Awards & Recognition

University Awards presented to College of Letters & Science Faculty

University Scholar
● Richard Barker (Foreign Languages)
● Devinder Sandhu (Biology)

University Service
● Justin Reub (Psychology)

Excellence in Teaching
● Jennifer Collins (Political Science)
● Patrick Conley (Psychology)

The Eugene Katz Letters & Science Distinguished Faculty Award
In recognition of distinguished performance in teaching, scholarship and service over a period of years.
● Susan Brewer (History)
● Jeana Magyar-Moe (Psychology)

Justus F. & Barbara J. Paul Award
In recognition and support of an outstanding Letters & Science or Library faculty member granted sabbatical.
● David Arnold (English)

Academy of Letters & Science Community Service Award
In appreciation of support of education at all academic levels, community leadership and in recognition of a person who possesses the characteristics of a liberally-educated person.
● Gene Kemmeter

Students from the College of Letters & Science who participated in Posters in the Rotunda, a celebration of Undergraduate Student Research across the University of Wisconsin schools on May 5, 2010 in Madison, Wisconsin.
● Brooke L. Johnson (Biology)
● Jaimie L. Klemish (Biology)
● Corinna Neeb (Geography & Geology)
● Alina Ott (Biochemistry and Biology)
● Tracey Oudenhoven (Chemistry)
● Debra Simmerman (Psychology)
● Brennon J. Walder (Chemistry)

Promoting Excellence Within the College-at-the-Core

The 2009-2010 academic year has been exciting and stressful considering the shape of the economy and its effects on higher education in the state of Wisconsin. UW-Stevens Point, and the College of Letters & Science, have not been immune to the issues of decreased funding, furloughs and the challenges of remaining competitive and productive during difficult times. As I complete my first year as Dean, I am pleased to report that the College is thriving intellectually and in terms of student activity and participation in the pedagogic process. I must take a moment to thank the dedicated staff of the Dean’s office. This includes Charles Clark, who has been irreplaceable in assisting me as Associate Dean, particularly involving budgetary, facility and class scheduling issues. Charles is to be congratulated on his work as Interim Dean last year, and for the way he has assisted in making the transition period relatively painless for me. Todd Good stepped in as Interim Assistant Dean and did admirably in a position which can be stressful and challenging in terms of student issues. As we thank Todd for his service, we also welcome Dona Warren as our new Assistant Dean. Mark Williams has been indispensable as my development officer, helping me identify new sources of funding and support to further the mission of the college. I could not have made it through the daily grind without the help and encouragement of my assistant Barb Bartkowski, who was assisted this year by Michelle Herman. I also wish to thank Katie Carlson for help in planning events and coordinating this report and Shane Stricker, who enhanced our newsletter by coordinating a complete redesign. None of our printed materials would have been possible without the design expertise of Fritz Menzel of Printing & Design. Of equal importance is our IT support staff, headed by Al Bond, our IT Coordinator, and assisted by technicians Robert Fix and Aaron Schaufenbuel. This team put in tireless hours of work in the development of the new College and department websites. The websites, combined with the creation of department brochures, will assist in developing the identity of the college, and align our goals with those of the university. I am also indebted to the Letters & Science Dean’s Advisory Council, predominantly made up of newer faculty, who keep my feet on the ground and identify issues as they arise.

In recognition of the central role we play in delivering a liberal arts education to all students at the university, not just those in our college, we are introducing our motto as the College-at-the-Core. Our College delivers the bulk of the general degree requirements to our university students and represents most of the traditional liberal arts and sciences. It is sometimes difficult to find a single binding culture or identity since we house disciplines as diverse as Physics and Philosophy, Chemistry and English, and Political Science and Biology. A common culture may not be obvious, but one thing does bind us together; every student at UWSP must take courses in our College and demonstrate proficiencies which are used in all other aspects of university life such as reading, writing and quantitative sciences, the ability to speak in public, and the capacity to recognize theory from dogma (critical thinking). We have much in common within the College, and it should be our goal to celebrate these commonalities as central to our role as the College-at-the-Core of a university education.

