Chancellor Shields and the campus community draw on a pioneering attitude and planning to respond to the UW System growth agenda.
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 UW-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, 1-800-897-2586 or e-mail alumni@uwplatt.edu.

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Hello Fellow Pioneers,

I hope you are all enjoying this wonderful new year! With a new year comes new challenges and new growth. I am excited to express heartfelt gratitude to so many of you who saw the importance of joining our association along with enjoying our alumni events this past year. I would like to take this opportunity to share sincere wishes that the coming year will be filled with laughter, hope and success to all of you.

Through leadership, volunteer work, scholarships, monetary gifts and just staying in touch with faculty, students and other alumni, we add value to the university. Thanks to all our alumni and friends who have donated time and money; your contributions help educate our future Pioneers. As we continue to spread the word about what a great university we have, we not only help our community, state and nation, but also each other in attracting the best students and faculty.

As president of the UW-Platteville Alumni Association, I once again challenge each of you to give annually to our university and participate in at least one alumni activity. Whether that activity is a basketball tailgate in January, post Career Fair reception in February, Madison Mallards game in the summer, Homecoming in October or a network social in your area throughout the year, I guarantee that you’ll have so much fun, you’ll want to do more. We have many opportunities to choose from, so please contact Katie Friar, our events coordinator, at 1.800.897.2586, and she’ll be glad to give you a list of our upcoming events.

In summary, this new year greets us with wonderful opportunities and a chance to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. By joining our Alumni Association, we can help you do just that. Check us out on our Alumni Association website alumni.uwplatt.edu to catch up and find at least one event that you’d like to attend or learn more about. Oh, and don’t forget to like us on Facebook.

Forever. Pioneers.

Tricia (Kruser) Reuter, ’94
Alumni Association Board of Directors President
Dear Pioneers,

As I write this message to you in early December 2011, it is important to note the University of Wisconsin-Platteville enters the 21st century as one of the nation’s leading regional universities and a center of academic and educational excellence. Our core mission remains the same: to provide high quality, technologically advanced, competitive education that is accessible to all students.

We celebrated an exciting year filled with many successes, including a record-setting freshman class, the building of a new residence hall, the completion of a master plan and the hiring of a new dean for the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science. This issue of Alumni Today highlights some other exciting news about happenings on our campus, like the article about our new wind turbine and the feature section stories about the exciting ways our campus is growing.

We live in a time of rapid change and UW-Platteville must adapt and continually update and modernize itself to remain relevant. In order to educate globally competent students who are well prepared to enter the workforce, recruit outstanding and innovative faculty, and exert an impact on Southwest Wisconsin, the tri-state region and the world, we must lead by example. A tangible example of these adaptive processes relates to the evolution of the physical environment of our campus. Our recently completed master plan will guide the growth and development of our campus over the next 25 years by providing a carefully designed framework for additions, renovations and improvements for campus buildings and grounds.

While the master plan guides change to our campus physical environment, we are also engaged in developing a strategic plan to further define our overall institutional direction. This plan will help guide the university’s execution of its academic mission: student recruitment, academic programming, technology enhancements, hiring, marketing, developing and refocusing curriculum, and more. With a flexible, strategic plan in place, we can successfully respond to challenges as they present themselves. Such a plan would be impossible without the collaboration of faculty, staff, students, community members, alumni and friends of the university, and I look forward to working with all our varied constituencies as we develop this guiding document.

To further address our ability to provide high quality, affordable education, we are in the planning stages of a capital campaign. We are engaged in a dynamic planning process led by our Advancement Office assisted by experienced consultants. As they complete their work in the months ahead, you will hear more about this exciting project.

Thank you for your continued loyalty and dedication to UW-Platteville. Over 40,000 strong, you and your fellow alumni have generously given your time, energy and resources. This has been instrumental in making us the fastest-growing university in the entire UW System and a beacon to those looking for an exceptional, rich, diverse college experience.

Your continued support is essential as we move forward. We invite you to help in any way that you can, whether it be providing financial support to our Foundation, hiring UW-Platteville graduates or donating your time and energy to collaborate on a special university project in your area of interest or expertise.

As Pioneers, we are innovators, trailblazers and pathfinders. As Pioneers, we believe that while what lies ahead may not always be certain, we are determined to forge ahead, undeterred. And as Pioneers, we have no doubt that all of us, working together, can have a meaningful, powerful impact on the destiny of this exceptional university.

This Pioneer spirit, undaunted by the challenges ahead, makes it possible to continue to say: Every day is a great day to be a Pioneer.

Cordially,

Dennis J. Shields, Chancellor
UW-Platteville hosted close to 900 people at the 2011 Midwest Culturally Inclusive Conference on Sept. 16-17. There were three featured keynote speakers, Dr. Cornel West, Gloria Ladson-Billings and Jane Elliot, who headlined the conference speaking of their own experiences with inclusive excellence.

Included in the conference was a panel discussion hosted by Chancellor Dennis J. Shields and featuring Dr. Michael Burke, president of Milwaukee Area Technical College; Dr. Kevin Reilly, president of the UW System; Dr. Liang Chee Wee, president of Northeast Iowa Community College; and Dr. James Collins, president of Loras College.

“There is no single answer to the issue of inclusivity, so having discussions about topics like this is one of the most important things we can do to move forward. The conference panel was a great opportunity for the education leaders to discuss their different approaches to inclusivity and how these practices affect campuses in real ways,” said Chancellor Shields. “I was very impressed by the their commitment to the task. This panel was a way to get a glimpse at how two-year institutions, colleges, universities and university systems are trying to accomplish something that is so necessary for higher education.”

Each of the panelists face similar challenges at their schools and the panel discussion presented an opportunity to talk about what impact each school’s unique mission has on the approaches taken to make their campuses more inclusive. The panelists spoke about various issues that each college encounters with inclusivity as well as what each currently engages in and hopes to implement in order to increase awareness of diversity and inclusivity.

“Having students with all kinds of differences come into the University of Wisconsin System and succeed by earning a degree is absolutely essential,” said Reilly. “We have to have our trustees, Board of Regents and ourselves step forward and articulate our commitment to diversity and inclusion.”

Wee spoke about his experience coming to America as a foreign exchange student, the impact it had on his opportunities to work with individuals of all colors and races, and how NICC works to support a diverse population. “Access is how we bring diversity to campus. Engagement is how we serve our students and engage with them. We practice persistence with the need to help students stay in school and have the desire to stay in school. Lastly, we stress completion, where we can break the cycle of poverty and push our students to complete school and be hired by future employers,” said Wee.

Collins spoke of ways that higher education institutions could advocate inclusion. “We have a higher order of experience, and it’s a failing upon us not

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Outstanding Alumni Award

The UW-Platteville College of BILSA Outstanding Alumni Award recognizes individuals who have achieved noteworthy career success by contributing to knowledge that advances their profession through research or professional activities, made significant contributions to society in the form of philanthropic donations or demonstrated visionary thinking or actions.

Lana Wiese, ’71 UW-Platteville business administration alumna, spent over 20 years at Wisconsin Bell in Milwaukee before opening her own niche market audiovisual business with her husband, Robert Wiese, ’70 UW-Platteville radio/TV broadcasting alumnus, who has remained in his chosen field for 40 years. Studio Gear is located in Milwaukee, with a satellite office in Madison, Wis.

Pictured: BILSA interim Dean Wayne Weber, Lana Wiese, Robert Wiese

Dr. Elizabeth Pappas, ’95 UW-Platteville reclamation alumna, has spent time in both the professional and academic worlds. Following teaching positions at several different universities, Pappas has worked as a research hydraulic engineer with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory since 2002.

Pictured: Elizabeth Pappas, BILSA interim Dean Wayne Weber

Stacey Schultz-Cherry, ’88 UW-Platteville biology alumna, has spent over 20 years conducting research and teaching, most recently at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At present, she splits her time between the UW-Madison Food Research Institute, UW-Madison Department of Pathobiological Sciences and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Department of Infectious Disease.

Pictured: Stacey Schultz-Cherry, BILSA interim Dean Wayne Weber

Myron Olson, ’74 UW-Platteville agricultural economics alumnus, has built a 40-year career at Chalet Cheese Cooperative in Monroe, Wis., where he is currently the general manager and a Wisconsin Master Cheesemaker. Olson has served on various boards of directors in the cheesemaking industry and won several state and national awards. He has donated continually to the UW-Platteville Foundation since 1987.

Pictured: BILSA interim Dean Wayne Weber, Myron Olson

Friend of the College Award

The Friend of the College Award acknowledges individuals who have provided opportunities for students, assisted faculty and aided in technological improvements.

Anne Klawiter retired as president and CEO of Southwest Health Center Inc. of Platteville, Wis., in 2011 after an extensive career in healthcare. Her longtime work with UW-Platteville has supported many students, most notably through the Rural and Urban Scholars in Community Health program, designed to foster the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes that will enable the practice of medicine in rural areas.

