chapter meeting, held on March 30th, provided an opportunity for participants from academic and community settings to hear updates from former Fulbrighters, the Director of Global Health Studies at the University of Iowa, the Director of Chapter Relations from the National Fulbright Association office, and UW-La Crosse internationalization leadership. Christopher Squier, Director of Graduate Studies and Global Health Studies at the University of Iowa, presented on *Participating in the Global Experience: The Global Health Perspective*. He reviewed the challenges and opportunities for engaging in world affairs, particularly those that are health related, to include tobacco and disease control, as well as study tour opportunities. Former Fulbrighters, Robert and Victoria Christman, from Luther College, provided detailed updates on their scholarly work in Germany and Belgium, along with

insights into the important cultural connections that can be established through such global exchanges. Kristjen Lundberg, Director of Chapter Relations for the National Fulbright Association, invited interested students and professionals from community based and academic settings to explore the international options afforded by the Fulbright experience. She also recognized the efforts of the Seven Rivers Region Fulbright Chapter in its partnership development efforts since its inception. Additional updates were provided by Ruthann Benson, Chair of the UW-La Crosse International Select Committee, Dean Stroud, and Gary Gilmore, regarding efforts to date on the campus in advocating for global experiences and exploring options for greater support. Following the meeting, Ms. Lundberg stated: "I am grateful to Dr. Gilmore, the Seven Rivers Region Chapter, and the greater UW-La Crosse community for inviting me to attend the Chapter's Spring Meeting on March 30th and extending such a generous welcome. It was wonderful to witness firsthand the important strides that the campus is making in bringing the international education experience to each member of its community. The Fulbright Association shares this commitment to fostering international awareness and understanding, and I look forward to supporting the chapter in its future collaborative efforts to advocate increased support for Fulbright exchanges."

Future endeavors for the Seven Rivers Region Fulbright Chapter include:

- Working with the UW-La Crosse International Select Committee to heighten the visibility of Fulbright experience as an inherent area for student, staff, and faculty involvement.
- Initiating greater activity throughout the region to disseminate the word about the value of the Fulbright experience and other global opportunities.
- Working with established chapters at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Minnesota to explore possibilities for joint planning and programming.
- Working with colleagues at the University of Iowa to facilitate the establishment of a chapter on that campus.
- Continuing to communicate with government officials regarding the importance of the Fulbright experience. As just one instance, following the March 30th meeting, chapter representatives met with the staff of U.S. Representative Ron Kind to discuss the important accomplishments through the Fulbright exchanges, and the need for continuing governmental support.
- Including updates on the value of the Fulbright experience elsewhere in Wisconsin. As one example, interest has been expressed by the Wisconsin Public Health Council to have a Fulbright update as a future agenda item.

UW-La Crosse Chancellor Joe Gow has stated that the "Seven Rivers Region Fulbright Chapter plays an essential role in enhancing international education at UW-L and throughout our region. As a result of the efforts of this group, under the solid leadership of Dr. Gary Gilmore, more of our students and faculty are becoming aware of the wonderful opportunities made possible by the Fulbright Program. We are very fortunate to have this chapter in our region."

For additional information contact Gary Gilmore at 608-785-8163 or gilmore.gary@uwlax.edu.

FEDERAL GRANT RECOGNIZES CONTINUED EXCELLENCE OF ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION PROGRAMS
Garth Tymeson, Professor, Exercise and Sport Science Department

Dr. Lauren Lieberman returned to La Crosse in May 2007 for only the second time since 1988, when she graduated with her M.S. in adapted physical education (APE). Her visit was noteworthy as she received the 2007 Rada Distinguished Alumni Award. Between trips to La Crosse, Lauren completed doctoral study at Oregon State University, earned the rank of Professor at the State University of New York-Brockport, has become a world known expert on physical education/activity, motor development and sport for persons with sensory disabilities, and has sent undergraduate advisees to UW-L for graduate study.



Left to right, Pat DiRocco, Lauren Lieberman, Lane Goodwin, and Garth Tymeson.

Dr. Robert Arnhold, Director of the Center on Disability and Health at Slippery Rock University (PA), co-chairs the prevention committee of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities in Washington, DC. He recently served as president of the National Consortium for Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities, and is a consultant to Special Olympics International.