I take great pride in presenting this annual report, which is but a small sample of myriad activities in teaching excellence, scholarly activity, service and outreach through which we achieve our mission. Central to this mission is our ability to collaborate across the spectrum of disciplines, and indeed across colleges, in fulfilling the goals we set out in the fall. With teaching excellence as our priority, it is easy to see where teaching and research come together in the student/faculty collaboration model. We consider the scholarly work produced by our faculty as critical to their success as teacher/scholars, where one’s teaching is informed and molded by the scholarly pursuits undertaken. This student/faculty bond is the one we consider most sacred in our College, and which is most dramatically demonstrated in the Undergraduate Research Symposium we hold each spring. I am very proud of the work done by our faculty, staff and students in making the 2009-2010 year a memorable and proud one. From the many awards received by our faculty and students, to the recognition received by the College in specific disciplinary areas, we can be quite proud of the College of Letters & Science in giving our students the experience and skills necessary to become productive global citizens contributing to the advancement of intellectual pursuit and community service. The emphasis on our role as the College-at-the-Core gives us the identity we need to be cognizant of the important role we play in promoting the liberal arts and sciences on this campus.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Cirmo, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Letters & Science
University Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Teaching Excellence

The College of Letters & Science continues its long-standing tradition of teaching excellence. Many awards and events in 2009-2010 attest to our dedication to this tradition. In the fall of 2009, Professor Dona Warren of Philosophy received the University of Wisconsin’s highest teaching honor when she was awarded the UW-System Regents Teaching Award. This singular honor is rare in the system and is testament to a dedicated teacher who uses innovative and unique methods in her teaching style. Wisconsin Teaching Fellows were awarded to Karin Bodensteiner of Biology for new and novel ways of teaching genetics and Jody Lewis of Psychology for developing and teaching a new course in Evolutionary Psychology. Jennifer Collins of Political Science and Patrick Conley of Psychology won the UWSP Excellence in Teaching Award. Susan Brewer of History and Jeana Magyar-Moe of Psychology received the Eugene Katz Distinguished Faculty Award. David Arnold of English received the Justus F. & Barbara J. Paul Award in support of his upcoming sabbatical.

The College of Letters & Science is well represented in the First Year Seminar Pilot Project, part of the new General Education Program, to be held in the spring of 2011. Several three-credit special interest courses will be presented by faculty who were competitively awarded “first year class” sections based on an application process. Included in the successful applicants are Helena Alden, Barbara Dixson, Brian Hale, Rob Harper, Brad Hinaus, Rebecca Stephens and Chris Yahnke. Valerie Barske of History attended conferences at Northern Illinois University and Maryville College in preparation for this project. The College continues to work with the departments of Philosophy and Biology to strengthen its Ethnobotany minor and begin work toward development of an Ethnobotany major. This major would be unique in the UW system and indeed the country as there are only three other programs in existence. Nearly all departments are working toward improvements in Technology-Based Learning with transitions of many existing and new courses toward on-line offerings, and all are involved in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) with assistance from the Center for Academic Excellence and Student Engagement (CAESE).

Chemistry continues its excellence in preparing students for graduate study. Over the past decade, UWSP has produced more graduates going on in doctoral programs than any state institution other than UW-Madison. The teaching excellence of this department has played a major role in the realization of this honor. This past year, the Web and Digital Media Development (WDMD) curriculum in gaming was recognized by the Princeton Review and Game Pro as being one of the top 50 game programs in the United States and Canada. This is significant recognition as the list includes universities such as MIT, UCLA and Carnegie-Mellon. Robert Dollinger, Tim Krause and James Carter of Computing & New Media Technologies (CNMT) completed a $45,000 Curricular Redesign Project creating a web-based query tool to enhance student activity and performance in database courses. Dejan Kuzmanovic of English was chosen as a Teaching Scholar for the Science of Teaching and Learning in a project related to teaching gay and lesbian literature. In addition, the English Department initiated a new Common Text Project by assigning a text to all first-year students in spring sections of English 102 and 150. The first book, Nickel and Dimed, by Barbara Ehrenreich, was highlighted through a stage performance by the Department of Theater and Dance, assisting in the establishment of a sense of common intellectual community. This effort assists the college in its effort to emphasize connections across disciplinary boundaries which is the hallmark of a liberal arts education and one of the high-impact practices for which we strive. Dan Dieterich led students in an English course culminating with the editing and publication of Wisconsin River of Grace, a book by Kyle White. The new Geoscience major offered by Geography & Geology, has seen steady enrollment gains and the new major in Planning is under development with work toward accreditation. In the History Department, Lee Willis received the UWSP Undergraduate Education Initiative Grant for his work on the 1870 Federal Census and Works Progress Administration Slave Narratives. Jennifer Collins of Political Science was selected to give the “Last Lecture” by the Student Government Association. Robert Enright and Kathleen Lamb of Sociology & Social Work received a grant in Curricular Design for the Online Environment. The Collaborative Degree Program (CDP), headed up by coordinator Todd Good and advisor Gayle Huglen, enrolls over 250 students on six campuses, with a bachelors program in American Studies currently offered at UWSP. The CDP offers upper-level courses in a distance learning format during the late afternoon and evenings to accommodate time and place-bound students. CDP hopes to offer several other majors through this program in the future.

