

10th Annual Bowls for Hope event to benefit River Falls Sunshine Fund



January 9, 2019 - Each March the University of Wisconsin-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the Bowls for Hope event where proceeds raised help a worthy organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley. River Falls Sunshine Fund has been selected as the benefiting organization this year.

The 10th Annual Bowls for Hope event is Tuesday, March 5, from 5-7 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center at UW-River Falls. Everyone is invited to take part in this community event.

For an entrance fee of \$25/adult and \$5/children age 12 and under, participants may select and keep a bowl created in ceramic, pottery, fibers, wood and glass studio classes at UW-River Falls, River Falls High School, Meyer Middle School, the Renaissance Academy, or by

area artists. Attendees may then sample, at no extra charge, soups donated and served by area restaurants. Guests may vote for their favorite soup. A "Chefs' Choice Award" will also be given for the soup favored by the chefs participating in the event. A silent auction will feature items donated by the artists. Items purchased will need to be paid for the evening of the event with cash or check.

River Falls Sunshine Fund is a compassionate high school student lead nonprofit organization that offers help to families and students in the greater River Falls area in times of crisis. The organization offers support when family members pass, battle cancer, or have other hardships in their daily lives by providing gas cards, meal vouchers, and other forms of support.

"I feel very fortunate and grateful that the River Falls Sunshine Fund was selected to receive this year's Bowls for Hope event proceeds," said River Falls High School senior Autumn Gray. "Being a part of the Sunshine Fund has always been a sincere honor. I cherish being able to give back to families amid their struggles. I understand what difficulties can feel like from my own family's experiences."

"We plan to use this money to continue our mission of giving back to families in our school district during their hardships," Gray said. "These families need a support system they can depend on to show them they are not alone. Thank you for selecting the River Falls Sunshine Fund as the recipient of the 2019 Bowls of Hope proceeds."

Participating restaurants:

Belle Vinez, Bo's 'N Mine, Copper Kettle, Junior's Restaurant and Tap House, Kilkarney Hills, Kinni Café, Mei Mei's Cookies, River Falls Area Hospital Dining Services, Chartwells Dining Services at UWRF, West Wind Supper Club, and WE Market Co-op.

Artists contributing bowls:

Marilyn Anderson, Donna Badje, Ingrid Bjerstedt-Rogers, Eoin Breadon, Bob Brodersen, Tom Caflisch, Cheryl Carter, Patrick Casanova, Roger Evans, Jay Jensen, Randy Johnston, Kinnickinnic Clayworks LLC, Michael Luethmers, Pat McCardle, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Wendy Olson, S.C. Rolf, and Rhonda Willers. Michael Helke's ceramic classes at UWRF, Eoin Breadon's glass studio classes at UWRF, Renaissance Academy classes taught by Kyle Stapleton, River Falls High School ceramic classes taught by Taylor Berman, and Kelyn King's class at Meyer Middle School.

Special again this year are bowls made by Bob Brodersen from clay that belonged to the late Doug Johnson.

Tickets can be purchased at the River Falls Chamber of Commerce, 215 West Maple Street; at the UWRF Chancellor's Office, 116 North Hall; and at the Information Desk in the University Center on campus. Purchasing tickets in advance will guarantee a bowl. Tickets will also be available at the door. If questions about advance ticket sales, call 715-425-3201.

For more information, visit www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope/ or email mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu

Graduate program tuition discount deadline extended

January 3, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls has extended the deadline for teachers and other educational professionals to apply for a tuition discount to the Professional Development Learning Community master's degree within the College of Education and Professional Studies.

Eligible students who enroll before Jan. 18 may receive \$500 off their tuition as they take courses toward a master of science in education degree.

"We still have a few spots remaining in the learning community cohort which will begin this spring," said Elizabeth Janey, faculty coordinator. "Upon completion of this degree, graduates are well positioned to become an educational leader in their school or other educational workplace."

Interested students should contact Pamela Bowen, program manager, UWRF Continuing Education, at 715-425-0633 or pamela.bowen@uwrf.edu for more information about the tuition discount and application instructions.

Additional information about the degree program is available at <http://choose.uwrf.edu/mse-pd/>.

Spring semester public astronomy talks and observatory viewings

January 24, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Physics Department begins its spring season of free public observatory viewings and astronomy talks on Tuesday, Feb. 5. Objects to be seen include planets, globular clusters, open clusters, nebulae, galaxies, moons, and double stars.

The first stargazing (new moon, Uranus and Mars setting) session on **Feb. 5** includes Professor Eileen Korenic presenting "Spacecraft Beyond Pluto: Where Are They Now?" at 8 p.m. in 271 Centennial Science Hall, located at the corner of 6th and E. Cascade Ave. The discussion precedes the 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing on the observation deck on third floor.

All observatory viewings are dependent on a clear sky. Please call 715-425-3560 after 6 p.m. or visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/PHYS/Observatory.cfm> to verify that the sky is clear enough for viewing. The talk will go on as scheduled regardless of the sky.

A Physics Department faculty member and/or student will staff each telescope and be available to answer questions at each open telescope session. Observers are encouraged to stay and look at as many elements as possible and request personal observing targets.

Since the dome is unheated and the observing deck is outside open to the elements, visitors should dress appropriately for the weather. The viewings and talks are suitable for all ages.

Other viewings this semester include:

Wednesday, March 13, 8 p.m., "China on the Moon: The Second Rabbit" presented by Professor Eileen Korenic in 271 Centennial Science Hall, followed by an 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing (waxing crescent moon, Mars) on the observation deck on third floor.

Wednesday, April 10, 8 p.m., "Impacts from Space: Should We Worry?" by Professor Eileen Korenic in 271 Centennial Science Hall, followed by an 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing (waxing crescent moon and Mars visible until about 9 p.m.) on the observation deck on third floor.

For more information, email glenn.spiczack@uwrf.edu or eileen.korenic@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3560.



UWRF team members (left to right) Leanna Schneider, Morgan Orr, Derek Lenzen, Kyle Hilger, Jordyn Bush, Brett Breitenfeldt, Anthony Neitzke, and Yoana Newman (coach) took first place in the National Forage Bowl competition.

Team places first in National Forage Bowl

January 17, 2019 - A team of students from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls took first place in the National Forage Bowl competition held in conjunction with the 75th Annual Conference of the American Forage and Grassland Council in St. Louis, Mo., January 6-9.

The competition is an undergraduate team event with a format similar to the game show Jeopardy. Categories cover all aspects of forage production and management.

This is the fourth year UW-River Falls has competed in the Forage Bowl and the first time the team took top honors. In addition to the team award, member Derek Lenzen received first place in a separate forage identification contest.

The UWRF team competed against five other undergraduate schools including Kansas State University, Purdue, Auburn, North Carolina State University and University of Mount Olive.

The team was coached by Yoana Newman, assistant professor of Crop Science and State Extension Forage Specialist. A USDA – National Institute on Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant awarded to Newman helped support the team travel to the competition. The grant has also supported new equipment for the classroom and several undergraduate field research projects.

The team consisted of Brett Breitenfeldt, Wausau; Jordyn Bush, Lakeville, Minn.; Kyle Hilger, Bloomer; Derek Lenzen, Chaska, Minn.; Anthony Neitzke, Egg Harbor; Morgan Orr, Waupaca; and Leanna Schneider, Foley, Minn.

The students represent four different program areas at UW-River Falls – Crop and Soil Science, Animal Science, Dairy Science and Agricultural Business.



UW-River Falls receives NCAA/MOAA Diversity Award at the 2019 NCAA Convention (left to right) NCAA President Mark Emmert; Minority Opportunities in Athletics Administration (MOAA) President and Athletic Director at Virginia State Peggy Davis; and NCAA Executive Vice President of Inclusion and Human Resources Katrice Albert; UWRF Assistant Athletic Director Kellen Wells-Mangold; UWRF Coordinator for Diversity, Inclusion & Student-Athlete Success Chantel Flegler; UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen; UWRF Athletic Director Crystal Lanning.

UW-River Falls earns NCAA/MOAA Diversity Award

January 25, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Athletics Department was honored with the NCAA and Minority Opportunities Athletic Association's 2019 Award for Diversity and Inclusion during the NCAA Convention today in Orlando, Fla.

The award is a partnership between the two organizations to recognize and celebrate the practices, programs and policies of NCAA colleges, universities and athletics conference offices that embrace diversity and inclusion. Schools have been recognized for their professional development programs that help educate staff and student-athletes about inclusive practices; community outreach as it relates to diversity; and efforts that enhance opportunities for people of diverse cultures, backgrounds and experiences.

UW-River Falls has implemented comprehensive, forward-thinking initiatives that enhance culture and student success not only in athletics, but across the entire campus. Their strategic efforts to drive inclusive excellence on campus were deemed "exemplary."

"Inclusiveness is one of the core values of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls so we are honored to have our Athletics

Department recognized as a national leader in diversity and inclusion efforts," said UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "Because of these efforts, UW-River Falls is a more welcoming and inclusive campus, and our students will be better prepared to be effective leaders and citizens."

"Falcon athletics is proud to serve as a campus partner in creating opportunities to have conversations about cultural differences and supporting an environment where everyone feels welcomed and appreciated," said UW-River Falls Athletic Director Crystal Lanning.

There are over 1,100 eligible institutions in the NCAA and UWRF is the only D3 university to receive the award since its inception in 2013.

View a YouTube video put together by the NCAA regarding the award to UWRF at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dk1x3DFzwpo>

UW-River Falls earns reaccreditation from Higher Learning Commission

January 16, 2019 - The status of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls as an accredited institution of higher education has been reaffirmed by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Accreditation is a process used to evaluate the quality of post-secondary educational institutions and to ensure certain standards are met.

"We are delighted that the university has earned reaccreditation through the rigorous review process of the Higher Learning Commission," said UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "This speaks to the excellence of our faculty, staff and students and our strong commitment to providing a high-quality educational experience."

The reaccreditation process entailed a rigorous review of all operational aspects of the university, including academics, governance, administration and resources. HLC evaluated UW-River Falls according to criteria in five key areas: 1) mission; 2) ethical and responsible conduct; 3) quality of resources and support for teaching and learning; 4) evaluation and improvement of teaching and learning; and 5) resources, planning and institutional effectiveness. To demonstrate fulfillment of these criteria, UWRF submitted several reports, including a quality initiative report, a federal compliance report, and an assurance report, followed by a campus visit by a team of HLC peer reviewers last fall.

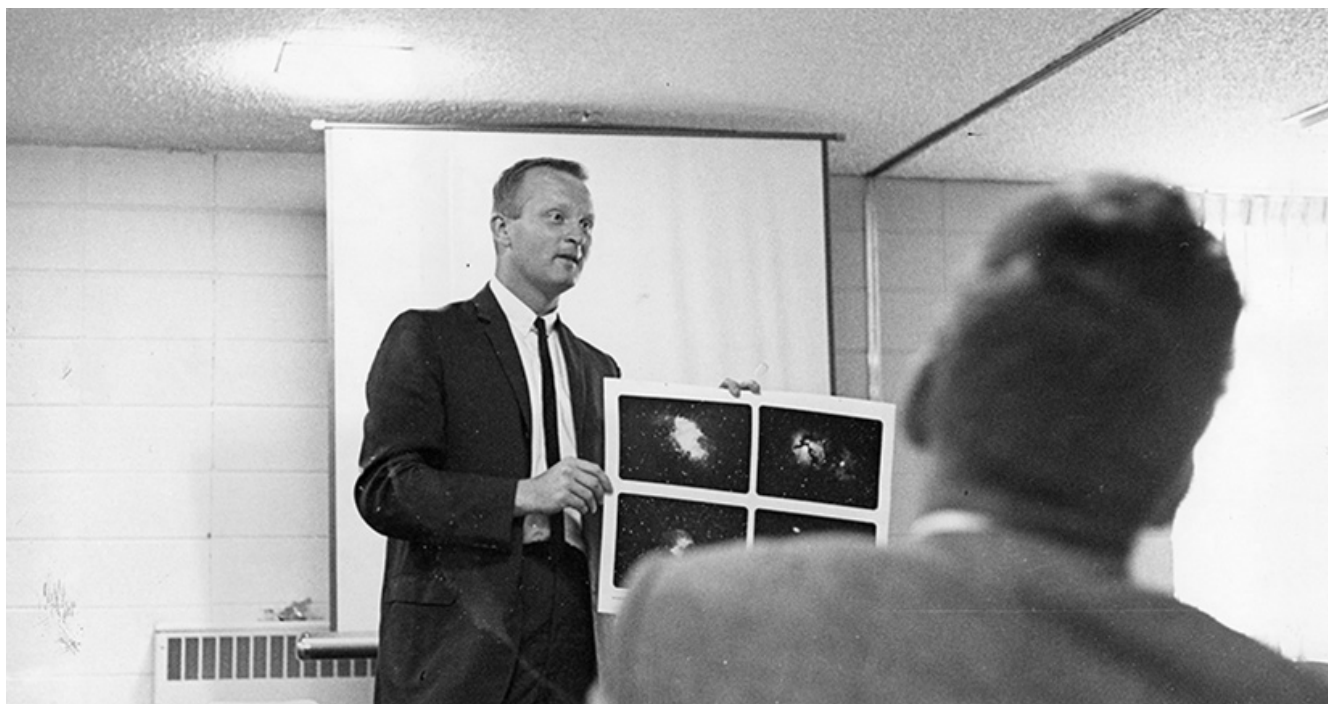
"Preparing for the HLC visit was a campus-wide commitment," said Associate Provost Wes Chapin, chair of UWRF's reaccreditation committee. "Bringing together faculty and staff from every discipline to demonstrate UWRF's commitment to excellence was a tremendous source of pride."

Aligned with its mission, UW-River Falls chose "Comprehensive Internationalization" as its quality initiative. The commission's review was very positive and accepted the report as a genuine effort to internationalize the institution, stating, "It is clear that UW-River Falls has created a lasting change in the campus culture by thoroughly integrating internationalization into the fabric of the campus."

UW-River Falls is on HLC's "Open Pathway," one of four possible pathways for accreditation which follows a ten-year cycle. This latest reaffirmation of accreditation stands until the next HLC Assurance Review which occurs in year four of the cycle, or in 2022-23.

HLC is an independent organization that accredits degree-granting colleges and universities in a 19-state region. In the United States, universities must be accredited in order to access certain federal benefits, such as financial aid.

UW-River Falls has been accredited by HLC since 1935.



Community mourns passing of Richard Swensen, former dean and professor emeritus

January 15, 2019 - Beloved and well-respected member of the UW-River Falls community Chemistry Professor Emeritus Richard "Dick" Swensen, who also served as chair of the Chemistry Department from 1967 to 1969 and as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1969 to 1988, died Jan. 10. Swensen, who retired from UW-River Falls in 1993, left behind a legacy of integrity, academic contributions and visionary leadership, as well as a lasting legacy of generosity and service.

Swensen first joined the faculty of what was then Wisconsin State College-River Falls in 1955, and after a brief hiatus to finish his doctorate, returned to its ranks in 1961. In addition to his roles in administration, he served two terms as chair of the University Faculty Council, the precursor to the present Faculty Senate. He was named as UWRF Distinguished Professor by the Johnson Foundation and was chosen Distinguished Teacher of the Year in 1970.

"Dr. Dick Swensen was an outstanding educator and campus leader who has made an uncommon and lasting impact on UW-River Falls," Chancellor Dean Van Galen said. "In particular, his visionary leadership in the area of international partnerships impacted countless students and faculty. One part of Dr. Swensen's great legacy at UWRF is reflected in how today's university has remained committed to global education. On a personal level, Mary [Van Galen] and I have had the extraordinary opportunity to build a friendship with Dick and his wife, Grace, over the past ten years. We will remember Dick as a kind, gracious and generous man who deeply understood the value of education."

Swensen's passion for education extended well beyond the classroom and the city of River Falls. As dean, he instituted faculty exchanges both in Europe and the Pacific Rim and brought numerous internationally recognized individuals and

groups to the campus.

Upon learning of Swensen's passing, long-time colleague and friend, UWRF Economics Professor Emeritus and 1974 UWRF Distinguished Teacher Charles Kao reflected on their relationship of more than 50 years.

"I was saddened to learn of the passing of our beloved Dean Swensen. I have known Dr. Richard Swensen for more than half a century, since joining the faculty in 1964. It is my personal fortune to have received so much advice and encouragement from Dick as the dean of our college and as a lifelong friend. When considering Dick as a role model, it becomes clear he is someone that one can admire but who is difficult to emulate," Kao said.

Kao, who currently leads the Commonwealth Publishing Company in Taiwan and who taught at UWRF from 1964-98, also serving as chair of the Economics Department from 1971-80, describes what he believes are some of Swensen's main characteristics.

"...integrity, abundant energy, visionary leadership, as well as being a passionate, outstanding teacher, an international ambassador with global knowledge and a proud parent with his wife Grace, who raised talented children, all of whom have positively impacted our society," Kao said. "All of us, particularly the international community, will always remember his wisdom and enthusiasm."