Marquell Johnson, a native of Alabama, accepted a tenure track assistant professor position two months ago at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. He is a recent graduate of UW-L and is currently completing his doctoral degree in Movement Studies in Disability at Oregon State University. At the other end of the professional career continuum is Dr. Willie Gayle at Wright State University (Ohio). Gayle is retiring after more than 30 years in education. He can still remember Dr. Lane Goodwin and Wittich Hall when he was completing his M.S. degree at UW-L in 1977.

All of these professionals have one thing in common. Each is an alumnus of the adapted physical education graduate program at UW-L. They are among the hundreds of graduates who work throughout the world at all levels of education and in agencies that provide physical activity and health related services to persons with disabilities.

“In some ways, we developed our minor in Adapted Physical Activity at Slippery Rock University after the programmatic activities at UW-L” recalls Arnhold. He goes on to state that “many graduates of UW-L are current national leaders in adapted physical education. I was extremely well prepared for doctoral study after my M.S. at La Crosse.”

Lieberman adds “what I learned at UW-L truly set me on my career path; I’m fortunate to have had that experience ... my interest in research with children with visual and hearing impairments was sparked by the experiences that Lane Goodwin provided for me in Wittich Hall and in La Crosse area schools. At La Crosse I worked in several hands on clinical experiences and I currently use many of the same models and strategies with my undergraduate students at SUNY-Brockport. Finally, I am proud to say that I sent an undergraduate advisee to La Crosse for her M.S. degree in adapted physical education. She is a 3rd generation La Crosse graduate, and is now an amazing teacher in the Rochester City School District (NY). I send my students to her to work with her as a mentor.”

Marquell Johnson (2005) states “UW-L allowed me to work with a diverse range of disabilities and ages.

The program is exceptional at preparing professionals with sound teaching practices and opportunities in school and community based practicum settings.” Johnson goes on to say, “I will use UW-L’s APE program model as a foundation for preparing professionals in adapted physical education and other allied health fields.”

The UW-L APE programs that prepared these practitioners, scholars, and national leaders continue and were recently recognized for their sustained relevance and success. The Department of Exercise and Sport Science has been awarded a personnel preparation grant from the U.S. Department of Education - Office of Special Education Programs (Research to Practice Division). This 4-year grant (\$784,000, January 2007-December 2011) is designed to address identified needs for qualified adapted physical education teachers for toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. Funding is provided for undergraduate and graduate fellowships for students who are pursuing advanced preparation in adapted physical education teaching. A variety of program options are available to students seeking degrees and professional development coursework. In addition to traditional academic year courses for undergraduate and graduate students, the program also funds currently employed teachers to pursue graduate study in a summer only advanced certification program. The UW-L APE program is one of only two in the country funded by the U.S. Department of Education with an emphasis on undergraduate professional preparation.

The adapted physical education program now features an extensive undergraduate concentration. Upon successful completion of the concentration and student teaching, graduates attain the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction 860 add on teaching license. Wisconsin is one of only 15 states with an additional license to recognize “highly qualified” APE teachers. The undergraduate program currently enrolls more than 50 students, and plans are underway to convert this concentration to an academic minor.

The APE program recognized the need for preservice students to obtain numerous hands on experiences with individuals with disabilities of all ages in a variety of education and community based settings. Therefore, service learning in several field experiences highlights the preparation received by students. Graduates complete 150-200 hours of clinical education experiences in diverse environments to best prepare them for future APE service delivery roles. A network of professionals serves as mentors for the students. Practicum sites include schools and agencies in Holmen, Onalaska, West Salem, La Crosse, Black River Falls, Tomah, Sparta, and several other school districts.

Supplementing extensive off campus experiences is the longstanding campus based Special Population Programs (SPP). The SPP includes the Motor Development Program for Children with Disabilities and the Adult Physical Activity Program. Housed in Wittich and Mitchell Halls, these programs provide extensive community services and are aligned with the APE professional preparation programs. These programs meet the needs of health related and education majors who may work with persons with disabilities.

Current faculty members in the program are Drs. Patrick DiRocco, Manny Felix, and Garth Tymeson. Each of these persons has doctoral level preparation in adapted physical education and disability and continues to have adapted physical activity involvement at the state, national, and international levels.

Persons interested in the program can visit <http://www.uwlax.edu/sah/ess/sape/> or contact Garth Tymeson at 608-785-5415 or tymeson.gart@uwlax.edu.

WE ARE NUTS ABOUT THE NEW NUTRITION MINOR AT UW-L!