UW SYSTEM REGENTS TEACHING AWARD
In the fall of 2009, Professor Dona Warren of Philosophy received the University of Wisconsin’s highest teaching honor when she was awarded the UW-System Regents Teaching Award.

2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT
Global Citizenship & Inclusive Excellence

The College of Letters & Science is committed to developing global and personal views involving social and international issues while engendering sensitivity to different cultural philosophies and lifestyles. This past year was no exception.

On the international front, **Stephanie Aleman** of Anthropology continued work with the Amerindian Exchange Program by hosting two Waiwai representatives at UWSP in the fall of 2009 and bringing students to a Waiwai Village in the Amazon in July 2010. She has also been active in promoting the Ethnobotany Program with **Virginia Freire** of Biology. This program promises to have a wide-ranging appeal to those interested in the cultural underpinnings of medicinal plant use. **Corrine Dempsey** of Religious Studies was on sabbatical conducting field research on spiritualism in Iceland and incorporating her knowledge into a new book addressing comparative strategies for grounding the sacred. She is a lead organizer for the Conference on the Study of Religions of India 2010 in Toronto. **Sandhya Ganapathy** of Anthropology is conducting fieldwork to examine the beadwork in contemporary Gwich’in life. She coordinated a presentation on Native American Basketry sponsored in part by the College’s Museum of Natural History. In addition, she is preparing an article on research related to Native American Basketry traditions in the Upper Midwest. **Devinder Sandhu** of Biology was awarded a grant by the National Science Foundation involving collaborators in India and Pakistan. This work will advance the understanding of factors controlling nutrient uptake in wheat and other cereals, and will involve UWSP students in a project of international significance. Chemistry continues to offer a course in Environmental Literacy which focuses on many of the major issues facing society which have a chemical basis, including energy, global warming, agriculture, hunger and healthcare. In the past academic year, CNMT hosted two guest speakers from the Netherlands associated with international open source development initiatives.

**Lincoln Hills Poetry Project**

Under the supervision of an English Department faculty member, over twenty UWSP students provided poetry writing workshops to inmates in the Lincoln Hills juvenile detention facility. Poetry written by the inmates is published twice a year in a magazine entitled *Rising Voices.*
Foreign Languages prouds itself in the promotion of global awareness and citizenship, from their course offerings to their involvement in the UW-System Collaborative Language Program. Foreign Languages received Fulbright Teaching Assistants, Azza Salmon from Egypt and Dawood Al Siyabi from Oman to facilitate Arabic instruction on the UWSP campus. A new German Study Abroad program is being coordinated by Richard Ruppel in Marburg, Germany. This program promises to bring students from UWSP and also from other UW campuses.

Geography & Geology offers a course exploring physical and cultural geography and geoscience aspects of global problems. Students in this field are provided many opportunities for field work and interaction with experts who give real world experience and background to global problems. History is committed to teaching courses which span the globe, introducing students to global citizenship and diversity. The department recently hired African and East Asian specialists and has completed a search for a Latin American specialist. Sally Kent is the Coordinator of the International Studies Curriculum and Peace Studies. Valerie Barske has been quite active in Japanese studies, presenting a paper at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, and served on the cross-college committee to bring a Japanese Woodblock exhibition, The Floating World from the Chazen Art Museum in Madison to UWSP. In Mathematics, Vicky Hay volunteered to teach math at a village school in Africa while visiting as part of a photo safari.

Political Science faculty supervised two students in their major during internships with the British Parliament through the London Internship Program. They also sponsored the Model United Nations with Jennifer Collins taking students to New York City. Service learning in Psychology courses led by Jeana Magyar-Moe and Debbie Palmer involve hands-on work in fundraising for community organizations. Students learn from giving and assisting others in the most basic and useful ways. Also in Psychology, Justin Rueb serves on the Wisconsin SHRM Diversity Employer Award Selection Committee and was awarded the UWSP University Service Award for 2010. Sociology & Social Work contributes many activities and courses to Global Citizenship including Helena Alden’s work with the United Kingdom, Gary Itzkowitz’s course Sociology of Globalization, and Robert Enright’s course Population Problems. Kathy Lamb and Doug Forbes of Sociology & Social Work continue to study Latino youth and examine ways of including them in civic and political affairs. Nerissa Nelson continues to act as Interim Coordinator of Women’s Studies, but will be stepping down at the end of next year. She also serves as chair of the Women’s Studies Advisory Committee. Women’s Studies added one new course this year, Gay and Lesbian Literature.

