**CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION**

The Confucius Institute held its seventh annual Chinese New Year celebration on Feb. 1 in Velzy Commons, Ullsvik Hall. At the event, Confucius Institute staff, instructors, student assistants, and volunteers hosted activity stations on martial arts, face painting, calligraphy, couplets, and souvenirs as well as hosted on-stage performances that included lion dances, martial arts, musical performances, and more.

**SCHULENBERG PUBLISHES ARTICLE**

Dr. Chris Schulenburg, Associate Professor of Spanish at UW-Platteville, recently published “What Jumps Out at You?: Female Art Appreciation in Zoé Valdés’s ‘Una novelista en el Museo del Louvre’” in the journal *Letras Femeninas*. His article explores themes in the novel related to female societal position and social status as well as addresses how human beings consume art and who is in control of art.

**SOOFI, GUEST EDITOR**

Dr. Abdol Soofi, Professor of economics at UW-Platteville, will be working with his colleague, Dr. Sepehr Ghazinoory, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran, as a guest editor on a special issue of *Technological Forecasting and Social Change* on science and technology in Iran, "Development of Science and Technology in Iran: The Challenges of Innovation and Commercialization."

**A MESSAGE FROM DR. ELIZABETH A. THROOP, COLLEGE OF LAE DEAN**

It has been a difficult few weeks at UW-Platteville as we are hit with budget cut after budget cut. The ramifications of Governor Walker’s budget announcements in early February remain unclear, and his plans for UW System remain hazy. The University is working as actively as possible to minimize the effects of any budget cuts on our students, first and foremost, and our faculty, teaching academic staff, and other staff. It does appear, sadly, that some layoffs are going to be necessary. Chancellor Shields is being as transparent as possible through this process, and the deans have been part of the conversation from the beginning. We don’t know what our budget will look like ultimately—that won’t happen until, perhaps, June—but we are planning for the worst and hoping for the not so terrible. In all of this, though, I marvel at our amazing students and the dedicated faculty and staff of LAE and UW-Platteville. They remind me always that every day is a great day to be a Pioneer!

**STUDENTS USE GIS TO MAP LOCAL FOOD PRODUCERS**

Twenty-one students in Dr. Lynnette Dornak’s Introduction to Geographic Information Systems course spent last semester using ArcGIS—a geographic information system software that provides an infrastructure for making maps and geographic information available throughout organizations, communities, and the web—to map local food producers for the Driftless Market in Platteville and the Dubuque Food Co-op in Dubuque, Iowa. Dornak is an Assistant Professor of geography at UW-Platteville.

**STUDENTS SHARE RESEARCH ABOUT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

Students enrolled in the Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies course recently completed research projects that gave them insight into gender-based violence, then shared them with others through social media. Dr. Dong Isbister, Assistant Professor of women’s and gender studies at UW-Platteville and Wisconsin Teaching Fellow for the 2014–15 academic year, taught the course.

Student projects addressed a variety of topics, including gender-based violence on college campuses, acid attacks and the caste system in India, the military, the media, sports, and cyber-bullying. The projects also addressed gender-based violence against individuals who are homosexual as well as domestic violence involving athletes in the National Football League.

When the projects were completed, students presented the results orally as well as online using WordPress, a web software that allows users to create their own websites and blogs free of charge. Some of the projects already have had followers and multiple hits since they were released. See more at www.uwplatt.edu/news/students-share-research-about-gender-based-violence.

In our efforts to increase attendance of UW-Platteville faculty, staff, and alumni as well as tri-state community members at arts and cultural events on campus, we developed a calendar of campus-wide events that are designed to enlighten and broaden perspectives, promote an appreciation of the performing and visual arts, and deepen understanding of the vibrant diversity of people and cultures in the world. To view February’s calendar, go to www.uwplatt.edu/uic/arts-cultural-events.
STUDENT’S FIELDWORK PROJECT LEADS TO JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Nick Harnish, left, a UW-Platteville senior with a double major in criminal justice and political science and a double minor in geography and social and environmental justice, has several job opportunities in the field of conservation, thanks to the success of a field work project he completed last summer at the L.E. Phillips Scout Reservation property in Haugen, Wisconsin.

During the six-week cooperative field experience, Harnish created and implemented a conservation plan for the L.E. Phillips Scout Reservation property in Haugen, which houses 3,000 Boy Scouts at a 10-week camp each summer. The success of Harnish’s field work project has led to two additional opportunities that have given him a chance to have an even greater impact on conservation—working with the Chippewa Valley Council—Boy Scouts of America in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and working with the Goth Conservation, a 20-acre property in the town of Middleton, Wisconsin.

