Celebrating our female pioneers
This letter marks my last as president of the UW-Platteville Alumni Association. What a year it has been! Over the past 12 months, we have welcomed in a new chancellor, clarified the association’s message to help people better understand our difference from the UW-Platteville Foundation, created some new events, began the process of forming new regional alumni groups and increased association memberships. Time flies when you’re having fun!

I have been blessed to have a board that cares about this university and the students, faculty, staff and alumni who represent it. They have all passionately debated important issues that have strengthened our organization and continually come up with new ideas to build on our focus of fostering relationships that last a lifetime. To each one of them, I say “thank you.”

Throughout my time on the board, I have always been focused on the legacy we create as advisors to the association staff. I have worked to progress the work done by past presidents and establish a foundation for the future. I welcome in Tricia Reuter as my successor. She has been a great board member, and I am confident she will continue to grow our association.

Speaking of legacy, I congratulate those who are graduating in May. I wish them great success as they start their careers and hope that they remain actively connected to their alma mater. The association is a great resource, and our alumni are often willing to help each other. My membership has been a great value to me and I hope our new graduates see that as well. One question I get is if I have donated to the foundation, am I a member of the association? The answer is no. We are two separate organizations working together to strengthen our university. In the coming months, the association will be sponsoring a membership drive. If you are not a member, I hope you will consider becoming one. If you are a member, please consider referring a friend. The reason this university is so strong is because of the legacy its alumni create.

In addition to our membership drive, we are doing some exciting events in 2011. One I hope to see all of you at is “Educating Your Palate.” This is sure to satisfy the foodie in all of us. We are on a search to find some of the best chefs in Southwest Wisconsin to prepare a culinary feast. It is sure to be entertaining as well as filling. Calorie counters, leave your calculators at home. Proceeds from this event will support the Alumni Association’s ability to continue strengthening alumni relationships as well as providing additional services and benefits. The event will be held on campus on Sept. 18. Invite your friends, and let’s make it a huge success.

Here’s wishing you a wonderful summer and a prosperous 2011!

Forever. Pioneers.

Daniel Paulson
Alumni Today

Visit the Alumni Today on the web at alumni.uwplatt.edu. When you see the Plattevideo icon there is a video featured.

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The Alumni Today is produced as a service of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Alumni Association. This magazine is designed to keep alumni and friends of the university informed of current activities and events affecting the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and its alumni.

Letters to the editor are welcome, as are suggestions for articles and Class Notes. Call or write Alumni Services, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville WI 53818-3099, 1.800.UWPALUM, alumni@uwplatt.edu.

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Dear Pioneer Family,

We have so enjoyed the many warm welcomes and support we’ve received during our first year here. I’ve had the privilege of meeting and getting to know some of you, and as I continue to do so, I thought you might want to know a little about my background and interests.

I was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pa., and come from a family of educators. I earned my undergraduate degree in 1975 at Cheyney State University in Cheyney, Pa., and after a three-year stint of teaching gifted middle school students, I entered law school. I graduated with the Juris Doctor degree from Temple University School of Law in 1981.

Shortly after graduating from Temple Law School, I returned to my educational roots and began teaching business law at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. During my tenure at Marist, I simultaneously served as director of the Paralegal Program and director of the Pre-Professional Program for Minority Students.

My career in admissions and student affairs administration began in 1986 when I joined the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law. There, I served as the chief administrator (assistant then associate dean) for admissions and student affairs from 1986-98, and was involved in the success of my students from the law school application submission and evaluation processes all the way through graduation, bar exam preparation and job placement.

Our move to North Carolina took me to the next phase of my professional development – outside of the law school world and into the realm of public health – when I became associate dean for student services at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health from 1998-2005. During this time, Dennis was dean of admissions and financial aid at Duke’s School of Law. Several friends were concerned about the possibility of contentious rivalry in our household during basketball season, but it was never an issue as we stuck with our alma maters. “Go Owls!” “Go Hawkeyes!”

The next stop was Arizona. During our time in Phoenix, I was involved with fund raising for the Arizona Theatre Company and Teach for America. At this point, I also became a group exercise instructor at the Valley of the Sun YMCA. I have continued that particular interest at UW-Platteville, where I am currently teaching cardio kickboxing (we hit and kick things but no sparring) and T’ai Chi.

Here at UW-Platteville, I’ve served on a few search-and-screen committees and, in addition to teaching four weekly fitness classes, I am enjoying getting to know some of the students, faculty, staff and administrators. You can usually find me around campus or walking our dog, Otis, an English Mastiff that, while he could easily take me for a walk, usually knows better. This “big city” girl also enjoys spending time at Pioneer Farm, and I look forward to visiting there more often.

My other interests allow me to feed my passion for learning. I am learning to play the flute and relearning how to ride a bike (whoever said you don’t forget, lied). You might also find me out on the driving range. I am enjoying learning the game of golf (Dennis is an excellent instructor) and I’m improving, but I must admit that I’m doing it only for the accessories. Dennis jokes that I have three pairs of golf shoes, one pair for each round of golf I’ve played in the last 10 years. I also am a bit of a “yarn head” (knitter) and am always game for learning a new craft.

I have been a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and Mensa for over 30 years and am looking forward to continuing my affiliations here in Wisconsin. And while Platteville isn’t Buffalo or Philadelphia or Chapel Hill, it is a unique place of higher education unto itself. I am very happy to be here and to be a part of this great learning community.

Forever. Pioneers.

Aundra Shields
Investiture of Dennis J. Shields

Dennis J. Shields celebrated his investiture as UW-Platteville’s chancellor alongside UW System President Kevin Reilly and UW Board of Regents President Charles Pruitt on April 8 in Williams Fieldhouse.

“It is with pride as the chancellor to highlight the campus during Celebrate UW-Platteville Week,” Chancellor Shields said. “I understand the importance of a high quality, affordable and accessible education. The education I have received guided my life and career, and that has allowed me to have the opportunity to lead a great institution in UW-Platteville. It’s a tremendous feeling.”

Reilly saluted the chancellor by saying, “we join together to celebrate Chancellor Shields’ commitment to this campus and the larger UW community. We join him in pledging to accomplish ambitious goals, and we come together in a shared vision of a better Wisconsin, achieved through learning, discovery and engagement.”

The investiture capped off a 10-day period called Celebrate UW-Platteville, which featured the Board of Regents meetings April 7-8 and the dedication of the David J. and Lou Ann Markee Pioneer Student Center April 7.

“Controlling our destiny” was the theme the chancellor presented at the UW Board of Regents meetings. UW-Platteville’s plans are to raise more capital through growth and alternative methods such as public/private partnerships. Chancellor Shields seeks to continue, if not accelerate, the growth of the student body that began with his predecessor, Chancellor Emeritus David J. Markee. In the last 13 years, UW-Platteville has grown by 48 percent to an enrollment of nearly 8,000 students, making it the fastest-growing university in the UW System.

“I’m excited because it is my hope that by this time next year, we’ll have almost completed a new residence hall and have begun the process for another one,” Chancellor Shields said. “That’s important in what we do. I want to change the culture of our students in that this has been a suitcase campus with students leaving on the weekend. Because of our fast growth, two-thirds of our resident students live off campus, and that has gotten in the way of building a cohesive campus culture for students. The building of new residence facilities provides a centralized educational experience for our students.”

UW-Platteville’s new chancellor said he takes great pride in the campus being known as student-friendly and is ready to continue that tradition.

“I’ve been in higher education a long time, and I think on any given day, if you need to find inspiration, all you have to do is go out and spend some time with students. You see their hopes, ambitions and aspirations,” he said. “It’s great fun and why we are all here.”
Haslauer takes UW-Platteville German Club to Milwaukee
Edina Haslauer, UW-Platteville lecturer of German and advisor for the German Club, recently visited the Jewish Museum Milwaukee with her students. The museum is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of the Jewish people in southeastern Wisconsin and celebrating the continuum of Jewish heritage and culture. “When we had the graffiti issue on campus, we talked about it in class, especially what we can do in terms of creating a more inclusive university community,” said Haslauer.

UW-Platteville assistant professor of geography explores gambling’s influence on Las Vegas
Rex (RJ) Rowley, UW-Platteville assistant professor of geography, said that growing up in Las Vegas was similar to growing up anywhere else, except that it had 37.5 million annual visitors with an undeniable gaming and gambling influence in the mix. Rowley saw it as a research opportunity and based his doctoral dissertation, “Bright Light City: Sense of Place Beyond the Las Vegas Strip,” on his hometown. Rowley returned to Las Vegas over Winterim as a Gaming Research Fellow at the Center for Gaming Research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

UW-Platteville professor appears in National Geographic documentary
Early last November, David Krugler, UW-Platteville professor of history, appeared in a documentary entitled “American Doomsday,” broadcast on the National Geographic Channel. National Geographic contacted Krugler after discovering his book entitled, “This Is Only a Test: How Washington, D.C. Prepared for Nuclear War.” The main focuses were the events and planning that the federal government completed in order to survive a possible nuclear attack, and the implications of those preparations on the general public.

UW-Platteville history lecturer researches area lead mining

UW-Platteville faculty share learning experience at ‘Conversation’ forum
Conversation on Educational Experiences: Yesterday and Today, brought more than 100 faculty, staff and students to Velzy Commons in Ullsvik Hall on the UW-Platteville campus. The panel members, including Dr. Mittie Nimocks, UW-Platteville provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, and professors Dr. Rosalyn Broussard (political science), Dr. Melissa Gormley (history) and Joe Lomax (criminal justice), shared personal stories of growing up amidst the civil rights movement, segregation, integration and institutional racism. Dr. David Krugler, professor of history, facilitated the event.

UW-Platteville senior lecturer in social sciences department digs into local history
Susan Hellert, UW-Platteville senior lecturer in social sciences, has been delving into history inside and out of the classroom this year by participating in events like Platteville’s Historic Reenactment, the Women’s and Gender Historians of the Midwest conference, a presentation on early Wisconsin history for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and summer workshops held at Effigy Mounds National Monument in Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Hellert currently serves as a member of the Dubuque County Zoning Board of Adjustment and until recently, wrote a local history column each month for over 10 years in the Dubuque, Iowa, Telegraph-Herald.
Profile: English Department’s Kara Candito


As a poet and teacher, Candito is especially interested in the creation of literary communities. Since arriving at UW-Platteville in the fall, Candito has worked closely with her colleagues in the English department to foster a sense of community among creative writing students. She is co-director of the “Creative Writing Afternoon Tea Student Reading Series,” a monthly event that features three students who read from a selection of their poetry or prose.

In addition to working to shape and improve upon UW-Platteville’s creative writing course offerings, Candito recently worked with her colleague, Dr. Stormy Stipe, to organize the spring 2011 UW-Platteville Creative Writing Festival, which featured UW-Madison Creative Writing Institute Fellow, poet Rebecca Hazelton Stafford. The festival also featured readings from the winners of a student creative writing contest in fiction, creative non-fiction and poetry. Candito also judged a student poetry contest held in honor of Chancellor Dennis J. Shields’ Investiture, on April 8.