The Department of English has placed students as interns at various public relations, advertising and publishing firms in London. To further their commitment to diversity, they also present many courses specifically aimed at promoting inclusive excellence and the values of global citizenship. Dejan Kuzmanovic has been the UWSP representative to the UW System Inclusivity Initiative for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trangender & Queer People (LGBTQ) since 2005. Matthew Davis serves as co-editor for H-citizenship (an international network of scholars in the humanities and social sciences) with 1100 participants in 30 countries, in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Citizenship at Wayne State University. Barbara Dixson’s Online Literature Circles brings together a diverse population of rural and urban high school youth for online and in person discussion each year. She was the only recipient of a grant from the UW-System Institute on Race and Ethnicity from UWSP this year. Sarah Pogell of English serves as the UWSP campus representative to the UW System Institute on Race and Ethnicity.

Online Literature Circles
A student from Milwaukee Vincent High School presents on The Color Purple. Aspiring English teachers led 140 high school students from Adams Friendship and Milwaukee in structured online literature discussion groups culminating in a day-long series of workshops on campus.

“This Floating World”
Attendees received instruction in kabuki dance during a series of events in conjunction with the The Floating World: Japanese Woodblock Prints from the Collection of the Chazen Museum of Art in Madison from September through October 2009.
One of the major vehicles used by the College in its outreach efforts to the community is the Community Lecture Series, with alternating monthly lectures on campus and at the Stevens Point Public Library. This year we featured Amy Gervasio, Emmet Judziewicz, Dennis Riley, John Droske, David Williams, Jason D’Acchioli, James Sage and Greg Summers. The lectures were well attended, accomplishing the goal of bringing samples of work done by college faculty and disseminating useful knowledge to the Stevens Point community. In addition, the College presented the L&S Faculty Forum (formerly the Humanities Forum) for faculty within the College to share their research with colleagues. The Center for the Small City acts as a resource for small communities and is coordinated by Ed Miller of Political Science and Robert Wolensky of Sociology & Social Work. The Center presented a public panel discussion, Earthquake Disasters in Haiti and Chile: a Panel on Social and Cultural Dimensions. Current and retired faculty give lectures on a variety of topics to Stevens Point community senior citizens through the Learning is ForEver (LIFE) program.

**STEM Career Day**

Over 200 high school sophomores and juniors attended the first annual STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Career Day. Students participated in hands-on activities that emphasized the core sciences, and were introduced to UWSP as a place to continue their education.

**Wisplants Website**

The Wisplants website (http://wisplants.uwsp.edu) is one of the most popular websites hosted by the Department of Biology. It allows anyone to search for information on plants (such as Virginia meadow beauty, or *Rhexia virginica*, pictured). In a single month, it received over 1.9 million “successful requests”. 

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**Reaching Out**

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The College also serves the community through the UWSP Museum of Natural History. As Interim Director and Chair of the Executive Committee, Erik Wild led the rejuvenation effort. As part of the effort, they developed a new mission statement, formalized a position description for the Director, and are in the process of selecting a new Director. The Museum is open to the public and served some 2,000 school children this past year. Museum of Natural History public events included a Menominee Tribe Dugout Canoe presentation (Ray Reser, Erik Wild), a Museum Open House and Collection Crawl (Stephanie Aleman, Michael Bozek, Virginia Freire, Sandhya Ganapathy, Kevin Hefferan, Jamee Hubbard, Todd...)

Writers’ Workshop
Over 100 high school junior and senior writers from across the state were invited to participate in the annual High School Writers’ Workshop hosted by the Department of English. Seniors in each category are named the winners of scholarships to attend UWSP.

Allen F. Blocher Planetarium
The Planetarium presented programs to over 11,000 visitors, including university classes, school groups, community groups, and general public.
Huspeni, Emmet Judziewicz, Samantha Kaplan, Ray Reser, Justin Sipiorski, Erik Wild, Chris Yahnke and Pat Zellmer], Awakening Amphibians and Reptiles Outreach Weekend (Erik Wild), and a Native American Basketry Presentation (Sandhya Ganapathy).