The Swensen family traveled the world often, but it was the River Falls community they loved. The Swensens supported and participated in many community activities and thought highly of the exceptional education the university provided.

Grace completed her degree from UW-River Falls in 1964 and all six of their children graduated from UWRF. Two of them, David and Stephen, went on to earn the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

While UW-River Falls educated his family, Swensen educated generations of students who would also go on to find success. Former students recall that it didn't take long for Swensen to build relationships in the classroom.

"He knew everyone's name by the second day," said 1960 graduate and UWRF Physics Professor Emeritus Curt Larson.

Captain Dan Brandenstein, '65, and 1983 UWRF Distinguished Alumnus, credits Swensen's inspiration during his freshman chemistry class as a major contributor to his successes at NASA, both as an astronaut and space shuttle commander.

"It all started in that class where he encouraged us to work hard and dream big," Brandenstein said.

It wasn't just mentorship of students that distinguished Swensen. UWRF Speech Communications Professor Emerita Suzanne Hagen shared fond memories and appreciation for his approach as an administrator which put even new faculty at ease.

"'Mentor' is the first word I think of when reflecting on Dick Swensen's well-lived life," Hagen said.

Hagen also remarked on how well Swensen knew the faculty and staff in the college he led, both the challenges they faced and the successes they accomplished.

"Only as time passed did I fully appreciate how he subtly supported, encouraged and developed our capacities as teachers, administrators and colleagues," said Hagen. "His mentorship was a gift – to UWRF and its people."

UWRF Music Professor Emerita Lillian Tan also remembers Swensen as someone who “inspired you to do your very best and he truly appreciated faculty who went above and beyond the classroom for their students.”

On the UWRF campus even current students who never met Swensen may know him as the inspiration for the sundial attached to the South wall of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

Physics Professor Emeritus John Shepherd recalls his partnership with Swensen to build the unique sculpture.

“The sundial meant a lot to him and he was committed to seeing the project through despite numerous hurdles. Dick was tickled when it was complete and was proud to explain how it works whenever he had the opportunity.” Shepherd said. Fittingly, the sundial represents all the fields in which Swensen was keenly interested: science, history, art and multiculturalism.

Also a legacy serving current UWRF students is the scholarship which was created at the UW-River Falls Foundation in 1988 by colleagues, family and friends as a tribute for the 19-plus years Swensen served as dean. The Richard and Grace Swensen Endowed Scholarship continues today to support undergraduates at UWRF, students with whom Swensen always enjoyed conversing at UWRF’s annual scholarship recognition events.

At UW-River Falls and beyond Swensen will be remembered as a gracious and generous man who deeply understood the value of education, international partnership and kindness alike.

The family has requested memorials be given to the Richard and Grace Swensen Scholarship at the UWRF Foundation, the Lutheran World Relief Fund, and the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church in St. Paul, Minn. A Memorial Service will be held at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church in St. Paul on Saturday, Feb. 2, at 2 p.m.

If you would like to share a memory or statement about the impact of Swensen on your life, please email ucm@uwrf.edu. With your permission, we will share your statements with the family and publish them along with this article in the UWRF Newsroom.

Reflections about Professor Swensen

"As a college student and roommate to son-in-law Bob, (Carolyn) I had the privilege of being invited to dinner with Dr. and Mrs. Swensen, and five other floor mates from Hathorn Hall.

I recall a wonderful, pleasant dinner. The most amazing part was how Dr. Swensen made me feel like I was such an important guest at his home. The conversation was all directed at us, illustrating how we were the most important guests. He knew each of our names and something about each of us. I remember leaving that evening, bursting with confidence, positivity and feeling like I was someone very special. To this day, I remember the event clearly!

Thirty years later I had the opportunity to break bread with Dr. Swensen, Mrs. Swensen, and Bob and Carolyn Popp again. The wisdom and grace they shared at that dinner was equally phenomenal. I left saddened knowing this would be my last interaction with this great man but feeling fortunate that, in a very short time, I had reaped the benefits of his wisdom again.

Today when my children bring guests to our table, I always remember how one evening spent with Dr. Swensen made a difference in my life. I can never replicate his generosity, wisdom or caring but hope that each child leaves my house feeling like I did that evening long ago."

John Mackenroth

UWRF Class of 1988

10th Annual Bowls for Hope tickets now available



February 21, 2019 – Tickets are now available for the 10th Annual Bowls for Hope community event on Tuesday, March 5, from 5-7 p.m. that will benefit the River Falls Sunshine Fund. Everyone is invited to take part in this event held in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center at UW-River Falls.

Each March UW-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the Bowls for Hope event where proceeds raised help a worthy organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley.

Tickets can be purchased at the River Falls Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. Maple Street, at the UWRF Chancellor's Office in 116 North Hall or at the Information Desk in the University Center on campus.

For ticket sales questions, call 715-425-3201. Tickets are also available at the door.

For an entrance fee of \$25/adult and \$5/children age 12 and under, participants may select and keep a bowl created in ceramic, pottery, fibers and wood by area artists. Attendees may then sample, at no extra charge, soups donated and served by area restaurants. Guests have the opportunity to vote for their favorite soup.

River Falls Sunshine Fund is a compassionate high school student lead nonprofit organization that offers help to families and students in the greater River Falls area in times of crisis. The organization offers support when family members pass, battle cancer, or have other hardships by providing gas cards, meal vouchers, and other forms of support.

The 2018 Bowls for Hope event raised \$6,500 for Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley. Since 2010, Bowls for Hope has raised more than \$52,500 for local charitable organizations.

For more information, visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/BowlsForHope/> or call 715-425-3201.

Acclaimed artist Sterling Hundley to visit campus

February 21, 2019 - American painter and illustrator Sterling Hundley will visit the University of Wisconsin-River Falls March 4-8 as the Spring 2019 Walker D. and Helen Bryant Wyman Visiting Professor in Art. He will give a free public lecture "Creative Tongues" on Monday, March 4, at 4 p.m. in North Hall Auditorium.

Hundley is a highly acclaimed, award-winning artist from Virginia and professor in the Department of Communication Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is also founder of the organization Legendeer, an international community dedicated to embedding artists back into the world.

Hundley earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1998 and began working as an illustrator while in college. He continued his education in illustration at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. In 2007, Hundley was awarded a Master's Equivalency at Virginia Commonwealth University and hired as a professor in communication arts.

Rolling Stone, Marvel, the Grammys, GQ, Atlanta Monthly, the New Yorker, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, and the Washington Post are some of Hundley's many clients. He illustrated the classic "Treasure Island" for the Folio Society in London in 2014. In 2018, he created the illustrations for the Robert Burleigh book "Oh Captain, My Captain," for Abrams Publishing in New York. These illustrations tell the story of Abraham Lincoln and Walt Whitman's relationship during the Civil War. In addition to Hundley's commercial success, he is an exhibiting painter; he just completed a successful showing of his recent paintings at the Glavè Kocen Gallery in Richmond, Va.

In addition to his public lecture, Hundley will conduct workshops, demonstrations and informal critiques with UWRF art students the week of March 4-8.

"After years of showing students his work, we look forward to having Sterling here on campus to share his remarkable skills as an artist," said Wyman Art Chairwoman and UWRF painting and drawing instructor Jeannine Kitzhaber. "It's an incredible learning opportunity that the Wyman family has bestowed upon our art students in allowing us the ability to invite artists such as Sterling Hundley to our campus."

For more information, email jeannine.kitzhaber@uwrf.edu or call the UWRF Art Department at 715-425-3266.

Alumna Maureen Pechacek shares keys to success

February 28, 2019 - From her childhood home in Ellsworth, Minneapolis seemed a world away for Maureen Pechacek. Looking back, she sees the experiences and life lessons that helped bridge that distance and served as keys to her more than 30 years success in business.

A nationally recognized speaker and accounting practice partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Pachacek will share her story on personal development and career success on Tuesday, March 12, at 5 p.m. in the Falcon's Nest in the University Center at UW-River Falls. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Pechacek will speak on what she believes are the keys to success for students and business leaders alike, discussing the role of gender in leadership, the challenges that women face in leadership positions, and the characteristics of effective leaders and strategic and tactical keys to success.

Pechacek holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from UW-River Falls and a master's degree in business taxation from the University of Minnesota. She currently resides in Las Vegas.

The lecture is part of the Ann Lydecker Lecture Series created in the memory of the late UWRF Chancellor Ann Lydecker. The series features a speaker on the issues facing women leaders in many contexts, both in academia and beyond.

For more information, contact Kellie Burrows in the Office of University Advancement at kellene.burrows@uwrf.edu or 715-425-4427.

Cohler coffee concerts return to renovated Abbott Concert Hall



The Feb. 8, 2019, noon Frances Cohler Coffee Concert featured chamber music by Minnesota Orchestra's Adam Kuenzel, flute; Katja Linfield, cello; and Mary Jo Gothman, piano. The trio performed in the newly renovated Abbott Concert Hall in Kleinpell Fine Arts. The series continues through the spring semester with two concerts in March, three in April and one in May. Learn more at uwrf.edu/music/events.

Community invited to share in Aldo Leopold Day events

February 21, 2019 – The community is invited to celebrate Wisconsin's world-famous conservationist Aldo Leopold on Wednesday, March 6, from 4-7 p.m. at Rush River Brewery, 990 Antler Ct., River Falls. The free community event is hosted by the River Falls Public Library, Rush River Brewing, the St. Croix River Association and the UW-River Falls Sustainability Faculty Fellows.

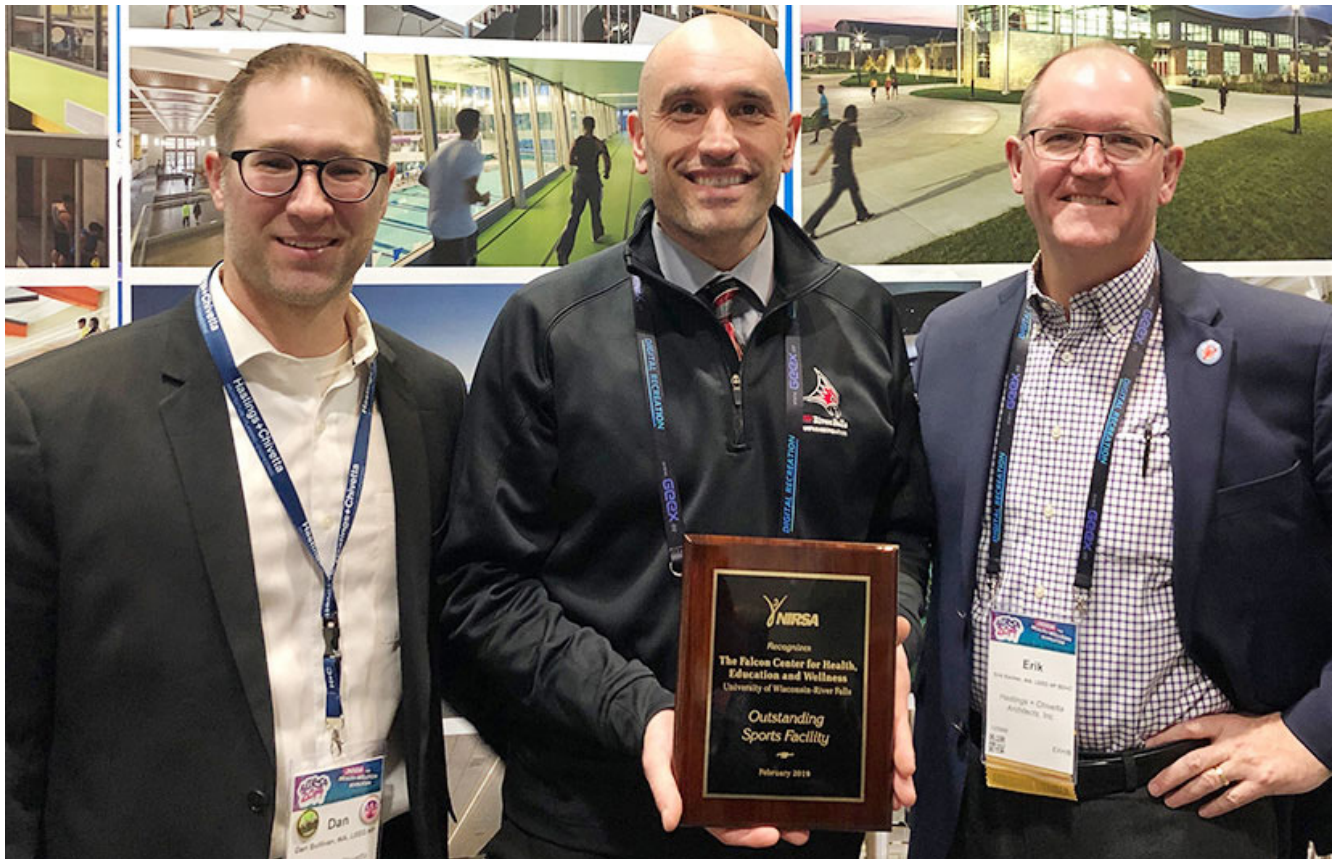
Considered by many to be the father of wildlife ecology and the U.S. wilderness system, Leopold was a conservationist, forester, philosopher, educator, writer, and outdoor enthusiast. Among his best-known ideas is the "land ethic," which calls for an ethical, caring relationship between people and nature.

Join community members from the River Falls Public Library, the St. Croix River Association, and UW-River Falls to view and discuss Leopold's life and work.

- 4 p.m. - Screening of a one-hour documentary, "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time," about Leopold's life, environmental values, and work.
- 5 p.m. - "Community Reads" - an opportunity for members of the River Falls, Hudson, and surrounding communities to read a short selection (three minutes) from Leopold's "A Sand County Almanac: Sketches Here and There," and say a few words about its relevance to their own lives--their citizenship, environmental values, civic values, family life, and more.
- 6 p.m. - Second screening of a one-hour documentary about Leopold's life and work, "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time."

Leopold, as chair of wildlife management, taught at UW-Madison and used his spare time to launch an ecological restoration experiment on a worn-out farm along the Wisconsin River outside of Baraboo. During weekends at "The Shack" (a refurbished chicken coop), the Leopold family planted thousands of pine trees and restored prairies.

For more information, email Greta Gaard, coordinator of the Sustainability Faculty Fellows and the sustainable justice minor at UW-River Falls, at greta.gaard@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3537.



UWRF Director of Campus Recreation Steve Stocker, center, accepted the NIRSA Outstanding Sports Facilities Award presented to the Falcon Center at the NIRSA National Conference in Boston over the weekend. Stocker is pictured with Dan Sullivan, left, and Erik Kocher, right, representatives from Hastings+Chivetta, the lead architect on the building in association with Ayres Associates.

Falcon Center named outstanding sports facility

February 18, 2019 – The Falcon Center at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls received the NIRSA Outstanding Sports Facilities Award during the organization’s national conference in Boston over the weekend. NIRSA is a nationally recognized association that supports and promotes the benefits of recreation at the collegiate level.

The award is only given out to about 10 facilities from across the nation each year for “exemplifying the institution’s commitment to providing the higher education experience desired and valued by students. The award honors facilities that demonstrate excellence in a number of critical areas including architectural design, functionality, and how well the facility meets its intended purpose.”

Opened on Sept. 21, 2017, the Falcon Center for Health, Education and Wellness is a comprehensive indoor and outdoor facility that supports Health & Human Performance, Falcon Athletics, Campus Recreation, and the university as a whole.

The Falcon Center at UW-River Falls is comprised of a 15,000 square foot fitness center, three academic classrooms, one

active learning classroom, a state-of-the-art performance lab, three multi-purpose studios, indoor climbing center, auxiliary gym, NCAA competition venues for men's and women's basketball, men's and women's ice hockey, men's and women's track and field, volleyball, softball, soccer, and football.

For more information, contact Director of Campus Recreation Steve Stocker at 715-425-4640 or at steven.j.stocker@uwrf.edu.

Langston Hughes Project performance set for Thursday

February 18, 2019 - The UWRF Center for Diversity, Inclusivity and Belonging has invited Ron McCurdy, professor of music and jazz studies at the USC Thornton School of Music, to present the Langston Hughes Project at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 7:30 p.m. in Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The performance is free and open to the public.

According to their web page, "The Langston Hughes Project is a multimedia concert performance of Langston Hughes's kaleidoscopic jazz poem suite "Ask Your Mama," Hughes's homage in verse and music to the struggle for artistic and social freedom at home and abroad at the beginning of the 1960s. Ask Your Mama is a 12-part epic poem which Hughes scored with musical cues drawn from blues and Dixieland, gospel songs, boogie woogie, bebop and progressive jazz, Latin "cha cha" and Afro-Cuban mambo music, German lieder, Jewish liturgy, West Indian calypso, and African drumming -- a creative masterwork left unperformed at his death. A joyous celebration of music, spoken word and visuals, the Langston Hughes Project is performed by the impressively versatile Ron McCurdy (as narrator and on trumpet) and his talented group of musicians (on piano, bass and drums) who make heads bob, fingers snap and feet tap throughout."

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/2084058994994705/> or <https://www.bicoastalproductions.com/the-langston-hughes-project/> or call the UWRF Center for Diversity, Inclusivity and Belonging at 715-425-3300.



