



2005-2006 YEAR IN REVIEW

UW-L

Continuing Education
and Extension

Certificate Programs

Conferences & Workshops

Credit Courses

Learning Communities

Learning in Retirement

Youth Programs

Connecting the university and the community





Dear Colleagues and Friends,

By far, the best aspect of my job is the privilege of working with diverse groups of people. Participants in our programs come from many walks of life, ranging from parents and caregivers of children with disabilities to teachers enrolling in courses taught amid the outdoor landscape of the 7 Rivers Region. It is their thoughtful feedback that helps keep our offerings meaningful and effective. The positive experience reported by our participants is a reflection of the level of passion and knowledge of UW-L faculty and community experts.

Our off-campus graduate programs in Exercise and Sport Science serve working professionals in the fields of Physical Education Teaching and Sport Administration. Our partnerships with the diverse education community in our Teacher Education programs demonstrate what can be accomplished when organizations come together. Because of these collaborations, a multitude of innovative professional development programs in math, literacy and leadership have been offered by area school districts.

I am grateful for the learning opportunities that are presented to me each day as I work to connect the university to the community.

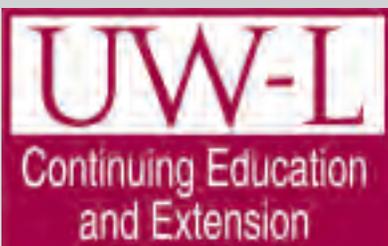
Thanks to all of you,
Annette Valeo
Teacher Education



► **AWARD RECEIVED**

Susan Larkin, ME-PD

Learning Community program coordinator, received an Award for Exceptional Service from the University of Wisconsin-Extension.



I joined the CEE staff in November, eager to provide professional and personal development opportunities in the human services field. What an enriching first nine months!

The students, instructors and community partners of the Gerontology Certificate program welcomed me to this creative and growing field. Collaboration with the Wisconsin Caregivers Project and our local long-term care workforce coalition produced the Leadership Development series. A partnership with the 7 Rivers Psychological Association brought poet Ellen Kort to address area psychologists, counselors and chaplains. We gained American Psychological Association approval as a sponsor of continuing education. An ACT prep course for Hmong youth and their families is being planned, thanks to the involvement of the Hmong Mutual Assistance Association, the La Crosse School District and other partners.

Discovering ways to build organizations' intercultural competencies; exploring the continuing education needs of professional leaders within the human service community; and finding ways to share the abundant gifts of UW-L faculty and staff with the community are the welcome challenges of my new position.

Warmly,
Andrea Hansen
Human Services



Who are we and what do we do?

Continuing Education/Extension (CEE) can work with you to develop educational programs (both credit and noncredit) that enable individuals to earn degrees and certificates, meet licensure requirements, accomplish professional goals, participate in conferences, and pursue leisure and academic interests.

LEARNING COMMUNITIES

In partnership with the UW-L School of Education CEE administered the **ME-PD Learning Community** program for 694 teachers and school professionals. Learning Communities were organized in La Crosse, West Salem, Onalaska, Tomah, Whitehall, Chippewa Falls, Hudson, Berlin, Manitowoc, Lodi, DeForest, Madison, Verona, Watertown, Fort Atkinson, Elkhorn, Beloit, Menomonee Falls, Hartland, Greenfield and Greendale. In May, 104 graduate students received their ME-PD degree from this program.



“The ME-PD Learning Community provides a more customized approach in professional development than the traditional format. Action research is an extremely effective tool for today’s classroom/work environment. It allows community members to share and discuss current research and gives them a means of applying and measuring the effectiveness of that research.”

— Bonnie Roscovius,
ME-PD Learning Community graduate student

ME-PD Learning Community Offers Technical College Cohort

This fall marks the newest pilot project for UW-L’s Master of Education Learning Community program. The successful program which began nearly 10 years ago is targeting a new audience - technical college faculty and staff. “Our mission is to address educational needs beyond campus boundaries,” says Lynn Weiland, assistant director, Continuing Education and Extension. “We have had numerous requests from Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) faculty and staff members to bring the ME-PD program to their area. With the support of the CVTC staff development team, we are able to do just that.”