Pictured: Anne Klawiter
UW-Platteville erected a 20-kilowatt wind turbine outside of Southwest Hall in October 2011 as part of university-wide energy conservation measures.

The turbine is expected to produce about 31,500 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. As an average home uses about 1,000 kWh per month, the wind turbine would generate enough energy to power three average homes. The turbine will primarily be used to power a portion of Southwest Hall’s electrical needs.

“Energy produced by wind in the United States has increased significantly in the past four or five years,” said Dr. Mesut Muslu, professor of electrical engineering and member of the campus Renewable Energy Council. “It is a major component of renewable energy sources, and it is the closest thing that is competitive economically to traditional electric energy sources such as coal and natural gas.”

The turbine comes from Renewegy, an Oshkosh-based company that specializes in designing wind turbines for a variety of groups.

Planning for the turbine began in 2009 when H&H Solar Energy Services, based in Madison, Wis., conducted a wind survey of the UW-Platteville campus to determine where the prime locations for a wind turbine would be. McKinstry, a company specializing in renewable energy options for buildings, installed the turbine on Oct. 11, 2011. It began producing power for the university on its first day.

At the cost of 7 cents per kilowatt, the wind turbine would save around $2,200 a year in energy costs. In addition to providing power and savings for the university, the wind turbine will also provide educational opportunities for students, according to Pete Davis, director of Facilities Management. The university offers a renewable energy minor, and observing the turbine could help students pursuing that minor.

“It’s good to have renewable energy systems on campus,” Davis said. “The wind turbine is one step we have taken to reduce our use of fossil fuels by instead focusing on electrical power derived from renewable means.”

Muslu, who teaches a course on the fundamentals of renewable energy sources, said that the wind turbine would be an ideal educational tool for students in the renewable energy program.

“I can take my students out and show them the turbine components,” he said, “but the best way to have experience with the connections and components would be to get involved with maintenance of such systems.”

Despite the many improvements the university has implemented, renewable energy is something that always has room for growth, according to Davis. “There is a tower at the campus farm collecting wind data in order to determine if some large-scale turbines established there would be effective,” he said.

Large-scale turbines, units that have the capacity to generate 75 times more energy than the current turbine on campus, have smaller relative cost, better efficiency and shorter payback period, said Muslu.

“The turbine that we have adds an educational element and a tremendous opportunity for students,” Muslu said. “That, coupled with the fact that it is moving the campus forward in terms of renewable energy, only adds to its value.” – Angela O’Brien
Faculty alumnus retires

“I don’t think he ever said ‘no’ to me when I asked him to do something for the students or the university,” said Jodi McDermott, assistant dean of the College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture. “He was very dedicated and loyal. He always put the students first.” She’s talking about Dr. Mike Mee, UW-Platteville alumnus and longtime faculty member, who retired in June 2011.

Mee was viewed highly by his colleagues, as well as his students. He farmed for years before coming back to school to finish his degree in 1983 as a non-traditional student. He brought those life experiences and real examples into his teaching. “I think that increased his credibility with the students,” said McDermott. “They knew he had not just learned it from a book. He actually had practiced what he preached.”

“People knew that he had been there, done that, and people respected him for that,” said Tim Sherven, UW-Platteville alumnus and former student of Mee.

After earning his master’s and doctorate at Kansas State, Mee joined the College of BILSA staff at UW-Platteville in 1991.

“I loved the encouragement and caring atmosphere when I was a student,” said Mee. “I wanted to provide that same kind of environment to my students. Fortunately, I was hired and the next 20 years were great.”

“He knew the UW-Platteville requirements like the back of his hand,” said McDermott. He also understood how to work with [transfer] students to get them the best case scenario for their transfer.”

“One thing to know about Dr. Mee is that he did an excellent job connecting with his students,” said Sherven. “To me, he wasn’t just my advisor for school, but I would consider him my mentor. Talk about a man who cared about people, and that would be Dr. Mee.”

Unsurprisingly, Mee was awarded the Thomas and Lee Ann Lindahl Teaching Award, recognizing excellence in teaching within the College of BILSA in 2009.

Mee coached the UW-Platteville dairy cattle judging team, was an advisor for the Pioneer Dairy Club and Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, and was an official judge for the area high school dairy cattle contest. He also started an endowment for the dairy cattle judging team.

“Dr. Mee approached me about establishing this fund prior to his retirement,” said Jackie Bevan, development officer in the UW-Platteville Foundation. “He wanted to ensure the future of the dairy cattle judging team. This is really just another way that Dr. Mee has left his mark as one of the greats.”

After many years, Mee was ready to retire. “I probably retired sooner than most would have,” said Mee, “but physically, the rigors of teaching and traveling with students was becoming difficult. I felt, at this stage of my life, it was best for me and my family.”

Mee isn’t sure as to what will come next but plans to stay in the area. With three grown children and eight grandchildren, he expects to stay busy.

“One on a personal level, Mike has always been a great friend and mentor,” said Dr. Wayne Weber, interim dean of the College of BILSA. “He is someone I could always turn to, to discuss issues, get advice or just engage in quality conversation. The university and future students will definitely miss Mike, and I wish him and his family the best.” –Amanda Fisch
“I grew up in Southwest Wisconsin, and I wanted to get out and see the world, and after meeting with recruiters in the student union, I decided to apply for the Peace Corps,” said John Acherman, a 1962 UW-Platteville graduate who was one of the nation’s first Peace Corps volunteers.

The Peace Corps celebrated its 50th anniversary this year, and Acherman, who graduated with a degree in mathematics, served during its second year of existence, one of only 2,816 people to do so. Today more than 200,000 people have served as Peace Corps volunteers.

Acherman served as a math teacher to more than 600 students in Liberia during his two years of service. Liberia, which was formed by freed slaves from the United States in 1822, was undergoing a period of transformation and modernization during his service due to the efforts of then President William Tubman.

Acherman wanted to return to visit Liberia, however, in 1980, a military coup ushered in almost 30 years of instability.

“We [the volunteers] had hoped to go back to Liberia about 20 to 30 years ago, but with the political upheaval it was unsafe for us, which was very sad,” said Acherman.

After his service, Acherman returned to Wisconsin and taught in Janesville for two years before teaching in schools maintained by the Department of Defense in Germany and South Korea. He then returned to Wisconsin again and worked in a variety of different fields.

“All of my experiences in the Peace Corps were great, but the best thing I could take away from it was the ‘let’s go attitude.’ It opened up the world to me.”

— John Acherman

“It was a fabulous experience, anyone could gain from it,” said Acherman of his service. “I would recommend it to anyone. It’s a great introduction to traveling, and the camaraderie you have with your fellow volunteers is something that has stuck with me. I still meet up with them even 50 years later.” —Molly Markley
College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science

ALUMNI AWARDS

Outstanding Alumni Award

The College of EMS Outstanding Alumni Award recognizes individuals who have achieved noteworthy career success by contributing to knowledge that advances their profession through research or professional activities, made significant contributions to society in the form of philanthropic donations or demonstrated visionary thinking or actions.

Scott Seely, a ‘95 computer science alumnus, has pursued his passion for software development for over 15 years. He is currently a senior technical architect for the SAVO Group in Chicago, and the co-founder of Tech in the Middle, a Chicago-based business that organizes conferences and events for the area development community. Pictured: Scott Seely and family

Dr. Matthew Johll, who has conducted nearly 20 years of research, graduated from UW-Platteville in 1994 with a degree in chemistry before continuing on to earn his doctorate at Iowa State University. He taught at that institution as well as Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, St. Norbert College and Illinois Valley Community College, where he is currently a professor. Pictured: Matthew Johll, Nominator Robert Hansen

Jeffrey J. Mantes began his career with the city of Milwaukee immediately after his graduation in 1977 in civil engineering. He earned his master’s degree at UW-Milwaukee and was appointed commissioner of the Department of Public Works by the mayor of Milwaukee in 2004. Pictured: Nominator John Boldt, Jeffrey Mantes

Robert O. Hoffland, a ‘61 alumnus who double-majored in chemistry and physics with a minor in mathematics before continuing on to earn degrees at Southern Methodist University, is the founder, president and CEO of Hoffland Environmental Inc., a firm providing custom engineering and manufacturing of industrial wastewater treatment equipment. Pictured: Robert Hansen, Robert Hoffland (former student)

Dr. Richard D. Shultz was a faculty member and chair of the UW-Platteville Electrical Engineering Department from 1984 to 1997 before becoming dean of the College of EMS, a position he held from 1997 until 2010. Under his leadership, enrollment increased, faculty and staff expanded, and programs like Collaborative Engineering and the Tri-State Initiative were established. Pictured: EMS Dean Emeritus Richard Shultz
College of Liberal Arts and Education

ALUMNI AWARDS

Arts and Letters Hall of Fame

The Arts and Letters Hall of Fame honors faculty, staff, retirees, alumni and friends for their advancement of interests and standards for the arts and letters at UW-Platteville. These individuals promote a mutually beneficial relationship between UW-Platteville and the greater university community.