Candito takes special pride in introducing non-English majors to poetry and literary fiction, and is thrilled when she succeeds in teaching students in sciences to enjoy reading and discussing literature. She is continually impressed with the dedication and initiative with which UW-Platteville students approach their creative work.

“I love the fact the students are practical and intellectually curious at the same time. I can introduce a concept in a class, and they’ll apply and re-invent it in their own way. It is fun to watch them grow as writers and as people.”

As a writer herself, she believes that hard work, discipline and mentorship are essential to success, and she takes pleasure in working closely with her students.

Candito is currently finishing work on her second manuscript of poetry and working on a translation project with Mexican poet Fernando de la Cruz.

LAE Interim Dean
Laura J. Anderson

Enrollment
2,130 on campus
295 online

Faculty and Staff
195

Departments and School
Criminal Justice
Education
Humanities
Performing and Visual Arts
Psychology
Social Sciences

Affiliated Programs
Ethnic Studies
Social and Environmental Justice
Women’s and Gender Studies

Programs
20 undergraduate majors
32 minors

Facilities, Centers and Laboratories
• Center for the Arts
• Center of Education for the Young Adolescent
• Forensic Investigation Crime Scene House
• Forensic Investigation Research Facility
• Instructional Materials Laboratory
• Recording Studio

Also included are laboratories specialized for audiovisual equipment, ceramics, English, foreign languages, forensic investigation, geographical information systems, graphic design, metalworking, musical instrument digital interface, psychology and woodworking.

Annual Events
• Creative Writing Festival
• Crime Scene to Courtroom Forensic Science Camp
• Criminal Justice Career Days
• Early Childhood Conference
• Fasching/Carnaval

Student Engagement
• Twenty-five plus clubs and organizations
• Publishing opportunities in “Stylus: An Anthology of Freshman Writing”
• Pioneer Undergraduate Research Fund

Featured Student Excursions
• Ecology and Landscapes
• Field Geography of the Western United States
• Geography of the National Parks
• Japan Summer Field Seminar
• Mississippi Delta Mission Trip
To honor Chancellor Emeritus David J. and Lou Ann Markee and all they have done for the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, the Pioneer Student Center was renamed in their honor on April 7.

The building – which acts as a student union and houses computer labs, meeting areas, the Pioneer Crossing, University Bookstore and a number of other offices – will now be known as the David J. and Lou Ann Markee Pioneer Student Center.

“I am delighted that the student center at UW-Platteville will bear the names of David and Lou Ann Markee. Both were undergraduates there, and they worked most sportively with students during David’s long and productive service as chancellor,” said Kevin P. Reilly, president of the UW System. “Thanks to his far-sighted leadership, the campus will serve more students more effectively for many years to come. I cannot imagine a more appropriate naming.”

During Markee’s 13-year tenure, the student body increased by 48 percent, faster than any other UW System school. Markee also began the Tri-State Initiative, a tuition-savings program for students from Illinois and Iowa that has since funded the creation of more than 100 jobs at the university.

“We wished to secure the legacy of Chancellor Emeritus David and Lou Ann Markee at UW-Platteville for future generations of Pioneers,” said Chancellor Dennis J. Shields. “Chancellor Markee was a transformative leader for the university, and we wish to honor his important contributions in this significant way.”

Markee graduated from UW-Platteville in 1964 with his bachelor’s and again in 1968 with his master’s. He was chancellor from 1996 to 2009 and oversaw several projects on campus, including the Pioneer Student Center in 2002 and the first residence hall built on campus since 1960. Lou Ann Markee earned her bachelor’s degree from UW-Platteville in 1965.

“Lou Ann and I are very appreciative and honored,” said Markee. “This is very special to us. I sincerely thank Chancellor Shields and those involved in the process and to the alumni, faculty and staff for their friendship and support.”
**With help, UW-Platteville student obtains firefighting internship**

The UW-Platteville Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement helped UW-Platteville student Brennan Boughton, a junior occupational safety major, volunteer firefighter and EMT from Lancaster, Wis., obtain an internship with the city of Madison Fire Department last summer. Boughton made an important contact in Ed Ruckriegel, who works for the Madison Fire Department, in a fire protection class with Linda Bouck, UW-Platteville professor of occupational safety management. Thanks to a PACCE grant, he was able to complete his internship.

**UW-Platteville receives Growth Agenda grant for undergrad, pre-college research**

UW-Platteville has received its second UW System Growth Agenda grant. The latest funding will support the new Pre-College and Undergraduate Research Program designed to recruit and retain underrepresented populations like women and minorities. The new program will have two main components: undergraduate research teams consisting of UW-Platteville faculty, undergraduate students and pre-college students, and pre-college outreach/recruitment programs.

**Pioneer Farm installs swinging cow brush to improve health and happiness of cows**

The UW-Platteville Pioneer Farm installed a DeLaval swinging cow brush last fall as part of a Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement project. Dr. Tera Montgomery, assistant professor of dairy science and dairy management at the UW-Platteville School of Agriculture, said cows love to scratch on things. The bristles possess the right length and hardness to stimulate blood circulation while helping to keep the cow clean and calm.

**Pioneer Gardens Path of Pride**

Beginning May 1, there will be a new opportunity to combine the joy of quiet moments in the Pioneer Gardens with individual special memories by becoming part of the Pioneer Gardens Path of Pride Paving project.

UW-Platteville students will design a garden path that will allow for paving stones to be ordered as symbols of pride for the university and will support the Pioneer Gardens Fund. The stones may be engraved with a name, date, logo or special message, and sizes will vary depending on the level of giving, set at $100, $250, $500 and $1,000. A special level of $50 will be available to current UW-Platteville students.

For more information, contact UW-Platteville Foundation’s Denee Hirsch at 608.342.1969 or hirschd@uwplatt.edu.

**SWE receives Highest Retention Rate Award**

At the 2009-10 annual Conference for Women Engineers, UW-Platteville received recognition for having the highest retention rate of women in its Society of Women Engineers chapter in the nation with 77.78 percent. “The recognition of this award shows that all of our efforts with keeping the younger students involved is really making a difference,” said Acacia Myers, UW-Platteville’s SWE chapter president and senior industrial engineering major from Avon, Ill.

**Lifetime pass at UW-Platteville’s Pioneer Stadium results in memories, friendships**

When Doloris “Dee” Gray enrolled at UW-Platteville, she became a fan of Pioneer football. When plans to build a football stadium on the UW-Platteville campus stalled, Gray’s family was one of many called on to make a $100 donation to fund construction in the early 1970s. With her $250 seat sponsorship, Gray’s sealed aluminum plate will read Doloris (Dee) D. Gray, and will be attached to the bleacher in section D, row 35, seat 4. Gray’s support will aid in funding the construction of a facility southwest of Butch Leitl Field that will include locker room space, an area for officials, as well as a multi-purpose space for team meetings, film review, game preparation and special events.

**PACCE and Catholic Newman Community sponsor Mississippi Delta Mission Trip**

The UW-Platteville Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement, through the Ethnic and Gender Equity in Education class, and the Catholic Newman Community sponsored a Mississippi Delta Mission Trip during Winterim. There were 59 people on the trip; four adult construction supervisors, four alumni who have been on the trip previously and 51 UW-Platteville students. They were split into five different groups and were given four Mississippi cities to chose from: Lexington, Greenwood, Jonestown and Tutwiler. In each town they had the opportunity to engage in community work to help out.
Chilly temperatures and a few record-setting snowfalls did not dampen the spirits of UW-Platteville athletics this winter.

The Pioneers sent a wrestler, a relay team and two individuals to the NCAA Division III championships; the men’s basketball team advanced to the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament semifinals; and the women’s basketball team began the Megan Wilson (1) era.

Along the way, there is a lot of excitement that will continue in Platteville as many top student-athletes return in 2011-12.

The UW-Platteville women’s basketball program hired a new coach in Wilson, and she guided the Pioneers through the rigors of the WIAC as well as an exhibition game against Division I foe Northwestern. Wins and losses do not reflect on the strides of improvement throughout the course of the season for a team that will lose two seniors – Mallory Mau and Ashley Wolf (2). Both made valuable contributions throughout their career, as Wolf hit a school-record tying seven three-pointers on a Senior Day win over UW-River Falls. Junior Ashley Callahan was named honorable mention all-WIAC. She averaged 9.6 points and a team-best 5.4 rebounds a game for the Pioneers.

Second-year head coach Jeff Gard guided the Pioneers’ men’s basketball team to the second round of the WIAC tournament. Leading the charge were seniors Nick Allen (3) and Eric Wall (4), who were both recognized in the postseason by the WIAC. Allen, a native of Barneveld, Wis., led the Pioneers in scoring (15.4 ppg) and in assists (2.7 apg). Wall, a native of Kaukauna, Wis., nearly averaged a double-double with an 11.6 ppg and a team-best 9.1 rebounds per game. Joining the two on the all-conference team was freshman Chas Cross (5), who was the only freshman on the 20-person team. It is the fifth-straight year that UW-Platteville has had multiple selections to the all-conference team, and the three led the Pioneers to a 17-10 record.

The UW-Platteville wrestling program under 14th-year head coach Chris Walter directed freshman Mack Drees (6) to a second place finish at the WIAC Championships and became Walter’s 28th national qualifier. His appearance at the NCAA tournament was spoiled by back-
Danny Kambel, former public and media relations director at Texas A&M-Commerce, is the new sports information director at UW-Platteville. He is an Eldridge, Iowa, native who previously worked at Florida International University and Indiana State University. He earned his associate’s degree in sport and fitness management technology from Columbus State Community College in 1996 and his bachelor’s degree from the University of Toledo in 1999.

Kambel is new sports information director

III Indoor Men’s and Women’s Track and Field Championships. Earlier in the season, Klein posted a school record time of 4:06.85 at the Wisconsin Elite Invitational and the fastest performance in Division III since 2006. At the WIAC championships, he was victorious in the mile and third in the 800-meter run en route to being named the WIAC Men’s Track Performer of the Meet. At the NCAA championships, he was eighth in the mile for his second indoor track and field All-American honor. Tank broke the school record in the 400-meter dash with a time of 57.50 seconds at the Cardinal Classic at North Central College. One week later, she won the 400-meter dash and was second in the 800-meter run at the WIAC championships. Tank and the Pioneers’ women’s mile relay team qualified for the NCAA championships. On the biggest stage, the Dodgeville, Wis., native improved upon her eighth-place finish as a sophomore to runner-up honors as a junior for her second individual and third total All-American honor. She would serve as the anchor of the Pioneers’ mile relay that finished just shy of All-American recognition with a ninth-place finish.

to-back losses to the numbers one- and eight-seeded wrestlers. He and seven other starters will return to the mat in 2011-12 hungry to return the Pioneers to the higher echelon of the tough WIAC.