Dr. Richard Waugh, Professor of geography at UW-Platteville, and Dr. Travis Nelson, Associate Professor of political science and Coordinator of the social and environmental justice program at UW-Platteville, served as Harnish’s advisors for the Boy Scout project. Waugh and Dr. Lynnette Dornak, Assistant Professor of geography at UW-Platteville, served as his advisors for the Middleton Goth Park project.

For more information about the project and Harnish’s job opportunities, go to www.uwplatt.edu/news/students-field-work-project-leads-job-opportunities-conservation.

STUDENTS FACILITATE VICTIM IMPACT PROGRAM WITH INMATES

More than 20 students from UW-Platteville recently facilitated three sessions of victim impact programming with more than 70 inmates at the Prairie du Chien Correctional Institution in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. The students were enrolled in the Victimology and Restorative Justice Special Topics course, taught by Dr. Amy Nemmetz, Assistant Professor of criminal justice at UW-Platteville.

At the first session, students led exercises that encouraged inmates to think about how their crimes had impacted others. At the second session, students and inmates watched a video clip and had discussions about the impact of power, control, controlled substances, domestic violence, and intimate partner violence.

At the third session, students and inmates made fleece tie blankets while the inmates talked about their past, present, and future life choices. When the project was finished, the inmates voted to give the 31 blankets they had made to children in foster care. Inmates later finished an additional seven blankets on their own that were donated to Family Advocates, a nonprofit organization in Platteville that provides services for victims of sexual assault and family/partner abuse.

STUDENTS USE CREATIVITY TO EXPLORE THEMES IN CAMPUS READ

Students, faculty, and staff at UW-Platteville have engaged in a variety of projects related to the university’s 2014–15 Campus Read selection, I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban.

Students in the Basic Design 2-D course, taught by Richard Moninski, Distinguished Lecturer of art at UW-Platteville, created an eight-panel series of images—modeled after storyboards for films and videos or pages from graphic novels—to convey the main threads of a narrative they chose from I Am Malala. They had the freedom to choose any media, whether traditional or digital, to execute these artworks. They were instructed to pay special attention to changes in scale, contrast, direction, lighting, spatial relationships, and point of view in order to present a variety of compositional strategies in the sequence of frames.

Thirty-five students in the Meetings and Events course, taught by Dr. B.J. Reed, Professor of communication in the media studies program, read and participated in discussions about the book. The students also listened to I Am Malala, a panel and live stream presentation by UW-Madison’s keynote speaker, Shiza Shahid, co-founder of the Malala Fund.

UW-Platteville faculty members will continue to implement Campus Read activities and projects in their classrooms throughout the spring semester. The university will hold a campus-wide vote for the 2015–16 Campus Read book this February. For more information about the Campus Read program, visit http://www.uwplatt.edu/campus-read.
FROM THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS ...

On Dec. 3, the CFA hosted “Cherish the Ladies” as part of the 2014–15 Performing Arts Series. The Grammy nominated, five woman ensemble has toured the world and played at the Olympics. A performance of their current tour was videotaped for an Emmy nominated Public Television special. The audience enjoyed an evening of beautiful vocals, captivating arraignments, and stunning step dancing. Everyone enjoyed the immensely entertaining show. The Center for the Arts welcomed Green Bay natives Jeb and Jock Guthrie to the Brodbeck Concert Hall on Saturday, Jan. 31. And soon after, trombonist Wycliffe Gordon headlined the UW-Platteville Jazz Festival Big Band on Friday, Feb. 6.

— Michael Breitner, Director of Arts Facilities and Series

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS ...

The department of performing and visual arts finished a great fall semester by raising over $10,000 at our annual Holiday Gala. Hundreds of performers helped ring in the holidays and raised funds to support scholarship money for many talented musicians. The spring semester also brings many opportunities to enjoy great music and theatre. The annual UW-Platteville Jazz Festival was held Feb. 6, featuring the internationally acclaimed trombone artist Wycliffe Gordon, Festival Big Band, our own university Jazz Band I, and outstanding high school musicians. Feb. 13 and 14 will be our Tri-State Honors Band Festival. It will feature talented area high school musicians, the University Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and performances by our great performing artist teachers. Our Pioneer Players will present “Agnes of God” by John Pielmeier on Feb. 18–22. The Nohr Gallery will host the biennial “Faculty Show” from March 1–April 4. March 6 will bring our University Orchestra Concert followed closely by a concert featuring our University Concert Choir, University Singers, and Chamber Choir on March 8. On April 23, faculty pianist Eugene Alcalay will perform in concert. There will be many more great performances in April and May, so make our UW-Platteville Center for the Arts and Nohr Gallery your destination for outstanding art, music, and theatre.

