A RECORDENGAGEMENT POSTER DAY

The Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement hosted its semi-annual Engagement Poster Day on April 24 in Velzy Commons in Ullsvik Hall.

Students gained first-hand experience and got a head start on their career by engaging with a community and faculty partner to complete a PACCE project. Ranging from ag to art, from education to engineering, each and every project benefited a community partner in some way.

More than 100 posters were displayed and 835 students showcased this semester’s PACCE projects.

KANG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED AT ENGAGEMENT POSTER DAY

Casey Carignan, (far left) was last year’s recipient of the Dr. Peter Kang Memorial Scholarship. Carignan, along with Dr. Kevin Bernhardt, presented this year’s awards to Connie Spyropoulos, Patrick Ralph, Darci Yelk, and Dr. Rea Kirk (not pictured).

Dr. Peter K. Kang, Professor Emeritus in political science, was a dedicated faculty member at UW-Platteville from 1969–97. He served as the department chair of political science for nine years and in 1991 was awarded the Phi Eta Sigma, Honor Society’s Teacher of the Year award. The Kang family awards the Dr. Peter K. Kang Memorial Scholarships to UW-Platteville undergraduate students in addition to a Faculty Development Award for a UW-Platteville faculty member. These scholarship presentations were made at the semi-annual PACCE Engagement Day held on April 24.

Dr. Rea Kirk was the recipient of this year’s Faculty Development Award. Kirk is a strong advocate and practitioner of service learning and has been involved with PACCE from its inception. In addition to her role as a UW-Platteville faculty member, Kirk has volunteered at Family Advocates for 15 years and served on their board of directors for 10 years.

The junior recipient of the Dr. Peter Kang Memorial Scholarship in Excellence in Public Service is Constance Spyropoulos. The selection committee was impressed with her academic achievement and her demonstrated value of service to others, especially to young students.

The senior level Dr. Peter Kang Memorial Scholarship in Excellence in Public Service was awarded to Darci Yelk and Patrick Ralph. Both have demonstrated excellence in academics as well as commitment to community service.

CAMPUS ENTREPRENEURS’ ORGANIZATION AT UW-PLATTEVILLE

The Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization Club is a group of UW-Platteville students who have organized to practice and promote entrepreneurship. They are creative innovators who are interested in business ownership and are driven by their passion to be entrepreneurial in everything they do.

Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. in the Markee Pioneer Student Center. Recent speakers have included Ben Reeves, Owner of Nutrition World and Financial Advisor at Edward Jones; Darrin Shireman, Owner of Badger Brothers Coffee; Todd Johnson, Community Resource Development Agent for Grant County; and Heidi Bredesen, of the UW-Platteville Career Center.

If you’re interested in knowing more, join them for a meeting this fall.

For more information about engagement and entrepreneurial events at UW-Platteville, contact Kevin Bernhardt, Director, at 608.342.6121, or Kathy Neumeister, Senior Marketing Specialist, at 608.342.6020, or visit the website at www.uwplatt.edu/pacce.
On Feb. 12 and March 12, the Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement sponsored two Business Planning Workshops. George Krueger, Assistant Professor of business and accounting led both workshops. They were designed to help students take their business idea to the next level and to ultimately create their own business plan. Others guiding students through various aspects of the process were Ed White, Dr. Kevin Bernhardt (pictured above offering presentation tips), Dr. Chuck Steiner, Melissa Pahl, and Brock Waterman. Approximately 30 students attended the workshops.

The Pioneer Launch Lab, located on the fifth floor of Pioneer Tower, is an entrepreneurial setting providing a “low risk—high touch” nurturing environment for students, recent alumni, and faculty/staff for development of business ideas, launch, and/or operation. The lab is a network of people who dedicate their time, expertise, and experience to provide resources, consultation, connections, assistance, and mentoring to members seeking to launch their own business.

Members of the Pioneer Launch Lab this semester were Jordan Riemer, Tom Aronson, Micah Binns, Zachary Voelker, Josh Inglett, Rachel Gogin, Rob Hupperich, Joshua Joseph, Jim Clinton, Jacob Oomens, Craig Lafferty, Richard Rowell, and UW-Platteville alumni Joseph Schoettler and Becky Ambrosy.

For more information, contact Brock Waterman, Coordinator of the Pioneer Launch Lab, or to apply for membership in the Pioneer Launch Lab, visit www.uwplatt.edu/entrepreneurship.

On April 17, 2013 UW-Platteville Entrepreneurship hosted its third annual Business Plan Competition in the Markee Pioneer Student Center. Six individuals presented their business plans to a panel of judges. The judges included UW-Platteville Assistant Professor Les Hollingsworth; Jack Luedtke, Director of Platteville’s Main Street Program; and Craig Sauey, Director of The Nordic Group. Sauey represented the W.R. and Floy A. Sauey Family Foundation which was a major sponsor of the competition.

The six student/alumni competitors were:
- Jordan Riemer /Grower’s Advantage LLC. (Awarded first place)
- Tom Aronson/Droptine Apparel (Awarded second place)
- Becky Ambrosy/Platteville Massage Therapy LLC (Awarded third place)
- Joshua Inglett/Inglett Enterprises
- Joshua Joseph/Richland Maple Syrup
- Jacob Luginbuhl/Hometown Painting Services LLC

As the first place winner, Riemer also received a professional consultation package sponsored by Platteville’s Main Street program. He will meet with business professionals to get advice on his planned business launch. The professionals include Bob Stauffacher, Executive Vice President of American Bank of Platteville, Wis.; Brock Waterman, Owner of Fundunity LLC and Coordinator of the Pioneer Launch Lab; Terry Vaassen, CPA, PFS at Vaassen, Pluemer Certified Public Accountants; and Mike Olds, Attorney at Kopp McKichan LLP.

Immediately following Engagement Poster Day on April 24, Dr. Kevin Bernhardt hosted the inaugural Entrepreneurship Roundtable gathering. Entrepreneurship education at UW-Platteville features a three-part strategy—the newly-introduced curriculum minor; entrepreneurship events and competitions; and a student hatchery. Many people, both on and off campus, have been involved in each of these three areas. With the creation of the Entrepreneurship Roundtable, these entities have been rolled into one cohesive group who will offer advice and counsel on the next steps of the entrepreneurship education at UW-Platteville. Highlights of the Roundtable event were the presentation of the cash awards for the participants of the recent business plan competition and introduction of Marcia Harr Bailey who will be joining UW-Platteville in the fall of 2013 as an Assistant Professor of business/accounting and Program Director for the entrepreneurship minor.