**Gregory Dennis**' 40-year career includes teaching choral and general music in Flint, Mich.; Mount Horeb, Wis.; and at his alma mater, UW-Platteville. Dennis, who is a frequent adjudicator and clinician at musical events, has directed seven community choirs and been involved in more than 50 plays, musical shows and operas.

Pictured: Gregory Dennis, Professor of Music Dr. Robert Demaree

Distinguished Educator

**Kimberly (Oomens) Thorsen**, '86 and '92 alumna of the UW-Platteville School of Education, has taught at the River Ridge Community Unit School District in Hanover, Ill., for 26 years. Thorsen, who received her National Board Certification in 2005, organizes community-to-school programs and coordinates the school’s Response to Intervention reading program.

Pictured: Fred Oomens, Kimberly Thorsen

Professional Achievement

The College of LAE Professional Achievement Award is given to non-education professionals with noteworthy career success, outstanding scholarship and/or humanitarian commitment.

**Norman Jacobs**, '78 UW-Platteville criminal justice alumnus, is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy in Quantico, Va., and has served the Beloit Police Department for 33 years, most recently as chief of police. Jacobs, who oversees a 100-person police department, is highly active in his community.

Pictured: LAE interim Dean Laura Anderson, Norman Jacobs

Friend of the College

The Friend of the College Award acknowledges individuals who have provided opportunities for students, assisted faculty and aided in technological improvements.

**Dr. Carol M. Lange** retired from the UW-Platteville School of Education in 2005 following a 45-year teaching career that began in the rural schools of North Dakota. In retirement, Lange remains active with the Wisconsin chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, and in many church and community activities.

Pictured: Dr. Carol Lange, LAE Associate Dean Dr. Kory Wein
Alumna brings legal knowledge to the public

Providing citizens with the tools and knowledge to effectively navigate the legal system was priority number one for Emeline Kau, a 2009 UW-Platteville criminal justice and political science alumna from New Berlin, Wis., when she applied to Hamline University School of Law in Saint Paul, Minn. Now, getting ready to graduate with her juris doctorate in spring 2012, Kau has already been putting what she has learned into action.

“I’ve found that, for many people, government and the legal system seem scary and intimidating,” said Kau. “Since I’ve always had an interest in these areas, I thought becoming a lawyer would allow me to provide the comfort and clarity many citizens have trouble finding.”

HOME Line, a nonprofit Minnesota statewide tenant advocacy organization, is one area where Kau has already been able to make an impact. Kau said that the experience has not only allowed her to gain a better understanding of the law herself, but it has also given her an opportunity to help the public identify simple options to avoid legal difficulties.

“The ability to provide answers to questions and to help people directly is the most rewarding part,” she said. “As a hotline volunteer, I’m in direct contact with clients and am able to use what I’ve learned through all of my classes to guide people through their concerns. Every call is unique and it keeps me on my toes.”

Dr. John Rink, UW-Platteville professor of political science who advises the Pre-Law Society and UW-Platteville Mock Trial and Mediation teams, said, “At first glance, Emeline seems to be rather small in stature, but her physical size conceals a very tough mind and a very big heart,” said Rink. “I remember her as the only dissenter in the ‘mock Supreme Court’ gun rights case the Civil Liberties class decided a few years ago. She wrote a very strong opinion in support of strict rules for gun use. I’ll always remember Emeline’s spirit and determination – a great credit to UW-Platteville.”

In addition to volunteering for HOME Line and keeping up with her academic responsibilities, Kau is a member of the law fraternity Delta Theta Phi and also serves as co-chair for the Law Students for Reproductive Justice chapter at Hamline.

What has helped her succeed, Kau said, is remembering to take time to enjoy life and all the different experiences it has to offer along the way. She added that last year, she found someone who feels the same way. Kau and Zachary Walker, whom she met at Hamline, plan to marry in August. –Barb Weinbrenner
It’s official. The University of Wisconsin-Platteville’s Distance Education programs have helped 1,000 people earn their college degree. But numbers don’t tell the whole story because whether it’s the first or 1,000th graduate, the center prides itself on personal attention.

“We’re not scrambling to reach 100,000 students. And that’s OK, because we understand that there’s a real person behind every degree we grant,” said Dawn Drake, executive director of alternative delivery systems. “Our student service representatives, advisors and faculty know our students by name, guide them when they’re uncertain and keep them on a path to graduation.”

That perseverance is the essence of UW-Platteville’s Distance Education programs and it flows through the entire staff, especially Outreach Specialist Amy Griswold who is working on an online master’s program. She knows how important encouragement is for an online learner. “Sometimes that support doesn’t come in the form of a cheerleader or a motivational life coach, but from the people we are with every day, who are proud of us and want to see us succeed,” she said.

That’s one reason why Scott Brown chose UW-Platteville Online for his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. “The online courses were a blessing because sometimes there were 200 people in one classroom. That makes it hard for your voice to be heard,” he said.

An accredited pioneer in distance learning for the last 33 years, UW-Platteville has continually earned recognition for its online programs. Most recently it was ranked among the top schools in the nation for affordable online business and criminal justice degrees.

Today, more than 2,500 working adults are enrolled in UW-Platteville Online’s eight programs, including its new degrees: integrated supply chain management and organizational change leadership. “It’s been fun seeing our graduation numbers grow,” Drake said.

And there are no signs of a slowdown. Nationally, more than 6.1 million students were taking at least one online course during the fall 2010 term, an increase of 560,000 students over the previous year, according to the Sloan Consortium. In addition, 18.2 million students are expected to enroll in an online degree program by 2013, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

“The value of higher education has never been greater,” Drake said. “So, it’s vital to ensure programs remain accessible to a broad range of working adults. One way of doing that is keeping tuition affordable.”

Watch for more information on events celebrating the milestone. –Thomas Jensen
Help in Ecuador
Alumna returns from volunteering

From the aroma of fresh-baked bread wafting out from buildings all over the city to the llamas grazing in the park, Loja, a community surrounded by the Andes Mountains in south central Ecuador, has become a second home for Kari (Gevelinger) Stratman.

Stratman, a 2010 UW-Platteville English alumna from Mineral Point, Wis., with minors in fine arts, Spanish and Teaching English as a Second or Other Language, recently completed a yearlong teaching assignment in Loja through WorldTeach, an organization that addresses the need for educational assistance in developing countries while also providing international teaching opportunities to native speakers of English.

“I knew it would be way different than what I was used to, and that’s why I had to do it,” said Stratman. “I needed to challenge myself with something new, and the experience as a whole was simply amazing.”

Although she initially worried that her level of Spanish might not be advanced enough to easily communicate with native speakers in Ecuador, Stratman said her concerns were quickly alleviated.

“With more practice and patience, that wasn’t as big of a problem as I had anticipated,” said Stratman, who taught English to an average of 20 students between the ages of 14 and 50 in each of the four hour-long classes she held each weekday afternoon.

“An aspect that I feel really good about was the relationships that I had with people,” she said. “I have Ecuadorian friends now, which is something I’m grateful for because it shows that I was able to become close to people from a completely different culture and who speak a different language.”

Stratman added that she particularly enjoyed spending time with her host family, who regularly included her in their daily activities, such as gathering together for conversation over soup at lunchtime and over coffee and bread each evening.

“They were phenomenal,” she said. “They invited me to do things with them and treated me like a member of the family. I never imagined that I could actually feel at home in another country, but I did. I have a family in Ecuador that will take me in whenever I am able to go back.” —Barb Weinbrenner
Mobile Art
Alumna creates art with vehicle movements

He has gone through many transformations, having parts added and taken away. He started out large and then became quite small. The most recent version is a world traveler. “Chaucer,” a mobile drawing device that dangles pens and pencils from string tentacles tethered to a frame inside a pickup truck topper, was built by artist Deborah Bouchette, ’75 UW-Platteville College of Liberal Arts and Education alumna, to capture the vibrations of travel.

“One day I hung a row of brushes from the bumper of my truck, drove them through a cookie sheet of ink and across a piece of paper,” she said. “I was surprised and delighted at how expressive the result was – like a handwritten music score.”

Though the first prototype wasn’t a keeper, that didn’t stop her. Just a few weeks later during a road trip, persistence was rewarded as she tested a new idea.

“The first thing I tried worked: dangling pens from my hand via daisy-chained rubber bands,” she said. “I made a bunch of those drawings, and a month later, I expanded that idea and made a wooden contraption from which I could hang pens and let them draw while I drove. That was the first Chaucer.”