Peg Maher, Director, Nutrition Minor, Biology Department

On a campus well known for its health related programs, it just seemed as if something was missing. Near the time that the two former colleges were joined to form the College of Science and Health, several faculty members interested in nutrition gathered to investigate the possibilities for expanding the

nutrition offerings at UW-L. Although a few nutrition courses were offered by different departments on campus, we discovered that they were offered inconsistently and covered the same introductory information, with little time left for more in depth study of nutrition. With the support of Dean Karen Palmer Mc Lean, Professors Peg Maher from Biology, Becki Battista from Exercise and Sport Science, Kris Greany from Health Professions, Sandy Grunwald from Biochemistry, Raj Rajagopal from Microbiology, and Keely Rees from Health Education worked together to develop the nutrition minor. The “NUT” minor consists of 18 credits from 3 core required courses, Human Nutrition (NUT 200), Lifecycle Nutrition (NUT 300), and Food Science, Service, and Safety (NUT 400), and nutrition related electives offered by multiple departments in the college. The minor was approved in December, 2006 and, as of April, 2007, there were already 51 declared minors and many others inquiring about it!

A really peachy aspect of the minor is the diversity of students who are choosing it, including biology, fitness, health education, business and biochemistry majors. Some students have chosen the minor in order to prepare for a clinical or graduate program in nutrition, others to prepare for nutrition related questions and problems that they will undoubtedly face in their future jobs, and others because of personal interest in the topic. The diversity of students poses challenges to instructors, due to different backgrounds and interests. But nutrition is a field as branched as broccoli and the diversity of majors in the minor will bring multiple perspectives to the classroom that will enrich learning.

One of the elective courses in the minor is Field Experience in Nutrition (NUT 450). Together with a faculty member, students choosing this elective will identify a field site, design an experience that will benefit both the student and the host, carry out work at the site, and reflect upon and document the experience. We hope to arrange opportunities in clinical, public health, school and community nutrition, and food and fitness industry field sites in the near future. Besides providing invaluable exposure to real meat and potato nutrition issues for future breadwinners, this offering will foster outreach between UW-L and our La Crosse area community.

As the nutrition minor ages like sharp cheddar, the faculty involved look forward to seeking resources to refine and support the core and elective courses. We welcome collaborative opportunities and innovative ideas from alumni and friends that will help the nutrition opportunities for UW-L students expand.

For more information or to share ideas about the NUT Minor, please contact Peg Maher at 608-785-6967 or maher.marg@uwlax.edu.

FROM THE DEAN

Karen Palmer Mc Lean, Dean, College of Science and Health

Changing Faces in the College Office

This summer the college office said good-bye to two fantastic faculty members, Dr. Gubbi Sudhakaran and Dr. Rob Tyser. Both of these individuals served the college as half-time Interim Associate Deans during the past academic year while the college searched for a permanent Associate Dean. Sudha returned to the Physics Department which he has chaired for the past 11 years while the Biology Department welcomed Rob back to his full-time instructional role.

Dr. Ray Abhold began his appointment as the new Associate Dean of the college in July. Associate Dean Abhold received his B.S. in Zoology from the

University of Washington in 1973, as well as an M.S. and a Ph.D. in Zoology from Rutgers University in 1976 and 1981, respectively. He spent three years at Washington State University pursuing research in a pathology training program and another six as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Veterinary and Comparative Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology. During that period he also taught part-time at Lewis and Clark State College in the Department of Nursing.

For the past 18 years Associate Dean Abhold was a faculty member at CSU-Fresno where he was a professor of biology. He has over 10 years of administrative experience including appointments as the CSU-Fresno Director of Academic Resources, Chair of the University Budget Committee, and Graduate Coordinator for the Department of Biology. He has also served as an Assistant to the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs as well as an Assistant to the Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. Dr. Abhold graduated from the Management Development Program at Harvard University and advancement training programs through CASE and the Cal State University system. His research in neurochemistry has included undergraduate and graduate student participation. He has over 30 refereed articles and has received substantive funding from a variety of programs, including several awards from the National Institute of Health.



Dr. Ray Abhold, the new Associate Dean of the College of Science and Health.

In his spare time Dr. Abhold enjoys fly fishing, camping, backpacking, and cycling.

You can contact Karen Palmer Mc Lean at 608-785-8218 or mclean.kare@uwlax.edu.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Phil Wilson, Editor, Professor Emeritus, Exercise and Sport Science Department



Time does go by fast when you are having fun. I enjoy being the editor of this newsletter. From the beginning three years ago, the purpose of the newsletter has been to enhance communication on “happenings” of the College of Science and Health with our alumni, current students, UW-L faculty and staff (retired and current), and the many “friends and family” of the college. Routinely the newsletter contains feature articles, columns by the Dean and myself, focus sections (on departments, students, grants and research), and finally an update on faculty new hires and retirements. Hopefully, you have enjoyed the newsletter as much as I have enjoyed being a part of it.