The Pioneer men took fifth at the rigorous WIAC indoor track and field championship, and the women placed seventh. UW-Platteville was represented by juniors Patrick Klein (7) and Ann Tank (8) as well as the women’s mile relay team of Shea Bierman, Deidre Dillman, Stephanie Wyss and Tank at the NCAA Division III Indoor Men’s and Women’s Track and Field Championships. Earlier in the season, Klein posted a school record time of 4:06.85 at the Wisconsin Elite Invitational and the fastest performance in Division III since 2006. At the WIAC championships, he was victorious in the mile and third in the 800-meter run en route to being named the WIAC Men’s Track Performer of the Meet. At the NCAA championships, he was eighth in the mile for his second indoor track and field All-American honor. Tank broke the school record in the 400-meter dash with a time of 57.50 seconds at the Cardinal Classic at North Central College. One week later, she won the 400-meter dash and was second in the 800-meter run at the WIAC championships. Tank and the Pioneers’ women’s mile relay team qualified for the NCAA championships. On the biggest stage, the Dodgeville, Wis., native improved upon her eighth-place finish as a sophomore to runner-up honors as a junior for her second individual and third total All-American honor. She would serve as the anchor of the Pioneers’ mile relay that finished just shy of All-American recognition with a ninth-place finish.
Betty DeGeneres, mother of actress, comedian and talk show host Ellen DeGeneres, spoke to the UW-Platteville community as the 2011 distinguished lecturer on March 30 at Williams Fieldhouse. DeGeneres, a civil rights advocate for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, spoke to UW-Platteville about her personal experiences and how she came to terms with her daughter’s sexuality.

DeGeneres attended Louisiana State University for two years before earning her real estate license. While raising her children Vance and Ellen, DeGeneres worked multiple jobs while taking courses at Loyola University. She completed her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in speech pathology at LSU. DeGeneres relocated to Los Angeles to be closer to her children and took a speech therapist position for developmentally disabled adults. She later worked as a speech therapist at the Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

Ellen came out as a lesbian both personally and as her character on her television sitcom in 1997. After her coming out episode aired, the sitcom’s ratings declined and the show was cancelled in 1998 after only five seasons.

“She practically lost her career because she’s a pioneer,” said DeGeneres. “She had to work to get everything back and obviously, that has happened.”

As the first heterosexual spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign’s National Coming Out Project, Betty proved to be a pioneer herself. She began speaking for the HRC in 1997 after Ellen revealed she was a lesbian. The campaign is held annually to encourage lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people to come out and be honest about their lives.

“Ellen coming out certainly broadened my horizons,” she said. “It certainly made me much more compassionate toward the LGBT community.”

After her presentation on human rights, DeGeneres opened the floor to the audience for a question and answer session.

“This is my favorite part,” she said. “I want to hear from you and what all of you want to know.”

DeGeneres answered questions varying from her favorite celebrity to the political roadblock the LGBT community faces with the acceptance of homosexuality.

“If there is one thing I could get across to all of you, it would be to learn to accept diversity,” she said. “Someday people will look back and ask what took so long to accept diversity, but I ask you to always have hope and never give up.”
Wedige receives Lifetime Pioneer Award

By Morgan Spitzer

Kerie Wedige has a few things left to cross off on her bucket list. She hasn’t been skydiving, earned her PMP certification or whitewater rafted the Colorado River, but – off her list: graduating from the UW-Platteville Online Master of Science in Project Management program. In December, she not only earned her degree, but was presented with an Honorary Lifetime Pioneer Award from the UW-Platteville Alumni Association.

“I was so honored to even be considered for the award,” said Wedige, “let alone receive it.”

“We were impressed by Kerie’s strong connection to UW-Platteville,” said Aaron Burbach, assistant director for UW-Platteville Alumni Services. “She stressed how much the school has done for her and how valuable it is to her, and was enthusiastic about being an active alumna, who can share her passion for UW-Platteville and education with people.”

“I had to smile when I thought about the word ‘lifetime,’” said Wedige, “because I realized just how much UW-Platteville has been a part of my life. I remember coming to campus with the Girl Scouts, competing in high school forensics contests, participating in band contests at the school. I did a little bit of my undergraduate here, played basketball and pledged a sorority. I work on campus and I earned my master’s degree from here.”

For the past seven years, Wedige has worked as a community education program manager for the UW-Platteville Continuing Education office. She helps plan and organize numerous programs including College for Kids and computer, fitness and enrichment courses. She is also responsible for the creation of the new forensic science camp.

Wedige completed her degree while maintaining her responsibilities to her job and family. “I loved that I could take what I was learning and immediately apply it to my job,” she said. “I was able to improve in areas such as scheduling, planning and risk management and documenting lessons learned.”

For now, Wedige plans to shift her focus to her family, but she plans to eventually earn her PMI Project Management Professional and Program Management Professional certifications. As for work, she plans to remain closely connected to the Alumni Association.

“I want to keep connections with the school, alumni and the community alive with our continuing education courses,” said Wedige. “There are also many ways to stay involved, from serving on the Alumni Board to giving a helping hand at promotional events. I plan to offer help wherever it’s needed, whether it’s working check-ins or hanging posters. The ability to do programming through my job gives me a unique capacity to stay involved in many areas concerning the university, including alumni issues.”

Wedige lives in Cuba City, Wis., with her husband Paul and their daughters, Mikayla, 17, and Mollie, 14. In her free time, she enjoys riding horses with her daughters, spending time with friends, dancing and reading.

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At a young age, Lana (Wood) Wiese, a 1971 alumna who is now co-owner of Studio Gear in Milwaukee, began absorbing much of what she knows about business by paying attention to how her parents ran their farm outside Bagley, Wis. Wiese’s mother did much of the farm’s bookkeeping, but when Wiese showed an interest in it as a teen, she learned how to do it, too. “I grew up helping with the business and I understood the importance of good business sense because we were living it,” she said.

When Wiese graduated from West Grant High School as salutatorian and president of her class in the late 1960s, she knew she desired a business degree. After considering the proximity to her family and the size of colleges or universities in the area, Wiese chose to attend UW-Platteville. “One thing I suddenly noticed was that I was used to being in a smaller pond,” she said. “When I saw that there was going to be more competition, I knew I had to elevate my game.” Wiese’s efforts paid off when she received a state honors scholarship, which paid a significant amount of her tuition, and room and board.

In her academic endeavors, Wiese said that she had the self-confidence to do what she wanted to do, and she knew that education was the key to getting there. “There weren’t many women in business fields, but I decided that I did belong and I could do the work,” she said.

Once Wiese added her communications minor, she began working at the campus radio station as a disc jockey. During her years there, Wiese not only met her future husband, Robert, but she also became licensed to DJ an evening rock ‘n roll show called “Infinity.”

In 1971, Wiese graduated from UW-Platteville and was hired at Wisconsin Bell in Milwaukee, where she was one of only four women hired into the management training program at the time. “I learned a lot from people who had been there a long time,” she said.

That November, she and Robert were married in Prairie du Chien, Wis. “He and I talked very seriously about my career because he knew it was important to me and it was what I wanted,” she said. “I knew it wouldn’t be easy, but he was very supportive.”

In all, Wiese spent over 20 years at Wisconsin Bell, taking on a variety of management positions with increasing responsibility. “Nobody was going to give it to you, you had to prove you could do it,” she said. “They gave me the opportunity to fail or succeed.” Wiese didn’t fail.

Several years later, when Wiese’s husband suggested that they start their own niche market audiovisual equipment business, Studio Gear, she agreed. “We wanted to control our own destinies,” she said. “It was a big risk, but an entrepreneur takes calculated risks.”

With more than 20 years in business and now located in Milwaukee’s Historic Third Ward with a satellite office in Madison, Wis., Wiese said that what makes their business work is a combination of deep respect for one another and a continued focus on providing excellent customer service. “We are collaborative and find a
Lalia Rach (’76) spoke at UW-Platteville on April 20 as part of the Learning from the Past alumni series. In December 2010, she stepped down after 15 years as the dean of the Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism and Sports Management at New York University. As dean, Rach served on a number of industry boards including NYC&Co – the New York City Convention and Visitor’s Bureau. An educator for the past 26 years, Rach is currently on sabbatical from New York University. In addition to expanding her consulting business as a speaker, facilitator and advisor to service business, she is on the board of the Greater Madison Convention and Visitor’s Bureau. Next year, Rach will return from sabbatical to NYU to teach management and strategy courses relating to tourism and hospitality.

Rach earned a bachelor’s degree in history and social sciences from UW-Platteville and went on to receive a master’s in business administration from UW-Whitewater. Her doctorate in higher education administration was accomplished at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

The process of earning degrees can sound like achievements casually checked off a list. Her parents had a long-standing plan for their five children to attend college; however, each had to work for their education. Rach worked her way through, bussing and waiting tables in her hometown, Spring Green, Wis. She and her brothers and sisters are proud they all graduated from UW-Platteville. Once older sister Frances chose UW-Platteville, Rach’s father mandated that they would all attend there. Fran, (’69), Cyril (’74), Lalia, John and Margaret, (both ’83), all graduated as Pioneers. Rach’s mother was doubly determined that the girls would have that degree, allowing them to stand on their own two feet.

Women in Rach’s family have always been determined. Her grandmother Eulalia owned a restaurant in Spring Green for 40 years. She dealt with the bank and vendors in a day when most women did not. She served as many as 400 meals on a weekend. What did Grandma Eulalia know that made people drive to Spring Green for Friday fish or Sunday chicken? Grandma Eulalia took a special interest. She also took the customers’ keys when they had too much to drink and carried people on the books until they could pay.

Rach makes good on family’s past, looks to the future

Lalia Rach believes that the business values and approaches she learned from her grandmother remain valid examples. Rach teaches her students that a successful businessperson combines knowledge with instincts. As an educator and consultant, Rach combines her mother and grandmother’s examples with her own knowledge and intuition. It is her vision to blend her grandmother’s values and her own skills as a perfect way to help business challenge old ideas and expand strategic thinking.

Rach was excited and pleased to speak at UW-Platteville, where she felt nurtured and challenged by faculty who knew the students and cared about them. Rach uses her Platteville experiences with her own students – nurturing and challenging them.

Asked if she sees a big difference between Madison and New York, Rach said that in travel-hospitality terms, each is first and foremost, a destination. Beyond that, she

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Giving a high-flying company a solid perch

When Mary (Volbrecht) Twinem graduated from high school, number crunching and stability were not her goals. Her first choice as a major was in graphic arts, but when Twinem took the Intro to Accounting class as a freshman, she found she had a propensity for it and switched majors. She married Craig Twinem (’82) right after graduation. They loaded their stuff in a pick-up and took off for New Mexico where he began a job as a civil engineer. Their first daughter, Sarah, was born there. Mary became a CPA in 1984.