Choosing facilitators for the site required careful screening. “Since we are offering the program to post-secondary individuals our goal was to choose facilitators that had a combination of technical college teaching experience and a familiarity with the Learning Community format,” states Teri Staloch, interim ME-PD director. “Co-facilitators, Saundy Solum and Curt Bakkum fit these unique qualifications.”

Saundy Solum, UW-L, and Curt Bakkum, Western Technical College, will head up the Eau Claire area Learning Community this fall. Curt is no stranger to the Learning Community and its unique format, having graduated in 2004 with his ME-PD degree. “As a student in the Learning Community, I took away many ideas that I applied directly to my students and in my classroom. As a facilitator of a Learning Community, I will continue to gain new skills and strategies from the interaction with other professionals in the program,” says Curt.

Depending on the needs of educators and the success of the pilot project, plans to launch the program in other technical college areas may be considered as early as 2007. “We will offer our graduate degree program wherever there is a need that is not being met and as long as the high quality and standards of the curriculum are not jeopardized,” notes Weiland.



Curt Bakkum

CREDIT COURSES

- In partnership with the College of Liberal Studies and the Modern Languages department, **Hmong Heritage Language** originated from UW-La Crosse with a receive site at UW-Stevens Point.
- The Exercise and Sport Science Master of Science **Sport Administration** option offered in Pewaukee and the **Physical Education Teaching** option held in Appleton began new three-year rotations of classes using a cohort format. Total enrollment for the 18 courses was 185.
- The **Arabic and Persian Immersion** program, an eight-credit UW-Madison program, drew 68 adults from across the country to learn Arabic or Persian.
- Two **College Algebra** courses were offered for Volk Field military staff resulting in 19 enrollments.
- **Biology 105** was offered for 11 advanced high school students in partnership with the La Crosse School District.
- The 13th annual **Washburn Academy**, offered in partnership with the UW-L School of Education and the Cooperative Educational Services Agency (CESA) #4, resulted in 375 graduate enrollments from the two academy weeks in Holmen and Onalaska and additional pre-academy offerings.
- CEE established individual agreements with the **La Crosse, Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, Galesville-Ettrick-Trempealeau** and **Black River Falls** school districts to collaborate in offering professional development programs, resulting in 240 enrollments in 19 credit courses.
- Credit courses were offered to Eagle Bluff Elementary School, Northwoods Elementary School, Onalaska Middle School and Logan High School teachers working with the Professional Development Schools.
- Advanced Assessment and Evaluation of Reading Difficulties, enabling teachers to intervene effectively in student reading problems, offered online.



► Program Impact Report: Annual Fall Educator Workshop

For more than 10 years CEE and the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network have offered an annual conference for teachers striving to meet the needs of gifted and talented students in their classrooms. Originally intended for teachers of gifted and talented students, the conference has grown to address the needs of regular classroom teachers and other school professionals involved with curriculum development. In 2005, 91 school personnel from 25 districts attended the daylong program from across the state. Prior to the program, participants were asked to rate their knowledge of this year's topic, Differentiating Instruction in the Regular Classroom, and assess how it changed after the workshop through pre- and post-questionnaires. A majority of respondents (79%) reported a significant increase in knowledge (20 to 40% gains) as a result of the program, regardless of their baseline expertise in the topic. Moreover, anecdotal data gathered from questionnaires revealed that participants increased their repertoire of practical ideas, strategies and techniques as a result of the program. A number of teachers noted that this workshop explained the meaning and process of differentiation and demonstrated what it looks like in a variety of settings.

“The CEE staff made the planning and delivery of courses to Volk Field an enjoyable experience. Courses on a military base created some unique obstacles, but CEE staff went way out of their way to tailor the process to our needs. We will be looking at another class next spring and will hopefully create a relationship between Volk Field and UW-L that continues long after my retirement.”