So, what’s the future for the newsletter? Together with the editorial board, we are considering various options for expansion and increasing the scope of the newsletter. Being considered is a Q and A section on retired faculty or staff. Another consideration is a “spotlight” article, to highlight programs and related activities. Also considered are articles about alumni who are involved in unique employment, hobbies or volunteer programs. These articles would be done by a “guest editor”, who would be a retired faculty or staff member associated with the “spotlight” topic prior to retirement. This would provide an interesting historical perspective.

Finally, remember this newsletter is about YOUR college. Please feel free to contact me at any time with suggestions for topics or other ways the newsletter can serve your needs. I can be contacted at

608-782-8350 or pkwilson@centurytel.net.

DEPARTMENTS

WETLAND DELINEATION TRAINING WORKSHOPS....A COLLABORATION BETWEEN RIVER STUDIES CENTER (RSC) AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Wetlands are interesting ecosystems with world wide distribution. These natural systems provide society with many important ecological services (e.g., wildlife production, flood water control, nutrient absorption). Because of their importance, wetlands are legally protected and regulated in the United States.

Determination of a wetland's boundary, termed wetland delineation, is an integral part of regulation. Trained wetland delineators and regulators work for local, state, federal agencies or private consulting firms. Since 1999, the River Studies Center (coordinated by Timothy Gerber) and UW-La Crosse Continuing Education/Extension have held annual wetland related workshops. These training workshops are collaboratively run in cooperation with state and federal agencies, including the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration (Wisconsin Coastal Management Program), Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, U.S. Geological Survey, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



Bruce Norton (second from left), US Army Corps of Engineers, answers soils-related questions for wetland delineation participants.

Workshop participants include engineers, planners, scientists, resource managers, local and tribal officials and others interested in wetland regulation. Workshops combine classroom instruction and field training taught by leading government experts in hydrology, vegetation, soils, and wetland policy. A Certificate of Completion and UW-Extension continuing education units are awarded to each participant upon successful completion of workshops. With the completion of the 2006 season, over \$190,000 in revenue has been generated from 530 registrations (9540 training hours).

When UW-L acquired the wetland delineation program from Wisconsin Coastal Management, only a single workshop, "Beginning Wetland Delineation" was offered to participants. Four additional workshops; Advanced Wetland Delineation, Introductory Plant Identification, Basic Soils, and Critical Methods In Wetland Delineation are also offered with this program (see <http://www.uwlax.edu/ContEd/wetland/> for descriptions). Workshops have been held throughout Wisconsin in La Crosse (southwest), Middleton (central), Waukesha (southeast), Door County, (northeast), and Cable (northwest).

For further information contact Dan Gerber at 608-785-6977 or gerber.dani@uwlax.edu.

FROM A RESEARCH PROJECT TO A SYSTEM WIDE INSTITUTE

Screen capture of one portion of a PRAXIS Learning Object. The tabs at the top of the window provide access to a variety of materials relating to this particular mathematics topic.

continued to provide technical support for the project.

The e *PRAXIS Wisconsin* project is a system wide endeavor involving faculty, students, and technical support in the creation of innovative teaching and learning materials called digital Learning Objects (LOs). The LOs are interactive, self contained online applications that include voice overs and Flash animation features, that allow for a variety of learning styles. They are delivered in a well designed format that is easy to use and adheres to the latest digital standards. The current design of the learning object template was developed at the Advanced Distributed Learning CO-Lab in Madison. The CO-Lab has

In 2006-2007, the focus of the project was the creation of LOs to help students prepare for the PRAXIS II exams in mathematics and science (see example question in the photo). Potential teachers must pass these exams in order to be licensed in Wisconsin. Teams involving students and faculty members created over 50 LOs relating to math and science content. The faculty and students enjoyed all aspects of the process. The content of future LOs will extend beyond PRAXIS to include areas such as remedial math and science, science misconceptions, placement exams, etc. In 2007-2008 the focus will be on developing science LOs and forming teams at additional UW-System campuses.