Bouchette even developed a portable version to take with her in fall 2010 while she completed two positions as artist-in-residence overseas.

In addition to the Chaucer drawings, Bouchette also took in the natural surroundings during her stays abroad in order to incorporate their features into other types of artworks, taking photographs, mapping travels, recording sounds and documenting findings in a journal.

Bouchette said an awe of the natural energy created in the form of something so delicate as a bird’s song, the movement of a breeze through the wetlands or the strength found in raging storms and ocean waves is what led her to explore ways to represent them visually.

“I don’t strive for works of classic beauty nor to put people at ease; I try to create a bit of chaos, an intensity.”

Deborah Bouchetta
Since it first opened to the public as Magic Kingdom, Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., has been creating magic and making memories for children of all ages since 1971. According to Disney World, each and every one of their cast members plays a part in creating the magical experience that so enthralls its guests, and everyone, from the entertainers to the engineers, helps make Disney magic. UW-Platteville alumnus Steve Jorgensen worked as a Walt Disney World attraction operator and festival coordinator for a full year, gaining experience not only in public relations with guests, but through the day-to-day smiles and memories from the guests whom he served.

Jorgensen graduated from UW-Platteville in May 2010 with a degree in communications technology and a minor in imaging media. He discovered the opportunity to work with Disney through his sister, and became an attraction operator in June 2010, working the Primeval Whirl and TriceraTop Spin rides in the Animal Kingdom Park.

“I would do the standard requirements of the job, such as safety procedures and making sure that people met the height requirement, but I would also get the chance to walk around and talk with people,” Jorgensen said.

Jorgensen became a Disney World festival coordinator in January 2011, and was primarily responsible for coordinating both on- and off-site events for performance groups from high school bands, orchestras, choirs and others from around the country and around the world.

“The best part of that job was that each weekend, I got to meet kids from all over the nation,” Jorgensen said. “I got the chance to share my knowledge of Disney with them, and then I would work with them to run the events which they came to the park to do.”

Jorgensen worked three major events during his time as festival coordinator – Festival Disney, Disney Jazz Celebration and The Disney Honors – and said that each required a massive amount of organizational capabilities, as well as public speaking skills he gained from his classes at UW-Platteville.

“If someone needed help with something, I would get to go out and see to it,” he said, “but the best part wasn’t necessarily about fixing that one problem; it was about walking through the park and seeing everyone smiling, laughing and having a good time.”

Jorgensen worked for six months as a festival coordinator and he said that he would definitely go back and to it all again.

“It’s a great atmosphere to work in,” he said. “Everyone that you work with is your family. You form great relationships with people and with the company, and you help make Disney a better place.”

—Angela O’Brien
Kayaking in Copper Canyon

After graduating in 1992 with a civil engineering degree from UW-Platteville, Tom Meinholz took a straight, solid path to California, where he worked in construction management for the California Department of Transportation and URS in San Francisco until 1998. His other path has been fluid and winding, one where he has traveled all over the world with his wife, Cara, running exotic rivers. Together they have an 8-year old daughter.

The following is an excerpt from an article Meinholz wrote about some of his first descents into Mexico’s Copper Canyon, originally published in the January/February 2010 issue of American Whitewater, a bi-monthly journal published by the national nonprofit organization of the same name. When the reader joins him, Meinholz has just embarked on another adventure with his friend Rocky. He left home without testing his headlamp, and chose a boat that he was too heavy for, even without his gear.

“When Rocky picked me up at the airport in El Paso, Texas, I was so excited to get out of my cushy, spoiled lifestyle for another physical challenge, to remind myself how lucky I am and to come back with a bigger appreciation for everything in life. I jumped in Rocky’s truck and reveled in the fact that it had no AC. I was under the assumption that we were going to do the Rio Maguarichi, the middle fork of the Chinipas drainage; a short, two- or three-day trip on what looked from Google Earth to be a mostly class III-IV (moderately difficult to difficult) run. After that, we had a choice of the more serious Rio Septentrion or a few others. Months earlier Rocky sent me links to the Google Earth images of the prospective rivers, and I spent some time zooming and panning in hopes of finding something I was really psyched about. Since there were only two of us, I wanted to be a bit conservative and enjoy the river a bit more; I had no intention of doing a portage-fest. Rocky really had his heart set on Rio Los Loera, and in typical Rocky fashion made it sound like it had some potential. Little did I know that the
million-dollar question should have been asked then, when he picked me up, instead of on the river.

“Day three started with just a slight variation in water level, but the seriousness of the run was now full-tilt. The day involved an endless repetition of paddling a few hundred feet at best, getting out and scouting, then portaging or running, but mostly portaging. We only covered six miles and ended the day at mile 15. It was towards the end of this day when I finally asked the question, ‘Rocky, what did I say about this run after I reviewed it on Google Earth?’ Rocky’s reply made me want to hurl him into the river: ‘You said it looks like it has a lot of hard portages.’ At that moment I remembered nearly every detail of that map (except for the name of the river), and realized what we had gotten ourselves into.

“Instead of strangling Rocky, I decided to look on the bright side. We were most likely the only two people who would ever see this absolutely spectacular section of river that flows through the deepest part of the Copper Canyon area, in a canyon around 5,000 feet deep. I really started to pay more attention to the spectacular things we came across. One morning I saw an entire family of monkeys, like cats swinging, hanging and running from tree to tree, eating fruit. Another morning I woke up and for about half an hour watched some of the most beautiful mosquitoes I had ever seen: their wings had a vibrant translucency and were attached to a rich, blue chrome-colored exoskeleton. They were a bit slow but so beautiful that it was hard, at least at first, to swat them.”

Meinholz and Rocky made it through the tough but rewarding six-day run, finally arriving at their take out point two days late. But the journey wasn’t over yet.

“It took us seven hours to drive 70 miles to the closest town. The view into Barranca Sinforosa going up was truly spectacular. We pulled in about 10 p.m., when I was green from the exhaust leaking into the cab, and found a wonderful señora who opened the doors to her home/diner and cooked us a wonderful meal. My plane left the following afternoon from El Paso. This required us to drive through the night to Chihuahua, Mexico, where I got on a bus. I arrived in Chihuahua to find the bus to Ciudad Juarez leaving within 10 minutes. From the bus station in Ciudad Juarez I took a taxi to the border, crossed on foot, got in another taxi to the airport and made it within an hour of my flight. My plane was delayed, so I headed straight to the nearest cantina where I was shocked back into civilization with three big screens playing the Olympics.”

Meinholz teaches whitewater kayaking in the Sierra Nevada foothills. –Sarah P. Miller
Alumni give back as coaches

The traditional adage, “Once I graduate, I want to get as far away from here as possible,” does not have validity within the UW-Platteville coaching staffs. For many of the Pioneer athletic programs, individuals have remained grounded in their roots and stayed at UW-Platteville since their playing days.

Pioneer football offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Ryan Munz patiently waited on his playing time at UW-Platteville. It was four seasons of practices and games as well as his classroom experiences that started to lay the foundation for the Highland, Wis., native.

He credits UW-Platteville head coach Mike Emendorfer for inspiring him to get into coaching. Munz carries the lessons of Pioneer Stadium and the classroom each day. As part of his responsibilities at UW-Platteville, he is also looking for the next class of Pioneers. “When speaking with recruits and parents, my experience allows me to share an interest with them and show them that their education is important in the overall equation,” said Munz. “Coaching at my alma mater, I have the pride of once competing on the same field and classroom our student-athletes currently do. This allows me to have better insight on what they are doing on a daily basis, but also allows you to carry on the tradition.”

While also coaching at his alma mater, Munz knows he has a role as an ambassador to the past and present Pioneers. He looks to build on the established traditions as well as develop new ones. One tradition that he carries forward is the singing of the fight song after a UW-Platteville home football game. “Our pitch is a bit more harmonious for some reason, preferably after a victory,” noted Munz.

Lisa (Wubben) Naderman finds her name throughout the UW-Platteville women’s basketball record books for her accomplishments as a Pioneer from 2004-08. The Kieler, Wis., native has remained close to home and is now sharing her knowledge, wisdom and insight of the game of basketball as well as her alma mater as a fourth-year assistant coach with the Pioneer women’s basketball program.

Immediately after her playing days ended, Naderman entered the coaching profession at UW-Platteville. “Being involved with athletics throughout my life is mainly what has influenced me to go into coaching. I want to treat future athletes the way I was treated and give them the experience of a lifetime,” said Naderman, who earned her bachelor’s degree in business in 2008.

“As the sister of a UW-Platteville graduate and alumna herself, Naderman shares her knowledge of the university in recruiting future Pioneers. Her first-hand knowledge has the ability to put at ease the recruit, parents and other family members. She admits it is her love of the program and the campus that keeps her at UW-Platteville.