— Daniel Fairchild, Professor of music and Interim Co-chair of the department of performing and visual arts

UW-PLATTEVILLE RECEIVES $327,000 UW SYSTEM GRANT

UW-Platteville will be awarded a $327,000 University of Wisconsin System grant, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title IIA, Wisconsin Improving Teacher Quality program, for support of a three-year, professional development project for STEM teacher education.

The grant will officially begin March 1 and extend through July 2017. A portion of the grant amount, $149,000, will be awarded in the first months of the grant and the rest will be awarded in the next two years, following assurance that grant goals are being met.

The project, “Intelligent Integration of STEM Components to Build Educator Effectiveness and Student Proficiency,” is under the direction of project directors Dr. Tim Deis, mathematics Professor; Dr. Jodean Grunow, Senior Lecturer, mathematics, UW-Platteville; and project advisors, Dr. Karen Stinson, Director of the School of Education and Dr. Barb Barnet, mathematics department Chair and Professor of statistics at UW-Platteville.

The grant will provide professional development in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for 30–50 teachers. Three partner Local Educational Authorities have signed on to the project: Fennimore, Black Hawk, and Highland. The development opportunity will also be open to other LEAs, depending on availability. Admission for the project is by application. School teams, including administrators, are encouraged to apply. In keeping with current national and state initiatives and UW-Platteville’s STEM initiative, applications will be accepted from the various STEM disciplines and there will be an emphasis on connecting university efforts to school district needs. Additional information regarding the grant can be obtained from Grunow at grunowj@uwplatt.edu and/or Deis at deist@uwplatt.edu. Applications will be sent via email upon request.
Sixteen UW-Platteville students wrote, edited and published No Money, College Edition, an e-magazine designed to provide UW-Platteville students with information that helps them make budget-conscious decisions and get more value for their time and money. The magazine was published online Jan. 23.

The student writers/publishers were enrolled in the Magazine Editing and Writing course last fall, taught by Karen Pluemer, English lecturer at UW-Platteville. Throughout the semester, students pitched ideas, wrote feature articles, incorporated notes and revised submissions. Nine articles and a column regarding net neutrality were selected for publication.

Three students volunteered to serve as editors of the magazine: Connie Spyropoulos, a senior English education major; Megan Woolcock, a senior professional writing major; and Jeremy Williamson, a senior communications major. The students were assigned articles to edit and page using joomag, a free online e-magazine service.


Matt Gregg, Senior Lecturer of music, Associate Director of bands and Director of the Marching Pioneers at UW-Platteville, has been teaching at the university for 11 years. Gregg teaches marching band, Music Theory I and II, Aural Skills I and II, and Music Appreciation. He also conducts the university’s Symphony Band and is the Associate Conductor of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. In addition, he is a performer in the faculty group Ensemble Nouveau.

Gregg earned a Bachelor of Music Education from UW-Milwaukee and a Master of Music Education from UW-Madison. Prior to teaching and conducting at UW-Platteville, he was band director at Nikolay Middle School and Cambridge High School in Cambridge, Wisconsin, as well as a band director at Oconomowoc High School in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. He also marched in and eventually taught the Madison Drum and Bugle Corps, a world-class group that is one of the oldest and most storied organizations in the modern-day drum and bugle corps activity.

To read his complete Pioneer Spotlight, go to www.uwplatt.edu/news/pioneer-spotlight-matthew-gregg.

Dr. Richard Garrett, left, a Senior English Lecturer at UW-Platteville, and Dr. Catherine Douillet, right, Lecturer of sociology at UW-Platteville, taught in Moldova’s capital city of Chisinau from September 2013 through January 2014. Garrett taught at Moldova State University and Douillet at the Free International University of Moldova.

Garrett and Douillet were each awarded Fulbright Scholar grants through the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in August 2012, which made the teaching opportunity in Moldova possible. The core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program provides approximately 800 teaching and/or research grants to U.S. faculty and experienced professionals in a wide variety of academic and professional fields.

Douillet taught Gender and Options for Equality to graduate psychology students and Sociology of Communication to undergraduate students majoring in economics. She taught the latter course in French, her native language. Garrett taught academic writing to undergraduate and graduate students, American Literature to graduate students, and British Literature to undergraduate English majors.

To read their complete Pioneer Spotlight, go to www.uwplatt.edu/news/pioneer-spotlight-richard-garrett-and-catherine-douillet.