Evidence of the impact of the project is the recent creation of the UW System *Institute for Innovation in Undergraduate Research & Learning (IIURL)* at UW-La Crosse, with Bob Hoar (Mathematics) as Director. The Institute is being funded by the UW System Office of Learning and Information Technology and the PK-16 Initiative. Its mission is twofold. First, to develop, foster and support innovations that use digital technology to enhance undergraduate teaching learning and research in the UW System. Secondly, the Institute will be responsible for constructing a registry and repository to make very simple the storage, retrieval and sharing of digital content for teaching. UW-L's Master of Software Engineering graduate students will address the technology needs of the project as it expands.

Further information is available at the project website www.uwlax.edu/mathematics/PRAXIS. You can also contact Bob Hoar at 608-785-6617 or hoar.robe@uwlax.edu, or Becky LeDocq at 608-785-6615 or ledocq.rebe@uwlax.edu.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT

By Jennifer J. Kosiak, Assistant Professor, Mathematics Department



Helen Skala became a UW-L professor in 1989 with specialties in geometry and mathematic education. She has been a strong asset to the Mathematics Department as well as numerous school districts around the state of Wisconsin. For many years she has dedicated her professional career to improving the mathematics education of students at all age levels. Her passion for providing high quality instruction to both pre-service teachers and in-service teachers of mathematics is evident in her work at UW-L. The numerous grant projects that Helen has received over the years has made her a “household name” in many school districts around La Crosse. My choice of words will never be able to sum up this dedication to K-16 mathematics education. Therefore, I feel it is most appropriate to use the testimony of one of the many teachers Helen has impacted during her tenure in the Mathematics Department.

“I feel Helen is an excellent teacher of mathematics. I learned a great deal from her over the past year and I am grateful that I had this opportunity to participate in a worthwhile endeavor for me especially since math is not my forte. Helen has given me the confidence to continue to teach math and appreciate the variety of instructional activities that lend themselves to success in the math class.” - Anonymous

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

By Ryan Johonnott, Senior, Logan High School

UW-L Masters of Occupational Therapy students mentored middle school students from Longfellow and Lincoln Middle Schools as they worked on their science fair projects this past spring.

Attempting to teach, let alone mentor, middle school students can be a daunting task. However, when given the opportunity to work with university students, the age wall seemed to crumble instantly. At least, that's how it seemed to Longfellow Middle School science teacher Elizabeth Ramsay.



Participating students had projects that ranged from animal psychology to aerospace science. This was an after school activity and the students worked on their projects outside the classroom. The university students visited the middle schools four times over the course of the project, helped the students with basics such as the scientific method and research, provided advice about the posters and presentation, but did not actually work on the projects themselves.

Was the result positive? According to the teachers involved, there has been a vast improvement in project quality because of the mentors. One student at Longfellow said that he pushed himself to do a more challenging project because he knew that he would have enough help to do it well. The UW-L Occupational Therapy students gained experience working with pre-teens while using their research skills. It was a win-win situation for everyone. Hopefully the results gained by this mentorship are not

only temporary, but the effects might last into high school where skills like these are very necessary.

For further information contact Peggy Denton at 608-785-8303 denton.pegg@uwlax.edu.

PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENTS CREATE WEBSITES TO PROMOTE ACCESSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Physical Therapy students Matt Hanks and Andrew Kelly assessing boat landing accessibility.

<http://www.uwlax.edu/pt/community-involvement.htm>.

During fall semester of 2006, DPT (Doctor of Physical Therapy), students enrolled in PTS 723 - Adult Neurological Physical Therapy, (Instructor, Erin Hussey), had the option of developing an educational website for completion of an assigned course project. Two groups selected this option and created educational websites targeting accessibility. To develop the websites, students completed training in website design with Saundy Solum in Technology Support Services, completed a review of recommended design principles and regulations to improve accessibility for people who use wheeled mobility devices, and created pictures, text, and links to provide quality community education. The resulting websites on accessibility are now available to the public as a link through the Physical Therapy Program website,

<http://www.uwlax.edu/pt/community->

One of these educational projects, completed by Matt Hanks and Andrew Kelly, provides information about boat landing accessibility. These students and their project were featured by Jerry Davis (Biology, Professor Emeritus), in the "Outdoors" section of the La Crosse Tribune on January 4th, 2007. The second accessibility project was completed by Jodi Meznarich and Danielle Curran and provides tips for improving accessibility based on universal design principles in the home. Jodi and Danielle shared their project design with local agencies that provide resource support for people with disabilities.