At UW-Platteville, there are many torch bearers who will continue to carry on the lessons of the classroom and on the playing surface. Future and current Pioneers are going to continue to see the products of these lessons for years to come with these shining examples within the university’s athletic department. –Danny Kambel
The construction of the Agricultural and Manual Arts Building, now Ullrich Hall, in 1916-17 could not have come at a better time. America had entered World War I in April 1917, and there was a pressing need for everything agricultural. As The Exponent so succinctly stated, "food will materially aid in the winning of this great European strife." The new building played a vital role in Platteville Normal School’s war efforts during both World Wars and served as the home of the agricultural department for decades.

The origins for the new building lie in the evolving nature of the Normal School’s curriculum. After the turn of the 19th century, the school saw the need to offer, what today would be, vocational classes. Called manual training, it began in 1904 and included classes on such subjects as woodworking, metalworking, weaving and mechanical drawing. Ten years later, the school expanded this concept into agriculture when it established an agricultural department in 1914.

The manual training and agriculture classes were popular not only with the Normal students, but also with the local “farmers’ sons” who could attend once they had completed the eighth grade. This popularity put a great demand on the already limited space of Old Main, then the only building on campus, and led to the decision to construct a new building.

In the fall of 1916, ground was broken for what would be called the Agricultural and Manual Arts Building. Constructed in the neoclassical architectural style, it was completed by the end of 1917 and contained a blacksmith shop, carpentry shop, animal husbandry room, soils laboratory and gymnasium. The first event in the building was a basketball game in the “new gymnasium” on Jan. 18, 1918. The Platteville Normals lost to La Crosse 25 to 18. The Exponent called it “one of the snappiest games of basketball ever played in Platteville.”

Things quickly grew serious, however. In 1918, the nation’s war effort directly impacted Platteville. The U.S. War Department established a Student Army Training Corps at Platteville. A forerunner to the ROTC, the men of the SATC lived and ate at the Mining School, but also took classes in the Agricultural and Manual Arts Building. In addition, the SATC men conducted drills in the “new gymnasium” during inclement weather. The SATC discontinued shortly after World War I ended on Nov. 11, 1918.

The person most associated with the Agricultural and Manual Arts Building was Fred Ullrich. Ullrich came to Platteville in 1914 and became the director of the agricultural department. He made the agricultural program influential throughout the region. Tragically, he died in 1941 during the school’s Diamond Jubilee celebration. The building was renamed after the “beloved educator” during the school’s centennial celebration in 1966.

Today, Ullrich Hall is the oldest building on campus and serves a different function. Completely remodeled in 2004, it is now a state-of-the-art classroom building that houses the department of computer science and software engineering. –James Hibbard
“Time is a dressmaker who specializes in alterations,” “growth is the only evidence of life,” and “when you are through changing, you are through.” All are appropriate given the ambiguity, speed and capriciousness with which our world is moving, especially as it pertains to the UW System.

“All change is not growth.” Also true.

There are differing points of view when discussing Wisconsin’s biennial budget, and all is fair in public opinion’s court.

Factually, the reduction of UW System’s biennial budget by some $320 million (the Pioneers’ share was $6.7 million in immediate cuts this year and next) has meant that UW-Platteville has had to, well … change.

“The truth is that all higher education across the nation is facing a new reality of receiving less generous support from government funding. The new normal is to confront this reality with creative and innovative initiatives,” said UW-Platteville Chancellor Dennis J. Shields in his November 2011 column in the Platteville Journal.

Without additional revenue from growth in enrollment, campus would be faced with cuts. Job cuts. Program cuts. Enrollment cuts. Across the board cuts. But through a seemingly counterintuitive budget model based on student population, the university is successfully navigating the new realities of funding in higher education.

Faced with less [funding, that is] and in an effort to still meet the UW System’s Growth Agenda, UW-Platteville has its eyes set on

GROWTH.
In this issue’s feature, find out what UW-Platteville has in mind as it addresses the UW System’s Growth Agenda in the midst of budget shortfalls.
The University of Wisconsin-Platteville admitted a record-breaking first-year class this 2011-12 academic year, admitting just over 1,600 new students, said Angela Udelhofen, assistant chancellor of Admissions and Enrollment Services. Those first-year students helped the university surpass its 2010-11 record-breaking enrollment, now hosting 7,458 undergraduates.

UW-Platteville is the fastest-growing school in the UW System, increasing its enrollment by more than 46 percent over the past 10 years.

“These numbers affirm that UW-Platteville offers its students a world-class education that develops our 360-degree leaders in a caring community,” Chancellor Dennis J. Shields said. “UW-Platteville continues to be a vibrant campus that appeals to the tri-state area and beyond.”

Udelhofen credits the school’s academic reputation as well as its affordability as major reasons for the increase, adding “our outstanding faculty, staff and students also play a large role in our recruitment efforts. That has directly impacted our application and admission numbers.”

Heidi Tuescher-Gille, assistant director of Admissions from Prospective Student Services, said that while the university continues to grow enrollment, the commitment to the individual student success remains as strong as ever.

“We hear over and over at registration and campus visits that what impresses potential students and their families is that everyone is so willing to help,” she said. “We know we have a great university, and we believe in treating them like family. We bring that human approach to education.” –Paul Erickson

### Comparing Enrollment Over the Past Decade

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*Minus Distance Education and Study Abroad
LOOKING FORWARD
Chancellor to serve on state task force

UW-Platteville Chancellor Dennis J. Shields said he is looking forward to serving on the new Special Task Force on UW Restructuring and Operational Flexibilities.

Chancellor Shields is one of 17 members of the task force, which, created in the 2011-13 budget, will examine the University of Wisconsin System governance structure and practices and make recommendations on flexibilities designed to maintain and improve the system. The UW System, created in 1971, serves more than 182,000 students annually. It is comprised of 13 four-year universities, 13 two-year colleges and the statewide UW Extension.

“The task force presents an opportunity to work with a broad cross-section of educational leaders and those who have a high interest in education,” Chancellor Shields said. “It’s a great combination of people, and we all have an interest in making the UW System as strong as possible.”

The chancellor was chosen by Assembly Speaker Jeff Fitzgerald, who said, "Our UW System has an essential role in shaping the leaders of tomorrow. But it's a delicate balance to make that education work: a balance between students, their families and the taxpayers, and a balance between a top-notch education and the student debt and job market that await after graduation day."

Chancellor Shields was one of three UW System chancellors on the task force, joining Richard Wells of UW-Oshkosh and Ray Cross of UW Colleges and Extension. Board of Regents member Michael Falbo will chair the task force.

Darrell Bazzell, UW-Madison vice chancellor, and David Olien, a UW System senior vice president emeritus, were named to the panel by Gov. Scott Walker.

Other appointees include Joe Alexander, a former Student Regent; Joanne Brandes, Carroll University board of directors member and former Regent; State Rep. Steve Doyle; State Sen. Sheila Harsdorf; Tim Higgins, a small business owner; State Sen. Chris Larson; former Regent Fred Mohs; State Rep. Steve Nass; Renee Ramirez, former chair of the Wisconsin Alumni Association; State Rep. Pat Strachota; and Mark Tyler, president of the Wisconsin Technical College System.

“We will examine whether the structure of the University of Wisconsin System needs to be altered in some way, how to enhance the university system and how to do it in the context of the new realities of the demands on Wisconsin budgets,” Chancellor Shields said. “We will look at how to give individual universities flexibilities so that the education we deliver to our students fits each campus in the best possible way.” –Paul Erickson
ART ANSWERS STUDENTS' CALL
Program is an example of growing curriculum

The students asked and the university faculty answered. Over the past year, the UW-Platteville Art Program has undergone a major curriculum transformation that included converting 33 studio courses from two to three credits, offering more upper level courses, organizing the course numbering system, rewriting course descriptions, changing a minor and updating three different emphasis areas.

"Although there had been small changes here and there, a major curriculum reform had not been done, in a complete sense, in more than 40 years," said Linda James, assistant professor in the UW-Platteville Department of Performing and Visual Arts. "The $2.1 million Art Building renovation was the first stage. A greater presence of art on campus followed, as did the growth of our student organizations. All of that has just expanded the program."

In summer 2010, through the assistance of a Curriculum Improvement Fund grant, James and colleagues Richard Moninski and Greg Nelson, senior lecturer and lecturer respectively, began researching art programs nationwide in order to compare the campus art program to similar programs offered on the public and private level. The team also looked at progressive flagship university programs in all regions of the United States, as well as their own personal degree experience.

"We knew students were doing enough work for a three-credit course, we knew they were overtaxed financially for supplies, and we knew there was an incorrect perception that the two-credit courses were somehow lesser," said James. "We wanted to make changes that would be best for our students."