(L-R) UWRf students Brooke Hafner of St. Paul, Minn., (Athena); Mitchell Bugni of Hudson (Jason); and Jana Knudsen of Prior Lake, Minn., (Hera) rehearse for “Argonautika” by Tony Award winner Mary Zimmerman March 7-9 and March 14-16 at UW-River Falls.

University Theatre performs ‘Argonautika’

February 21, 2019 --University Theatre at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls will perform “Argonautika” by Tony Award winner Mary Zimmerman March 7-9 and March 14-16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Blanche Davis Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

“Argonautika” is a modern theatrical retelling of the ancient myth of Jason and the Argonauts. Guided by goddesses, Jason gathers a band of heroes for an epic quest to capture the Golden Fleece. On this “first journey of the world,” the crew encounters kings, sirens, nymphs, sea monsters, and one heartsick sorceress. It is an epic journey of love and loss, hubris and honor, danger and adventure.

The play is directed by UWRf Stage and Screen Arts instructor Kathy Welch.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (60+) and \$5 for students with UWRf ID and others under 18. The Box Office, located in Kleinpell Fine Arts, is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. beginning February 28. On performance nights, the Box Office opens at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in person, by phone at 715-425-3114, or online at marketplace.uwrf.edu.

Cast list:

Brooke Hafner , St. Paul, Minn., Athena

Jana Knudsen, Prior Lake, Minn., Hera
Mitchell Bugni, Hudson, Jason
Gina Strzyzewski, Manitowoc, Idmon
Trevor Heim-Prechter, Green Bay, Meleager
Natalie Watters, St. Paul, Minn., Castor
Kendall Koll, St. Paul, Minn., Pollux
Lindsey Pennel, Osceola, Tiphys
Ben Larson, St. Paul, Minn., Hercules
Grace Koppen, Lakeland, Minn., Hylas/Goddess of the Desert 1
Veronica Anuforo, Stillwater, Minn., Atalanta
Sam Jacobson, St. Paul, Minn., Uncle of Meleager
Elijah Gallenberg, River Falls, Polyphemus/Styrus/Ensemble
Jan Rozumalski, Luck, Zetes/Apsyrtos/Phineas/Ensemble
Connor Clark, St. Paul, Minn., Euphemos/King Amycus/Ensemble
Flora Sherr-Nelson, Stillwater, Minn., Dymas/Boreus/Ensemble
Audra LePage, Superior, Medea
Tyler Franklin, River Falls, Pelias/Aeetes/Ensemble
Mackenzie Newkirk, Menomonie, Lemnos Woman 1/Aphrodite /Ensemble
Bailey Hudak, Medford, Lemnos Woman 2/Cepheus/Colchian Messenger/Eros/Ensemble
Cassie Larson, Owatonna, Minn., Lemnos Woman 3/Andromeda/Goddess of the Desert 2/Ensemble
Josée Axberg, North Branch, Minn., Lemnos Woman 4/Meleager's Mother/Asterion/Dryope/ Ensemble

UW-River Falls Administrative Fellows Program

The offices of the Chancellor and Provost are pleased to announce the creation of an Administrative Fellows Program (AFP). As part of a broader effort to support the professional development of UWRF staff, the AFP program goals are to 1) provide interested staff members with opportunities to broaden their understanding of and experience in higher education administration, and 2) diversify administrative leadership on campus.

Description of program: Up to four program participants will serve as part of the campus administrative team, providing leadership and support in one or more areas such as:

- Assist in the Office of Grants and Research with grant support for faculty/academic staff (Molly Van Wagner);
- Help oversee program effectiveness, assessment, and program review (Wes Chapin);
- Contribute to development of a First-Year Experience program for students (David Travis);
- Design additional programs to improve student retention and success (David Travis);
- Assist with external relations (advisory board, government, community) and fundraising (Dean Van Galen);
- Other activities related to the strengths and interests of the AFP candidate.

Depending on the scope of the project and participant availability, participants in the AFP will receive one or two course releases per semester for the 2020-21 academic year. Non-instructional participants will be reassigned to the appropriate administrative office for a percentage of time equivalent to that of instructional staff course reassignment (typically 5-10 hours per week). Participants on nine-month contracts may also receive summer stipends depending on the extent of the fellowship responsibilities. Funds to support the ADP will be provided by the Provost's Office. The successful applicants will retain office space in his/her home departments. However, additional support will be provided by personnel in the offices of the Chancellor, Provost, and/or Associate Vice Chancellor, in order to assist with completion of projects.

Eligibility: The program is open to all staff. All applicants should be on full-time appointments. Reassignment time is negotiable, and all efforts will be made to consider ways to accommodate applicants from a wide range of positions. The AFP is intended to allow participants to take on administrative work in lieu of regular position responsibilities. **It is not intended to be done as an overload.**

Application process: Applicants who wish to be considered for a 2020-21 appointment, potentially beginning in Summer 2020, should submit the following to Wendy Stocker, Office of the Provost, 116 North Hall, or to wendy.stocker@uwrf.edu by **March 13, 2020**.

- Application form (endorsement of department chair and dean are required)
- Letter of interest focusing on related skills/experience and career goals
- Updated vita or resume
- The names of two on-campus references

UW-River Falls celebrates Women's History Month with Tres Vidas performance

February 28, 2019 - In celebration of Women's History Month, the Center of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is hosting an ensemble performance by Tres Vidas on Wednesday, March 13, at 7 p.m. in Abbott Concert Hall of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The performance is free and open to the public.

Tre Vidas, a chamber music theatre production including for singing actress and trio (cello, piano, and percussion), is based on the lives of three legendary Latin American women – Mexican Painter Frida Kahlo, Salvadoran Peasant Activist Rufina Amaya, and Argentinian Poet Alfonsina Storni.

Music includes popular and folk songs from Mexico, El Salvador and Argentina as well as vocal and instrumental music by Astor Piazzolla, Carlos Gardel and Osvaldo Golijov.

For more information, email nathan.riel-elness@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3894.



Gov. Tony Evers met in Madison with Director of Academic Services for the River Falls School District Jennifer Peterson, center, and other area project partners to discuss Chinese language and culture project.

UW-River Falls collaborating to bring Chinese language/culture program to elementary students

February 21, 2019 - Students at the River Falls Public Montessori Elementary School will have the opportunity to learn basic Mandarin Chinese during the 2019-20 school year through a pilot program developed by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and the Department of Education in Heilongjiang Province, China.

During the project, experienced teachers from Heilongjiang Province who are fluent in Chinese and English will be placed in lower elementary classrooms to teach Chinese language components and assist with enrichment instruction in subjects related to culture, art, music, and history.

Representatives from the Heilongjiang Province Education Department, the River Falls School District, and UW-River Falls met with Governor Tony Evers and newly appointed State Superintendent of Public Instruction Carolyn Stanford Taylor at the state capitol in January to discuss the program.

The pilot project was developed through the Wisconsin Language Roadmap Initiative in consultation with agency, educational, and government partners in both countries. Based on outcomes and continued support, the project may be expanded to interested Wisconsin school districts in subsequent years as an ongoing program of the sister-state relationship established between Heilongjiang Province and the State of Wisconsin in 1982.

World Without Genocide founder to speak Feb. 11



February 4, 2019 -- Ellen Kennedy, founder of World Without Genocide, will speak at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Monday, Feb. 11. She will present "Statelessness and the Refugee Crisis Today" from noon-1 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center. The event, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the UWRF Political Science Department.

"More than 10 million people in the world are stateless. Another 25 million people are refugees in the world's worst refugee crisis since World War II," Kennedy says. "These people are denied basic human rights. We must not continue to let this happen."

Through her work as founder and executive director of World Without Genocide, Kennedy provides education about past and current conflicts and advocates at local, state and national levels for policies and legislation that promote peace and justice. She is also an adjunct professor at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minn.

World Without Genocide works to protect innocent people around the world; prevent genocide by combating racism and prejudice; advocate for the prosecution of perpetrators; and remember those whose lives and cultures have been destroyed by violence.

Kennedy has received many awards for her work, including Outstanding Citizen from the Anne Frank Center in New York, Higher Education Leader of the Year from the National Society for Experiential Education, Outstanding Service Award from the Midwest Sociological Society, Community Service Award from the University of Minnesota, Human Rights Award from the UN Office of Church Women United, and the Change-maker Award from the Minnesota Women's Press.

World Without Genocide has received a Certificate of Merit and the Minnesota Ethical Leadership Award from the State of Minnesota – Office of the Governor.

Kennedy is a member of the Edina Human Rights and Relations Commission, the United Nations Association of Minnesota Advisory Council, a board member of the FBI Minneapolis Citizens Academy Alumni Association, and past president of the Minneapolis University Rotary Club.

She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, three master's degrees and two doctorate degrees from the University of Minnesota.

For more information about the event, call UWRF Political Science Professor Davida Alperin at 715-425-4007.



The 10th Annual Bowls for Hope event held March 5 at UW-River Falls raised \$8,000 for River Falls Sunshine Fund, a compassionate high school student lead nonprofit organization that offers help to families and students in the greater River Falls area in times of crisis. Sunshine Fund board members and students at the event gathered for a photo.

10th Annual Bowls for Hope event raised \$8,000 for River Falls Sunshine Fund

March 21, 2019 -The 10th annual Bowls for Hope event held March 5 at UW-River Falls raised \$8,000 for River Falls Sunshine Fund. Each year UWRF collaborates with the community to raise funds through Bowls for Hope for a worthy organization that makes a difference in the St. Croix Valley.

River Falls Sunshine Fund is a compassionate high school student lead nonprofit organization that offers help to families and students in the greater River Falls area in times of crisis. The organization offers support when family members pass, battle cancer, or have other hardships by providing gas cards, meal vouchers, and other forms of support.

"Thank you just seems so inadequate for the opportunity this event provided The Sunshine Fund. So much more than the monetary piece," said River Falls Sunshine Fund Board Member Melissa Godden. "It was wonderful to look around the room to see all the different segments of our community in attendance. All of them laughing, sitting with people they haven't seen for a while or that they just met. Families young and old. It's a great event that brings this community together with the university."

Guests voted for their favorite soup of the evening and this year's winner of the People's Choice Award went to Chef Paul Howie of the Copper Kettle for his smoked chicken sweet potato chowder. The restaurant owners and chefs also voted for their favorite soup of the evening and the winner of the Chef's Choice Award was also Copper Kettle's chowder.

Participating restaurants providing and serving soup were Belle Vinez, Bo's 'N Mine, Copper Kettle, Junior's Restaurant and Tap House, Kilkarney Hills, Kinni Cafe, Mei Mei's Cookies, Paddy Ryan's Irish Pub, River Falls Area Hospital Dining Services, UWRF Chartwells Dining Services, West Wind Supper Club, and WE Market Co-op.

Artists contributing bowls were Marilyn Anderson, Donna Badje, Ingrid Bjerstedt-Rogers, Eoin Breadon, Brick House Music, Bob Brodersen, Tom Caflisch, Bill Campbell, Cheryl Carter, Patrick Casanova, Paul Dresang, Roger Evans, Jay Jensen, Randy Johnston, Kinnickinnic Clayworks, LLC, Michael Luethmers, Pat McCardle, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Wendy Olson, S.C. Rolf, and Rhonda Willers.

Art classes contributing bowls this year included Michael Helke's ceramic classes at UWRF, Breadon's glass studio classes at UWRF, Renaissance Academy classes taught by Kyle Stapleton, River Falls High School ceramic classes taught by Taylor Berman and Kelyn King's class at Meyer Middle School. Special again this year were bowls made by Brodersen from clay that belonged to the late Doug Johnson.

To date, Bowls for Hope has raised more than \$60,500 for local charitable organizations.

For more information, email mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu or visit www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope.

53rd Commissioned Composer Concert with Alan Ferber is April 4



March 21, 2019 --The University of Wisconsin-River Falls will welcome featured composer Alan Ferber to Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building on Thursday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m. for the university's 53rd Commissioned Composer Concert. The concert is free and open to the public.

Ferber is on campus April 2-4 for a three-day residency. He will also present a convocation in 129 Kleinpell Fine Arts on April 4 at 3 p.m. where he will discuss his new composition.

The three-time Grammy-nominated trombonist-composer-arranger has been called "one of the jazz world's premier composers and arrangers for larger groups" by All About Jazz NY. Jazz Times magazine describes Ferber's compositions as "inspired and meticulous" and the L.A. Weekly deems him "one of the premier modern jazz arrangers of our time."

For the last seven years, Ferber has been recognized as one of the leading trombonists of his generation in DownBeat magazine's International Critics Poll and Readers Poll. Since 2011, he has been an adjunct professor of jazz studies at New York University's Steinhardt School.

Ferber's music draws from a broad stylistic base informed by the array of artists with whom he has closely worked. He has worked extensively in other genres as well with artists including Peter Gabriel (Live at the Ed Sullivan Theater), Paul Simon, Sufjan Stevens (Age of Adz & All Delighted People), The National (on Grammy-nominated Trouble Will Find Me), Dr. Dre, Harry Connick Jr, Michael Buble, and Beirut. His discography lists over 150 CDs on which he has played trombone and/or composed and arranged music.

Ferber's accomplishments as a writer are equally diverse. His recent work as a composer-arranger include ten 18-piece big band arrangements for Broadway star Shoshana Bean's new album, Spectrum; Two big band arrangements of Joni Mitchell compositions featuring vocalist Tutu Puoane with the Brussels Jazz Orchestra on their album, We Have A Dream.

Each year, UW-River Falls commissions a composer to write a piece of music for the student body. The composer also makes a campus visit to interact with the students and take part in the premiere performance of that work.

UWRF Professor Emeritus Conrad De Jong began the Commissioned Composer Project in 1967. It is the longest-standing program of its kind in the United States and places a national spotlight on the UW-River Falls Music Department.

For more information, call the UWRF Music Department at 715-425-3183.



UW-River Falls team at IHSA semi-finals in Utah were (left to right) Dirk Vanderwall, Utah State University College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences Associate Dean; Krista Schoenfelder, Advanced Horsemanship; Kendyl Bennett, Novice Horsemanship; Danielle Paulson, Reining, Open Horsemanship; Libby Alders, Intermediate Horsemanship; Emily Edwards, Beginner Horsemanship; Janie Huot, Coach, UWRF IHSA Western; Chris Brown, IHSA Zone 8 Region 3 president; Jason Romney, Utah State University coach; and Bob Cacchione, CEO and founder of IHSA.

Equestrian team earns top honors at regional final and IHSA semi-final events

March 21, 2019 - After outstanding results at regional finals held Feb. 23-24 and IHSA semi-finals held March 15-16, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Western Team now has their sights set on IHSA nationals in Syracuse, N.Y., May 3-6.

At regional finals hosted by North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D., the UWRF western team was named Team Champions. The following individuals qualified for IHSA semi-finals based on their performance at regional finals:

- Samantha Abrahamson (agricultural education major from Minneapolis) – Individual Beginner Horsemanship (1st Place Champion)
- Libby Alders (animal science major from Madison Lake, Minn.) – Team Intermediate Horsemanship
- Kendyl Bennett (accounting major from Preston, Minn.) – Team Novice Horsemanship
- Emily Edwards (animal science major from St. Paul) – Team Intermediate Horsemanship
- Sydni Loose (animal science major from Cedar Grove) – Individual Advanced Horsemanship (1st Place Champion)
- Grace Miller (animal science major from West Bend) – Individual Intermediate Horsemanship (Reserve Champion)

- Danielle Paulson (animal science major from Pine Island, Minn.) – Team Open Horsemanship, Team Reining,

Individual Open Horsemanship (1st Place Champion) and Individual Reining (1st Place Champion)

- Krista Schoenfelder (agricultural business major from Rochester, Minn.) – Team Advanced Horsemanship
- Jackie Thayer (agricultural business major from Ridgeland) – Individual Advanced Horsemanship (Reserve Champion)

The IHSA semi-final competition hosted by Utah State University, Logan, Utah, was one of three IHSA semi-final competitions taking place that weekend across the country. The other two being held in Ocala, Fla. and Findley, Ohio. Overall, the UWRF team was named Reserve Champion securing their team's advancement to nationals in May. Individuals advancing to nationals to compete in team events include:

- Alders – Team Intermediate Horsemanship (1st Place)
- Bennett – Team Novice Horsemanship
- Edwards – Team Beginner Horsemanship (1st Place)
- Paulson – Team Open Horsemanship (3rd Place) and Team Reining (3rd Place)
- Schoenfelder – Team Advanced Horsemanship

UWRF placements in individual categories at IHSA semi-finals included the following with the top four placements advancing to nationals and noted as such below:

- Abrahamson – Individual Beginning Horsemanship (3rd Place, advancing to nationals)
- Loose – Individual Advanced Horsemanship (Reserve Champion, advancing to nationals)
- Miller – Individual Intermediate Horsemanship (5th Place)
- Paulson – Individual Open Horsemanship (Reserve Champion, advancing to nationals) and Individual Reining (5th Place)

For more information, email Coach Janie Huot at janie.huot@uwrf.edu.

Galler to speak on 'What Drives Innovation Excellence?'