For additional information, contact Erin Hussey at 608-785-5065 or hussey.erin@uwlax.edu.

STUDENTS

CASE BASED, INTER-DISCIPLINARY SERVICE LEARNING IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Faculty members from Health Professions, Robin McCannon (Occupational Therapy) and Erin Hussey (Physical Therapy), recently completed a service based project for an Amish couple. In developing the project to integrate student learning activities, these instructors offer an example of combining clinical and academic arenas to enhance student education. The resulting interdisciplinary service learning project provided benefits for all involved.

Robin originated this project in response to a request from a Home Care Nurse in rural Wisconsin. Prior to the consultation visit, students researched the Amish culture and developed culturally relevant handouts to address the stated concerns. During a site visit, Robin and Erin met with the couple in their home, discussed family concerns relative to costs associated with "western" medical care, current activity and equipment use, and provided advice on injury and fall prevention. Student handouts were

shared with the couple and additional options were discussed. Following the site visit, instructors met with students in each program, modeled an interdisciplinary team report, discussed cultural implications for therapy, and asked students to problem solve solutions for some of the movement difficulties encountered. Integration of this visit into the educational experience for students occurred in different ways due to the timing of the activity and the need to develop relevant and meaningful activities that were course appropriate. Students participated in developing activity and equipment suggestions that were culturally appropriate. Suggestions included: energy management to reduce fatigue, fall prevention tips in the home and with the use of equipment (such as adjusting a walker that was too tall and a bathing bench that was improperly installed), tips to improve safety for family members while assisting the client into their buggy, methods of carrying water into the house, milking cows by hand and improving clients' ability to continue to participate in daily activities such as quilting and cooking. Students and faculty indicated that the activity and the follow up discussions added value to the classroom experience.

For further information contact Robin McCannon and 608-785-5063 mccannon.robi@uwlax.edu or Erin Hussey at 608-785-5065 or hussey.erin@uwlax.edu.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND THE FUNWAY PROJECT

**By Ryan Johonnott,
Senior, Logan High
School**

As our world becomes more and more superficial, it grows ever harder to find something that people from all walks of life can enjoy together. That search, however, is coming close to its end due to the efforts of UW-L's occupational therapy students. Their efforts to present something that was not only for the disabled resulted in a spectacular fashion show, "Project Funway", held at the Valley View Mall in March.



Project Funway showcased that everyone can enjoy fashion, and the sponsoring stores' new spring clothing line ups. Participants ranged in age from elementary school students to older adults, some with disabilities and some without. Though, as Emily Wolfe, the creator of Project Funway will tell you, the emphasis of the show was on having an event that involved people of all kinds of abilities. The student Occupational Therapy Club received a grant from the Wisconsin Council of Disabilities to sponsor an inclusive event and they decided to push the boundaries of what is considered beautiful in fashion.

Not only was it obvious the participants were enjoying themselves, but the audience also enjoyed watching the models have a great time. An idea like this is truly revolutionary and could act as a flagship for other all inclusive activities in La Crosse.

For further information contact Peggy Denton at 608-785-8303 or denton.pegg@uwlax.edu.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS EMPLOYMENT FAIR TEACHES STUDENTS TO ENGAGE AS PROFESSIONALS



Health Professions Department students in the OT and PT programs engage an employer at the Health Professions Employment Fair.



UW-L PT Program 1982 alumnus Wendy Dillie from Agnesian Healthcare interacts with Jessica Lemke (PT Class of 2008) at the Health Professions Employment Fair.

UW-L Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy students enrolled in PTS733/OT6414 Health Administration, got an “up close and personal” lesson in engaging as professionals at the Healthcare

Employment Fair held on March 22nd. Over 40 employers from the Midwest attended. Students had the rare opportunity to participate in mock interviews and resume critiques with employers and receive valuable feedback on their professional presentation skills and materials. The event provided the students with an excellent understanding of employers’ expectations and tips on deciding on that all important first employment choice. Employers and colleagues seemed to welcome the opportunity to visit the UW-L campus. Loyal relationships were built with the “consumers” of our students. Monies generated from this event will be used for Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) student professional development activities. One such activity will take place this summer when the DPT class of 2009 will journey to Milwaukee for three days to volunteer at the National Paralyzed Veterans Wheelchair Games. The Health Professions Department takes pride in “breaking out the walls” of our classrooms and creating these real learning experiences for our talented students.

For further information contact Michele Thorman at 608-785-8460 or thorman.mich@uwlax.edu.