*— Master Sergeant John Angeli,
Volk Field, Community College
of the Air Force/Education Adviser*

“I appreciate our working relationship and the partnership we have in reaching out to improve learning in our [school] districts. It is because of the 'UW-L CEE in-district partnership' that meaningful progress in enhancing teaching and learning continues.”

*— Char Lemke, Melrose-Mindoro
Curriculum Director*



Credit staff (left) front, Gary Gilmore, Annette Valeo; middle, Kay Robinson, Lynn Weiland; back, Karen Hansen and Susan Larkin.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

- In partnership with the Geography/Earth Science department, a **Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Certificate** program was offered with a credit and noncredit option. The first of two courses and a project or internship was held in spring.
- In partnership with Chileda, CEE offered the **Autism Spectrum Disorders Certificate** program. Fourteen adults completed the 30-hour certificate this year.
- The **Gerontology Certificates**, offered in partnership with the Psychology department, had 27 learners enrolled and 13 graduates. Both noncredit programs, a 60-hour Gerontology Certificate and a 120-hour Advanced Gerontology Certificate are designed for health and human service professionals and other interested individuals.
- The University of Wisconsin offers an **18-credit online Gerontology Certificate** program that combines the expertise of seven UW institutions. CEE partnered in planning this undergraduate certificate, and the Psychology department offered the Foundations of Gerontology course entirely online.
- The **Supervisory Management Certificate** program, a series of professional development seminars offered by the SBDC, was offered to 130 business managers and supervisors.

“I have had the privilege of working with the staff in CEE for a number of years. They actively work to identify local needs and then collaborate with others to bring much needed educational opportunities to this community.”

-- Diane Hietpas, Director of Special Education, Chileda

Autism A Mother's Story

Adam's story began one year ago when at the age of two, daycare providers noticed small changes in his behavior and brought them to the attention of his mother, Susan. “The daycare staff indicated that Adam wouldn't come when his name was called, he seemed to have a hard time listening to and following directions, and he preferred to play alone,” says Susan. Although this brought some concern, she and her husband, Jim did not observe those characteristics at home. Then, this spring, Susan noticed that Adam would make odd hand gestures and started walking on his toes. “My parents also began voicing concerns,” says Susan. In May, Susan and Jim brought their son to Gundersen Lutheran to be tested for a spectrum disorder and were told that Adam has autism.

After being diagnosed, a friend suggested attending the Autism Spectrum Disorders program, offered by CEE that targeted not only professionals but parents of an autistic child. “The timing was perfect, and I felt it was a great way to get educated,” states Susan. “I was able to meet other mothers of autistic children and share strategies as well as learn about alternative therapies available for my son. The resource materials given to participants in the program were so valuable.”

Autism is a complex developmental disability that affects an individual in the areas of social interaction and communication. Autism is a spectrum disorder that affects each individual differently and to varying degrees of severity. “Although Adam is considered “highly-functional,” we are not letting our guard down. We will work with him continually to make sure he benefits from the many specialized programs available,” notes Susan.

(Fictitious names have been used to protect the identity of the family.)

PROGRAMS - CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

"The whole symposium was very beneficial to me...one of the best I have been to for some time."

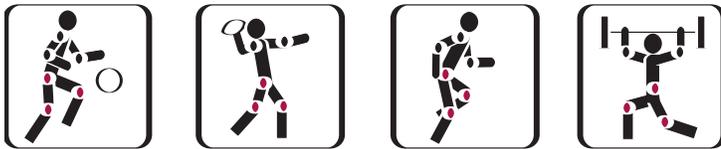
— Lower Extremity Symposium attendee

► Health & Human Services

- The **International Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference** developed in partnership with the UW-L Center for Death Education and Bioethics, brought together 171 professionals and individuals dealing with grief.
- The 2005 **Wisconsin Lower Extremity Symposium and Workshops** co-sponsored by the Health Professions department and Gundersen Lutheran Sports Medicine drew 79 physical therapists and athletic trainers from several states.