March 1, 2019 - Eric Galler, whose leadership spans nearly 30 years at 3M, General Mills, and Pillsbury in key operating positions, strategic marketing assignments, and innovation strategy roles is the Innovator in Residence for Spring 2019 at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Galler will speak on "What Drives Innovation Excellence?" at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, in the Riverview Ballroom, University Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Galler, corporate officer, General Mills and 3M-Marketing Corporate and Innovation Strategy (retired), most recently has been 3M chief marketing strategy officer, building benchmark functional strategic marketing capabilities across the \$32B global giant.

At 3M, Galler oversaw strategic planning, marketing MBA recruiting, global competencies/career development, annual marketing planning processes, eLearning, and marketing community events for over 5,000 marketers worldwide. His focus on strengthening 3M innovation processes resulted in the creation and implementation of a global new product success drivers framework and the 3M Insights To Innovation ("i2i") approach to enhance early customer insight.

Galler's career started in 1989 at the Pillsbury Company where he held a number of operating roles on the Pillsbury Baked Goods & Progresso Soup businesses. At General Mills in 2003, he led customer collaboration on new product development and pioneered a new lean spiral innovation process with rapid, in-market 'vitality testing.'

Galler currently serves on the Board of Directors of Shape Corporation, a pioneer in custom roll forming and injection molding for the automotive industry. He has been involved with the Minnesota Zoo Foundation for 15 years, including chairman from 2013-15, and is a member of the Minnesota 2018 Super Bowl Host Committee Marketing Task Force. He is an angel investor with Gopher Angels in Minneapolis.

He holds a BBA from UW-River Falls and a MA from Augsburg College, Minneapolis. For over a decade, Galler has worked with the executive board for the UW-Madison's graduate school/MBA program.

The Innovator in Residence program is hosted by the College of Business and Economics at UW-River Falls. For more information, contact Danielle Campeau, director of the Center for Innovation and Business Development at danielle.campeau@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4775.

Montgomery to speak on 'Growing a Revolution: Bringing Our Soil Back to Life'

March 15, 2019 - Guest speaker David Montgomery, professor of geomorphology at the University of Washington, will present "Growing a Revolution: Bringing Our Soil Back to Life" on Tuesday, March 19, at 5 p.m. in North Hall Auditorium at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The lecture, discussion and book signing are free and open to the public.

Montgomery is a geologist who studies landscape evolution and the effects of geological processes on ecological systems and human societies. He is the author of "The Rocks Don't Lie: A Geologist Investigates Noah's Flood," "Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations," "The Hidden Half of Nature: The Microbial Roots of Life and Health," and "Growing a Revolution: Bringing Our Soil Back to Life."

The event is presented by the UW-River Falls Geological Society and the Plant and Earth Science Department, College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences.

For more information, call Holly Dolliver in the UWRF Plant and Earth Science Department at 715-425-3345 or email holly.dolliver@uwrf.edu.

Personal stories of living with autism to be shared

March 25, 2019 – The Moreland family of River Falls will share personal stories of living with autism and mental health on Tuesday, April 2, during two time slots at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The first session is from 10 a.m.-noon in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center and a second session is from 6-8 p.m. in North Hall Auditorium. Both sessions are free and open to the public.

Guest speakers Lindsey, Lauri and Brittany Moreland will present "Autism: A Family Lives Beyond the Label" to inspire others to survive, live, and thrive.

The family's autism advocacy includes speaking engagements and consulting, as well as authoring a book chronicling their journey.

The National Institute of Health reports that an estimated 26 percent of Americans ages 18 and older have a mental health-related diagnosis. Recent data indicate that one in 58 children are diagnosed with autism.

For more information, call Alicia Reinke-Tuthill, UWRF Ability Services, at 715-425-0740 or email alicia.reinketuthill@uwrf.edu.

Pottery-centric exhibition part of NCECA Twin Cities show

March 11, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Art Department is presenting a public pottery-centric exhibition, *Abstracting*, using the works of five contemporary studio potters to communicate the relevance and function of abstraction as it relates to the way that pots are carriers of culture and/or human identity(s). The free exhibition is open through April 3 in Gallery 101 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

Abstracting is an official NCECA exhibition, part of *Claytopia*, the 2019 NCECA Conference taking place in the Twin Cities region March 27-30. The exhibit is curated by UWRF Art Department Associate Professor Mike Helke. Artists include Rebecca Chappell, Giselle Hicks, Jordan McDonald, Brooks Oliver and Joanna Powell.

Chappell received her M.F.A. from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 2008 and her B.F.A. from the Cleveland Institute of Art in Ohio in 2003. She has participated in solo and group exhibitions across the U.S. She was awarded the Evelyn Shapiro Foundation Fellowship in 2010. Chappell resides in Philadelphia, Penn.

Hicks received a BFA from Syracuse University, New York, and an MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. Hicks has participated in various artist-in-residence programs including the Anderson Ranch Art Center in Snowmass Village, Colo.; the Arts/Industry Program at the Kohler Company in Kohler; The Clay Studio in Philadelphia; The Greenwich House Pottery in New York; and The Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, Mont. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, The Belger Arts Center in Kansas City, The John Michael Kohler Art Center, The Bellevue Art Museum, and the Southwest School of Art.

McDonald studied ceramics at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, and received his BFA from Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada, and in 2011 his MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. McDonald utilizes a wide array of techniques and materials in his work - primarily pots that are rooted in the history of ceramics and explore the relationship between objects and function.

Powell is a sculptor and painter born and raised in Dallas, Texas. Through installation, she contextualizes common objects with personal meaning. Her work is the result of thinking about longing, privacy, history and sexuality. In 2012, she received her MFA in ceramics from The University of Colorado at Boulder. In 2008, she received her BFA from The University of North Texas in Denton. Powell has exhibited her work throughout the United States. In 2011, she was a LEAP finalist at The Center for Contemporary Craft. Powell was a finalist in the 2014 Zanesville Prize for Contemporary Ceramics and received Honorable Mention. Recently, she was named a 2015 NCECA Emerging Artist. Powell lives in Helena, Mont., and is a full-time studio artist and travelling lecturer.

Oliver is a studio artist and a ceramics instructor and program coordinator at the University of North Texas, Dallas. He recently completed a long-term residency at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, Mont. He received his MFA from The Pennsylvania State University, his BFA at Southern Methodist University, Texas, and completed his post baccalaureate studies at Syracuse University. He taught in Jingdezhen, China, in 2016 with West Virginia University and he regularly teaches workshops in and out of university settings.

Supplementing Abstracting are select works from current UWRF Art Department Studio Ceramics (ART 327) students including Casey Beck, River Breda, Abby Christensen, Jame Cofield, Elliot Corbett, Alicia Davila, Katie Erickson, Kate Herron, Alex Hintz, Brecken Johnson, Kate Johnson, Heather Kennedy, Anjelica Kinney, Rylie Lonetti, Haley Macklem, Carley Norton, Brit Rutzen, and Matt Wilhelm.

An artist reception is Wednesday, March 20, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in Gallery 101. It is free and open to the public also.

Gallery 101 regular hours are Monday-Thursday from 2-7 p.m., and Friday from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. with Spring Break (March 25-31) hours: Monday-Tuesday from noon-5 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday-Sunday from noon-5 p.m.

For more information, call the UWRF Art Department at 715-425-3266 or email susan.m.zimmer@uwrf.edu

Public invited to Mental Health Awareness Week events

March 25, 2019 – Join University of Wisconsin-River Falls students, faculty and staff in raising awareness about mental health and discover resources for those in need of support during Mental Health Awareness Week events April 1-9 on campus. Activities are free and open to everyone.

“Mental health affects all of us, and we need to continue the conversation,” said Elise Koop, events and activities coordinator in UWRF’s Office of Student Involvement. “Each year we see a demand from students to provide programs that support and talk about issues they themselves are experiencing. We want to provide students and the community with resources right here on campus so if a situation arises, they are equipped with the correct outlets and offices to reach out to.”

This year, the community can choose to be involved in everything from early morning yoga and craft nights to pet therapy.

Visit Student Involvement’s Facebook page for a full list of events at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/UWRFStudentInvolvement/events/>

Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW) is hosted by UWRF Student Involvement and Student Government Association with special events hosted by Student Health and Counseling, Campus Recreation and numerous campus partners and student organizations.

For more information, contact Koop at 715-425-4912 or elise.koop@uwrf.edu.

Forum set for reimagining the liberal arts: essential skills for graduate success

March 15, 2019 - As a part of the Reimagining the Liberal Arts at UWRF Strategic Initiative, UW-River Falls is hosting a panel discussion featuring successful community and regional leaders, key employers of our graduates, and UWRF alumni sharing their insights on the essential knowledge, skills, and aptitudes that they believe are critical in preparing our diverse students for successful lives and careers. The forum is Tuesday, March 19, from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Falls Room in the University Center. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments provided.

Panelists will share professional and personal stories regarding their own educational and career journeys, as well as provide insights into the types of skilled and well-educated employees and colleagues that they hope to employ and collaborate with in the future.

Panel members are:

Chris Blasius, chief executive officer of the River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau since 2013. A proud UWRF alumna, she formerly worked with the River Falls Municipal Utilities. She is currently leading the Work River Falls group that works with local employers on strategies for workforce growth. She is a UWRF Chancellor's Advisory Council member.

Barbara Butler, owner of Butler CPA, LLC, an accounting and asset management firm in Hudson. A UWRF graduate and member of the UWRF Foundation Board of Directors, Butler has been providing quality, personalized financial guidance to local individuals and businesses for over 25 years. Her firm's expertise ranges from basic tax management and accounting services to more in-depth services such as financial planning. Her husband, Bob, is professor emeritus in Ag Engineering Technology.

Kristi Cernohous, vice president of quality for Interfacial, a company focused on helping innovators incubate in advanced materials and manufacturing processes. Together with entrepreneur husband, Jeff, Kristi has been involved in the development of numerous businesses in the River Falls area, many in collaboration with or employing other alumni. They are currently primary tenants at the St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center incubating at least two new businesses. They are both UWRF chemistry alumni and she is a member of the UWRF Chancellor's Advisory Council member.

Michelle Scheuermann, owner of BulletProof Communications, LLC, a marketing communications consultancy in St. Paul specializing in communication strategies utilizing both traditional and non-traditional avenues to increase awareness and participation in brands, events, and more. She is the former senior director of communications at the Sportsman Channel, a UWRF graduate, and a member of the UWRF Alumni Advisory Board.

Steve Wilcox, serial entrepreneur and owner of The Resultants, a firm of business advisers in Hudson. A UWRF graduate named 2019 Distinguished Alumnus, Wilcox believes that running a business is like racing a sailboat. You need a team of

highly capable individuals all understanding their roles and knowing when to contribute to the overall effort. He is very engaged in non-profit leadership (BSA, Rotary) and is a past member of the UWRF Foundation Board of Directors.

Shannon Zimmerman, executive vice-president of Amplexor, a River Falls based global content and language solutions company. Amplexor combines innovative technologies and deep subject-matter expertise to deliver solutions that guide businesses' transformation into digitally-led organizations with improved operations, better-quality products and services and global reach. Zimmerman is the Wisconsin State Representative for Assembly District 30 and serves as a member of the UWRF Chancellor's Advisory Council and UWRF Foundation Board member.

Following the panel conversation, presentations from faculty and staff exploration groups will focus on the following related topics:

- New Directions in Integrative Learning
- STEM Trends in Higher Education

Community members are encouraged to attend this free special campus event. For further information, call Dean Yohnk in the College of Arts and Sciences at 715-425-3777 or email dean.yohnk@uwrf.edu.

Renowned Artstream Nomadic Gallery to visit one day only

March 21, 2019 - The nationally renowned Artstream Nomadic Gallery will visit the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on April 1. All are welcome to this day-long event.

The Artstream is a traveling exhibition space housed in a restored 1967 Airstream trailer. Based in Carbondale, Colo., the gallery has exhibited contemporary ceramic art on the street since 2002 and in more than 150 locations all over the country.

The Artstream will be parked in the common area between the University Center and the Kleinpell Fine Arts building and will be open for viewing and shopping from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. On display will be the works of 25 nationally recognized ceramic artists. Specific artist line-up can be found at <http://www.art-stream.com/>. Supplementing the gallery visit, Artstream associates and Colorado-based studio potters John Cohorst and Justin Donofrio will demonstrate the making of their ceramic works. Ongoing demonstrations will be held in the UWRF Art Department's ceramics studio in 167 Kleinpell Fine Arts from 10 a.m.-noon and 12:30-4 p.m.

The nomadic gallery is the brainchild of Carbondale studio potter Alleghany Meadows. Meadows received his BA from Pitzer College, Claremont, Calif., and his MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. Meadows has presented lectures, workshops and been a visiting artist at art centers and universities nationally and internationally, including Penland School of Arts and Crafts, Alfred University, Kansas City Art Institute, Rhode Island School of Design, Chicago Art Institute, Anderson Ranch, Archie Bray Foundation, Haystack and Good Hope, Jamaica.

Born and raised in Kansas, ceramic artist Cohorst creates both functional and sculptural ceramic art. He received his B.F.A. and M.A. from Pittsburg (Kansas) State University where he concentrated in functional ceramics. After graduating, he accepted a position as an artist assistant at the studio of Jun Kaneko, in Omaha, Neb. Shortly after leaving the Kaneko Studio, he traveled to Japan and studied wood firing techniques in the ancient kilnsite town of Tokoname. In 2012, he was accepted as an artist in residence at the Carbondale Clay Center in Carbondale. After completion of that residency, John moved into the Studio for Arts and Works (SAW) where his studio is currently located. More information about John can be found at johncohorstceramics.com

Donofrio grew up in Santa Cruz, Calif., where he was introduced to pottery at Cabrillo Community College. In 2013, he joined the vibrant Colorado artist community of the Roaring Fork Valley where he continued his clay education with the support of Anderson Ranch, The Carbondale Clay Center and SAW. He remained in Colorado to complete a B.F.A. from CSU Fort Collins in 2016. Donofrio is nationally represented in galleries throughout the U.S., has been a Windgate Summer Scholar at the Archie Bray Foundation, an exhibiting artist and tour co-manager with the Artstream Nomadic Gallery, and in 2018 was selected as one of Ceramics Monthly's 2018 Emerging Artists.

For more information about this unique visit, email michael.helke@uwrf.edu.

Statement from Chancellor Van Galen in response to the Governor's proposed Capital Budget

March 7, 2019 - "UW-River Falls is grateful to Governor Evers for including planning funds for the UW-River Falls Science and Technology Innovation Center (SciTech) project in his proposed 2019-21 Capital Budget. It is an acknowledgment that this project is a priority for our campus with the potential to dramatically impact the experience of our students and provide them and our faculty with more opportunities to engage with each other, as well as spur development of new relationships with external partners and employers. This proposed funding also affirms that SciTech is considered valuable to the state, to the UW System and to citizens in our dynamic region of Wisconsin. The level of economic development and business leader support that we have already obtained regarding this proposed new facility, as well as the support of our faculty, staff and students, is impressive and we know that state funding will contribute to student success and catalyze innovation in one of the most rapidly growing parts of our state. We look forward to continued engagement with our legislators in the coming weeks as they evaluate the Governor's proposed budget with the goal of helping raise their awareness on the value of this investment."



Innovation Challenge winners at UW-River Falls (left to right) Soren Netka, Jiaxin Li, and Lakshmi Priya Girish Kumar of team Unmanned Ramp Manager, are pictured with Faculty Adviser Marina Onken, CIBD Director Danielle Campeau, and 2019 Innovator in Residence Eric Galler.

Student entrepreneurs advance to Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament

March 19, 2019 - Unmanned Ramp Manager, the business idea of University of Wisconsin-River Falls students Jiaxin Li, Lakshmi Priya Girish Kumar, and Soren Netka, took first place at this year's Innovation Challenge March 13 on campus.

Unmanned Ramp Manager is an artificial intelligence software program that uses automated license plate detection to improve efficiency and reduce operating costs for parking ramps.

Li, of Shenzhen (Guangdong Providence), China, and Kumar, of Bangalore (Bengaluru), India, are graduate students in the Master of Science in Computer Science (MSCS) program, while Netka, of St. Paul, Minn., is an undergraduate taking MSCS level courses. Their team won a \$2,000 cash prize and will be advancing to the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament, run by the WiSys Technology Foundation, April 13 in Milwaukee.

The Fifth Annual Innovation Challenge welcomed a diverse group of six teams, totaling 11 students representing several different majors and colleges, graduate and undergraduate students. Utilizing the Lean Startup Methodology, students develop their ideas into a viable business model and have ten minutes to pitch their innovative ideas to a panel of 20 external

partners including business owners, bankers, attorneys, retired business executives, and Eric Galler, the 2019 Spring Innovator in Residence. College of Business and Economics (CBE) Management and Marketing Associate Professor Marina Onken serves as faculty adviser to the competition.

In second place, Wavy Glove, presented by CBE business administration majors Marla Martin and Olivia Martin, both of Stillwater, Minn., is a uniquely designed heated glove to more efficiently achieve a beautiful hairstyle. Taking third place, Neighbor.io, presented by MSCS graduate student Thomas Florin, of River Falls, and Jason Florin, industry partner, addresses package theft by creating a secure package delivery system.