In 1987, the Twinems moved closer to home, choosing Plymouth, Minn., where Craig took a position with a consulting firm. Their second daughter, Anna, was born in Minnesota. Mary established herself there as an accountant.

In 1989, Twinem was working at Dahlberg, maker of Miracle-Ear hearing aids as financial controller. When Bausch and Lomb bought out Dahlberg, in 1992, she was working for Sally J. Smith.

Twinem said her success is based on hard work, humility and kindness. Still, there may be something more – not magic exactly, but it can feel like that when a person looks back.

Smith went to work for a couple of wild idea men from Ohio, then operating a new company in Minnesota. Their idea was to offer chicken wings in the style they had enjoyed in Buffalo, N.Y. That idea was so great that they couldn’t keep up with franchising and licensing.

The Buffalo Wild Wings story might have been different, if not for Smith and Twinem. Based on observations while at Miracle-Ear, Smith (currently chief executive and president of Buffalo Wild Wings) hired her. Twinem then pulled the popular new restaurant chain into a business model suited to financial success. The idea took flight. And someone had to put a foundation under it.

Today, Twinem is an executive vice-president and CFO of BWW. The future will require the wisdom of financial experts like Twinem. As a model for women seeking their “place at the table” in corporate America, she added to earlier advice: “Seek flexible and supportive employers … If your current company is not the best place … don’t be afraid to take a cut in pay to go [elsewhere]. Keep learning. People will notice these things and it will pay off.”

She credits good choices and hard work for her success. She said her parents taught her a strong work ethic, and sent all five children to college.

The Twinems live in the Twin Cities area, where Craig is manager of the Design Division of County Transportation.
Dr. Stacey Schultz-Cherry (’88) is currently associate member at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Department of Infectious Disease, Memphis, Tenn., studying pathogenesis of influenza virus and astrovirus, as well as novel therapies and adjuvants. Schultz-Cherry said that, given her fun-loving attitude while attending UW-Platteville, people are surprised at the seriousness of her work. Biological research can be fun, she said.

Schultz-Cherry (husband Kyle Cherry, ’88) just returned from setting up offices and labs in Kenya for St. Jude’s. Next is Europe and South America to help set up programs studying life-threatening diarrhea in children and viral diseases like H1N1.

As a child, Schultz-Cherry spent time in her dad’s lab at UW-Madison’s school of veterinary medicine. Her father, Dr. Ronald D. Schultz, chair of the department of pathobiological sciences, saw that she was born to the work. He told her to major in biology. She resisted for a while, but in the end she had to admit that biological research was her forte. Dr. Marilyn Tufte, UW-Platteville professor of biology, helped Schultz-Cherry design her own major.

In addition to Tufte, there have been other mentors for Schultz-Cherry. While a tech in University of Alabama-Birmingham’s department of pathology, Dr. Joanne Murphy-Ullrich encouraged Schultz-Cherry to continue with her degree. She brought 6-week-old son, Sean, into the lab and worked on her doctorate. People said she shouldn’t be attempting it. Sean is now at the University of Arkansas, studying food science and participating in soccer. He hopes to create specialized foods for athletes. Her son, Nick, was also born during the process of gaining her degree.

A continuing theme of Schultz-Cherry’s progress is that people kept saying she “couldn’t,” so she did whatever it was, anyway. Naysayers said her career would be dead if she took a job so Kyle could get his degree, but he is now a high school principal. Schultz-Cherry is invited to various parts of the world as an expert in her field. Sean and Nick get an added education traveling with their parents.

Schultz-Cherry is not teaching as much as she did at UW-Madison, but she does get to the University of Tennessee Health Sciences to teach and mentor. She works with both college and high school students. She wants to challenge others as she was challenged. She said that science for her was an enjoyable puzzle to be solved. She wants to show that exciting aspect of science to young people.

Schultz-Cherry is still a hands-on researcher, but also has administrative duties, such as assisting in obtaining funds for research. She is honored to work with the man who recruited her to St. Jude’s, Dr. Robert G. Webster, chair in Virology at St. Jude’s and director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center on the Ecology of Influenza Viruses in Lower Animals and Birds, the only laboratory designed to study influenza at the animal-human interface.

Worldwide opportunities exist in public health and research. Spanish is required for work in Central and South America, and French for work in Africa. Schultz-Cherry encourages students to learn languages and become international research biologists.

She said, “Take the advice that is offered, weigh it, and then go with your gut. Then, you have to commit and give 120 percent. Have no regrets. Just use everything on your path, wherever it might lead you. You will get a lot of advice. Don’t let them tell you that you can’t.”

Schultz-Cherry’s voice conveyed the joy she finds in balancing a demanding career, raising two boys and maintaining a healthy marriage. She and Kyle learned a lesson, though it may not have been what the professor intended. They were taking a class in interpersonal relations at UW-Platteville and ended up on the same team. Their assignment was to practice breaking social norms. She laughed as she said, “We have been doing it ever since.”
An engineering degree may not be an obvious path to a life of service. For Rayelle Miller (’03) it is the exact right choice. Service has always been her avocation and an aspect of her faith, which she said has been tried and strengthened. Now, she is stepping her service up a notch by leaving her position as project engineer at Pella Corporation in Pella, Iowa, to train with a Christian missions organization.

Many doors have opened in response to Miller’s energy. Most recently, the door that opened could have been mistaken for one slamming shut. Miller’s employer requested volunteers to take a separation or an early retirement. She thought and prayed through it, and raised her hand. The company asked her to stay on and complete a final project. By the time this article is published, the project will be completed and Miller will start a new career that is all service, using any number of her skills and abilities.

As a UW-Platteville engineering student, the Fillmore girl and Sheboygan Lutheran graduate got a chance to try her hand at toy design, through a Huffy internship. Miller saw this as an opportunity to help children. She continued helping kids by working at the UW-Platteville Children’s Center, and later coaching girls’ rookie little league in Pella. For seven years, Miller said she “invested in” a small, tightly knit Sunday school group at her church in Pella. Those girls are now in college. With the end of that commitment coupled with the job transition, she sees this as the perfect time for a vocation shift.

Miller said she is extremely grateful for her family’s continuing support and that of those at UW-Platteville who were there for her along the way. Recognizing these gifts in her life, Miller is always paying it forward. Recently, she has been working with her team at Pella Corporation to mentor high school students through a group called “moxie.” Since 2006, Miller has also helped to lead the Young Professionals of Pella.

As a senior in December 2003, Miller was given a Lifetime Pioneer Award. Miller said then, “If you’re interested in something, take a course. It might be that spark that can get the whole fire going.”

Now, she is applying her fiery energy and her many skills and talents to the world’s global needs. She is attending a six-month training with Youth With a Mission.

As she has told those she mentors, “truth without love is harsh. Love without truth is meaningless. Truth with love can move mountains.” She is aiming at those figurative mountains.

Miller also offered this, “Dream big! Don’t get stuck living only on other people’s dreams. Ask God what dreams he has for you! Be open to what they might be.”
“Ladies don’t do that” was a phrase often heard by little girls and young women, even after things began to change in the 1960s. Reynotta (Jahnke) Hoberecht, a 1962 UW-Platteville graduate, heard that every day.

She worked hard on the farm beside her 10 older siblings. She would probably not go to college. Certainly she would not dig up rocks for a living, as was her desire. From a small child, she was fascinated by the sparkle of objects uncovered by Wisconsin rains. People said she had “rocks in her head.” More to the point, she had rocks on her mind.

By the time Hoberecht graduated from high school, the rules had relaxed. Young women might become secretaries or teachers or nurses … until they married. Hoberecht will be forever grateful to John Harper (’30), the “ag man” around Shawano, for supporting her dream. His daughter, Hilda Harper (’56), attended UW-Platteville. He helped Hoberecht get accepted there.

Hoberecht worked her way through college, completing the teacher’s requirements and graduating in 1962. At one point, it seemed she might not be able to finish her studies. The college loaned her $100, which she paid back before graduation.

Hoberecht interned in Galena, Ill., then boarded a plane for California. She accepted a teaching position at Porterville, Calif., and later at Hanford Naval Air Base, in Lemoore, Calif., and finally at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

California encouraged adventure. It also provided a landscape of interesting plants, rocks and fossils wherever she looked. There was always a “fossil bible” on the rear seat of her car. She sought to pass on her love of digging in the dirt and while at Hanford organized a “dig” for third graders, teachers and parents.

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Maintaining a California teacher’s certificate required periodic additional study. Hoberecht questioned what she saw in the geography books, so she took a trip to South America to learn the truth. On this journey, she fulfilled her teacher’s requirements; found her adventure and a powerful-looking young man with cameras slung around his neck. Hal Hoberecht disembarked at Panama, but that was not the end of the story.

Hal was a paleontologist – someone with whom she could share her fascination with buried history. From then on Reynotta, soon to become Mrs. Hoberecht, explored and discovered with Hal. Their children were included in these adventures, obtaining worldwide educations. These events spanned nearly 50 decades until April of 2010, when Hal passed away.

It was on the UW-Platteville campus that a license to teach became Hoberecht’s ticket to discover the world, past and present.
Pam Wedig-Kirsch learned early the value of being organized. Growing up with 10 siblings on a farm near the small town of Belmont, Wis., the ’89 alumna said both her parents were “incredibly organized.”

“The farm was immaculate,” she said. “The equipment and tools were always in their place. It was the same inside the house.”

She eventually followed that example, turning it into a career as a professional organizer. She started her own small business in September 2007. SimpleSpaces Organizing, in Trevor, Wis., is a residential organizing company servicing southeastern Wisconsin and northeastern Illinois.

Focusing on helping clients who suffer from chronic disorganization, the business has provided Wedig-Kirsch with some unique opportunities, including a recent appearance on an episode of Hoarders, on A&E. “On the first day, I left thinking, ‘This is exactly what I want to do with my life,’” she said.

Taking care of business in Waukesha

Dr. Barbara (Johns) Prindiville (’69 medical technology/biology), Ellen (Schmitz) Phillips (’79 communications) and Kaylen (Schepp) Betzig (’87 criminal justice) represent different eras and disciplines of their alma mater, but now share a common interest: the success of their students.

The trio works at Waukesha County Technical College, serving some 30,000 students annually in Pewaukee, Wis. Prindiville, WCTC president; Phillips, president of the WCTC Foundation; and Betzig, executive vice president at WCTC, work together to support the college’s mission and share in the joy of their students along the way.

For Phillips, her favorite part is just getting students in the door. As foundation president, her role is to assist students by raising funds to support scholarships and programs. The foundation was established in 1997 and has since raised $14.5 million.

“For so many, a scholarship makes the difference if a student can attend or not,” said Phillips. “One student, in her scholarship application essay, calculated how fewer hours she would have to work at her job so she could devote more of her time to school if she received the scholarship.”

Betzig and Prindiville are equally involved in student success, guiding the overall focus and operations of WCTC.