Julie Hellweg, Continuing Education Officer for the College of Letters & Science, was critical in leading many outreach programs for the college. The first UWSP Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) Career Day served over 200 high school students. The annual Women & Science Day brought over 550 seventh and eighth grade girls to campus. Many science faculty led workshops during both of these events. A workshop, Judicial Elections: Navigating the Collision Course was offered in collaboration with Justiceworks, Ltd. The Wisconsin Women in Higher Education Leadership (WWHEL) conference and Wisconsin Geographical Society Annual Meeting were both held on campus. Both of these events were chaired by Lisa Theo of Geography & Geology.

Each department in Letters & Science has its own unique way of serving the community. Biology sponsors the Wisplants website which allows a user to query information about a specific plant, and contact someone if they have questions about it. With eight museum curators, Biology also serves the university and the public through maintenance of various museum collections. The Chemistry Department sponsored over 25 chemical demonstration programs for audiences such as area school groups, Boy Scouts, senior assisted-living centers and College Days for Kids. Gary Shulfer led these programs, while Marv Lang and Don Showalter perform demonstrations as part of their work for the American Chemical Society. Michael Zach presented to the Ho-Chunk Youth Council along with giving many other talks to the public on nanotechnology and science. CNMT faculty took students to the Marshfield Foundation for World Usability Day, an informatics workshop. In addition, Trudi Miller and Amod Damle of CNMT led workshops for local high school and elementary students. The Department of English coordinates various outreach events including the High School Writers’ Workshop (Sarah Pogell and Pat Gott), the ACORN Reading Circles (Lori Nandrea), and the Online Literature Circles (Barbara Dixson). The Lincoln Hills Poetry Project works with the Lincoln Hills juvenile detention facility in publishing the poetry of inmates. The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center within the Department of Geography & Geology offered many outreach programs spearheaded by Center Director Keith Rice and Outreach Coordinator Doug Miskowiak. Keith Rice also serves as consultant to the Wisconsin DNR, Portage County Planning and the Wisconsin Land Information System. Susan Brewer of History gave lectures on American War Propaganda and was interviewed by media outlets promoting her new book Why America Fights: Patriotism and War Propaganda from the Philippines to Iraq. Chris Diehm of Philosophy brought speaker and noted animal ethicist Marti Kheel to campus where he visited an Ecofeminism class and gave a public lecture. Dona Warren hosted UWSP’s third annual Critical Thinking Conference Assessing Critical

**Women in Science Day**

On February 26, 2010, over 580 7th and 8th grade girls attended Women & Science Day. Numerous women faculty and UWSP students as well as professional women from around the state shared their expertise and love of science with the attendees.
Thinking: Performance Tasks, drawing attendees from across the UW system. The Allen F. Blocher Planetarium and UWSP Observatory attract large audiences from the community based on the programs offered by the Department of Physics & Astronomy. The planetarium offered programs to over 11,000 visitors including university classes, school groups, community groups and the general public. 

Dennis Riley and Ed Miller are frequent commentators on Wisconsin Public Radio. Under Amy Boelk and Robert Enright, approximately 40 internships were coordinated with social service agencies in central Wisconsin. The Sociology and Social Work Organization assists foster parents of children with disabilities. They also organize food drives and other volunteer activities. Dorothy DeBoer is the editor for the newsletter of the local chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Central Wisconsin Math League

Founded in 1970, the Central Wisconsin Math League is a joint venture between area high schools, businesses and UWSP to raise interest and to introduce students to potential careers that utilize mathematics.

Museum Events

Dugout Canoe

On December 5, 2009, the Museum of Natural History unveiled a new addition. Dating back to the 1800s, the Menominee Nation Dugout Canoe was created in the traditional manner from a single piece of hemlock by alternately burning and carving out the interior with metal adzes and trade axes.

Collection Crawl

On February 20, 2010, the Museum of Natural History invited the community on a “Collection Crawl” to see the many collections that make up the Museum; as part of the crawl, they were able to get their passports stamped at each location.