The Innovation Challenge is coordinated by UWRF's Center for Innovation and Business Development (CIBD).

The winner of the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament will advance on to the International Business Model Competition at Brigham Young University in May.

For more information, email danielle.campeau@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0643.

Student newspaper honored with six awards

March 11, 2019 - The Student Voice newspaper at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls picked up six awards, including three first place honors, at the Collegiate Newspaper Contest during the annual convention of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association March 8 in Madison.

Zach Dwyer, a senior from New Hope, Minn., earned honors in news and sports reporting. He took first place for his November 2017 sports story, "Rick Bowen court dedication reflects how far UWRF basketball has come." The story told about the legacy of Falcons basketball coach Rick Bowen. Dwyer also earned second place in the category with a December 2017 story, "National anthem protests raise questions nationally, within UWRF football team." Dwyer reported on reaction on campus to football players protesting by refusing the stand for the national anthem.

Dwyer, editor of the Student Voice during the 2017-18 academic year, received first place in public affairs reporting for his May 2018 story "UWRF faces challenges of compression, inversion in professor's salaries." The story examined how the salaries of senior faculty fall behind pay for junior faculty.

Current Student Voice editor Brooke Shepherd took first place for her December 2018 feature story, "Fitness influencer Amelia Skye tells her story." The story looked at the success Skye has had since graduating from UW-River Falls with a degree in marketing communications.

Lauren Simenson, a 2018 graduate with a journalism major, earned honorable mention in column writing for her April 2018 piece, "Danger and harassment can be around any corner for women." Simenson's piece argued that for women, the simple act of walking along the street should not lead to harassment and intimidation.

The Student Voice also continued a consistent record of receiving awards for staff-written editorials. The newspaper took third place for a February 2018 editorial, "Gun violence is horrible, but will only change if we demand it." The editorial suggested faculty, staff and students should join national protests against gun violence.

A total of 283 entries from 11 campus newspapers across Wisconsin were entered in the contest.

The Student Voice has been published since 1916. The student run news organization now produces a monthly print edition and a frequently updated website, uwrvoice.com.

UW-River Falls to host Invention Project® summer day camp for young innovators

March 25, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls, in partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF), will host Invention Project®, an innovation-themed summer day camp June 24-28 for children entering grades 6-8.

Over five days, students will take on 14 different project challenges, unleashing their entrepreneurial spirit and creativity. Participants will explore circuitry, energy, bioengineering and economics while designing high-tech prototypes that solve real-world issues.

“Curriculum is aligned with national education standards and promotes essential skills including collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving,” explained Program Manager Angela Whitaker. “Students are engaged in relatable activities like designing their own personal transportation device and redesigning the earbud.”

This summer’s Invention Project® day camp will introduce students to world-changing NIHF inductees and innovators such as Post-it® Notes Co-Inventor Spencer Silver, Steadicam® Inventor Garrett Brown, and Nike® Co-Founder William Bowerman.

Students will design motor-powered creatures and meet H.E.R.A.L.D., a search and rescue robot made by collegiate inventors. Participants will come away with teamwork skills, greater confidence and firsthand experience in growing an idea from conception to actualization—translating into real-world academic and business skills.

The day camp registration fee is \$295. Attendance is limited to 25 students. For details and to register, email angela.whitaker@uwrf.edu, call 715-425-3261, or go online to go.uwrf.edu/ce

UW-River Falls provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at <http://go.uwrf.edu/ce>, by calling 715-425-3256 or by emailing continuing.ed@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls to host lectures by environmental historian William Cronon

March 21, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls History and Philosophy Department will host two free public lectures April 3-4 by Professor William Cronon as part of the Walker D. and Helen Bryant Wyman Visiting Professorship in History.

Cronon's teaching and research focus on the environmental history, landscape history, and historical geography of North America. He is the Frederick Jackson Turner Professor of History, Geography, and Environmental Studies at UW-Madison, having served for more than a decade as a member of the Yale History Department.

The first presentation, "A City-Country Journey: Local Landscapes as Pathways to History," is Wednesday, April 3, from 4:30-6 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center. A reception preceding the event begins at 4 p.m. Cronon will take attendees on a driving tour from the Wisconsin state capitol in downtown Madison into the rural landscapes of southwestern Wisconsin to show the ways we can learn to see environmental changes that are all around us but that we often fail to notice.

Cronon's second presentation, "The Portage: Reflections on Nature, History, and Storytelling in the Making of an American Place," is Thursday, April 4, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the River Falls Public Library, 140 Union St., River Falls. A reception preceding the event begins at 6 p.m. The lecture is based on the opening chapter of Cronon's newest book about the history of the Wisconsin city of Portage. Cronon meditates on the role of memory and storytelling in the complicated ways human beings construct their individual and collective sense of place.

Cronon is committed to history that makes the past come alive for public audiences, both in the form of written storytelling and the many new media that have become available in this digital age. His current projects include "The Making of the American Landscape," a history of the city of Portage since the last Ice Age; and a book on the changing role of environmental concerns in American politics especially since the second World War.

Established with a generous gift from Dr. Bry Wyman in 2015, the goal of the Walker D. and Helen Bryan Wyman Visiting Professorship in History program is to annually feature a prominent scholar speaking on timely topics.

For additional information, visit www.uwrf.edu/hist/events/wymanhist.

Ag Day on Campus is April 24

April 10, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls chapter of the Collegiate Farm Bureau will host the fourth annual Ag Day on Campus on Wednesday, April 24, to promote all that Wisconsin agriculture has to offer. With interactive events taking place all day, students, faculty and community members are invited to learn more about agriculture, interact with animals and enjoy food grown and raised by local farmers. The theme for this year's free event is "Field Gate to Dinner Plate."

Student organizations in the UWRF College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) along with local agricultural businesses will have educational and interactive booths set up outside the University Center in the middle of campus from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is also invited to a short ceremony at noon featuring the 71st Alice in Dairyland Kaitlyn Riley.

A free meal will be served in the Agricultural Science building beginning at 5:30 p.m. At 6 p.m., Annaliese Wegner, an online advocate, better known as Modern-day Farm Chick, will speak about her personal experience in agriculture and educate the audience on where food comes from and how it gets from the farm to one's dinner plate each day. Wegner graduated from UWRF in 2010 with a dairy science major. She met her husband, Tom, at a UWRF Dairy Club event and they currently operate a dairy farm in Wisconsin with his parents.

With the present population becoming increasingly removed from farming, the UWRF Collegiate Farm Bureau takes great pride in educating the public about agricultural topics related to the food we eat and the products we use. CAFES students hope to do their part to create a voice for farmers and a vision for agriculture during the event.

Sponsors for this year's event are:

- Barn Raiser Level: Foremost Farms and Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board.
- Harvester Level: Compeer Financial, Alta Genetics, Wisconsin Corn Growers Association, and Milk Source.
- Cultivator Level: Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin, Dairy Farmers of America, Ozaukee County Farm Bureau, Day-Kel Jerseys, Sheboygan County Farm Bureau, Countryside Cooperative, Paulus Dairy, Shawano County Farm Bureau, Helmer Dairy Farm, and River City Stitch.
- Seed Sower Level: Wisconsin Pork Association and Chrisleacres Registered Holsteins.

In the event of rain, the outdoor portion of Ag Day on Campus will be held Wednesday, May 1. The evening speaker and meal, however, will remain on April 24, no matter the weather.

For more information, email Ariel Graveen at ariel.graveen@my.uwrf.edu or Nicole Schommer at nicole.a.schommer@my.uwrf.edu.



UW-

River Falls student Dani Durand, an animal science – equine management major, is shown with Hip # 45, MR GAUCHO GIL, a two-year-old quarter horse gelding.

Annual Colt Sale set for May 4

April 18, 2019 – Forty-five high quality two-year-old horses and ten aged lesson horses will be offered for sale at the 43rd Annual UW-River Falls Colt Sale on Saturday, May 4, at the UWRF Campus Farm, 1475 S. Wasson Lane, River Falls. The young horses have been trained by UW-River Falls students enrolled in the Principles of Training Horses class under the direction of Nathan O'Connor. The lesson horses have been used in riding classes taught at UWRF.

The sale preview will start at 11 a.m. in the Brainard-Kasten Colt Barn Arena with student trainers riding their horses for potential buyers. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and the student trainers will be available over lunch to answer questions about the horses they trained. The sale will begin promptly at 2 p.m. Buyers are welcome to bid by phone, but they must be pre-registered. The pre-registration form can be found on the UWRF Colt Sale website at www.uwrfcoltsale.com under the sale tab.

The colt sale website also features photos, full performance pedigrees and a description of riding qualities of each horse. Weekly updates on their training progress over the course of the semester can be found on the Colt Sale Facebook page at www.facebook.com/uwrfcoltsale.

The UWRF Colts in Training Program will be represented at the Minnesota Horse Expo at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in

St. Paul April 26-28. In a single semester, the students turn a barely halter broken and never saddled or ridden colt into one that is well trained under saddle and ready to be auctioned off at the annual Colt Sale. Students from the program will be on hand in the State Fair Horse Barn to answer questions about the upcoming auction and the Colts in Training Program. A live demonstration will take place in the Compeer Arena at 1 p.m. on Friday, April 26, and on Saturday, April 27.

For more information, email nathan.h.oconnor@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4466.



State investment in SciTech Innovation Center critical to future

Friday, April 12, 2019 | Dean Van Galen

With the approach of another commencement, I am reminded of the transformational impact that public higher education has on individuals, on our state and on the world. While the most essential elements of a UW-River Falls education are human—outstanding faculty and staff and dedicated, hard-working students—modern facilities that support teaching and learning are also critical.

At a time when we are encouraging our policymakers to renew and enhance funding for the UW System operating budget and for fair, fully-funded state employee compensation adjustments, we must be aware that it is also time for Wisconsin to invest in modern science facilities at UWRF. As requested by the UW System Board of Regents, the state should allocate at least \$4.25 million in planning funds in its 2019-21 budget for the Science and Technology Innovation Center (SciTech).

You can learn more about the SciTech project online, at www.uwrf.edu/scitech, but here are a few key points to keep in mind:

- Current laboratory facilities in the Agricultural Science building and Centennial Science Hall are aging. Infrastructure issues abound, such as outdated, barely-safe electrical and ventilation systems and non-collaborative layouts that do not support interactive teaching and learning.
- UWRF students regularly report that our laboratory facilities are inferior to those they experienced in high school.
- Local employers in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields can attest that our facilities do not reflect the state-of-the-art resources graduates will need to use once they are part of the workforce.
- Last year, 31% of UWRF's undergraduate degrees were in STEM fields—among the highest rates in the UW System.
- New freshman enrollment in STEM/Health majors grew 40% between 2013 and 2016, in part driven by newly available academic programs such as agricultural engineering, data science, neuroscience, food science and technology and a

companion animal emphasis in animal science.

- Increasing numbers of students across campus are also benefitting from our commitment to undergraduate research, exploring hands-on work with peers and faculty that enhance their educational experiences outside of the classroom.
- Two-thirds of UWRF students take at least one laboratory-based course before they graduate, and many students across campus are increasingly interested in innovation, business development and prototyping.
- SciTech will support demand for talent development in STEM-related areas while also supporting excellence and growth in UWRF's signature agricultural programs.
- SciTech will also allow for unprecedented engagement with regional businesses with its proposed UW-River Falls/ Business Innovation Collaboration Space intended to foster business growth and increase public-private opportunities for engagement between UWRF faculty, staff and students and industry professionals and entrepreneurs.
- Strong support for this project has already been expressed by the City of River Falls and our local economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, and businesses in the region.

Ultimately, SciTech is not just a building, but rather a testament to our 125-year legacy serving the region by educating students for rewarding careers and engaged, productive lives. It took over 20 years for the state to fund and build the UWRF Falcon Center. Our students, faculty, and community cannot afford to lose that much time on this project. If you wish to express your support for SciTech, visit www.uwrf.edu/scitech and click "I'm a SciTech Advocate."

Abridged version of opinion piece published by the River Falls Journal, April 10, 2019.

Commencement ceremonies are May 11

April 30, 2019-- Approximately 941 bachelor's and master's degree students will receive degrees from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls following two commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 11, in the Knowles Field House at the Falcon Center.

The first ceremony begins at 9 a.m. for the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, the College of Business and Economics, and Graduate Studies. The second ceremony at 1:30 p.m. is for the College of Arts and Sciences, and the College of Education and Professional Studies.

Chancellor Dean Van Galen will preside over the ceremonies and confer degrees. Graduating senior Isabella Devereaux, a music education major, will sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" at the ceremonies, accompanied by the River Falls Brass.

The ceremony will include recognition of the Distinguished Alumnus Steve Wilcox and of Honorary Doctorate Degree recipient Juleen Zierath.

Dale Gallenberg, dean of the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences; Marina Onken, interim dean of the College of Business and Economics; and Wes Chapin, associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies will present candidates for degrees at the morning ceremony. Michael Harris, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies, and Dean Yohnk, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will present candidates for degrees at the afternoon ceremony.

For more information, including a link to the live video stream and archive, visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/Registrar/CurrentStudents/CommencementInformation> or call the Registrar's Office at 715-425-3342.

Dance Theatre to present annual spring concert

April 1, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Dance Theatre will present its annual spring concert April 10-13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Blanche Davis Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

Admission is \$5 for students and children, \$8 for seniors (60+), \$10 for adults, and free for UWRF students with ID. Tickets can be purchased at the University Theatre Box Office Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and at 6:30 p.m. on performance nights, by phone at 715-425-3114, or online at <http://marketplace.uwrf.edu/collections/dance-theatre>.

A modern dance company, UWRF Dance Theatre, has brought an artistic dance program to students who love dance for over 35 years. Dance Theatre strives to provide rich dance experiences and performance to River Falls and surrounding communities.

The concert features the work of UWRF Dance Theatre alumni, current students, faculty, and professionals and will include diverse dance forms from belly dance, contemporary, jazz, modern, and tap to contemporary/hip-hop fusion.

Visiting Winona State University Professor Erinn Liebhard has restaged her rhythmic jazz dance, *Juncture*, for the concert. The dance explores the human need for a sense of belonging with expressive Americana music as the guide. Minneapolis choreographer Danielle Ricci has worked collaboratively with her dancers to create *Circumstantial Encounters* which investigates how relationships form for different people with movement sequences constructed through emotional and physical experimentation. *Unstuck*, by alumni choreographer Shauna Malloy, fuses a diverse selection of belly dance forms into an exuberant display of expression emphasizing complex movement progressions. Alumni choreographer Salvatore D'Agostino uses comedy and farfetched drama to tell a tale of battling brides. *Bridezilla*, a playful tap dance, employs complex footwork and humorous storytelling to stage a scuffle that will tickle the funny bone.

For more information, call Mari Kline-Kluck, UWRF Dance Theatre director, at 715-425-0743 or email mari.kline@uwrf.edu.

Horse judging youth clinic offered

April 1, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is offering a Horse Judging Youth Clinic on Saturday, April 20, at the Campus Farm, 1475 S. Wasson Lane, River Falls. The clinic is intended for 4-H and FFA youth interested in learning or improving their horse judging skills. FFA advisers, 4-H leaders and coaches are also encouraged to attend.

The clinic instructor is Casie Bass, assistant professor of animal science and coach of the UWRF Horse Judging Team. She was also the recipient of the 2018 UWRF Distinguished Teacher Award.

Participants will learn basic information regarding judging horse conformation and balance with a focus on the rules and criteria used to evaluate different classes of horses such as Western Pleasure, Reining and Hunter Under Saddle. Participants will spend time evaluating and discussing live horses of various classes. The clinic will also cover how to effectively take notes for classes and organize them into sets of oral reasons. Participants will have an opportunity to deliver oral reasons.

The clinic will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Meals and refreshment breaks, as well as a t-shirt and judging binder, are included in the registration fee. The deadline for registration is Friday, April 12. For additional details and to register, visit www.uwrf.edu/ANFS/EquineClinics.cfm.

For more information, email Bass at casie.bass@uwrf.edu.