Noncredit staff (left) Karen Langaard, Penny Tiedt, Andrea Hansen and Jan Olson.



- In partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, UW-Oshkosh and the Coulee Region Long Term Care Workforce Coalition, a **Wisconsin Caregiver Pilot** program provided a unique learning opportunity for 49 caregivers in Dane, Kenosha, La Crosse and Shawano counties.
- A four-part series, **Leadership Development for Supervisors in Long-Term Care** was offered in collaboration with the Wisconsin Long Term Care Workforce Alliance and the Coulee Region Long Term Care Workforce Coalition.
- Two programs for human service professionals, **Restorative Justice: A Regional Approach and Skill Training for Victim Offender Mediation**, were attended by 23 participants.
- In collaboration with the School Psychology program and Viterbo University, a **Substance Abuse, Adolescents and Communication Strategies** workshop was attended by 14 individuals.
- **Community Health** offerings included an Introduction to Health Related Careers, Study Tour to Great Britain and Fads, Fallacies and Fiction in the World of Nutrition and Weight Management.



► Education

- The **Gifted and Talented Workshops**, co-sponsored by the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network, were attended by 110 educators and parents from many area school districts.
- **Substitute Teachers Workshop**, developed in partnership with the Clinical Field Experience office, was attended by 26 educators.
- A two-part series on bullying offered in La Crosse, presented strategies for prevention and remediation to 55 educators, school counselors and administrators from around the area.

"The instructor had 43 years of teaching experience, which made this a valuable asset of the program. This program presented materials and many teaching skills, which are needed for a substitute program."

— Substitute Teachers Workshop attendee

Program Impact Report: Basic Wetland Delineation Workshop

The Basic Wetland Delineation workshop trains people to recognize and delineate Wisconsin wetlands through classroom instruction and field exercises taught by leading government experts in hydrology, vegetation, soils and wetland policy. The program was developed to address the large number of inaccurate and inconsistent wetland delineations that were coming out of both the public and private sectors.

The program involves partnerships with CEE, UW-La Crosse River Studies Center, the Wisconsin Department of Administration Coastal Management Program, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the United States Geological Survey, the United States Drug Administration-Natural Resources Conservation Service, the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Each year the workshop is offered in La Crosse and one other location throughout the state. Engineers, planners, scientists, resource managers, local and tribal officials, and other interested parties who deal with wetland delineation in Wisconsin complete 20 hours of instruction.

Many participants appreciated having a representative from each governmental agency present to assist with the learning. "This was an excellent opportunity for communication and cooperation between private consultants and government agencies," says one Wetland Delineation participant. "The field component was great in terms of making theories more real. There was a good balance between the field and the classroom," added another.

Accurate, uniform and consistent delineations coming out of the public and private sectors are improving state-wide, thus saving a tremendous amount of time for government officials.

► Sciences

- The **International Conference on Rivers & Civilization**, a third in a series of conferences on major river basins, was attended by 432 individuals. The conference targeted a multidisciplinary audience comprised of academics and practitioners from the sciences, arts and humanities.
- The 12th annual **Aquaculture Drug Approval Coordination Workshop** attended by state fish and game agencies, pharmaceutical companies and other federal agencies, focused on the development of drugs to anesthetize and treat fish with bacterial diseases. Partners include the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Three **Wetland Delineation** workshops, two **Basic Plant Identification** workshops and a **Basic Hydric Soil Identification** workshop were offered in La Crosse and Cable, Wis. for 115 natural resource professionals. Partners included the UW-L River Studies Center and state and federal agencies.



► Economic Development

- A **Computer Security** workshop, developed by the Computer Science department in collaboration with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and the Tri-State Area Technology Group was offered to 23 information technology professionals.
- Two programs centering on GIS (Geographic Information Systems) implementation were offered. A roundtable discussion, **Understanding Target Markets** introduced 15 business leaders to GIS and **Introduction to ArcGIS** attracted 21 participants to a two-day workshop.
- The SBDC continued its successful **Business Over Breakfast** series, co-sponsored by the La Crosse Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Mainstreet Inc., SCORE, and the Extended Education and Training Division of Western Technical College.
- The **SBDC** offered over 30 programs and workshops to local business owners and managers in the region. Topics included management, marketing, finance, pre-venture and legal issues.