“My biggest love for my job is when I get to go to graduations, student government functions and see students achieve things...
they didn’t think they could do,” said Betzig. When I see the fruition of the work we do – students graduating, starting off in life, starting careers and families – that is what I love the most.”

That love, perhaps, was passed down through experience.

“I was walking down the plaza and Professor Joe Lomax called out to me,” recalled Betzig. “I had completed an internship at Grant County Social Services in my junior year, and it was a big deal for the CJ department because I was the first to get an internship there. I remember in my last year, Professor Joe Lomax said to me, ‘Kaylen, thanks for doing a great job on your internship; you helped lay a foundation for others to follow.’ He didn’t have to tell me that. Those are the things you remember later on. It just goes to show that you never know when you’re going to impact a student’s life.”

That impact on students, it seems, was also a product of a UW-Platteville education. “I remember a five-to-one men to women ratio when I was in school,” Phillips reminisced. “In my geology class, I was the only woman in the room. That was one of the best experiences I had at Platteville because the professor and students made it a very comfortable atmosphere despite the difference. It showed me my potential and gave me a lot of confidence. I really credit UW-Platteville for that. Memories, lessons learned; my experience there has shaped my whole professional life.”

Betzig remembers the ratio of men to women through experience.

Wedig-Kirsch’s path to SimpleSpaces was a circuitous one. A graduate of UW-Stout, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in clothing, textiles and design with an emphasis in manufacturing, she continued on to UW-Platteville to earn a second bachelor’s degree, this one in psychology. She then attended UW-Oshkosh, earning her master’s degree in school counseling.

Wedig-Kirsch credits UW-Platteville with teaching her several important skills. “It wasn’t so much specific classes, but the life skills that I learned at UW-Platteville – learning to manage my time, ask for help, seek advice from experts – that I later applied to my life and career,” she said. It wasn’t all education at UW-Platteville, though. Wedig-Kirsch met her husband, Blayne, a resident hall assistant, on campus. She has fond memories of climbing the mound with her friends – Pioneers she still sees regularly for an annual ski weekend.

It was when her twin sons started school that Wedig-Kirsch began looking for school counseling positions, to no avail. She attended a class on entrepreneurship, and a new idea developed. “I didn’t even know professional organizing was a profession,” she said. “But it turned out to be the perfect fit for me.”

Wedig-Kirsch lives in Trevor with her husband and sons Evan, Mitchell and Ryan.
WCTC

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women as six-to-one when she attended. “I never felt a disparity, and I think that’s a testament to the work and understanding of faculty and staff,” she said.

For Prindiville, though the ratio was seven-to-one as she recalls, she deeply valued the experience, adding that she has always viewed it as beneficial to have a different perspective.

“In senior positions at a college or university, I had to accept the fact that I needed to work extra hard so that a woman could be accepted as a leader of an institution of higher education,” recalled Prindiville. “This also created a challenge for me to have balance in my life and spend time with my family while still accomplishing those professional goals. My philosophy of ‘always do a good job’ has created opportunities for me throughout my career.

“If you look back 20 years or so, you won’t find many female chancellors or high-level administrators. In the technical college system, there was only one. Now eight of 16 are women. It doesn’t matter if you are a man or a woman anymore. You earn your stripes by doing well. You have to achieve.”

Prindiville, who, in May 2004, returned as a principal speaker at commencement, reflected on the long road she traveled and what she had accomplished.

“I never thought I would ever be able to be where I am today and have the opportunity to go back to my alma mater and speak on such a momentous day,” she said. “This is where I started my career, where I learned self-confidence. I looked at all those graduates, and I couldn’t help but wonder what they will achieve some day.”
In December of 2010, Weston Glasbrenner ('98) received a presidential award for excellence in the teaching of mathematics, at ceremonies in Washington, D.C. Glasbrenner has been a mathematics and computer science teacher at Fennimore (Wis.) High School since 1999. He earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics and a teaching certification from UW-Platteville and accomplished a master’s degree in education, specializing in math and technology integration, at UW-La Crosse. He continues his lifelong learning, updating and adding to his knowledge and skills.

Receiving the presidential award raises Glasbrenner to another realm of teacher-hero. He, though, is simply grateful for the recognition for his profession and feels rewarded each day by his students.

Combining technologies from the Smart Board to Flash animation illustrations, Glasbrenner is innovating to educate. He has course webpages which allow students to obtain notes, review activities and other resources on the web. He sometimes uses course blogs to discuss concepts and has found unique ways to use databases and interactive web tools to bring real-world problems with real data into his classroom. “Some people just learn better at a computer and can visualize and express themselves better using these tools,” said Glasbrenner.

Attention to learning styles is an example of Glasbrenner seeking to retool education processes to fit the learner. He wants to “tap into their passion” – applying math to the things they love best. His students are constantly challenged to think outside the realm of basic calculation and to design their own mathematical solutions to real-life situations.

Glasbrenner’s lessons are often rooted in nature and its mathematical principles. It was at UW-Platteville that he experienced a revelation, discovering that mathematics is a universal tool.

The proximity of Southwest Wisconsin Technical College in Fennimore offers opportunities in cooperation. Glasbrenner encourages and assists students in achieving college credits and preparing for advanced placement. It is about jobs. Current predictions place mathematicians first in desirable careers. That may sound less than exciting until Glasbrenner points out that Disney, in the creation of the animated film “Tangled,” called in physicists, computer scientists and mathematicians who used a new type of mathematics to calculate just what Rapunzel’s hair would do in a real world environment.

Though a dedicated educator, Glasbrenner finds time for his family. When he, his wife Miriah, and their children, Isabel and Madalyn vacation, they travel into nature. They take the telescope and search out new ways to view the world.

Glasbrenner asks his students to choose how they are going to change the world.
Schaals honored as outstanding young farmers

UW-Platteville graduates have been recently honored as Wisconsin Jaycees’ Outstanding Young Farmers of the Year. Renee Rademacher (’02) and Brian Schaal (’02) have been married and farming together in Racine County since 2003.

In partnership with Brian’s parents, they own and operate a dairy and crop farm near Burlington, Wis. – a business that has been in the family since Brian’s grandparents began it. Renee is employed with Premier Insurance Solutions while Brian and his father run the 275-cow dairy operation, and a potential 400 acres of corn and alfalfa.

The Schaals participate in the Farm Bureau and community projects. They are considerate farmers, realizing that they share their world with suburban development. It is their goal to turn out a quality product, while respecting quality of life and land, keeping in mind safety and wholesomeness.

In the Schaals’ time at UW-Platteville, they each had a chance to study abroad – Brian in the Netherlands and Renee in London. Professors like Michael Mee encouraged them to participate in the Cal-Poly tour and the American Dairy Science Organization, as well as working on the Pioneer Farm.

These experiences taught them to continue reaching out. They are always seeking to improve their own processes and to learn more. What they learned at UW-Platteville has been very important for them. “I didn’t realize how much I gained in college until I was out in the world,” said Brian.

To younger people with a dream of farming, the Schaals advise – go to school, take advantage of all the opportunities there, have an open mind in business and be willing to change, and work hard.

Alumni with a “favorable” impression of their alma mater

- WIE: 96%
- SYO: 98%
- STP: 99%
- DVF: 98%
- PILT: 99%
- PKS: 97%
- DSH: 96%
- MKE: 98%
- MSN: 94%
- CRY: 99%
- EARU: 97%
Robert Luedke's weekly comic strip entitled “Four-Two-One” appeared in the Exponent during his time at UW-Platteville, and offered a humorous glimpse into student life, as well as characterizations of certain well known professors. The title, he said, was a reference to the male-to-female ratio on campus at that time.

Luedke, who graduated from UW-Platteville in 1981, said he has been interested in comics and the stylistic artwork that they illustrate since he was a young age. His father, a lithographer, helped to cultivate his artistic abilities by bringing home boxes of blank pads of paper on which Luedke and his brother would draw characters that resembled those they saw in the superhero comics that they read.

During his high school years, Luedke made a habit of creating weekly comic strips that would appear in the school newspaper, and this habit continued into his college years.

“I really enjoyed my time at UW-Platteville,” he said. “Not only did I have the opportunity to meet new people and experience new things, but I also learned a lot about different media types in my work with the campus paper, radio and TV stations. I never realized how much these experiences would help me later in my professional life.”

Luedke’s comic work was first published in 1995, when he founded Head Press Publishing. After four years of creating sequential comic books, he took a three-year absence from his profession.

“When I became a born-again Christian in 1999, I was inspired to return to the field to begin writing and illustrating the first book in the ‘Eye Witness’ series (A Fictional Tale of Absolute Truth) after attending a Bible study called, Did Jesus Really Die On the Cross?”

Since then, Luedke’s four volume “Eye Witness” graphic novel series has been featured in media outlets such as Fox News, the Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post and WORLD Magazine. He has been labeled “One of the leading lights in evangelical comic circles” by religious writer, David Crumm from the Detroit Free Press and ReadtheSpirit.com.

The “Eye Witness” series has garnered numerous awards and attention from various media sources. Book two from the “Eye Witness” series titled, “Acts of the Spirit,” took a silver medal in the 2007 Independent Publisher Book Awards in the category of dramatic graphic novel, was the winner in the category of comic books and graphic novels in the 2007 Hollywood Book Festival and was a finalist in the 2007 Foreword Magazine book awards.

The third book from the series, titled “Rise of the Apostle,” took first place in the 2009 Best Book Awards sponsored by USA Book News and was a finalist in the 2009 Foreword Magazine book awards. The final book in the series, “Unknown God,” was also named the best graphic novel at the 2010 Best Book Awards.

“I hope people will come away from the ‘Eye Witness’ series with a few hours of enjoyable entertainment along with a feeling like they’ve just read the New Testament again, for the first time,” he said.

Luedke continues his work in Flower Mound, Texas.
Outstanding alumni recognized at fall 2010 commencement

At each winter commencement, the Alumni Association awards the Outstanding Alumni Award to alumni who have graduated with an undergraduate degree in the last 15 years and have significant career and/or business achievement as well as volunteer service, including time, talent or treasure to the university.

Dennis Anthony, a 1995 soil and crop science alumnus and certified professional soil classifier through the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy Crops and Soils, has been a long-time financial supporter of the UW-Platteville Collegiate Soils Team and UW-Platteville scholarships. As a student, Anthony was a member of two national championship soils teams and was the individual overall champion in Maryland in 1994.

In 2004, when UW-Platteville hosted the North Central Region Collegiate Soils Contest in the Platteville area, Anthony took three days from his schedule to help Roger Higgs, UW-Platteville professor emeriti, and other organizers administer the contest. Anthony also helped conduct the national North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture soils contest at UW-Platteville in 1998.

Anthony joined the Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District in Rockford, Ill., in 1995, and currently serves as the executive director and soil scientist.

In this position, Anthony administers and manages all aspects of the soil and water conservation district, providing professional services like soil evaluations to determine suitability for septic systems and inspection of construction sites to monitor compliance with Environmental Protection Agency regulations involving soil erosion and sediment control. He also provides direction and assistance for other district programs and activities, including conservation practices and programs addressing highly erodible and sensitive lands; zoning, land use and agriculture preservation; and educational activities and workshops for students and adults.