International Bazaar set for April 17

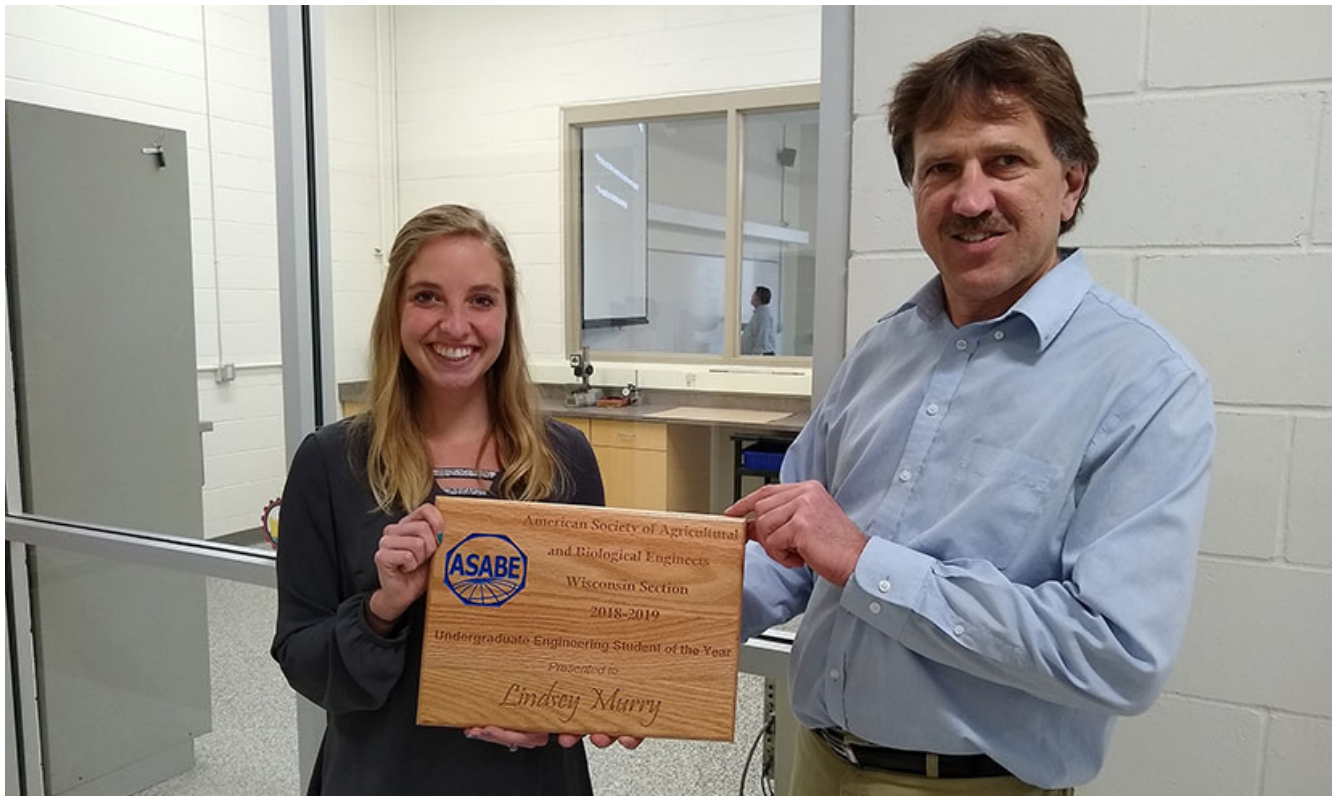
April 4, 2019 – The Global Programming Society (GPS) at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is bringing diversity not only to UWRF but also to the River Falls community by hosting their annual International Bazaar Wednesday, April 17, beginning at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Experience different cuisines, languages, cultures, and much more in the Riverview Ballroom and Falcon's Nest in the University Center. International and domestic students will showcase their talents and traditional cultures from around the globe.

Free food is available by ticket from 6-8 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom. Food tickets are required to receive the free food and will be distributed around campus by GPS. Performances follow from 8-9:30 p.m. in the Falcon's Nest (no ticket necessary).

Participants are encouraged to dress up as your favorite animated character.

For more information, email soobin.lee@my.uwrf.edu or studentinvolvement@uwrf.edu or call Student Involvement at 715-425-4747.



Joe

Shakal, chair of the Agricultural Engineering Technology Department at UW-River Falls, presents senior Lindsey Murry with the 2019 ASABE Agricultural Engineering Undergraduate Student of the Year Award.

Murry named Ag Engineering Undergrad Student of the Year by ASABE

April 4, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls senior Lindsey Murry has been named the 2019 Agricultural Engineering Undergraduate Student of the Year by the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE). Murry, of Mosinee, will be the first graduate of the agricultural engineering program at UW-River Falls when she walks across the stage to receive her diploma next month.

“Receiving this award is truly an honor and a very humbling experience. It is also the best way to end my undergraduate college career,” said Murry. “I am forever grateful for choosing to attend UWRF.”

Murry has been able to maintain a nearly perfect 4.0 GPA while being engaged in a variety of extracurricular activities. She was a member of the first Falcon robotics team which took 5th place in their division at their first ever competition during the ASABE Annual Meeting last summer in Detroit.

Volunteering for youth activities has been important to Murry. She taught figure skating to children at the UW-River Falls Hunt Ice Arena all four years she has been on campus. She helped coach one of the FIRST LEGO League teams at the local middle school and assisted with the high school Science Olympiad event on campus.

Murry's experience on an undergraduate research project set the course for her future. She worked with Agricultural Engineering Technology Assistant Professor Matthew Digman to investigate the impact that tedding has on the quality of alfalfa used for silage production. That research experience, which was part of a McNair Scholars program, along with encouragement from the faculty, led her to consider furthering her education. Murry will be heading to Iowa State University this summer to begin working on her Ph.D. in agricultural and biosystems engineering.

"Lindsey has expressed interest in outreach and teaching and I look forward with great interest and high expectations in seeing her career develop," said Digman.

For more information, email matthew.digman@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3975.

Onken named interim dean of the College of Business and Economics



April 2, 2019 - Marina H. Onken, associate professor of management in the College of Business and Economics (CBE) at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, has been named interim dean of the college. Onken began her new position April 1, succeeding Michael Fronmueller who, by mutual agreement, stepped down as dean and is transitioning to the faculty in the Management and Marketing Department.

Onken, of Hudson, began her career at UW-River Falls in 2006. On behalf of CBE, she has served in several capacities on campus, including Faculty Senate, CBE strategic planning, co-chairing the Summit on International Education, and chairing the External Relations Committee. She has been leading innovation efforts on campus through her advisement of the Innovation Challenge, and other combined efforts. She is the recipient of the 2018 CBE Advising Award.

“I am very excited about this opportunity to strengthen our collaborations across campus and the community,” said Onken. “It is my pleasure to lead faculty who have been innovative leaders. I will continue to strengthen those efforts.”

David Travis, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs stated, “I’m excited about working with Dr. Onken in this new role. She brings a mindset of innovation to this leadership position and a strong background in strategic planning. These are crucial in moving the College of Business and Economics forward in serving the local community and surrounding region as well as creating stronger cross-campus partnerships.”

Onken has a Ph.D. in business policy and strategy from the University of Nebraska.

For more information, email david.travis@uwrf.edu.

Registration open for summer ACT test prep

April 18, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Continuing Education office has opened registration for the annual ACT Summer Institute, an intensive ACT test preparation course held on campus for high school students looking to prepare for the ACT test and increase their scores. Live-online ACT prep classes are also available.

"Students build confidence and give themselves an advantage as they head into the ACT test by taking our rigorous ACT Summer Institute prep class," said Randy Zimmermann, director of UWRF Continuing Education. "According to our curriculum partner, Educational Testing Consultants, the change of four incorrect answers to correct answers can increase an ACT score by three points. This improvement expands a student's opportunities for admission and scholarships."

Students spend four days in the classroom with an expert instructor who specializes in ACT test prep. Lessons include test-taking strategies, question formats, and the ACT components for math, English, reading comprehension, and science reasoning. To extend learning beyond the classroom and help students be prepared on exam day, participants are given access to an online portal that contains pre-recorded sessions, quizzes, discussion forums and online office hours.

The course fee of \$449 includes 20 hours of instruction, the official ACT text, workbook and access to the online learning portal. A \$50 discount is available with early registration. Participation is limited to 30 students and advance registration is required. Find details online at choose.uwrf.edu/act-onsite or by emailing Program Manager angela.whitaker@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls offers a full portfolio of test preparation classes for the GRE, GMAT, LSAT and SAT admissions exams, including free strategy workshops for the graduate admissions exams. Test preparation classes and workshops are provided in partnership with Educational Testing Consultants, a leader in higher education test preparation.

The UWRF Continuing Education office provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development, and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient, and affordable. Check out a complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information at www.uwrf.edu/ContinuingEducation or by calling 715-425-3256, 1-800-228-5607 or e-mailing continuing.ed@uwrf.edu.

SBDC at UW-River Falls honored by Small Business Administration



April 30, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Director Danielle Campeau have been recognized for extraordinary improvements in client outreach by the Wisconsin district of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

The UWRF SBDC received the Wisconsin 2019 Small Business Development Center of Excellence and Innovation Award for significantly improving the center's role in the state's small business economic impact. Since 2016, Campeau, Associate Director Katherine Fossler and Julie Fronmueller, coordinator of external relations and business development, built critical strategic economic development partnerships and more than doubled their client base. In 2018, the center consulted with 126 clients leading to 22 new businesses, 48 new jobs and \$3.5 million in capital investment.

"It is an honor to be recognized for the work we do supporting local entrepreneurs and small businesses," Campeau said. "Helping businesses grow and seeing the resulting economic impact are truly rewarding."

SBDCs help businesses start, manage and grow through no-cost, confidential consulting and business education.

Campeau, UWRF SBDC director since 2016, also serves as director for the St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center (SCVBIC), which opened in 2018 after an eight-year regional collaboration. SCVBIC, which houses the SBDC and a business incubator program, offers co-working space, office space, conference rooms and other services.

"This team's energetic persistence delivered success for clients, engaged stakeholders and further boosted the SBDC's credibility as a leading small business resource," State SBDC Director Bon Wikenheiser said.

In 2018, the Wisconsin SBDC networks 13 centers provided confidential, no-cost consulting to 2,944 clients, leading to 256 new businesses, 906 new and retained jobs, and more than \$101 million in capital investment.

The SBA will present all 17 of its honors at the SCORE/SBA Small Business Awards Breakfast at the Marriott Milwaukee West in Waukesha on May 10.

For more information, email jennie.broecker@uwex.edu or call 608-262-6126.

Cheesemaker Paul Scharfman is 8th Annual Nilsestuen Legacy speaker

April 2, 2019 - Paul Scharfman, president of Specialty Cheese Company, Inc., will discuss leadership in difficult times with the presentation "The Neuroscientist, The Mystic and The Cheesemaker: Teaching Emotional Intelligence for Employee Retention" on Wednesday, April 10, at 2 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The event is free and open to the public.

Scharfman is also president of Getting Better, LLC.; a current member of the WI Governor's Dairy Task Force 2.0; and, current member/founding president of the Wisconsin Specialty Cheese Institute.

Specialty Cheese Company, located in Reeseville, produces Just the Cheese brand products as well as Bharatma brand Indian cheese, La VacaRica brand Hispanic cheeses, Rich Bow brand Arabic cheese and other specialty cheeses. Prior to starting the firm Specialty Cheese Company, Scharfman held several sales and marketing positions at General Foods, Oscar Mayer Foods and Louis Kemp Seafood. Scharfman received his bachelor's degree in mathematics at Harvard College and his M.B.A. from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

His presentation is part of the annual Nilsestuen Legacy Event.

Rod Nilsestuen was a UW-River Falls graduate who held several leadership positions with cooperative associations and was the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary at the time of his death in 2010. The CHS Foundation, in conjunction with the Ralph K. Morris Foundation, was instrumental in establishing the Rod Nilsestuen Legacy Event in 2012. Each spring, the UWRF Agricultural Economics Department and the UWRF Agricultural Business and Marketing Society, a student organization, organize a conference focusing on cooperatives, land use and other topics of interest to Nilsestuen.

For more information about the event, email james.white@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3298.



Six students were honored with the Chancellor's Award recently at UW-River Falls. Left to right: Lamah Bility, Temitope Abiodun, Chancellor Dean Van Galen, Soobin Lee, Caleb Rossin, Michelle Stage, and Alison Slaughter.

Six students honored with Chancellor's Award

April 30, 2019 – The university's highest non-academic honor was bestowed upon six University of Wisconsin-River Falls students during the annual Chancellor's Award for Students ceremony April 25 in the University Center.

First presented in 1980, the Chancellor's Award for Students recognizes students who have demonstrated a commitment to leadership, excellence and service, both on campus and in the community.

"At this point in your life, it is impossible for you to know the journey that lies ahead of you," said Chancellor Dean Van Galen during the ceremony. "I am certain that you will distinguish yourselves, and thereby the university, in unique and important ways as a result of your diligence and commitment to leadership and service."

The 2019 recipients are:

Senior Temitope (Temi) Abiodun, of Champlin, Minn., will graduate May 11 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and criminology. Abiodun serves on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Student Government Mental Health Awareness Committee. She served as a resident assistant in Hathorn Hall where she organized multi-day, campus-wide and community-oriented events that focused on impactful topics and social issues. She was also a member of the McNair Program where she completed and presented her own research to achieve her goal of being admitted to a Ph.D. program.

Junior Lamah Bility, of St. Paul, is majoring in marketing and communications. He is the president of the campus Black Student Union and serves as the external relations director for the Student Government Association, focusing on

understanding and sharing the concerns and priorities of the UWRF student body with important external audiences including members of the city council, state legislators and lawmakers on a national level. Bility is the founder of the Bridge Mentorship Program in St. Paul and is an associate board member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities.

Junior Soobin Lee, of Dongducheon, South Korea, is studying marketing communications with a focus on graphic design. She works as an orientation and transition leader for international students arriving to campus as well as president of the Global Programming Society, an international student organization involving UWRF students from across the globe. Lee also served as vice president and president of the Korean Students Association. She is a member of the Dancing with Diversity organization, a member of the DECA business student organization and a member of an intramural soccer team.

Junior Caleb Rossin, of Winona, Minn., is an active undergraduate researcher studying biology and chemistry. His research focusing on bacteriophages has been presented at regional and national conferences. Going beyond the university's strategic goal of global engagement, Rossin's contributions help UWRF achieve universal engagement. His phages will be traveling on the next SpaceX mission to the International Space Station. Rossin participates in the Honors Program and is a volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters. He is an event coordinator for the Collegiate Hall Council and is public relations chair for the Chancellor's Student Ambassadors.

Senior Alison (Ali) Slaughter, of Urbana, Ill, will graduate May 11 with a bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in geography. She serves as president of the Chancellor's Student Ambassadors and is a member of the Honors Program. She participated in the Study Abroad Program during her junior year living with a family in Nairobi, Kenya. While there, she took part in an internship with a refugee aid organization where she developed coursework for adolescent to young adult refugee women and children.

Senior Michelle Stage, of Burnsville, Minn., will graduate May 11 with a bachelor's degree in psychology (mental health emphasis) and a minor in philosophy. Stage was recently named the 2019 Distinguished Psychology Graduate. She also received the Lydecker Research Award in recognition of her research and her leadership in the Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity program (URSCA). She has been president of the Society for URSCA, as well as president of the Psi Chi Honor Society. She has conducted impactful research on human sexuality, presenting her results at national and international conferences. During her senior year, Stage took part in a five-week international course spanning various European cities. She will pursue a master's degree in health promotion at the University of Kentucky.

For more information about the Chancellor's Award for Students, email beth.schommer@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0662.



UW-

River Falls team and individual participants with team coaches Anderson, Dolliver and Justen at the Murray State University campus.

Soils and crops judging teams rank high at NACTA

April 29, 2019 -- Teams from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls took second place in the soils competition and fifth place in the crops competition at the annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Judging Conference at Murray State University in Murray, Ky., April 10-13. Soils team member Molly McIlquham of Chippewa Falls also placed third individually.

The second place UWRF soils team includes students McIlquham, Ben Pierce of River Falls, Aricka Roberson of Mazeppa, Minn., and Paul Tietz of Waunakee. In addition to McIlquham individually ranking third place amongst 88 total individuals, other notable individual placements are Mark Kortbein of Warrens, 8th place; Sara Behling of Cumberland, 10th place; Brady Goettl of Cadott, 11th place; and Tietz, 13th place. Students who also competed individually include Briar Golden of Arcadia, Sydney Lance of Mukwonago, William Lenzen of Chaska, Minn., Laura Ringeisen of Red Wing, Minn., Danielle Spence of Sussex, Paige Stofferahn-Muck of Rapid City, S.D., and Morgan Wels of Mankato, Minn. In the soils judging competition, students were tested on the soil morphology, soil profile characteristics, soil classification and soil interpretation of four different soil sites. Team coaches are Holly Dolliver, professor of geology and soil science and department chair of Plant and Earth Science, and Bill Anderson, professor emeritus of soil science.

The UWRF crops team placed 5th out of 15 teams and include Sabrina Huebl of Waseca, Minn.; Kortbein; Derek Lenzen of Chaska, Minn.; and Shannon Troye of South St. Paul, Minn. Students who competed individually are Jaden Gruetzmacher of New London, Cole Jakupciak of Clayton, Marcus Koester of Red Wing, Minn., and Anthony Rittmeyer of Arlington. In the

crops contest, students were tested with an exam on the production of major grain and forage crops, agronomy-related practical math problems, practical lab stations, and plant and seed identification. Veronica Justen, associate professor of crop science, is the coach of the UWRF Crops Team.

For more information, email Dolliver at holly.dolliver@uwrf.edu or Justen at veronica.justen@uwrf.edu.