Small Business Development staff (left) Maureen Spencer, Christina Trombley, Jan Gallagher and Vicki Bain.

"The workshop gave me tools and techniques that enabled me to enhance the security of our information systems."

— *Computer Security Workshop attendee*

PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS

► College Preparatory Programs

- The **Self-Sufficiency Program** (SSP), a free college-prep program for low-income adults, was offered at the Hamilton Family Learning Center, La Crosse. This outreach program is offered by the Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies department and supported by Continuing Education.
- Forty-four high school students participated in the **ACT Prep Courses**, a pre-college program designed to raise student test scores.

Youth Program Learner Profiles: Brynn Sundberg (mother Cheryl Neubauer)

When asked, “Do you think you’ll attend college?” Brynn Sundberg, a 13-year old middle school girl, lets out a laugh, and answers matter-of-factly, “Yes! Of course! There’s no other option in my mind. What else would I do?! I want to become a 2nd grade teacher.” Brynn is heading home with her mother, Cheryl Neubauer, after attending her last day at Young Scholars, a week-long pre-college program offered by CEE. “Coming to these [Young Scholars] classes and walking around campus just makes me more excited and want to go [college] even more,” says Brynn.

CEE’s pre-college programs, targeted at middle school and high school students, are a great way to explore academic interests, learn about campus life and even make new friends. “I’ve enjoyed the interaction with the professors, class experiments and hanging out on campus,” says Brynn. This was her second time attending Young Scholars and her first year at Girls in Science, another youth program which allows girls to experience living a college campus life with an overnight stay in a dorm room. “Staying in the dorm was so much fun, I can’t wait until I go to college and get to stay in a dorm,” adds Brynn.

Young Scholars and Girls in Science are just a couple of the ever-popular summer youth programs offered by CEE that allow children the opportunity to learn through hands-on activities and participate in scientific experiments under distinguished faculty utilizing state-of-the-art facilities.

“I’m impressed with the quality of education Brynn’s received through these summer program and equally important is the opportunity for Brynn to experience a college environment. It gives her a peak into what college may be like and takes away any fears from the unknown she may have,” says Cheryl Neubauer. “She has walked away with a very positive experience.”

Hand-in-hand, mother and daughter walk toward the parking lot to head home. “See you next year,” yells Brynn, as she turns and waves good-bye.



“My son loved it! An exceptional experience. We would highly recommend this program to other parents and students.”

— Environmental Explorers parent

► Youth Programs

- The **Junior Science and Humanities Symposium** was attended by 49 high school students presenting research and experimentation in sciences, mathematics and engineering.
- Ongoing pre-college programs, offered for 630 middle school and high school students included:
 - The 17th annual **Young Scholars** program
 - **Girls in Science**, in partnership with the Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth
 - **Environmental Explorers**, in partnership with the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center
 - The sixth annual **Vocal Jazz Camp**
 - **Kids College**, in partnership with the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network
 - **Academic Decathlon**, in partnership with CESA #4
- More than 28 cyclists attended the USA Cycling Athlete Development camp. The top six young men and women riders from the three days of competition advanced to the national camp at the U.S. Olympic Training Center.

► Leisure

- Fifty-three individuals took part in the **Chicago Art & Theatre Tour** organized by the School of Arts and Communications.
- **Walking Tour: Exploring the Heart and Sole of Ireland** attracted 15 individuals.
- The 18th annual **Mini-Harmony Education** program, a program designed to improve vocal singing techniques and performance presentation, was attended by 67 barbershop singers from Wisconsin and Minnesota.