Anthony has also served on the board of directors for the Upper Rock River Ecosystem Partnership since its formation in 2000. He currently resides in Rockton, Ill., and enjoys golfing, biking, watching sports and hobby farming in his free time.

Douglas Curry, a 1995 civil engineering alumnus, maintained a solid academic record during his time at UW-Platteville and was one of the department’s most active students, serving as an officer in the American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter, a member of three concrete canoe teams and as one of the founders of the ASCE Benchmark Open.

As vice president of Stenstrom Excavation & Blacktop Group in Rockford, Ill., Curry supervises the estimating department, business development, contract reviews and quarterly financial reviews. Prior to his current position, he was a senior project manager and director of business development and estimating at Stenstrom.

Curry has remained active at UW-Platteville as a concrete canoe competition judge, annual participant and sponsor at the Benchmark Open and as a mentor for a civil engineering senior design project. He has also mentored 10 UW-Platteville students/graduates as summer interns, co-op students or new hires at Stenstrom Companies over the past 15 years.
In 2001, Curry received his professional engineering licenses in Illinois and Wisconsin and has also been recognized with distinguished service awards from the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers Rockford and state chapters. In addition, Curry received the Young Engineer of the Year Award in 2005.

Outside of his work duties, Curry has served as youth basketball coach for the Ken-Rock Community Center, YMCA, Stillman Valley High School and currently, Rockford Christian Schools. He is also a MATHCOUNTS® chairperson and has been the secretary/treasurer, vice president and president of the ISPE Rockford chapter.

Curry, who also enjoys golfing, water sports, traveling and watching college sports, currently resides in Rockford with his wife, Alane, and their son, Connor.

**Greg Gard (3)**, a 1995 physical education and health alumnus who also received his master’s in counselor education from UW-Platteville in 2007, has been an active member of the Alumni Association, consistent donor and basketball booster.

Gard is currently the associate head coach of the Wisconsin Badgers men’s basketball team and also serves as the Badgers’ recruiting coordinator and director of the Badger Boy’s Basketball summer camps. Gard has worked with Bo Ryan, Badger basketball head coach – who guided the Pioneers to four national championships during his 15-year tenure at UW-Platteville – for 18 years, which is longer than any other current or former Ryan assistant.

Prior to the Badgers, Gard worked for Ryan at UW-Milwaukee, where he was responsible for scouting, basketball camps, coaching and recruiting. He served as assistant coach to Ryan at UW-Platteville from 1993-99 and also worked as an advisor in the Admissions Office.

In the summer of 2010, foxsports.com named Gard one of the nation’s top 10 high-major assistant coaches. This recent recognition followed up a 2007 acknowledgement by rivals.com that named Gard one of the top 25 assistant coaches in the country. Gard has assisted the Badgers to three Big Ten regular season titles and two Big Ten tournament championships in addition to NCAA tournament appearances in each of Gard’s 10 years at UW-Madison. When Gard was an assistant coach at UW-Platteville, the Pioneers won three NCAA Division III titles, five straight WIAC championships and appeared in six consecutive NCAA tournaments.

Gard, who also attends various speaking engagements and participates in team building community service projects, currently resides in Oregon, Wis., with his wife, Michelle, and their three children.

**Ryan Weigel (4)**, a 1996 animal science alumnus, currently serves on the UW-Platteville School of Agriculture Advisory Board, is a College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture Alumni Chapter board member and the 2010 BILSA golf outing co-chair. Weigl was also recently invited to be the guest speaker at UW-Platteville for the Pioneer Dairy Club and served as ring assistant for the annual PDC sale.

Currently employed as a regional services specialist for Accelerated Genetics in Baraboo, Wis., Weigel works with the Genetic Evaluation and Mating Program. As part of his position, Weigel evaluates each animal and uses the company’s database and computer program to give each herd the best possible mating match, ensuring genetic progress while meeting each individual herd’s goals.

Previous to his position in Baraboo, Weigel served as the dairy cattle show manager at the World Dairy Expo for six years and also worked at Bou-Matic for five years as a district sales manager.

Weigel grew up on his family’s 100-cow farm, Weigland Registered Holsteins, and he is currently the co-owner of KHW Genetics out of Belmont, Wis. Through KHW Genetics, Weigel has produced all-American show cattle and bulls successful in the A1 industry, and in 2009, KHW Genetics and their Holstein dairy cow won the Cow of the Year award.
Jean Krogman and Tom Schroeder, along with John Krogman, have established the Ernie Krogman and Pat (Krogman) Schroeder Memorial Scholarship through the UW-Platteville Foundation in memory of Ernie Krogman and Pat Schroeder, Jean’s husband and daughter, Tom’s father-in-law and wife, and John’s father and sister.

Ernest Krogman graduated from Bloomington (Wis.) High School in 1943. He graduated from Platteville State Teacher’s College in 1948 with a degree in secondary education and became a teacher and coach at Cazenovia/Weston (Wis.) High School and St. Francis High School before accepting a position as principal of Lancaster (Wis.) High School in 1966. He remained there until his retirement in 1990. Krogman passed away in August 2009.

Patricia A. (Krogman) Schroeder graduated from Lancaster High School in 1970 before pursuing a degree in elementary education from UW-Platteville. Following her graduation in 1987, she began teaching at Holy Ghost-Immaculate Conception in Dickeyville, Wis., where she eventually became principal. Later, Schroeder also served as principal of Southwestern in Hazel Green, Wis. and Cadott (Wis.) Elementary schools. She passed away from cancer in October 2009.

“Ernie and Pat were tremendously proud of their students,” said John Krogman, also a UW-Platteville alumnus. “They found a way to help every student be successful. This scholarship is in their honor.”

The scholarship is intended for freshmen education students graduating from Lancaster High School who will attend UW-Platteville. If no freshmen from Lancaster enroll as education majors at UW-Platteville in a given year, preference may be given to incoming freshmen majoring in education from Southwestern and Cadott.

For more information about the scholarship, contact Holly Clendenen, director of development at the UW-Platteville Foundation, at 608.342.1879 or clendenenh@uwplatt.edu.

McKinstry provides new scholarship

The McKinstry Company Foundation Scholarship was established in September 2010 for the benefit of UW-Platteville students. Sophomores in business, building construction management, renewable energy and mechanical engineering will be the main beneficiaries of the scholarship, though other majors are encouraged to apply.

Discussion about the scholarship began when Jackie Bevan, UW-Platteville Foundation development officer, contacted Tom Laufenberg, a 1996 mechanical engineering graduate and Midwest regional manager at McKinstry.

“Establishing this scholarship is a great start to a wonderful partnership with McKinstry,” Bevan said. “Dan Choi and Tom Laufenberg have been great to work with. This support is very much appreciated.”

Choi, account executive at McKinstry, said that his company currently employs several UW-Platteville graduates in their Madison, Wis., office, adding that this past summer was their first time hiring UW-Platteville interns and one of them will join McKinstry after graduation in May.

McKinstry is currently developing a comprehensive energy savings program for UW-Platteville that includes renewable energy applications like wind and solar that will generate power for the campus while simultaneously allowing access to renewable energy information and data to enhance curriculum.

“This is our first year and we are excited to see how it goes,” Choi said. “The technology and background of UW-Platteville appealed to us for interns and scholarship opportunities. We anticipate some outstanding scholars and great employees on the back end.”

For more information about the scholarship, contact Bevan at 608.342.1864 or zimmermanj@uwplatt.edu.
Long before there was a Women in Engineering program at UW-Platteville, there were two young women who paved the way: Fay Bible and Nancy Morrow. While often overlooked, they were pioneers in the truest sense of the word, for they were the first women to attend the Mining School.

It was in the depths of the Great Depression, fall of 1935, when Bible of Black River Falls, Wis., and Morrow of Platteville, Wis., enrolled at the Mining School. They each chose the Mining School for different reasons. For Bible, it was her “native ability and a spontaneous inclination for an engineering career.” As for Morrow, “it seemed only natural for her to lean toward the engineering profession.” Her father, Homer Morrow, was the director of the school, and her two older brothers were graduates of the Mining School. As Bible would later write, “Across the smoke and stench of the chemical laboratory, we see the beauty of the crimson strontium flame.”

Both of them realized that their very act of enrolling would be seen by some people as controversial. Not ones to be deterred, they chose a way of responding to their critics; they became student reporters for the W.M.S. Geode. Over the course of their three years at the school, they contributed to and wrote several articles and editorials about their Mining School experiences, and the potential for engineering to go “co-ed.”

The first article, written by Bible, was published in the December 1935 issue of the Geode. Entitled “Impressions of a Mining Co-Ed,” Bible answered their critics directly: “Don’t you feel foolish among all those boys?” To Bible and Morrow their peers were “good, kind, chivalrous, thoughtful men.” “Do they carry us around on a chip? Far from it. They expect us to stand on our own feet.” “Is the work terrible? No!” “Romantic? Ho! We are just a couple of the fellows.” In sum, “There is nothing mean nor malicious in the student body’s attitude toward us.”

True to their words, for three years Bible and Morrow did everything the “fellows” did. Among other things, they learned to “identify at a glance” more than 200 minerals, took mechanical drawing classes, surveyed the campus and participated in mine rescue operations.

It was an exciting time to be a student at the Mining School, especially during their last year. In celebration of the school’s 30th anniversary (1908-1938), the students compiled an alumni directory and organized an alumni reunion.

This was also the time when the mining students came up with the idea of putting the “M” on the side of the Platte Mound. It took a year and a lot of hard work, but from the spring of 1937 to the spring of 1938, Morrow, Bible and the other mining students moved hundreds of tons of limestone and constructed the “M.” In October 1937, the students “lighted” the “M” for the first time at Homecoming, and during the alumni reunion, which occurred on May 21, 1938, the completed “M” was the showpiece for the “old grads” to visit.

Bible and Morrow graduated right on schedule in May 1938. They both married miners. Morrow married Oliver Anderson, also a 1938 graduate, and Bible married Virgil Schroeder, class of 1928.
The names of Alumni Association lifetime members are identified with blue text and annual members are identified with orange text. Thank you to everyone who continues to support us in creating relationships that last a lifetime.

Interested in being more involved in the Alumni Association?
Contact us about being on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.
1.800.UWP.ALUM (897.2586) or alumni@uwplatt.edu
1974
Larry Osterholz, Rensselaer, Ind., retired in August 2010 after 36 years with the state of Indiana. Osterholz started working as a soil scientist/soil classifier with the Indiana State Soil and Water Conservation Committee in 1974. Osterholz feels that the fundamental skills and real-world applications provide by the UW-Platteville faculty and staff played an integral part not only in his career path and successful endeavors, but also in his personal life. UW-Platteville, he said, is second to none in preparing young men and women as they enter the work force.