Native American Basketry

An exhibit of Native American Basketry detailing the basket-making process and including a variety of traditional styles was sponsored by the Museum of Natural History.
Stimulating the Economy

The College takes pride in stimulating local and regional economies through research, teaching and service. As part of the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology (WIST), Eric Singsaas of Biology continues his collaborations with Don Guay of the College of Natural Resources (CNR) and outside economic partners on biofuels research. WIST hired Paul Fowler from the United Kingdom as director to formalize its mission and strategic plan. The College of Letters & Science is partnering with the CNR to bring sustainable technology projects and expertise to stimulate the region’s economy. WIST Scholars (John Droske, Robin Tanke, Kevin Czerwinski and Robert Wolensky) were awarded seed grant money this year. WIST is also working with CENTERGY, the Central Wisconsin Alliance for Economic Development, to promote its mission to stimulate measurable economic development in central Wisconsin.

Patentable discoveries are expected from the work of Chemistry faculty members Nathan Bowling, Jason D’Acchioli, John Droske and Mike Zach. Chris Hartleb of Biology and Jeffrey Malison from UW-Madison serve as co-directors of the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF). NADF was created to serve the aquaculture industry by fostering the development and growth of a sustainable aquaculture enterprise in Wisconsin and other climates in northern states. Each year, NADF invites the aquaculture industry and business partners to their facility for two days of demonstrations, networking and education.

Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF)

Located north of Bayfield, Wisconsin, the mission of the U-W-Stevens Point-Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility is to promote and advance the development of commercial aquaculture in a northern climate.

The Biochemistry major is providing technically skilled workers for the state’s research hospitals and expanding biotechnological sector. Orthomolecular Products of Stevens Point is working with Chemistry to develop more trained chemists for the workforce. James Lawrence is cultivating employment relationships with the Marshfield Clinic and the Mayo Clinic, and Mike Zach is continuing his relationship with Argonne National Laboratory. CNMT underwent changes to their curriculum to provide deeper integration between Computer Information Systems (CIS) and Web & Digital Media Development (WDMD) to address new media industry needs. Employer-sponsored student internship programs are also thriving through the Society of Digital Agencies. English faculty conducted seminars on writing, public speaking and etiquette for various area businesses through UWSP’s Continuing Education and the Center for Leadership and Economic Development in Wausau. John Coletta coordinated a paid internship program in biomedical writing in conjunction with the Marshfield Clinic; the Department of English is in the process of establishing a minor in Biotechnical Writing. John Coletta is also involved with the establishment of the Boldt Institute for Operationalizing Sustainability funded by progressive Wisconsin building contractors. Travel Guard hired a number of Foreign Language majors to assist in making global connections through a workforce sensitive to international and public affairs issues. Geography & Geology has partnered with the North Central Regional Planning Commission for internship opportunities for their students. Mathematical Sciences remains strongly linked to Sentry Insurance, Liberty Mutual and Travel Guard through the Central Wisconsin Mathematics League. During the last 20 years, an average of 600 high school students have visited the campus three times during each
Student/Faculty Research and Collaborations

The lifeblood of the College of Letters & Science is the sustained interaction between faculty and students in all aspects of teaching, learning and scholarship. The College takes great pride in having a long history of placing its students into graduate schools, industry, business and public sector jobs, many times based on the strong bond developed between student and faculty member in the guise of a research project. Our faculty are incredibly prolific and productive in terms of the number of peer-reviewed research papers, conferences, public projects and internships in which they directly involve our students. In fact, it is an expectation that when our faculty obtain extramural funding for projects, there be a clear and strong link to involving students in the completion of their work. This link is most evident during the Undergraduate Research Symposium in April. Oral and poster presentations from across the college included topics such as Women Soldiers of the Civil War, Developing Measurements to Study the Psychology of Dance, The Risk of Developing Lyme Disease, The Effects of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia in Cell Culture, The Reintroduction of Wolves in Yellowstone and many more. The enthusiasm created by the collaboration between students and faculty is evident when communicating their work to the public, parents and guests. The partnerships between students and faculty also resulted in two students, Alina Ott of Biochemistry and Michelle Stephens of Physics & Astronomy, receiving prestigious Goldwater Scholarships.

The volume of peer-reviewed papers, grant applications, successful grant proposals, reports and conference presentations precludes individual mention in this report, but the cornerstone of each department is an expectation of scholarly pursuit. Jeana Magyar-Moe of Psychology, Susan Brewer and Nancy LoPatin-Lummis of History all published books which have been well-received by their respective research communities. Nearly one in seven biology majors is involved in independent research with a faculty mentor including Eric Singsaas’ work on biofuels and Chris Hartleb’s work on aquaculture. Biology had many peer-reviewed articles published in prestigious national and international journals, including an article in Nature by Devinder Sandhu on his work on the sequencing of the soybean genome. Devinder Sandhu also won a UWSP University Research Award this year based on his publications, grants and continuing dedication to student/faculty mentoring. Chemistry initiated an increase in research, with a record number of students performing summer research. Mike Zach of Chemistry was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER grant, something rarely obtained at an undergraduate institution. The grant funding will be used to work with students and post-docs in nanowire technology research over the next five years. English continues to produce the national journal issues in Writing.