Speaker to address carbon waste, plastic waste



April 8, 2019 - A free public presentation on "Carbon Waste, Plastic Waste: How Regulations Change Behaviors," will be presented at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Wednesday, April 17, from 4-5:30 p.m. in 120 South Hall.

Speaker Bill Coggio will explain the global environmental threat of carbon and plastic waste and how individuals, communities and governments have a responsibility—and the ability—to clean it up. He has worked in the chemical industry specializing in plastics and polymers and holds a Ph.D. in chemistry from Pennsylvania State University.

Reception following the event with snacks and beverages.

Hosted by the Sustainability Faculty Fellows.

For more information, email greta.gaard@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4195.



UW-River Falls students in the Equine Reproductive Techniques course are pictured with the new campus stallion Lil Ruf Rider.

Stallion now calls UW-River Falls home

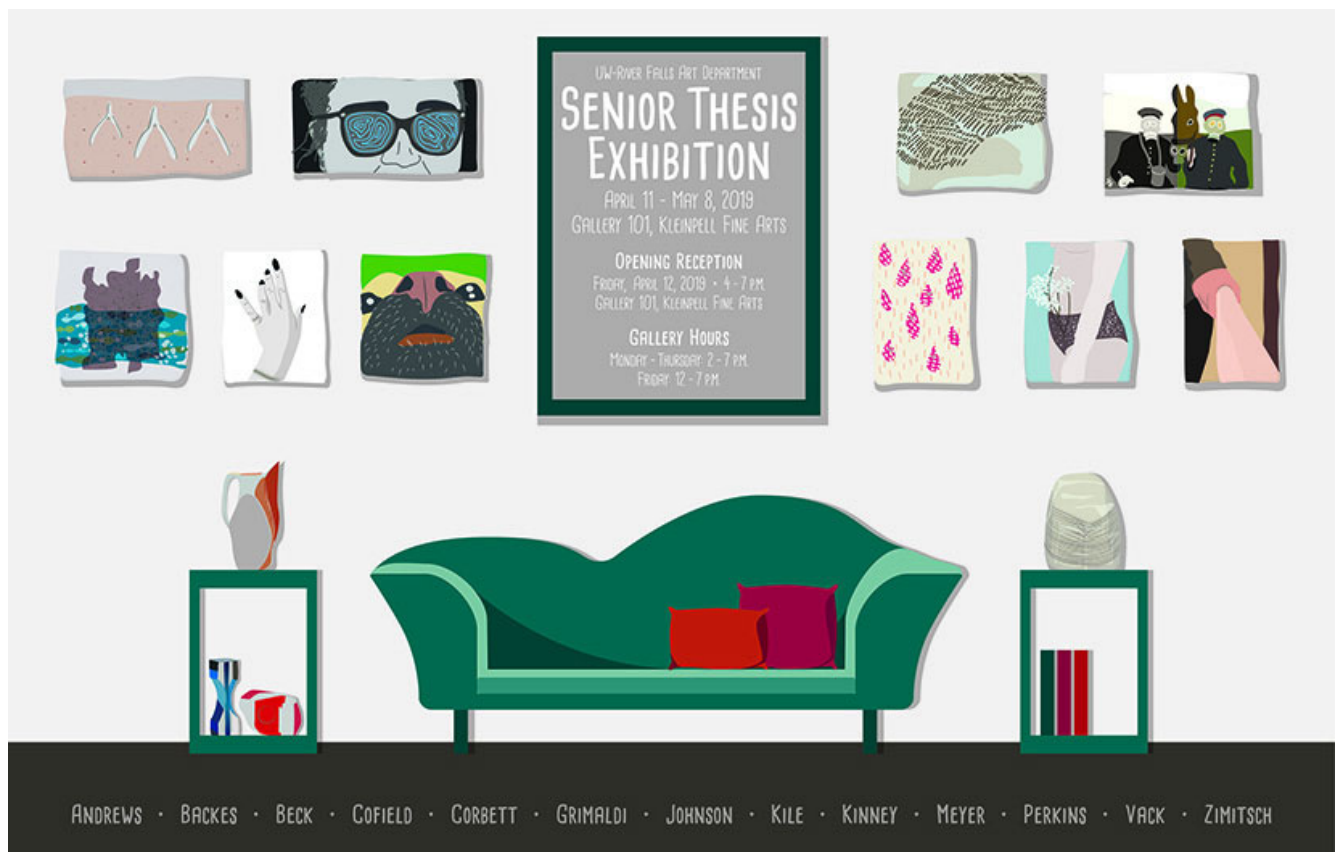
April 5, 2019 - March 11 was a big day for Lil Ruf Rider. After the long ride from California, he walked off the trailer at his new home at the Campus Farm at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and promptly had his first new experience. He stuck his nose in the deep snow, his eyes got big, and it was obvious that he did not quite know what to think.

Lil Ruf Rider "Rider" is a 2003 registered Quarter Horse (Lil Ruf Peppy x Hollywood Lolita) donated to UW-River Falls by McEntire Reining Horses. Rider is a National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) earner of \$26,000. Twenty-six of Rider's foals have gone on to earn \$93,000 in the NRHA.

Rider joins Skeets Peppy in the UW-River Falls equine breeding program, as both a sire and teacher. Both stallions are being used by students in the Equine Reproductive Techniques course this spring. The students learn how to handle stallions, collect semen, and artificially inseminate mares.

Animal Science Assistant Professor Casie Bass teaches the course. Bass is the 2018 Distinguished Teacher at UW-River Falls. She was also awarded an USDA grant for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA) in 2018. The grant is funding state-of-the-art laboratory equipment, supporting research experiences for undergraduate students, and a summer camp for high school students, all focusing on investigating the maternal recognition of pregnancy in mares.

For more information, email casie.bass@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4769.



Thirteen seniors present BFA exhibitions

April 8, 2019 – Thirteen University of Wisconsin-River Falls seniors will present their Bachelor of Fine Arts senior thesis exhibitions April 11- May 8 in Gallery 101 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. A reception is April 12, from 4-7 p.m.

On view will be graphic design, blown glass, ceramic, printmaking, photography, drawing, mixed media, and installation by seniors Ashley Andrews, Justine Backes, Casey Beck, Jame Cofield, Elliot Corbett, Saraphina Grimaldi, Tori Johnson, Mitchell Kile, Anjelica Kinney, Kelsey Meyer, Jeffrey Perkins, Rachel Vack, and Lauren Zimitsch.

Andrews, of Star Prairie, has a printmaking primary emphasis with a secondary focus area in drawing. She will display mixed media and installation works that explore self image from experiences with menstruation and femininity.

Backes, Prescott, has a primary emphasis in printmaking and a secondary emphasis in drawing. She will display drawings that represent her process of healing after experiencing three years of domestic abuse.

Beck, of Pewaukee, will display his utilitarian pottery from recent wood and soda firings. Beck will also be doing a live performance investigating the ideas of what pottery is.

Cofield has a primary focus in photography with a secondary focus in ceramics. On display is a photographic installation dealing with perspective and how the decisions made with those specific perspectives can create different realities in those viewers minds.

Corbett, of Rochester, Minn., has a primary emphasis in ceramics and a secondary focus in drawing and is displaying ceramic works investigating concepts of change, turmoil, and natural cycles in regards to self identity.

Grimaldi, of Plymouth, Minn., has a primary focus in drawing with a secondary emphasis in printmaking. She is displaying pieces of graphite portraiture and intaglio printmaking of loved ones in an exploration of gratefulness and adoration.

Johnson, of Superior, has a primary emphasis in graphic design with a secondary emphasis in printmaking. Her work primarily focuses on mental health awareness and is explored through a lens that captures the unique experiences of multiple sensations and combines them into one dynamic image.

Kile, of Minneapolis, has a primary emphasis in glass and a minor emphasis in photography. He is displaying abstract glass sculptures that relate to dualities found within nature.

Kinney, of Hastings, Minn., has a primary emphasis in ceramics with a secondary emphasis in art history. Her work focuses on the concept of wishful thinking and being present in the moment with oneself. She will display an interactive piece involving the breaking of wishbones.

Meyer, of Stewartville, Minn., has a primary emphasis in painting with a secondary emphasis in drawing. On display will be oil pastel portraits of her dog exploring the relationship that people have with their pets, and the sense of comfort that an animal can provide.

Perkins, of Stillwater, Minn., has a primary emphasis in graphic design and a secondary emphasis in photography. He will display works that combine the two practices and his love of history.

Vack, of White Bear Township, Minn., has a primary focus in printmaking with a secondary focus in art history. She will display artwork that is reminiscent of her Finnish and Scandinavian heritage infused with her experiences on the North Shore of Lake Superior.

Zimitsch, Maplewood, Minn., has a primary emphasis in photography and a secondary emphasis in art history. On display will be photographic prints and books dealing with matters of storytelling and building a personal sense of home within your body and mind.

Gallery 101 is open Monday-Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m. and Friday from noon to 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For additional information, call the Art Department at 715-425-3266.

Transnational adoptee researcher/author to speak April 17

April 4, 2019 - Kim Park Nelson, Ph.D., will speak about the immigration policy history of Korean and other transnational adoptees at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Wednesday, April 17. She will present "Alien, Daughter, Deportee: Korean Transnational Adoptees and U.S. Immigration Policy History," from noon-1 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Park Nelson is an educator and researcher whose work uses adoption as a lens to understand race and culture. Her work has contributed to building of the field of Adoption Studies and Korean Adoption Studies in the U.S. and internationally.

When sustained transnational adoption from Korea to the U.S. began in 1952, most Asian immigration to the United States was illegal; Korean transnational adoptees arrived on refugee visas before being granted special visa status in 1961. In 2001, transnational adoptees under age 18 were granted automatic U.S. citizenship to become the most privileged immigrant group to the U.S. Since the late 1990s, however, several transnational adoptees who failed to attain citizenship in 2001 have been deported to their birth nations.

In the history of U.S. transnational adoption, Asian adoptees began as excluded subjects, barred from immigration, but eventually won preferred treatment in immigration queues as "as if natural" children to their U.S. citizen parents.

Today, transnational adoptees are being reminded of their immigrant status as highly publicized cases of transnational adoptee deportation are circulated. This presentation examines the history of immigration policy for Asian and other transnational adoptees to analyze the legal and political tension between transnational adoptees' status as American children of American citizens and their status as first-generation immigrants.

Park Nelson's work has been published in the scholarly journals *Adoption & Culture* and *Adoption Quarterly* in addition to several anthologies. Her book, "Invisible Asians: Korean American Adoptees, Asian American Experiences and Racial Exceptionalism," was published by Rutgers University Press in 2016.

Park Nelson taught the first university level course on Korean American adoption in 2006 at the University of Minnesota and is a three-time lead organizer of the International Symposia on Korean Adoption Studies in Seoul in 2007, 2010, and 2013. She is an associate professor of American Multicultural Studies at the Minnesota State University at Moorhead.

The event is hosted by the UWRF Political Science Department. For more information, contact Sooh-Rhee Ryu at soohrhee.ryu@uwrf.edu or 715-425-4575.

Uncle Kracker and Eric Paslay to play at Finals Fest April 26

April 1, 2019 – Finals Fest 2019 at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls will showcase two acts on Friday, April 26. Uncle Kracker will headline the show performing at 8:15 p.m. An opener by Country artist Eric Paslay will start the evening at 7 p.m. The event, in the Falcon's Nest of the University Center, is free and open to the public, but UW-River Falls students will have first priority upon access to the venue. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The event will kick off with a Party on the Patio beginning at 6 p.m. featuring free food, outdoor games, student organization pop-up performances, bonfire stations with s'mores, games, and more.

Alcohol, backpacks, and purses are prohibited.

For more information about Finals Fest and specific bag requirement, visit <http://go.uwrf.edu/FinalsFest> or visit the Facebook event page "Finals Fest 2019."

If questions, call Elise Koop, UWRF Office of Student Involvement, at 715-425-4747.

Uncle Kracker

Uncle Kracker, the Michigan singer, songwriter, and performer also known as Matthew Shafer, adheres to a simple, yet rather timeless philosophy whenever he performs: "I really subscribe to this mindset of just having fun," he affirms. "That's what it's always about. It's the train that I'm forever on. The way I feel is if I'm enjoying it, it's really worth doing."

Eric Paslay

Country artist Eric Paslay is a renowned, Platinum-selling, hit songwriter and dynamic performer. He has celebrated five No. 1 hits including "Even If It Breaks Your Heart" (Eli Young Band), "Barefoot Blue Jean Night" (Jake Owen), "Angel Eyes" (Love & Theft), "Rewind" (Rascal Flatts) and "Friday Night," the smash lead single from his critically acclaimed self-titled debut album. The Temple, Texas, native has earned numerous songwriter award nominations including Grammy's Best Country Song, ACM's Song of the Year twice and the CMA Song of The Year for "Even If It Breaks Your Heart." Eric was also honored with Grammy nomination as an artist in 2016 for Best Country Duo/Group Performance for "The Driver"- a collaboration with friends Charles Kelley and Dierks Bentley.

Undergraduates to participate in Research in the Rotunda April 17

April 8, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls students will share research on topics ranging from using genomics to determine coyote lineage in Minnesota and Wisconsin to the science of facial tracking software during the 16th Annual Research in the Rotunda event in Madison April 17.

This year, seven students from three UWRF colleges (the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the College of Business and Economics) will travel to the state capitol to showcase their research through poster presentations.

Only six projects from each UW System campus are featured at this event which allows legislators and the public to learn about the impact of UW System undergraduate research.

The UW System is a national leader in undergraduate research which contributes to the State's priorities including retention, graduation rates, workforce and economic development. The event celebrates the importance of student and faculty research and recognizes UW System's ongoing commitment to providing high impact learning opportunities and expanding knowledge.

"Our students are proud of their work and appreciate the opportunity to share at such a prestigious level," said Lissa Schneider-Rebozo, UWRF director of undergraduate research and professor of English. "The students and their faculty mentors value the chance to have face-to-face interactions with legislators and community members alike. We enthusiastically encourage alumni and their families, as well as the public at large to attend the event and learn about the importance of student and faculty research."

UW-River Falls undergraduate research to be presented:

"The Effect of Dairy Manure and Inorganic Nitrogen on Soil Fertility, Nutrient Uptake and Yield in Corn," by Melissa Preston of Delafield; faculty mentor Natasha Macnack.

"Using genomics to determine coyote (*Canis latrans*) lineage in Minnesota and Wisconsin," by Taylor Soto of Kenosha; faculty mentor Kevyn Juneau.

"Relationship of Neonatal Beef Calf Vigor with Metabolic Status," by Claiborn Bronkhorst of Waupun; faculty mentors Amy Radunz and Kurt Vogel.

"Facial Expressions Meet Big Data," by Riley Swanson of Prior Lake, Minn., residing in River Falls; faculty mentor Steven Livingstone.

"Characterizing the Phenomenon of Particle Lane Formation in an Electric Field," by Jacob Hanson-Flores of Beldenville; faculty mentor Surujhdeo Seunaurine.

"Medial Prefrontal Cortex Inhibition Attenuates Symptoms of Depression in Long Evans Rats," by Sophie Ackerman of Marshfield, and Lucy Landaeta of Salem; faculty mentor James Cortright.

To learn more about undergraduate research at UWRF, email elizabeth.schneider-rebozo@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3902.



UWRf students Eli Gallenberg (as Robert), left, and Flora Sherr-Nelson (as Catherine) take the lead in the University Theatre's production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Proof" by David Auburn April 30-May 4 at UW-River Falls.

University Theatre to present 'Proof'

April 19, 2019 - University Theatre at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls will present the Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Proof" by David Auburn April 30-May 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Syse Black Box Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

"Proof" is the story of an enigmatic young woman, Catherine, her manipulative sister, their brilliant father, and an unexpected suitor. They are all pieces of the puzzle in the search for the truth behind a mysterious mathematical proof. The young but guarded Catherine grieves over the loss of her father, a famous mathematician who had become a legend at the local university for solving complicated proofs, and for suffering from dementia. Just as Catherine begins to give in to her fear that she, too, might suffer from her father's condition, her older sister, Claire, returns home to help "settle" family affairs and Hal, one of her father's former students, starts to poke around the house. What Hal discovers in an old speckle-bound notebook brings to light a buried family secret.

The play is directed by Emma Johnson, a UWRf Stage and Screen Arts student. The cast consists of Eli Gallenberg of River Falls as Robert; Flora Sherr-Nelson of Stillwater, Minn., as Catherine; Veronica Anuforo of Stillwater, Minn., as Claire; and Ben Larson of St. Paul as Hal.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (60+) and \$5 for students with UWRf ID and others under 18. The Box Office, located in Kleinpell Fine Arts, is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. On performance nights, it opens at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in person, by phone at 715-425-3114, or online at marketplace.uwrfl.edu.

For more information, email martha.donnelly@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4788.

UW-River Falls to host Joint Finance Committee hearing April 15

April 2, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is honored to have been selected as a venue for one of four biennial budget public hearings being held by the State Joint Finance Committee. The hearings to provide feedback on the proposed 2019-21 Wisconsin State Budget were publicly announced late last week and the campus is now preparing for what it hopes will be a strong community turnout. The hearing will be on Monday, April 15, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center.