► Older Adult Programs

- Twenty **Learning in Retirement (LIR)** members traveled to Tanzania, East Africa to take part in an African safari.
- **Jazz on the Mississippi**, an Elderhostel program attended by 50 seniors from across the country, was offered in conjunction with the 21st annual Great River Jazz Fest.
- Seventy-six LIR members experienced **Old Times on the Mississippi**, three-day and five-day excursions on the Julia Belle Swain steamboat. The five-day excursion was offered in partnership with Elderhostel.
- Thirty-five programs were offered for 221 LIR members. Courses included Protecting Your Investments, American Literature, A Practical Introduction to Chinese Tao Philosophy, An International Students' Perspective and Capitals and Nations of Scandinavia.



	Number of Programs	Number of Enrollments
Learning Community*	105	3,327
Credit Courses	93	1,186
Certificate Offerings	21	309
Conferences & Workshops	72	2,418
Pre-College Programs	18	831
Older Adult Programs	45	1,140
Total	354	9,211

* Total of 527 students enrolled fall semester; total of 582 students enrolled spring semester

For More Information

Director, Continuing Education
M. Donald Campbell • (608)785-6501
campbell.dona@uwlax.edu

Marketing Services
Tracy Noyes • (608)785-6511
noyes.trac@uwlax.edu

Business Development
Jan Gallagher • (608)785-8782
gallaghe.jani@uwlax.edu

Community Health
Gary D. Gilmore • (608)785-8163
gilmore.gary@uwlax.edu

Conferences and Youth Programs
Penny Tiedt • (608)785-6503
tiedt.penn@uwlax.edu

Exercise and Sport Science/
 Teacher Education
Annette Valeo • (608)785-6528
valeo.anne@uwlax.edu

Human Services
Andrea Hansen • (608)785-6509
hansen.andr@uwlax.edu

Learning Communities/Teacher Education
Lynn Weiland • (608)785-6512
weiland.lynn@uwlax.edu

Online Programs
Kay Robinson • (608)785-6510
robinson.kay@uwlax.edu

If you are interested in:

- More information about learning communities, credit courses, certificate programs, conferences and workshops
- Partnering or co-sponsoring a program with UW-L
- Creating a program that meets specific needs of your organization

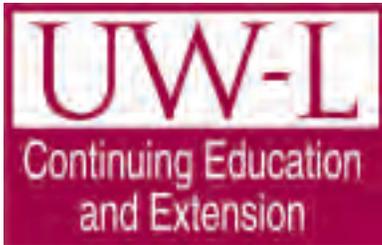
Please contact us:

By Mail: Continuing Education
 UW-La Crosse
 205 Morris Hall
 1725 State Street
 La Crosse, WI 54601

By Phone: (608)785-6500
 By Fax: (608)785-6547
 By E-mail: continuinged@uwlax.edu
 Web site: www.uwlax.edu/conted

Many programs are made possible in partnership with UW-Extension.