1975
Dennis Kief, Pekin, Ill., announced his retirement from his position as Pekin city manager, ending his 26-year career.

1976
William Wubben, Springfield, Ill., president of the Apple River State Bank, was re-elected regional vice chairman of the Community Bankers Association of Illinois.

1978
Carl Pius Weibel, Champaign Ill., was recently re-elected for a third two-year term as the Champaign County Board chair and was appointed by Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn to the Illinois Groundwater Advisory Commission. As a senior geologist at the Illinois State Geological Survey, he has most recently been working on deep-burial sequestration of carbon dioxide.

1983
David Herro, Chicago, Ill., a comprehensive business and economics graduate, was named one of seven co-chairs to organize the inauguration of Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

1988
Scott E. Johnson, Green Bay, Wis., is the new president and publisher for Times Media company in St. Cloud, Minn.

1989
Paula Averkamp, Oshkosh, Wis., was awarded Most Valuable Member of the Year by the Oshkosh Education Association in May 2010.

1992
Dawn Colby, Hazel Green, Wis., was promoted to vice president of Prudential Retirement Service. She will oversee the relationship managers in the Dubuque, Iowa, and Woodbridge, N.J., offices. She formerly worked as director of client services. She has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from UW-Platteville and is pursuing her master’s degree. She has been with the company for 17 years.

1994
Mark Siegert, Potosi, Wis., led the Potosi Chieftains football team to their second straight unbeaten regular season and won a third consecutive Six Rivers Conference title. Siegert was named coach of the year in 2008. Siegert was also recognized as a citizen of character in Potosi. Siegert and his wife, Amy Engelke (’93), have four daughters and one son.

Brad Crowley, Stoughton, Wis., a civil engineering graduate and vice president-partner for the Wisconsin office of Design Structures, LLC was chosen for inclusion in “Forty under 40” featured in the Greater Madison InBusiness Magazine, March 2011.

1997
Joel Dettwiler, Waverly, Iowa, was named UW-La Crosse’s 12th head football coach in school’s history. Dettwiler, a former Pioneer player and assistant, had been an assistant coach at Wartburg College since 2004.

1999
Ryan Melbard, Racine, Wis., completed a second M.S. degree with a 4.0, this one in mathematics, from Texas A&M in 2009. Melbard currently teaches part time in the Master of Engineering Program at UW-Platteville. This summer, he left his 11-year electrical engineering position as supervisor of energy management at We Energies and moved with his family to Iowa. He is now into his second semester as a full-time member of the Scott College Mathematics Faculty in Bettendorf, Iowa.

2001
Brooke (Palmer) Temby, Eagle Mountain, Utah, graduated from Western Governors University on Jan. 3 with a Master of Business Administration - Healthcare Management.

Dawn (Navis) Smith, Monticello, Wis., agribusiness and vice president of operations at Web Courseworks, was chosen for inclusion in “Forty under 40” featured in the Greater Madison InBusiness Magazine, March 2011.
**2002**

**Dr. Ann (Thalmann) Moyer**
recently graduated from the Mayo Graduate and Mayo Medical Schools in Rochester, Minn., with her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. Moyer’s thesis work, “Gluthathione S-Transferase Pharmacogenomics” was performed in the department of molecular pharmacology and experimental therapeutics under the mentorship of Dr. Richard Weinshilboum. Moyer had the opportunity to present portions of her thesis work at multiple scientific meetings in various locations, including Uppsala, Sweden; Scottsdale, Ariz.; Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. and Anaheim, Calif. Her work has won several awards, including the Presidential Trainee Award at the American Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics meeting.

Currently, Moyer is continuing her training as a medical resident in anatomic and clinical pathology in the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education. She plans to pursue additional research training during the course of her residency. Moyer is a graduate of Platteville High School and is a 2002 graduate of UW-Platteville. She feels her education at UW-Platteville earning bachelor’s degrees in biology and chemistry was a valuable experience that prepared her well for her advanced training at Mayo.

Moyer resides in Rochester, Minn., with her husband Joe. In addition to her studies, along with her husband, she enjoys competing in duathlons, triathlons and marathons, including the Boston Marathon this past April. Moyer is the daughter of Ernie and Shirley Thalmann, Platteville, Wis.; the daughter-in-law of Laren and Mary Moyer of Platteville and the granddaughter of the late Albert and Lilace Rouse and the late Charles and Ruth Thalmann.

**2003**

**Chris Weis**, Galena, Ill., assistant trust officer at First Community Bank of Galena, Ill., recently passed an exam to obtain Series 7 and 63 licenses from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Inc. He serves customers in the trust and investment department, where his focus is in retirement accounts.

**2007**

**Ken Francois**, Rosemount, Minn., was promoted by Kraus-Anderson Construction Company to project manager.

Francois joined Kraus-Anderson in 2007 as assistant project manager and has been involved in the construction industry for over eight years. He has worked on projects in the housing, retail, hospitality, high-tech, manufacturing and government sectors, most recently on several schools for the BIA in South Dakota and Arizona.

Francois received his B.S. in civil engineering from UW-Platteville, with a double emphasis in construction engineering and structural engineering, and has also received his LEED certification. His advanced training includes Healthcare Construction by HR Associates, ICRA Healthcare Construction Certificate, OSHA 10-Hour Construction Safety and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program Training.

**Correction**

Helen R. (Klassy) Stauffer of Monroe, Wis., was incorrectly listed as deceased in the fall 2010 issue.

Several alumni are employed at Cogdell Spencer ERDMAN in Madison, Wis., helping build health-care facilities. Pictured are: **Back row - left to right:** Roger Herritz, ’82; Jerry McGuire, ’87 and Todd Werndli, ’93; **Front row - left to right:** Karl Lueschow, ’94; Mark Hoskins, ’88 and Amy Misener, ’81; **Missing** - Rick Redetzke, ’94 and Randy Wilde, ’99
When You Move Up, Or Just Move ...

Use this form or visit alumni.uwplatt.edu and click on Contact Us to send us your class notes or to update the Alumni Office on your current address.

Please check all that apply: ❑ Class Note ❑ Database Update

First name ____________________________________________
Last name ____________________________________________
Maiden Name _________________________________________

Old Address
City _________________________________________________
State, Zip Code ________________________________________

New Address
City _________________________________________________
State, Zip Code ________________________________________
Phone ( _____ ) __________ Class Year _______
E-mail _______________________________________________
Business Name _______________________________________
Business Address ______________________________________
City _________________________________________________
State, Zip Code ________________________________________
Your Title _____________________________________________
Phone ( _____ ) __________
E-mail (work) _________________________________________

❑ I would like to receive the Alumni Today via e-mail.
❑ I would like to receive the Alumni e-newsletter via e-mail.

Please attach news for the Alumni Today and include a photo.
Mail to: Alumni Services, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville WI 53818-3099

Lost Alumni Those people listed as “Lost Alumni” either graduated from or attended what we now know as UW-Platteville. If you have an address or contact information on any of the alumni listed below, please contact Alumni Services at 1.800.897.2586 or send an e-mail to alumni@uwplatt.edu.

Emma Barto 1947 • Marion Kaiser 1947 • Mercedes Kaul 1947 • George Vinger 1947 • Marguerite Smith 1948 • Dorothy Thiel Steffan 1948 • Bernice Crowley 1949 • Virginia Wahrer Dischler 1949 • Orland Dommersnaes Dommers 1949 • Leo Hanson 1949 • Hubert Lorenz 1949 • William Martin 1949 • Kathryn Scholl McNeill 1949 • Keith Miller 1949 • Melvin Nass 1949 • William Rogers 1949 • George Anderson 1950 • Charles Boatman 1950 • Lynn Christian 1950 • Roy Colbert 1950 • Noel Diffatte 1950 • Herbert Leadley 1950 • Louis Lesniak 1950 • Sophie Merritt 1950 • Martin Oudenhoven 1950 • Bea Shimpa Petrott 1950 • Loretta Rierdon 1950 • Donald Schaffer 1950 • John Thompson 1950
1 Paula Averkamp ('89) announces the joyful arrival of Darya Ruth Averkamp. Darya was born Nov. 27, 2006 in Arkhangelsk, Russia. She was brought home to the United States of America on May 22, 2010.

2 Jason and Tracy (Helbing) Buresh ('00) welcomed their son, Austin Jason, on March 11, 2010, 8 lbs., 2.8 oz., 21 3/4 inches long. Jason is an owner/operator of Artistic Landscaping and Lawn Care, Ely, Iowa, and Tracy manages graphic design and advertising at Junge Control Inc. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They currently reside in Ely.

3 H. Clay ('06) and Cortney Dean announce the birth of their beautiful little boy, Henry Clay Dean VI, on Nov. 13, 2010, weighing in at 8 lbs. 6.6 oz. and measuring 20.5 inches long.

4 Amy (Jacobson) Dessner ('02) and Eric welcomed Eva Lynae Dessner who was born Oct. 25, 2010, joining big brothers Jacob and Brady.

5 Emily (Spargo) ('01) and Neil Dhingra welcomed their daughter, Katherine Clare Dhingra, on Oct. 17, 2010. She comes from a long line of Pioneers including her maternal grandparents, Kathryn (Weigel) ('72) and Robert Spargo ('73), and her maternal great grandfather, Gilbert Weigel ('49).

6 Jennifer (Houtakker) Downey ('01) and Ryan Downey of Williamsport, Md., welcomed their first child, Jack Ryan Downey, on April 26, 2010.

7 Amy (Kreul) Esser ('00) and her husband Ken welcomed their third child, Adilyn Jane Esser, on Dec. 4, 2009. Amy is employed with Southwest Tech in Fennimore, Wis., as the human resources generalist and is a sales associate with ERA Arthur Real Estate in Dodgeville, Wis.; and Ken works for McCon Building Corporation in Highland, Wis. Their other children are Katelyn, age 7, and Michael, age 4 1/2.

8 Anna Katherine Pruss born at 10:59 p.m. on Aug. 2, 2010, to Kelly and Rebecca Pruss, weighed 8 lbs., 7 oz. and was 21 inches long. She joins big brothers Alex (4) and Matthew (18 months).

9 Josh and Anne (Owen) Saylor ('02) are excited to announce the long-awaited arrival of Arinda Mariana Saylor. Arinda was born at 10:17 a.m. Jan. 13, 2010. At 21.5 inches long, she tips the scale at a comfortable 9 lbs. and 11 oz.

10 Future Pioneer Track and Field runner Preston John Schmidt was born March 1, 2010. His big sister is Robin Sue. He joins a family of UW-Platteville alumni including his parents, Kim (Debuhr) Schmidt ('94) and John Schmidt ('97), grandfather Dick DeBuhr ('63), great grandmother Dorothy (Spink) DeBuhr ('35), and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

11 Timothy Schmidt ('00) and his wife Jen welcomed his second child, Clayton Timothy Schmidt, on May 31, 2010. Clayton was welcomed home by 2-year-old Sabrina.