As part of the curriculum improvement process, the team also changed the requirements in the UW-Platteville Art Program's three areas of emphasis: art education, graphic design and studio art. James explained that these modifications have allowed students to explore their interests more deeply and in a more meaningful way.

"We've had an extraordinary blooming of visual art on campus," said James. "Our students are showing their work and winning awards. We knew if we had a better program that it would show in recruitment, the level of our students and the level of their work."

James added that this curriculum reform is also a major step toward the process of accreditation through the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. One of the benefits of accreditation, James said, would be the ability to offer students a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in addition to the current Bachelor of Arts degree with an emphasis. –Barb Weinbrenner
UW-Platteville honored seven university award winners during the 2011 convocation where Chancellor Dennis J. Shields presented the honors.

**Academic Staff Award for Excellence**

**Andrew McNeill**

McNeill has worked as a photographer at UW-Platteville since 2001 when he was still a full-time student. He develops and manages the production of imaging media. McNeill was nominated by Kim Schmelz of Alumni Services, who wrote, “In the 10 years since Andy’s been the photographer, he averages about 40,000 shots a year, including campus and sporting events, classroom visits and spontaneous photos throughout campus.”

**National Faculty Academic Advising Award**

**Dr. George Smith**

A professor of speech, Smith is the third UW-Platteville faculty member to win the National Academic Advising Association faculty advising award. He regularly presents at new faculty/academic staff orientation about the importance of advising, and also serves as the editor of the Advising Guide for Students.

**Woman of the Year**

**Tammy Salmon-Stephens**

Salmon-Stephens is the director of the Women in Engineering Program and Engineering Advising Office. Recognized for her outstanding record of making a difference to the lives of women by supporting the well-being and interests of females, she has been with UW-Platteville for 14 years, providing leadership outside of her normal job duties, including being co-chair, chair and member of the Women’s Council, giving presentations of women’s issues to the College Advisory Boards, the UW’s Women and Science Program, college classrooms and at various high school and academic conferences.

**Woman of Color**

**Shenita Ray**

The UW System Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award recognizes women of color who have consistently demonstrated their ability to rally diverse forces to advance the agenda of women, created positive changes at their institutions or demonstrated an understanding of the interplay of family and community and culture in the lives of women of color. Ray began at UW-Platteville in 2006 when she became the **Continued on page 29**
On Dec. 3, 2011, the UW-Platteville inducted six people into its Athletic Hall of Fame. Candidates for induction are selected based on outstanding performance in intercollegiate athletics while a student at UW-Platteville, outstanding coaching performance for at least 15 years or outstanding contributions to UW-Platteville athletics. This year’s inductees are Scott Arneson, Frank Bins, Tom Caccia, Jeff Eastlick, Greg Mursch and Jeff Swalve. The six-member class will bring the Hall of Fame membership to 165.

Scott Arneson (1), a three-time All-American and two-time National Wrestling Coaches Association All-American, was a standout for the Pioneers on the wrestling mat from 1985 to 1988, with a career record of 126-25 in four years. He won three straight Wisconsin State University Conference titles, finished fourth in the nation as a freshman and fifth as a senior, and was recognized as the conference’s Most Valuable Wrestler as a senior. He is currently the head wrestling coach at Merrill High School in Merrill, Wis. He also earned his master’s degree from UW-Stevens Point.

Frank Bins (2), who played on the Pioneer football team from 1960 to 1962 after transferring from the University of Northern Michigan, earned all-conference honors both on the offensive side as a guard and defensive side of the ball as a linebacker during his senior season, and All-WSUC recognition as a junior and senior. He was also selected as the Platteville Sportsman of the Year in 1963. After his collegiate playing days, he went on to play two seasons of semi-pro football for the Sheboygan Red Wings.

Tom Caccia (3) enters the Hall of Fame for his outstanding efforts as a swimming coach. For the last 32 years, Caccia has been involved with the swimming program at Platteville High School. He has been recognized twice by the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches of America and has served as the NISCA journal editor for 14 years. As a coach, he has directed
individuals to 16 all-state honors, numerous state qualifiers and conference champions. In addition, his teams have performed well in the classroom to earn academic recognition from the NISCA.

Jeff Eastlick (4) was the 1980 WIAC wrestling champion at 190 pounds and two-time runner-up in 1981 and 1982. He also was a four-year letter winner on the Pioneer football team. At the NAIA Championships in 1980, he placed eighth and finished third in 1981, earning All-American recognition. At the time of his graduation, he was the program’s all-time wins leader in wrestling with 113.

Greg Mursch (5) was a valuable member of the UW-Platteville men’s track and field team from 1989 to 1993. A three-time NCAA qualifier and two-time All-American, he teamed up with Paul Conlin for what is one of the most productive throwing duos in school history. As a junior in 1992, he was third in the discus and in 1993 as a senior earned seventh.

Jeff Swalve (6) was a standout in the Pioneer baseball program from 1991 to 1995, ranking him among the top 10 in nine different offensive categories. As a three-time first team all-WIAC selection, Swalve played on two of the most successful baseball teams in program history. In 118 games, he posted a .351 career batting average with 142 hits, 107 RBIs and 88 runs scored. He finished his career with 34 doubles and eight triples which both rank second all-time.

Denny Pratt Spirit Award

During Homecoming 2011, Chancellor Dennis J. Shields awarded 1967 history alumna Julie Wickland the annual Denny Pratt Spirit Award in recognition of her exceptional support and promotion of UW-Platteville.

As the long-time secretary of the Alumni Association board of directors; an active alumna in the Madison area; a regular contributor to the Alumni Association and the Foundation along with her husband, Rex; Wickland embodies the service, positive attitude, initiative, resourcefulness, integrity and teamwork represented by this award. Congratulations!

ATTENTION, COACHES!

The John Barth Foundation would like to honor all UW-Platteville alumni conference champion coaches at its annual breakfast, held in Madison during the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletics Association boys state basketball tournament. For more information on the breakfast, e-mail Jim Meyers at jijumeyers@aol.com.

Sara Koeller, Katherine Jinkins and Amber Mefford with Bruce Kroll, owner of Platteville Culver’s

Custard creation contest

Out of 116 entries, three top flavors were chosen for the annual UW-Platteville Homecoming Custard Creation Challenge, sponsored by the Alumni Association and Culver’s in Platteville.

After, 9,162 votes from the community, “The Big Mmm” beat “Peanut Butter Pioneer” and “Mud Pie-oneer,” giving current student Amy Mefford, a biology major, eternal bragging rights for her vanilla custard with hot fudge sauce, Oreo cookie pieces, cookie dough and whipped cream creation, which definitely lived up to its name.
On Oct. 15, the inaugural Homecoming Hustle was held as part of Homecoming 2011. Thirty-five alumni, students and staff participated in a 3K or 5K run/walk race around campus. All proceeds benefitted the Alumni Association’s scholarship fund.

Thank you to our volunteers; Alumni Association Board Members: Tricia Reuter, John Krinke, Gary David, JoAnne Utthe-Gibson, Amy Nemmetz and Melissa Gavin; and our generous sponsors: Viewpoint, Mast Water Technology, Signs to Go, Supplement City, Snap Fitness and Nutrition World.

Hustle with us next year as part of Homecoming 2012 on Saturday, Oct. 20
FUN HOMECOMING FACTS!

Age of the oldest attending alum: 93
Floats in the parade: 22
Alumni recognized with awards: 18
Number of fireworks used: 880
Amount of food donated by students to food pantries: 2.5 TONS

2011 Award Winners
Continued from page 25

assistant director of the Distance Learning Center. She was nominated by Kathryn Lomax, director of the Office of Sponsored Programs, who emphasized that “Shenita’s advocacy has been unwavering.”

Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Award
Dr. Marilyn Tufte

The Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards program is administered by the UW System Office of Professional and Instructional Development and designed to award outstanding teachers at UW institutions within the Alliant Energy service area. Tufte, a biology professor, has been at UW-Platteville since 1968. She has been deeply involved in the continuing study of high pH cancer therapy and has been contacted by The National Cancer Center about non-conventional therapies.

Wisconsin Teaching Fellow
Dr. Charles Steiner

The Wisconsin Teaching Fellows Program is designed for early-career, untenured faculty who show exceptional promise as college teachers. Steiner is an assistant professor of agribusiness at UW-Platteville. He received a letter of support from Dr. Michael E. Compton, School of Agriculture director, who wrote, “Dr. Steiner is one of our highest rated instructors, consistently receiving outstanding performance ratings from his students and peers.”