GRANTS

FOUR NMT STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Society for Nuclear Medicine (SNM) recently announced the recipients of their Paul Cole Scholarships. Each year, these scholarships are presented to the best Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) students across the nation, and competition is intense. Of this year's 15 baccalaureate winners, four are from UW-



Emily Bindl



Dennis Flood



Vana Hansch



Brooke Whitcher

La Crosse! They are Emily Bindl, Dennis Flood, Vana Hansch, and Brooke Whitcher. Emily is currently a senior performing her internship at Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center in Milwaukee, Dennis and Brooke are at the Mayo Clinic, and Vana is a junior. Each recipient receives a check for \$1000, as well

as the prestige associated with this scholarship. Congratulations to all four! These scholarships are based on financial need, statements of goals, academic performance and program director recommendations. They are funded by the Education and Research Foundation for SNM, and were established in memory of Paul Cole, an NMT leader and champion of student education. The Nuclear Medicine Technology program began almost 40 years ago at UW-La Crosse, because of the initiative of (now Emeritus) Chemistry Professor William J. Nieckarz. Since then over 600 students have graduated from this program, and all indications, including the four scholarships won this year, are that our program is one of the best in the country. Nuclear Medicine Technologists are health care professionals that provide valuable anatomical and physiological diagnostic information to physicians and patients. NMT procedures involve the injection of small amounts of radioactive materials into patients. These materials then localize in the organ of interest, and can be imaged in 3-D, showing not only the structure of the organ, but also how well it is functioning. NMT procedures are often valuable in determining what treatment is necessary.

For further information contact Jeff Bryan at 608-785-8271 or bryan.jeff@uwlax.edu.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAM BEGIN SUMMER OF 2007

The Institute for Biomolecular Sciences (IBS) was recently awarded a highly competitive REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) grant from the National Science Foundation, for nearly \$300,000. This award, co-authored by David Howard and Anne Galbraith (Biology), funds a three-year REU site at UW-L for ten students each year. Provided are research opportunities in biomolecular sciences that they would not normally have at their home institutions. The program is designed to build upon a well established, internally funded College of Science and Health Dean's Distinguished Fellowship Program, which will provide an active cohort of undergraduate researchers with whom REU students can interact. Students perform research with faculty in the IBS and attend a series of workshops designed to prepare them for careers in biomolecular science. Students were recruited most heavily from two year colleges and smaller institutions that lack the biomolecular facilities that UW-L can provide.

A whopping 126 applications were received for the 10 spots available for this summer. Applications came from a diverse array of students from all over the country. The two co-directors put in many hours, whittling the number of applications down to the 10 students who were sent letters of acceptance.

The intellectual focus of biomolecular science is a natural extension of the UW-L IBS. The 12 faculty who committed to serving as mentors have collectively mentored over 340 undergraduate research projects. Since 2000, these faculty have garnered 16 extramural research grants, published over 50 peer reviewed scientific articles, and made over 230 presentations with undergraduates. In addition to their research expertise, the faculty have extensive experience successfully training undergraduates in the research lab and the classroom, and thus are well prepared to lead the workshops. The facilities for this predominantly undergraduate institution are superb, due mainly to the success of IBS faculty securing external funding, and will provide students the opportunity to apply virtually any modern molecular approach needed.

For further information contact Anne Galbraith at 608-785-8246 or galbrait.anne@uwlax.edu.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

- Gus Borstad, majoring in Physics (Optics Emphasis) and Mathematics, received the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for 2007-2008. He is one of eight students from Wisconsin and 317 from the entire United States to have been selected. This is one of the most competitive awards given to students doing outstanding work in mathematics, science, engineering and computer science. He has been performing laser research with Mike Jackson, Lyndon Zink and Gubbi Sudhakaran

since his freshman year.

- Lee Wienkes, majoring in Physics (Optics Emphasis), Mathematics and German Studies, received the Murphy Award for Academic Excellence. This award recognizes the university's top graduating scholar. Lee has performed research with John Colton for the past several years and was a recipient of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for 2006-2007. This upcoming fall, Lee will be pursuing his Ph.D. in Physics at the University of Minnesota.
- Brooke Chuzles, May 2005 graduate in Physics (Optics Emphasis) and Mathematics, received the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship. This highly competitive program is supported by the Department of Defense in which recipients receive a \$30,000 per year stipend along with full tuition coverage for three years. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at the Institute of Optics, University of Rochester. While an undergraduate, Brooke performed research at UW-L and at the University of Oxford under the supervision of Mike Jackson.
- Luis Perez of the Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory at the University of Oxford worked in the far-infrared laser lab at UW-L in February/March 2007. Chris Uranga of the Department of Chemistry, San Diego State University successfully defended his M.S. thesis in April 2007. Both students performed the experimental portion of their thesis at UW-L under the supervision of Mike Jackson and Lyndon Zink.