If you have a birth announcement or a photo of your little Pioneer, send it to us and we’ll use it in future issues of the Alumni Today, as space permits.
1926
Pearl H. (Holmen) Brager, Parker, Colo.

1936
Theron L. Wilson, Arlington, Va.

1939
Ruth E. Cotham, Belleville, Wis.

1940
Viola A. McNeill, Dodgeville, Wis.

1941
Sidney S. Telfer, Ellison Bay, Wis.

1942

1944
Carlyle M. Holtan, Oconomowoc, Wis.

1947
Milton Brogley, Platteville, Wis. Charles Pokorney, Plymouth, Minn.

1948
Lillian C. (Thomas) Curtis, Oshkosh, Wis.

1951
Beverly J. Johnson, Lake Geneva, Wis.

1952
Walton G. Frisch, New Holstein, Wis.

1955
John C. Patterson, Cuba City, Wis.

1956

1957
Stanley W. Karls, DeForest, Wis.

1959

1961

1964
Sharon L. (Meyer) Thieding, McFarland, Wis.

1965
Richard J. Kubly, South Wayne, Wis.

1967
David L. Rinderknecht, Cedar Rapids, Iowa Dennis L. Steva, Monticello, Iowa

1968
Neah J. (Edwards) Lohr, Reedsburg, Wis.

1969
Lucille M. Johnston, Platteville, Wis.

1971
William O. Behnke, Galena, Ill.

1972
Paul A. Messling II, Linden, Wis.

1975
Stanley E. Hollmann, Platteville, Wis.

1982
Susanna E. (Horton) Robey, Dubuque, Iowa

1986
Paul J. Steiner, Hartland, Wis.

1992
Peggy A. Roberts, Benton, Wis.

2010
Thomas W. Flatley, Janesville, Wis.

Former Faculty
Georgia May (Storcer) Gipp, Fort Meyers, Fla.

Professor Emeriti
Don M. Verger, Platteville, Wis.
Robert L. Campbell, College Station, Texas (Class of 1953)

Former Employees
Laverne Nodolf, Livingston, Wis.
Join us for food, fun and festivities. On Sept. 18, the UW-Platteville Alumni Association will be hosting “Educating Your Palate: UW-Platteville’s Celebration of Local Fare,” a fundraiser to support student scholarships and the Alumni Association’s mission of relationship building.

Sample the fares of over 30 restaurants, wineries and micro-breweries; bid on live and silent auction items; and help to provide future students with the same opportunities and experiences you had at Platteville.

We’re currently seeking event sponsorships, live and silent auction items and taking R.S.V.P.s for tickets. “Educating Your Palate” is a great opportunity to taste a variety of local foods and beverages, socialize with old friends and invest in students’ futures.

Tickets can be purchased individually or in pairs at a reduced cost. With your ticket purchase, you will receive full access to all food and beverage providers, an open bar with cocktails provided by Death’s Door Spirits and the opportunity to bid on live and silent auction items.

If you’re interested in getting involved, donating auction items or attending the event; please call the alumni office at: 1.800.897.2586 or send us an e-mail at: alumni@uwplatt.edu

UW-Platteville Alumni Association: Building relationships that last a lifetime!
Aug. 5-6 No tests and no homework. Just fun, informational courses taught by current UW-Platteville professors, staff and alumni.

Personalize your schedule by choosing the courses that interest you most and get a taste of campus life by spending Friday night in a Southwest Hall suite. Southwest Hall consists of suites of four single bedrooms and two bathrooms, and don’t worry about stairs because Southwest Hall has elevator access.

1A The Phenomenon of Holocaust Denial - This course is taught by Dr. Adam Stanley. Stanley will discuss the global culture of holocaust denial during and after World War II.

1B Going Green with Renewable Energy - Dr. Chris Baxter will cover the basics of the production of fuels derived from agricultural products including ethanol, biodiesel and biogas. Discussion will include potential impact of these products on agricultural systems and society, and emerging technologies in the area of biofuels research.

1C Chinese Culture - Get a first hand lesson on Chinese culture from the experts of UW-Platteville’s own Confucius Institute.

2A Growing With Hydroponics - Join Dawn Lee in the UW-Platteville greenhouse to get a first hand view at the exciting things UW-Platteville is doing with hydroponic growing techniques.

2B Ceramic Sculpture - Lecturer Bruce Howdle will show you the basics of working with ceramics and give you the opportunity to create your own sculpture.

2C Mediation U - Dr. John Rink will discuss the basics of mediation law and teach you basic mediation skills to use in your day-to-day life.

3A The “I” in Team - Ray Saint will give a dynamic presentation that reminds the audience that they are their “greatest asset.” Many times we lose sight of the end goal and lose focus. This presentation is interactive and is guaranteed to leave your team with a renewed focus and commitment to the success of the organization.

3B CSI: 101 - Let UW-Platteville criminal justice professor Joe LeFevre dispel the myths of modern forensic dramas and show you a hands-on approach to the investigation of crime scenes and the collection of evidence.

3C History of Jazz - This course is taught by Dr. Dave Cooper. The History of Jazz presentation will briefly survey the roots of American jazz music, its influences and the effect jazz has had on culture.

Check ONE course from each session. If you have any questions call 1.800.897.2586 or e-mail alumni@uwplatt.edu
Dr. Ford continues service as the new president of Southwest Wisconsin Technical College

Dr. Duane M. Ford, dean of the College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture at UW-Platteville, will soon be installed as the president of Southwest Wisconsin Technical College in Fennimore, Wis.

Ford’s service to and leadership of the UW-Platteville College of BILSA includes the School of Agriculture as well as the departments of biology, business and accounting, communication technologies, industrial studies and a distance learning undergraduate and graduate programs. During his time at UW-Platteville (1999-2011), Ford also served as interim provost and vice chancellor for the division of Academic Affairs.

“Southwest Wisconsin, Platteville, and UW-Platteville have been fantastic places to live and work, for my wife and myself,” said Ford. “I’ve had wonderful people to work with. We’ve had fun together. We’ve gotten a lot done. It’s been a very good place to be.”

BILSA Golf Outing

The 2011 annual golf outing for the College of BILSA will be held at the Platteville Golf and Country Club on June 24. The format is a three-person best shot. Prizes and dinner will follow golfing. Place June 24 on your calendar now. Contact Ryan Weigel at 608.434.4109 with questions or interest in sponsoring a hole or donating prizes. Watch the Alumni Association website (alumni.uwplatt.edu) for more information and registration.

Mini University Form

Name ______________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________
City _________________________________  State  _______  Zip  ______________
E-mail ____________________________ Phone  ____________________________
Requested Roomate: ____________________________________________________

Select one of the below options

Option 1 includes Friday night social, stay in Southwest Hall, breakfast Saturday morning, shuttle bus to all three sessions, lunch and closing social
☐ $100 Friday and Saturday or ☐ $95 for Alumni Association members

Option 2 includes breakfast Saturday morning, shuttle bus to all three sessions, lunch and closing social  ☐ $50 Saturday or  ☐ $45 for Alumni Association members

Please make checks payable to UW-Platteville Alumni Association

For credit card payments, please provide
CC#: _____________________________
expiration date: _____________________
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Return this form with payment to Alumni Services | 1 University Plaza Platteville WI 53818
or register online at alumni.uwplatt.edu/
select Calendar of Events : Mini University

Did You Know?

It’s easy to become a lifetime member of the Alumni Association
Payments to the Alumni Association can be paid in installments of $100 a year
We can also do EFT transfers so that you don’t have to write a check
Lifetime members receive a $25 gift certificate for alumni clothing and merchandise and receive a calendar each year made exclusively for lifetime members.

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"A NIGHT OF STARS!"

It's 1959 and Rydell high is filled with rebellious, thrill-loving students. In the midst of this scene, Sandy Dumbrowski enters as the new girl in school. It turns out that she and the leader of the T-Birds, Danny Zuko, have had a brief love affair the summer before. While Sandy stresses to her new classmates the emotional attachment she and Danny had, Danny stresses the physical aspects of their relationship. As the show goes on, the students at Rydell High have to deal with love, gang violence, teen pregnancy, and friendship. In the end, Sandy and Danny resolve their differences and end up happily together.

Con man Harold hill travels to the small town of River City, Iowa to earn his fortune. He decides to convince the town that they need a boys' band and then plans to run away once the boys have paid for instruments and uniforms. He even claims to be a professor of music. His scheme is moving along perfectly until Harold falls in love with the town piano teacher, Marian. Even though she knows that he's a con man, she still loves him for the hope that he brought to the town. Harold, on the other hand, is inspired by Marian's goodness, reveals his secrets to the town and becomes an honest man.

You, the townsfolk of Groaners Gulch, Nevada have gathered once more for the annual chili cook-off. What a shindig! You may even compete in the “Cowboy of the Year Contest,” but wait just a dog gone minute...there’s a showdown at the I'm O.K. You're O.K. Corral. The sun is hot and the trigger fingers are itchy. Will the sheriff save the town from outlaws or vice versa? Become a patron of Miss Liddy's saloon and participate in solving this wacky Wild West excuse for a murder mystery!
Alumni Calendar of Events

**May**

14  
186th Commencement  
Platteville, Wis.

19  
Sheboygan Alumni Happy Hour Social  
Highland House, Sheboygan, Wis.

20  
Sheboygan Golf Outing  
The Bull at Pinehurst Farms, Sheboygan, Wis.

26  
Cocktails at Crust  
Dubuque, Iowa

**June**

3  
Madison Networking Social - Music at the Union  
Memorial Union Terrace, Madison, Wis.

5  
Quad Cities Social: Putnam Museum, Ancient Egypt and Titanic Exhibition  
Putnam Museum, Davenport, Iowa

11  
Alumni Motorcycle Ride  
Start and finish in Platteville, Wis.

13  
Cubs vs. Brewers Baseball Tailgate  
Goose Island, Wrigleyville (Chicago, Ill.)  
Minneapolis Social  
Buffalo Wild Wings, Minneapolis, Minn.

24  
BILSA Golf Outing  
Platteville Golf and Country Club, Platteville, Wis.

**July**

10  
Madison Networking Social - Henry Vilas Zoo  
Madison, Wis.

16  
Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting

20  
Heartland Festival Dinner Theatre - “Murder Rides Again”  
Center for the Arts, Platteville, Wis.

28  
Ice Cream Social - The Pearl Ice Cream Parlor  
La Crosse, Wis.

30  
50th Class Reunion: graduating classes of ’61 and ’62  
Nohr Gallery, Platteville, Wis.

**August**

3  
Alumni Tailgate at the Mallard’s baseball game  
Madison, Wis.

5-6  
Mini University  
Platteville, Wis.

20  
Gray’s Brewery Social  
Janesville, Wis.

**Homcoming 2011 • Oct. 15**

Look for your invitation to Homecoming 2011 in the fall edition of the Alumni Today.