Wisconsin Teaching Scholar
Dr. Avuthu Rami Reddy

The Wisconsin Teaching Scholars Program is designed for later-career faculty. Reddy is a School of Agriculture tenured faculty member with 10 years of teaching experience at UW-Platteville. Over the past decade, Reddy has developed technology-rich classes, conducted teaching-related research and used web course delivery systems such as D2L for collaborative work and learning groups through workshops.
Class Notes

1961

Terry Ingram was honored in August 2011 at the 50-year celebration of the Eagle Nature Foundation of Apple River, Ill., for his half-century of service to the organization as lead researcher, director and organizer of workshops and camps, including all Bald Eagle Day events and International Bald Eagle Days. According to ENF, “He never gave up his passion to help the bald eagle.”

1963

“UW-Platteville is a special place for many families, and the Grunow family is no exception,” said Dr. Jo- dean Grunow, senior lecturer for the UW-Platteville School of Education and Department of Mathematics. Grunow celebrated her birthday with her own alumni gathering: family pictures taken on the UW-Platteville campus, where so many of her family have attended and graduated. Her grandson, Tyler, is currently a sophomore on campus.

1964

Tom Dillon recently earned five medals in the 70-74 age group at the U.S. Masters National Swimming Championships held in August 2011 at Auburn University in Alabama. He has been competing at the national level since 1999. Dillon and wife, Judy, married 51 years, now live in Plano, Texas. They have three adult children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

1965

In May 2011, Fred Leverentz climbed to within sight of the summit of Mt. Everest in Tibet. The photo here was taken at the advanced base camp on Everest’s north face, at 21,493 feet. Leverentz began climbing in 2000 at the age of 60, and has subsequently climbed in all the major mountain ranges on five continents.

1971

Bill Charboneau, MD, has been recognized by U.S. News and World Report as ranking in the top 1 percent of physicians nationwide. This ranking is obtained by a physician peer review survey of over 20,000 physicians. He is a professor of radiology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. He was a recipient of the UW-Platteville Professional Accomplishment Award in 2000 and the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2007.

1972

After 38 years of teaching at Dubuque Senior High School, Robert Gomoll retired from the Dubuque Community Schools in 2009. He received his master’s degree in secondary education with a concentration in English from Loras College in 1976 and is currently an adjunct professor in the English department at the University of Dubuque.

1976

After 34 years with the Cedar Rapids Police Department in Iowa, Kenneth D. Washburn has been hired as public safety commander at the Eastern Iowa Airport, where he will oversee four captains and eight officers in handling law enforcement, fire fighting, medical incidents and the safety of operations.

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.
1977

Allan Giese was recently promoted to head of operations management at the Strategic Weapons Facility Atlantic located at Naval Submarine Base King’s Bay in King’s Bay, Ga.

1979

Deborah Reed has recently been promoted to deputy director of the Nevada Department of Corrections.

Sharon Fuller of New Berlin, Wis., will retire after serving for over 18 years as financial manager of the department of pathology, Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. She is looking forward to volunteer projects with Samaritan’s Purse Disaster Relief and a ministry in Waukesha, Wis.

1981

Lynn Washburn-Livingston was appointed fire chief for the Davenport, Iowa, fire department and began work in October 2011 as the first female chief in the history of the department. She retired from the Rockford, Ill., fire department after 30 years to take this new position. Davenport, internationally accredited and the second largest fire department in Iowa, has 142 personnel and seven stations.

1984

Major General Jeff W. Mathis III, deputy director for Antiterrorism/Homeland Defense, administered the oath of office to Colonel Martin D. Kerkenbush during a promotion ceremony at the Pentagon in August 2011. Kerkenbush is an aero/med plans officer with awards and decorations spanning 25 years of service with the United States Army. He is currently the chief, G-34 Protection Division for the Department of the Army/Medical Command and will assume command of the Patch Army Medical Clinic in Stuttgart, Germany in summer 2012. Kerkenbush is married to Lieutenant Colonel Nicole (Peterson) Kerkenbush of the Army Nurse Corps. They have two children, Garrett Martin, 6, and Katharina Mae, 4. Kerkenbush is the son of Thomas, ’58, and Ann of Evansville, Wis.

1986

Barbara Wills of Hazel Green, Wis., was named the January 2011 Educator of the Month for the Diocese of Madison. This award is given to a catholic schools teacher in the diocese and recognizes those who increase student learning while using new and innovative means of integrating Catholic teaching with academics. Wills has been the first and second grade teacher at St. Joseph’s School in Sinsinawa, Wis., for 24 years, and also serves as coordinator of religious education at St. Francis de Sales parish in Hazel Green.

1983

Steve Vale recently joined animal health supplement manufacturer Vets Plus Inc. of Knapp, Wis., as vice president of sales and marketing. Vale brings more than 25 years of experience in the animal health industry to his new position. He has also been a member of the UW-Platteville School of Agriculture advisory council since 2008.

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 for any of the alumni listed below, please contact Alumni Services at 1.800.897.2586 or send an e-mail to alumni@uwplatt.edu.

Ziyad Barq ’57 • Leland Towe ’57 • Clifford Brander ’57 • Jerry Hill ’57 • Jeannine Hill Suttle ’57 • Lawanna Blount Lease ’57 • Wilbur Cain ’57 • William Miller ’57 • Jiryis Oweis ’57 • Stanley Shields ’57 • William Strieff ’57 • Clarence Yahnt ’57 • Joan Faherty Nechvatal ’57 • Blanche Brandt Erwin ’58 • Gloria Collins Kalis ’58 • William Conroy ’58 • Thomas Martin ’58 • Joseph Sreenan ’58 • Mayme Pierce ’58 • Mary Taft Sawle ’58 • O Schantz ’58 • Adolph Anderson ’58 • Ronald Bussiere ’58 • Leland Toune ’59 • Ralph Faherty ’59 • Lavonne Trumbel Diehl ’59 • Evelyn Schoenoff Bump ’59 • Marvin Collins ’59 • Lee Dougherty ’59 • Art Jackett ’59 • Mabel Hodge Sakaida ’59 • Abbas Tabatabai ’59 • Beverly Turnipseed ’59 • Shirley Junge Yurksaitis ’59 • Viola Hittle Wosilait ’60 • A. Masters ’60 • Il Kap Lieu ’60 • Adel Massis ’60 • Janet Nishihara Kojima ’60 • Wayne Simpson ’60 • Joseph Smart ’60 • Larry Strohacker ’60 • Gale Radtke ’60 • Ronald Richolson ’60 • Roger Veir ’60 • David Trumbel ’60 • Hugh Potter ’60 • Gene Kooiman ’60 • Amin Mallick ’60 • Marjorie McFall Levake ’60 • Dorothy Durdall Gould ’60 • Harley Butzine ’60 • Ellen Byrns ’60 • Carole Chambers Scullion ’60 • Leona Foley ’60 • Mary Lapp Moen ’60 • Hasin Hashmi ’60
1990

Kristy (Voskuil) DeBlaey graduated from Silver Lake College in Manitowoc, Wis., in December 2010 with a master’s degree in management and organizational behavior. In addition to her current position as a sergeant with the Sheboygan County Sheriff’s Department, she is also an adjunct faculty member in the criminal justice program at Lakeland College in Sheboygan, Wis. She was recently selected as one of 35 police officers nationwide to be trained as a regional benefits coordinator for Wisconsin and Minnesota.

1991

Scott Lyman celebrated 15 years of service at Harley Davidson Motor Company in Milwaukee in summer 2011.

1992

Focusing his practice in the area of regulatory compliance involving the U.S. Department Labor-OSHA, state OSHA programs, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, John D. Surma recently joined Adams and Reese LLP as special counsel in the firm’s office in Houston. He earned his law degree from the UW Law School in 1994 and has been practicing law since 1995.

1996

Mike Bartels of Waukesha, Wis., received a Master of Education in instructional technology from Cardinal Stritch University in May 2011. He was also recently named vice president of Messmer Catholic Schools in Milwaukee, after serving Messmer’s technology administrator for 11 years.

2000

Heather Schuster was recently featured in the Tri-State Business Times in Dubuque, Iowa, for “having as many jobs as O.Henry.” Schuster’s splits her professional time between her position as the wedding and special events coordinator for Diamond Jo Casino, owner and operator of Cheryl-Ann Bridals, administrative assistant at Dubuque Lutheran School, office manager for Schuster Tree Service and contributing writer for the Chef’s Corner column in Julien’s Journal.

2003

Joann (Beuthin) Peterson placed in the top four FFA/Ag-Ed Instructor division of the 2011 Hoard’s Dairyman Cow Judging Contest, which she has participated in for the past eight years. She was featured in the May 10, 2011, edition of Hoards Dairyman – The National Dairy Farm Magazine.

Conveyor system and component manufacturer Superior Industries has appointed Matt Voigt as its new conveying equipment application engineering specialist. Voigt will help Superior’s existing territory managers develop material handing solutions for their customers in North America and around the world. He and his wife live in Minneapolis and are expecting their first child in early 2012.