For further information contact Mike Jackson at 608-785-8439 or jackson.mic2@uwlax.edu.

EXERCISE AND SPORTS SCIENCE GRADUATE ASSISTANT RECEIVES \$10,000 STIPEND. KLINE EARNS NSCA COACH PRACTITIONER DISTINCTION.



James White and Dennis Kline.

James White, a graduate assistant for the UW- La Crosse Strength Center, was one of five recipients for the National Strength and Conditioning Association's (NSCA) Student Assistantship Award for this past academic year. He received a \$10,000 stipend to work with Dennis Kline, Director of the Strength Centers, who recently earned the NSCA Coach Practitioner Distinction. This distinction recognizes coaches with four or more years of head strength and conditioning experience. Additionally, these coaches have demonstrated high levels of professional service and accomplishment in the field of strength and conditioning.

The purpose of the Student Assistantship Program is to link qualified students with experienced coaches to help develop the next generation of strength and conditioning professionals. This is an excellent opportunity for the college graduate to gain practical, applied experience in strength and conditioning, while learning from a highly skilled and educated mentor. Additionally, the Student Assistantship Program is an exceptional vehicle for the established strength and conditioning professional to access qualified apprentices. The purpose of this assistantship program is to help facilitate both of these processes.

The students chosen to be part of this program should demonstrate high levels of academic achievement and show a focus in the field of strength and conditioning. The following criteria are considered when awarding the assistantships:

- Students must have completed a graduate or undergraduate strength and conditioning curriculum from an accredited college or university.

- Students should be involved in the strength and conditioning field. Work and/or volunteer experience as an assistant strength and conditioning coach is considered.
- Applicants must possess current certification as a NSCA Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS®) and have or expect to receive CPR certification.
- Applicants must also be members of the NSCA.
- Applicants must supply a resume and three letters of recommendation.

For further information contact Dennis Kline at 608-785-6533 or kline.denn@uwlax.edu.

RESEARCH

SENIOR CHEMISTRY MAJOR JAMESON BOTHE PRESENTS IN WASHINGTON

Senior chemistry major Jameson Bothe was selected to present his research with faculty member Keith Beyer at the Council on Undergraduate Research “Posters on the Hill” day in Washington, DC on April 25, 2007. Jameson was one of just 75 students selected nationally from hundreds of applicants to present his research. Jameson was also the only student selected from the state of Wisconsin, and so was representing undergraduate research in the state through his presentation. The title of his poster presentation was “Experimental Study of the Human Impact on Cirrus Cloud Formation.” Jameson has spent



Congressman Ron Kind with Jameson Bothe and Keith Beyer.

the last three years working with Keith Beyer performing laboratory experiments to determine the impact air pollution has on cloud formation, which in turn plays a role in global warming. The research is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

The “Posters on the Hill” day included presentations by professional on non-traditional career paths in science, and meetings with Congressmen. Bothe and Beyer met with Representative Ron Kind. Kind also attended Jameson’s presentation at the poster session. In addition, the two also met with a representative from Senator Feingold’s office as the senator was unavailable that day. Both Feingold and Kind have been strong supporters of science funding, and the presentation by Bothe and office visits helped to demonstrate how science funding impacts training of future scientists at the undergraduate level. UW-L and the College of Science and Health have been leaders in the state in research participation by undergraduates. How fitting that a student from UW-L was chosen to represent the state at this premier showcase of undergraduate research!

For further information contact Keith Beyer at 608-785-8292 or beyer.keit@uwlax.edu.

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PASS IT ON

Why not send this newsletter (or its web address) to a classmate, friend, family member, professional colleague or others who would enjoy reading it. You don't have to be an alum to be added to the mailing list. Forward this newsletter and encourage the recipient to sign up for their own copy at <http://www.uwlalumni.org/whatsnew.htm>.

COMMENTS

We hope you enjoy receiving this convenient, periodic update from the UW-La Crosse College of Science and Health, produced for alumni, and friends. Send comments or story ideas to the editor, Phil Wilson, at 608-782-8350 or pkwilson@centurytel.net.

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