SERVICES

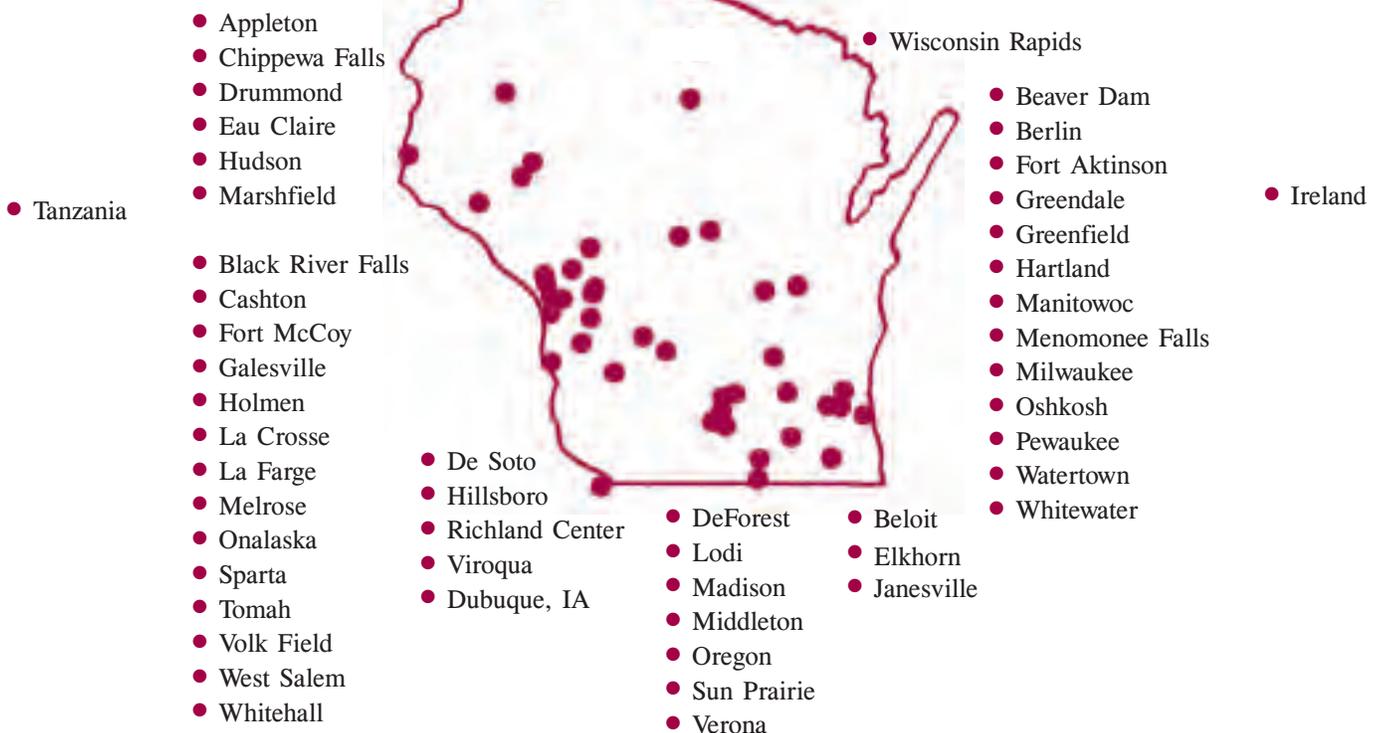


How can we help you?

Program development, including audience identification, needs assessment, market research, content development and speaker identification.

Program implementation, including budget development, marketing, instructor arrangements, logistical arrangements (facilities, equipment, food service, lodging), pre-registration, on-site registration, revenue and expense management, report generation, Continuing Education Unit (CEU) reporting and program evaluation.

Credit courses, conferences and workshops were delivered to:



CEE's custom programs are dedicated to providing the finest professional development opportunities for nonprofit, business, government and other organizations throughout the 7 Rivers Region and the state. Our custom programs are designed to support strategic organizational objectives as well as to meet specific skill development needs of the work force.

Our staff will work directly with you to assess needs, identify educational resources, coordinate the delivery of programs and services, and ensure your satisfaction.

The SBDC also provides customized training for a number of organizations, including training in conflict resolution, project management and supervisory skills.

Our programs can be offered on campus, at your workplace, at other locations or through distance education technology. Delivery can be scheduled for days, evenings, or weekends. Use CEE or SBDC's custom programs as an alternative or supplement to your own in-house training.

Benefits:

- You determine when, where and what
- You select the participants
- Your employees learn together as a staff/team
- Everyone receives the same information at the same time
- Skills learned one day are put to use the next
- You achieve across-the-board results
- Customized programming is cost-effective

Please contact us to determine how we can work with you.

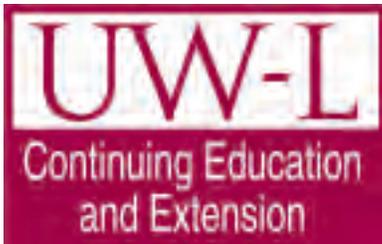
PARTNERSHIPS

Who do we work with?