Richard Barker of Foreign Languages was the featured speaker for the University Evening Seminar. In addition, he received recognition for many years of research with a University Scholar Award. Samantha Kaplan of Geography & Geology, with one of her students, won an award at the Geological Society of America meeting. Faculty including Kevin Heffernan, Neil Heywood, Ishaaila Odogba, Ray Reser and Lisa Theo took students on extended field trips. Erik Larsen and Keith Rice made presentations to the Wisconsin Geographical Society and to the Wisconsin Land Information Association. Kevin Heffernan, of Geography and Geology, co-authored a textbook entitled Earth Materials and published by Wiley-Blackwell. This book will serve as a unique resource for students and faculty in courses in mineralogy, earth materials and earth science, and as an introduction to the basis building blocks of the geosphere. In Mathematical Sciences, Andy Felt co-authored a book, Math Vitamins for the Suzuki Student. Hurlee Gonchigdanzan gave a presentation on Asymptotic Results.
for the Product of Partial Sums at the Institute of Mathematics in the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. Corrine Dempsey of Religious Studies continues her work on spiritualism in Iceland. Karin Fry of Philosophy presented research on religion and politics at Trinity College and at the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World. Sandhya Ganapathy of Anthropology was awarded a fellowship at the Institute for Research in the Humanities and will be spending part of the coming year in Madison. Jennifer Collins accompanied four students who presented papers at the Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies 24th Annual Student Conference and is conducting research in Ecuador. Elizabeth Wabinado was awarded a UW-System grant for continued work with women on the Bad River Indian Reservation. Physics & Astronomy sponsored seven student/faculty research projects. Kathy Lamb in Sociology & Social Work had a productive year obtaining a University Personnel Development Committee (UPDC) grant, working on several peer-reviewed papers for publication, and presenting her work at two national conferences.

Extramural Funding

From July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, faculty and staff in the College of Letters & Science applied for a total of $5,568,666 in grants and contracts. The funding agencies ranged from the National Science Foundation to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and from the National Institutes of Health to the Wisconsin Humanities Council. To date, faculty have been awarded $1,558,349. This is a 30% yield, an outstanding record for an institution focused on teaching and learning. The grants awarded so far allow faculty, staff and students to explore such topics as the demography and population monitoring of plants as well as disease control in grapevines. Chemistry faculty received grants that fund additional equipment that augment high-quality undergraduate education and faculty/student research programs. Faculty success in obtaining grants plays a large role in why UWSP science programs lead the UW-System comprehensive campuses in the number of graduates going on to complete PhDs in the natural and physical sciences. While most of the grants awarded this year in the College are in the natural and physical sciences, faculty in the humanities and social sciences have also been aggressive in applying for funding that enhances our curriculum and furthers faculty/student research. Barbara Dixson of English won a Wisconsin Humanities Council grant for the second consecutive year to support her Online Literature Circles, which brings together high school students from rural and urban Wisconsin to share reading and writing projects. Michelle Slater of Foreign Languages used funding from the French American Cultural Exchange to bring French films to campus for a series open to the public. Tobias Barske of Foreign Languages received funding through the Wisconsin Teaching Fellows Program for his work in German Business Writing and for his English as a Second Language (ESL) initiatives.

At UWSP’s College of Letters & Science, faculty and staff have developed a successful model of combining teaching and research to expand knowledge, train their students in research methods, and grow as professionals. This model helps us sustain and build our strength as the College-at-the-Core of UWSP.
L&S Development Report

Summary
L&S scholarship and program accounts with the UWSP Foundation grew compared to the same period last year. The endowment market adjustment (calculated on a rolling three year average) is not included in either total:

L&S Endowment and program accounts  May 31, 2010  May 31, 2009  
$2,390,082.44  $2,337,014.97

Development Highlights
- Future student/faculty collaborative research program in Biology and Chemistry thanks to a planned gift from 1960 alumnus Gilbert Kaczmarek.
- New endowment and perpetual student scholarship in Biology in conjunction with the SE Wisconsin Master Gardeners Inc.
- New program fund in Biology to support nesting birds of prey research.
- Appeal efforts nearly doubled the Mark Cates alumni scholarship in Political Science.
- Appeal effort supported the 2010 Academy of Letters & Science awards banquet.
- Appeal effort supporting the L&S Enhancement fund is currently tracking at its highest level in five years.