1990s-2000s

Seventy soil and crop science alumni from five states gathered with spouses, friends and UW-Platteville faculty for the first annual picnic and golf outing at Apple Canyon Lake in Apple River, Ill. in September 2011. A similar event is scheduled for Sept. 7 at the same location. All soil and crop science alumni are invited. The winning team from the afternoon “best ball” tournament included Susie (Hollfelder) Justman, ’02; Bob Berkevich, ’06; Wade McLaughlin, ’07; and Dennie Vollmer, ’05.

Golfers pictured from left to right: Bryce Nelson, ’80; event chair Rick Lange, ’80; Jeff Miesen, ’94; and Dennis Anthony, ’95.
Ashley (McDermott) Miller married Paul Miller, ’05, on Nov. 20, 2010, in the Harry and Laura Nohr Art Gallery, with a reception following in Velzy Commons in Ullsvik Hall on the UW-Platteville campus. Members of the wedding party included Evan Pettit, ’08; Jodi Moen, ’10; Beth (Darrow) Sattler, ’08; Katie Dunn, ’04; Nick McDermott, ’05 and ’10; maid of honor Kendall McDermott, ’13; Craig Sanders, ’12; Hilary (Buttkofer) Baker, ’08 and ’11; Anne Marie (Liska) Weber, ’05; and Pam (Schriber) Broge, ’06. Ashley is the new band director for Lancaster Middle School and Paul is the music caption head/brass coordinator for the Shadow Armada marching band in Oregon, Wis.

Michael DeAmico and Amanda Stubbe were married at Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison, Wis., on July 17, 2010. Michael is currently pursuing a master’s degree at UW-Madison in civil engineering transportation. Amanda is a civil engineer with Ourstrom Roundabout Engineering of Madison.

2010

Derek Putz has accepted a job with Schmitt Engineering in Wauconda, Ill.

Anton Breunig has been sworn in as a volunteer for the Peace Corps in Moldova for two years, where he will spend his first year team-teaching English to grades four-11 with a Moldovan teacher and the second year teaching on his own. He will live with a Russian Orthodox priest and his family for the entirety of his service. His parents are Dan and Marjean, ’73, Breunig of La Crosse, Wis.
In Memoriam

1936
Lyla M. Vinje, Hollandale, Wis.

1937
Ruth E. Trecek, Montfort, Wis.

1938
Ruth M. Kay (Spink), Waunakee, Wis.
Dorothy J. Smith, Spring Green, Wis.

1939
Norma F. Knutson, Middleton, Wis.

1941
Mary Joynt, Houston, Texas
Charlotte M. Dressler, Potosi, Wis.

1942
Hobart B. Tredinnick, Mineral Point, Wis.

1945
Francis Krumholz, Eau Claire, Wis.

1946
Jean E. Holzer, Fennimore, Wis.
Eugene N. Bennett, Ft. Logan, Colo.

1949
Charles W. Tandy, Tulsa, Okla.

1950
LaVerne G. Draves, Dodgeville, Wis.

1951
Ernest D. Cornwall, Scottsdale, Ariz.
David M. Smith, Baraboo, Wis.
Douglas A. Steinback, Platteville, Wis.

1952
John McDermid, Gillette, Wis.

1954
Robert L. Borck, South Milwaukee, Wis.

1956
Joan A. Dempsey, Menomonee Falls, Wis.

1958
George V. Frater, Tampa, Fla.

1959
Phyllis A. Irish, Reedsburg, Wis.

1960
William F. Asp, Goodyear, Ariz.
Gerald A. Peterson, Lodi, Wis.

1962
Nancy J. Nalepinski, Lancaster, Wis.
Donovan E. McCabe, Oostburg, Wis.

1963
Grace M. Thiele, Boscobel, Wis.
Eugene J. Wielgus, Pulaski, Wis.

1964
Lavina C. Grindeman, Muscoda, Wis.

1965
Francis P. Fry, Dodgeville, Wis.

1966
Gilda Finnegan, Platteville, Wis.

1967
William Cody, Eureka, Mo.

1968
Jerry L. Rous, Junction City, Wis.

1970
Thiau M. Jackson, Deforest, Wis.

1971
Stephen E. Leuth, Stratham, N.H.

1973
Thomas J. Jacobs, Lugoff, S.C.

1975
Brad T. Moberg, Rockford, Ill.

1976
Daniel G. Burchik, Madison/Blanchardville, Wis.

1981
Denise M. (Touchette) Hooker, Hazel Crest, Ill.

1984
Michael (Knute) P. Pleshek, Chilton, Wis.

1986
Brian J. Sturtevant, Appleton, Wis.

2001
Victoria L. Beers, Wauzeka, Wis.

2002
Matthey P. Sisko, Mount Horeb, Wis.

Faculty Emeriti
Thomas Morris, Mission, Texas
Ray Short, Califon, N.J.
Edward O. Busby, Madison, Wis.

Retired Employees
Mervin Broihahn, Platteville, Wis.
Lyle C. Kienitz, Cassville, Wis.

Employees
Anthony D. “Tony” Thomas, Platteville, Wis.
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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) ________________________________

Attach Class Note information and a photo. Mail to: Alumni Services, UW-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville WI 53818-3099
Calendar of Events

JANUARY
Saturday, January 21
Alumni Board of Directors Meeting
Markee Pioneer Student Center
Community Scholarship Program Reception for Grant County Area School Districts
Markee Pioneer Student Center
Men’s Basketball Alumni Night
Williams Fieldhouse
Wednesday, January 25
UW-Platteville Retirees’ Breakfast
Ullsvik Hall
January 28-30
Sunshine State Socials
Saturday - Ft. Myers, Fla. MacDaddy’s
Sunday - Sarasota, Fla. Miller’s Ale House
Monday - The Villages, Fla. Bonifay Country Club

February
Saturday, February 4
Milwaukee Lakefront Brewery Tour
Saturday, February 11
Men’s Baseball Banquet
Williams Fieldhouse
Wednesday, February 15
Follow-up Networking Session to the Career Fair
Steve’s Pizza, Platteville
Saturday, February 18
Lambeau Field Day
Tour Lambeau Field, eat lunch at Curly’s Pub and tour the Hall of Fame

MARCH
March 8-11
Arizona Alumni Events
Tempe, Ariz.
Phoenix, Ariz.
Tuscon, Ariz.
Friday, March 9
Alumni Night with the Dubuque Fighting Saints
Wednesday, March 28
UW-Platteville Retirees’ Breakfast
Ullsvik Hall

APRIL
Tuesday, April 10
Emeriti Luncheon
Velzy Commons
Thursday, April 12
EMS Expo Post Social
Chicago’s Best, Platteville
Friday, April 13
Rockford, Ill. Alumni, Family and Friends Social
Wednesday, April 18
New Member Social
Markee Pioneer Student Center
Saturday, April 28
Alumni Board of Directors Meeting
Markee Pioneer Student Center

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1.800.UWP.ALUM (897.2586) or alumni@uwplatt.edu

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□ New Member
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Make check payable to UW-Platteville Alumni Association OR charge □ Visa □ MasterCard □ Discover Total Enclosed $ ____________
Card # ____________ Exp. ________ Signature ____________________________
Matt and Holly (Kaiser) Clendenen, ’06, announce the birth of their son, Carter Jerome Clendenen, on July 23, 2011. Carter weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. and was 20 inches long. He is the couple’s first child. Holly works at the UW-Platteville Foundation and Matt owns Icon Construction in Hazel Green, Wis.

Lee, ’02, and Rebecca (Blanchette) Gibbs, ’02, welcomed Hannah Renee to their family on July 12, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs. and was 20.5 inches long. Hannah was welcomed home by big brother Noah (4).

Tom, ’03 and ’11, and Kate (Fleeg) Koeller, ’01 and ’04, welcomed Evan John on Feb. 10, 2011. He joined big sisters Lauren (4) and Emily (2). They are the most photographed “clients” at mom’s business, Studio Infinity Photography of Southwest Wisconsin.


Cand y (Droeszler) (’02) and Ryan Temperly (’02) welcomed Charlotte Jo Temperly on July 1, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz. and was 21 inches long. Charlotte joins brother Wyatt (2).

Lee, ’02, and Rebecca (Blanchette) Gibbs, ’02, welcomed Hannah Renee to their family on July 12, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs. and was 20.5 inches long. Hannah was welcomed home by big brother Noah (4).

Jeff Moyer, ’07, and Emily (Davis) Moyer, ’07, welcomed their first child, Addison Marie, on Sept. 17, 2010. The family resides in Stoughton, Wis., where Jeff and Emily run their second-generation family business, Moyer’s Landscape Services and Hometown Nurseries Inc.

Outfit your little future Pioneer with a brand-new onesie from the UW-Platteville Alumni Association!

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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.
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