University academic and administrative units; area school districts and educational agencies; health care organizations; professional associations; local, state and federal governments; and various community organizations.



Administrative staff (left) Tracy Noyes, Susanne Koehler, Carol Klimek, Don Campbell



Why should you work with us?

- Benefit from our experience in program development and delivery.
- Receive administrative support while freeing you to focus on program content.
- Provide visibility for your department or organization.
- Develop the service portion of your promotion and tenure files.
- Receive compensation for your instructional service.

- UW-Extension Division of Outreach and E-Learning awarded \$20,000 to CEE to provide leadership development for the long-term care workforce in partnership with the Coulee Region Long Term Care Workforce Coalition. Funded through the Continuing EDvantage grant program, this project will address the significant recruitment, retention, and recognition issues within this sizeable work sector.
- Through a \$7,500 grant from the UW-Extension Diversity Program Development Initiative, CEE will offer **ACT Together: An ACT Prep Course for Hmong Youth and Parents**. Area students will complete the 6-session test strategy course while parents attend sessions on the college application process and the transition to college. The 6 week course is offered in cooperation with the La Crosse School District, Upward Bound, and the Hmong Mutual Assistance Association.
- UW-La Crosse School of Education and CEE were awarded a \$10,000 UW-System PK-16 initiative grant from the T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Early Childhood Wisconsin Scholarship and Bonus Program to support early childhood professional development options.
- UW-La Crosse School of Education and CEE in collaboration with CESA #4 were awarded, for the second year, a Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction grant to support a **License Renewal Support Center (LRSC)**. UW-L is one of fourteen sites in Wisconsin to be named an LRSC. The primary purpose of the Center is to provide PI 34 license

renewal-related services to licensed educators not employed by Wisconsin public schools.

- CEE continued as the western Wisconsin partner of the **Wisconsin Geriatric Education Center (WGEC)**. The WGEC is a federally funded center, based at Marquette University, whose mission is to enhance, through education and training, the quality and availability of health care for Wisconsin's aging population. CEE's professional certificate program in Gerontology was the primary impetus for WGEC's invitation to join the consortium.
- The **2006 Summer Youth Program Guide**, a collaborative effort by the **Boy's and Girl's Club**, the **La Crosse School District**, and CEE was distributed to all K-12 students in the La Crosse and surrounding school districts. The guide offered Coulee Region families one resource for planning youth summer activities.
- The **UW-L Foundation** provided scholarships for youth programs.
- The Academy of Applied Science and the School of Education provided funding support for the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.
- Other financial support included:
 - Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center
 - Baywood Publishing
 - Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation
 - College of Science and Health
 - College of Liberal Studies
 - U.S. Military Academy of Applied Science, Inc.
 - American Association of University Women



Community Feature

Coulee Region Long Term Care Workforce Coalition

A significant long term care workforce shortage is looming, driven by the growth in the aging population and the complexity of issues surrounding the provision of long term care. Low wages and few benefits, physically and emotionally demanding work, and limited worker support, recognition and empowerment are everyday realities for the providers that care for elders and disabled people. Fortunately, Wisconsin has a long history of grass roots activism to solve community problems. Coalitions and collaborations; political activism and advocacy; leadership and professional development are the antidotes to this unfolding crisis.

The Coulee Region Long Term Care Workforce Coalition, with over 25 major providers and advocates represented, is poised to bring local solutions to life. Its mission is to address workforce recruitment, retention and recognition issues in the area.

Providing quality education addresses the key workforce issues of recruiting and retaining quality staff. Our existing Gerontology Certificate programs equip learners with current information, best practices and leadership skills that lead to increased levels of motivation, skills and confidence. A new project, funded by a UW-Extension EDvantage grant, delivers leadership development programming targeted at mid-level supervisors who often are the key to reducing staff turnover. The collaborative efforts of the Coulee Region Long Term Care Workforce Coalition and CEE may help to bring solutions to this complex problem.



University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
University of Wisconsin-Extension
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Address Service Requested

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