Additional Highlights
- College of Letters & Science newsletter redesign and re-launch during the spring of 2010.
- College of Letters & Science brochure committee and related efforts will result in 13 department brochures for student, parent and public use.
- College of Letters & Science website redesign and re-launch will integrate scholarship information and recognize donor support across all departments.
- Hansen glass art was installed in William C. Hansen lobby of the Science Building during the fall of 2009.

The Academy of Letters & Science serves as a support group for the College by providing models of excellence for students, access to the community, and by offering the community an opportunity to help shape College policies. On April 24, 2010, the Academy recognized 31 students, three faculty members and one community member at their annual awards banquet.

Gilbert Kaczmarek, Class of 1960, receives thanks from student Rebecca Slattery, Class of 2009, for his generous gift.

Mark Brueggeman, Senior Lecturer-UWSP College of Fine Arts, creates the stained glass art now gracing the Science Building’s William C. Hansen lobby (see front cover).
College Curricula and Outreach

Biology
- Biology
- Biochemistry
- Ethnobotany

Chemistry
- Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry, ACS Certified

Computing & New Media Technologies
- Computer Information Systems
- Web and Digital Media Development

Foreign Languages
- Foreign Language (Culture Studies)
- Foreign Language
- French
- German
- Spanish
- English as a Second Language

English
- English
- Business, Science, or Creative Writing

Geography & Geology
- Geography
- Geology
- Geoscience

History
- History (General)
- History (Minority and Ethnic Studies)

Mathematical Sciences
- Mathematics
- Mathematics (Actuarial)
- Mathematics Education

Philosophy
- Anthropology
- Environmental Ethics
- Religious Studies
- Philosophy

Physics & Astronomy
- Physics
- Physics (Applied)
- Physics (Education)
- Astronomy

Political Science
- Political Science
- Public Administration & Policy Analysis

Psychology
- Psychology
- Psychology (Human Services)

Sociology & Social Work
- Sociology
- Sociology (Adult Life & Aging)
- Sociology (Applied)
- Social Work

Graduate Programs
- Biology
- English
- History

Interdisciplinary Programs
- American Studies
- International Studies
- Natural Science
- Peace Studies
- Social Science
- Women’s Studies

Outreach Programs and Facilities
- Allen F. Blocher Planetarium
- Center for Athletic Scheduling
- Center for the Small City Collaborative Degree Program
- Community Research Center
- Distance Learning (Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian)
- Geographic Information System Center
- Herbarium
- Literature Circles
- Museum of Natural History
- Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility
- UWSP Observatory
- Vivarium
- Wisconsin Association for Critical Thinking
- Writers’ Workshop

Pre-Professional Studies
- Pre-Chiropractic
- Pre-Dental
- Pre-Education
- Pre-Engineering
- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medical
- Pre-Mortuary
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Veterinary
- Pre-Physician’s Assistant

Research in the Field

Allie Anderson, Class of 2011, holds a southern red-backed vole (Myodes gapperi) up for closer inspection during a field mammalogy course at Pigeon Lake Field Station in northern Wisconsin.

Photos throughout this publication are courtesy of UWSP faculty, staff and University Relations & Communications.

Special thanks to Katie Carlson for coordinating this project.
Microbe vs. Mineral –

A Life and Death Struggle in the Desert

Although the bursts of rainbow colors in this photograph are mesmerizing, microbes fight for their lives in the background. Dr. Michael P. Zach of the Department of Chemistry snapped this image of a salt sample he collected in a hot, arid valley near Death Valley National Park in California. He crushed the salt, placed it under a microscope slide and added a drop of water. Suddenly a slew of microbes came to life as the salt crystals dissolved. Then when the water started evaporating, he took a picture. The colors come from light passing through the growing crystals, which act like prisms.

In February 2010, Dr. Zach was awarded Honorable Mention for this photograph by the National Science Foundation (NSF) along with the journal Science. Professor Zach uses this image to, “capture the interest of our students to see their potential for solving problems in geology, chemistry and material science in order to illuminate the connection between what many people see as seemingly unrelated fields.”