Free parking is available for attendees in lot “Pay 1,” located off of 2nd Street between Cascade Ave. and Spring St. Follow signage to the University Center.

“We are pleased to host this important meeting,” said UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen. “We value the opportunity to tell our region’s story to Joint Finance Committee members.”

UW-River Falls is particularly excited about the opportunity to host this important group of state policymakers. Many elements of the budget proposal would have a significant and positive impact on the UWRF campus, including enhanced funding of the UW System operating budget, the proposed “2% + 2%” pay plan for qualifying state employees and support of new capacity building initiatives that each campus would implement to enhance student success.

Of particular interest to the university is funding for a proposed Science and Technology Innovation Center (SciTech). University leaders, faculty and students alike describe the Science and Technology Innovation Center as a core component of university’s commitment to innovation, student success and partnerships with business and industry.

In August 2018, the UW System Board of Regents voted to include funding for SciTech in the 2019-21 biennial budget request, including planning funds for 2019-21 and construction funds for 2021-23. Gov. Evers recommended \$1 million in planning funds for the project when he announced his Capital Budget priorities last month.

For more information, email beth.schommer@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0662.

UW-River Falls to host workshop on understanding the transgender experience

April 15, 2019—The University of Wisconsin-River Falls will host “Growing Up Transgender” on Wednesday, June 12, in partnership with UW-Eau Claire. The day-long workshop is designed for professionals who play a role in caring for and advocating for transgender youth.

Using an interactive approach, participants will explore the difference between sex and gender from a biological and cultural standpoint, the transgender legal landscape, and other challenges that transgender youth face.

“The transgender experience is just one facet of the often-misunderstood LGBTQ community, and one that can be challenging to navigate,” said UW-River Falls Program Manager Angela Whitaker. “This workshop aims to provide a safe space for discussion and exploration, culminating in an understanding that will benefit individuals working in counseling, law enforcement, education, clergy, health care, and beyond. Participants will leave with knowledge and skills they can immediately apply to their work.”

Workshop instructors are Christopher Jorgenson, the director of the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center at UW-Eau Claire; and Alexandra Hall, MD, a family physician with extensive experience in transgender medical care. Attendees can expect lively discussion, engaging activities and enlightening takeaways that are intrinsic to the transgender experience.

The registration fee of \$159 includes instruction, course materials, light refreshments and lunch. After May 1, fees increase to \$189. Participants can earn .65 continuing education units (6.5 contact hours). For details and to register, email angela.whitaker@uwrf.edu, call 715-425-3261, or go online to go.uwrf.edu/ce

The UWRF Continuing Education office provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at go.uwrf.edu/ce, by calling 715-425-3256, 1-800-228-5607 or by sending an email to continuing.ed@uwrf.edu.



The Wuethrich family from left to right: Trevor, Tonia, Lois, Dallas and Tayt.

Wuethrich named UW-River Falls 2019 Wisconsin Distinguished Agriculturalist

April 29, 2019 – Dallas Wuethrich, former president of Grassland Dairy Products, Inc. in Greenwood, was named the 2019 Wisconsin Distinguished Agriculturalist by the UW-River Falls College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) at the college's 53rd Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet April 19.

Dean of CAFES Dale Gallenberg presented Wuethrich with the award, a framed copy of the charcoal sketch of his portrait that now resides in the Agriculture Hall of Fame on the UWRF campus alongside past honorees. In front of the audience of 300 students, family members, donors, faculty and staff, Wuethrich characteristically kept his remarks brief.

"I am honored to be joining such a prestigious group of individuals," Wuethrich said. "You don't do this by yourself, I have had the help of my family, particularly my wife, and we've been fortunate to have recently celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary."

He commented that many Grassland employees are graduates of UW-River Falls.

"You young individuals are our future to take the food and manufacturing industry to the next level," he said.

Wuethrich is a third generation buttermaker, following his father into the business started by his grandfather in 1904. He became president in 1975, growing the small rural butter manufacturer into an innovative industry leading dairy processing company supplying products worldwide. One-third of all the butter sold in the U.S. is produced by Grassland.

Grassland was one of the first creameries to install a quality assurance laboratory and one of the first to utilize an anhydrous milk system. They invested in additional plants and to ensure an effective and efficient distribution system for their products, they established the Wuethrich Transportation Division.

As the company expanded and evolved, the emphasis was not only on production but also on environmental stewardship and their responsibility to the future. They are now able to produce three times more butter than 15 years ago and with less energy, land, water and with fewer emissions. Wuethrich and Grassland also take their responsibility to the future of their industry seriously. Grassland made one of the initial industry gifts in support of the CAFES Dairy Pilot Plant renovation project.

In 2014, after 39 years at the helm, Wuethrich turned over management of the company to the 4th generation, his two sons, Trevor and Tayt. Within the dairy processing industry, few individuals are as well-known at the state, national and international levels as Dallas Wuethrich. He was a founding member of the Wisconsin Dairy Products Association, held various officer positions and was honored with their President's Award in 2016. In 2017, he received the Wisconsin Cheesemakers Association Industry Champion Award, given to individuals who through their business activities have created tremendous opportunities for others. He served as an officer on the board for the American Butter Institute for many years.

Wuethrich is the long time president and director of the Wuethrich Foundation. The Greenwood community and central Wisconsin has benefitted from Wuethrich's generous support of community development, public welfare and education initiatives.

The Wisconsin Distinguished Agriculturalist Award at UW-River Falls was established in 1970 to recognize individuals who have provided leadership, service and other contributions to the broader agricultural community. Wuethrich is the 50th awardee. To see previous honorees, visit www.uwrf.edu/CAFES/Awards.cfm.

For more information, email laura.walsh@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4714.

Zierath to receive honorary degree at commencement May 11



April 30, 2019 - Distinguished Alumna Juleen Zierath will be awarded an honorary doctor of science degree during spring commencement May 11 at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

In selecting Zierath, the UWRF External Relations Committee, which serves as the university's Honorary Degree Committee, acknowledged her distinguished accomplishments as a globally-recognized research scientist and an engaged UW-River Falls graduate. Following her graduation from UW-River Falls in 1984, Zierath went on to complete a Ph.D. in physiology from the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden, and conducted post-doctoral research at Harvard Medical School.

Zierath is past chair of the Nobel Committee for Physiology or Medicine, professor of Clinical Integrative Physiology in the Department of Molecular Medicine and Surgery Section for Integrative Physiology at the Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, one of the largest and most prestigious medical universities.

Her research focuses on the cellular mechanisms that correspond to the development of insulin resistance in Type II Diabetes. She has received several awards for her work. She has been a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences since 2009.

She has returned to UW-River Falls numerous times to interact with faculty and students and has hosted UW-River Falls students and faculty in her research laboratory in Sweden, providing them with unique research experiences in an international setting.

"Being in the teacher education program at UW-River Falls taught me to be a professional," said Zierath. "I learned that the decisions I made impacted many different things in life, including how I could make a difference in the world."

Zierath will present a free public lecture, "From UWRF to Chairing the Nobel Prize Committee for Physiology or Medicine: An Unexpected Journey," on Friday, May 10, from 10-10:50 a.m. in the St. Croix Room of the University Center.

For more information, email beth.schommer@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0662.

Baumann named CAFES Outstanding Faculty Member



May 2, 2019 - Larry Baumann, professor of animal science at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, received the 2019 Outstanding Faculty Award at the 53rd Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet hosted by the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) on April 18. The award is the highest award bestowed upon a faculty member in the college and is made more meaningful because the recipients are nominated and selected by their peers in the college.

As the 2019 recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award, Baumann is also honored nationally with the Teaching Award of Merit from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) in recognition of meritorious efforts in college teaching.

In their letter of nomination, Baumann's departmental colleagues highlighted his devotion to the UW-River Falls laboratory farms, to helping students learn, and to his

colleagues:

"There have been times in the recent transition between dairy herd managers and farm directors...all the extra work was covered by Dr. Baumann without any complaint. He was there for the 3:30 am milking and calf feeding chores all the way to the finish of the evening milking at 8 pm."

"Dr. Baumann is a true teacher in the sense that class hours do not dictate when he takes the opportunity to help our students learn one of the student workers at the Dairy Learning Center explained that Dr. Baumann almost always invites students to observe and assist in veterinary and management procedures. She described how he patiently teaches students with no prior dairy cattle experience to safely handle and work near our animals. It is challenging to fully describe the impact Dr. Baumann has on our culture and the overall quality of our Dairy Learning Center. His commitment is unparalleled."

"He has helped many colleagues with their classes, whether it is guest lecturing or going out to the farms on a Sunday afternoon to collect milk samples or someone else's class. He's always available to help order supplies for classes and to use his veterinary skills to biopsy animals for someone else's research project. He is quiet but always ready to lend a hand or listen to someone, whether it is a student or fellow faculty member."

Upon receiving the award from CAFES Dean Dale Gallenberg, Baumann said he never thought of his day-to-day activities as outstanding.

"I am fortunate to be in this college and on this campus with wonderful colleagues and students who bring out the best in me," Baumann said.

Baumann is a 1974 graduate of UW-River Falls. He went on to earn his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University and his Ph.D. in theriogenology from the University of Minnesota. He came back to UW-River Falls in 1990, accepting a split appointment position, dividing his time between teaching at UW-River Falls and serving as a State Animal Health Specialist within Cooperative Extension. Baumann was honored with the Second Mile Award by the Wisconsin Association of County Agricultural Agents in 2010 and in 2006 he was named the Wisconsin Veterinarian of the Year by the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA).

For more information, email laura.walsh@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3535.



Kasten family members with the first Diane Kasten Memorial Scholarship recipient. L-R: Jeff Kasten, Kate Kasten, Jennifer Fischer (recipient) and Lauren Kasten.

CAFES awards scholarships and recognizes outstanding service

May 2, 2019 – Students, family members, donors, faculty and staff gathered April 18 at Kilkarney Hills Golf Club for the 53rd Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet hosted by the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Over the course of the evening, 177 scholarships totaling \$187,000 were awarded to continuing students for the 2019-20 academic year.

Two new scholarships were among those awarded this year:

- The Diane Kasten Memorial Scholarship. Diane was the wife of Larry Kasten, emeritus professor of animal science. Long-time friends and colleagues of the Kastens, Philip and Judy George, established this scholarship to honor Diane's dedication to students in the animal science –equine emphasis program.
- The Environmental Studies Opportunity Scholarships. These scholarships were established for students working toward achieving positive advancements in the management of natural resources. The donor wishes to remain anonymous.

Bob Salonek, president of Value Implement, was presented with the 2019 CAFES Outstanding Service Award. Dean Olson, associate dean of CAFES and professor of agricultural engineering, nominated Salonek for the award. In 2009, Case IH signed a long-term partnership agreement designed to provide UW-River Falls with the latest Case IH farm equipment and technology. Since then, Salonek and Value Implement have worked closely with CAFES faculty and staff to provide tractors, loaders, combines, planters, tillage equipment, windrowers, mowers and conditioners, forage harvesters, balers and

Advanced Farming Systems (AFS) technology for precision farming. UWRF students have benefitted tremendously from having hands-on access to state-of-the-art equipment, valued in the millions of dollars, for use in their laboratory classes. At the laboratory farms, the equipment has improved operations, increased efficiency and safety and supported the university's aging fleet of farm machinery.

"Much of the actual work of implementing the Case IH partnership falls on our local dealership," Joe Shakal, professor and chair of the agricultural engineering technology department, said. "This is where Bob and his team at multiple Value Implement locations stepped in and took the initiative to make the partnership truly effective and beneficial for UWRF. And his approach has always been how can we make the partnership better?"

For more information, email laura.walsh@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3535.

Lins and Payne named outstanding CAFES seniors

May 8, 2019 - The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls presented awards to two outstanding seniors at their 36th Annual Senior Supper on April 24.

The Rochelle Junkman Seymour award for the graduating senior with the highest GPA went to Montana Lins, an animal science major from Avoca. He was not able to be present to accept his award because he was completing his first year of veterinary school. Lins was accepted in the Food Animal Veterinary Medical Scholars (FAVeMedS) program by the School of Veterinary Medicine at UW-Madison after completing his first year at UW-River Falls. Only four students each year from across the state are accepted into this program.

During his time at UW-River Falls, Lins was a member of the Academic Quadrathlon team that took first place in the oral competition at the 2018 Midwest Section of the American Society of Animal Science meeting. Lins also collaborated with one of the 2018 outstanding seniors, Rebecca Storlie, on a research project to develop a novel approach for artificial insemination of ewes. The project was done under the guidance of Justin Luther, professor of animal science. Lins and Storlie captured first place and the People's Choice Award in the first ever WiSys Quick Pitch competition at UW-River Falls with this project.

"Montana is truly an outstanding student. He is one of only a dozen or so students I have taught in biometrics over the last 10 years that truly understands statistical theory," Gary Onan, professor of animal science and Lin's academic adviser said. "I have a photograph of the 2018 Academic Quadrathlon team on my desk with the caption 'reaching new heights' and in Montana's case, that is true both intellectually and physically (he is really tall!)."

Vicki Payne, of Plymouth, received the Dr. Earl Hildebrand Memorial Award. This award is presented to a student who best exemplifies a combination of scholastic achievement, extracurricular involvement and leadership roles within the college. Seniors are nominated for this award by faculty in the college, with the College Scholarship Committee making the final selection.

Payne graduates May 11 with a degree in animal science with equine and meat animal emphases. She has worked at the Campus Farm and been active in clubs and on intercollegiate competitive teams. She was co-captain of the Horse Judging Team and the IHSA Hunt Seat Team, served as the IHSA Show Chair, and held elected office as secretary and subsequently as president of the Horseman's Association.

Most recently, Payne was the student manager for the 2019 Colt Sale, handling the pedigree research and the photography for the sale website and social media. She has been the face of the UW-River Falls equine program for many prospective students as she has been a volunteer farm tour guide for campus visit days and interacted with high school students as a volunteer for the annual Falcon Ag Challenge, the Ag Technology Contest and youth horse judging clinics.

Payne has volunteered off campus at This Old Horse, a non-profit sanctuary, been a guest speaker at 4-H horse and pony clubs, and a bell ringer for the Salvation Army. In September 2018, she started her own business, Solid Ground Equine Massage Therapy, LLC.

In their letter of nomination, the equine faculty summed up their comments about Vicki by saying, "With her affable personality and motivation, the CAFES work, volunteering efforts, research and extracurricular activities she has completed, Vicki has demonstrated that she is a fantastic student and individual. It's been a true pleasure for each of us to interact, teach and work alongside her."

The Senior Supper is hosted by the CAFES Alumni Association. Association President Whitney Thome, '11, served as the emcee. The program traditionally features speakers from industry, the graduating class, and the faculty. This year's speakers were Michael Van Handel, '03, national sales solution manager with Land O'Lakes Purina Feed; Jared Retzlaff, agricultural marketing communications major; and James Graham, professor of agricultural education. Students who earned Cum Laude merit and/or completed the Honors Program were also recognized during the program and presented with cords to wear at commencement.

UW-River Falls benefits from thoughtful planning of alumnus Wayne Lafferty



May 13, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls has received a generous gift from the estate of 1958 graduate Wayne Lafferty.

The generous contribution of more than \$437,000 creates a permanent endowment, the Wayne N. Lafferty Scholarship Fund, providing approximately \$17,500 annually in scholarship support based on student financial need.

“We are grateful for this generous gift recognizing the need our students have for financial assistance,” said Chancellor Dean Van Galen. “Scholarship support remains a priority for charitable giving at UW-River Falls, helping to ensure our students continued access to a UWRF education.”

Lafferty, of Coronado, Calif., graduated from UW-River Falls with a degree in elementary education. He was a dedicated educator, teaching fourth grade students for more than 30 years. In retirement, Lafferty enjoyed volunteering, traveling and was an advocate for education.

“I understand Wayne spoke fondly of his experience at UWRF and his desire to make a difference in the lives of future UWRF students,” said Assistant Chancellor of University Advancement Rick Foy. “We are fortunate to have alumni like Wayne who benefited first-hand from a UW-River Falls education and who made provisions to leave a lasting legacy at the university.”

For more information, contact Foy at 715-425-4291 or richard.foy@uwrf.edu.



Officials from UW-River Falls and the River Falls School District met May 9 to sign an agreement that offers River Falls High School students the opportunity to take UWRF courses at the high school beginning in the fall.

UW-River Falls to begin dual credit program with River Falls High School

May 17, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls entered into a groundbreaking agreement with the River Falls School District May 9 that offers River Falls High School students the opportunity to take UWRF courses at the high school beginning in the fall.

Upon successful completion of the approved university courses, credits earned by high school students will be considered dual credit, with credits counting toward both high school and university requirements.

The goal of the new Dual Academic Credit Program is to provide students with the chance to fulfill college level expectations and earn UWRF credits in a familiar and supportive setting and with highly-qualified and approved high school educators with master's degrees (or higher) in their discipline (i.e. mathematics, English).

"Participating in this program will allow students the opportunity to experience the pace, rigor and personal responsibility that are crucial to success in college," said Dean Yohnk, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "As well, students earn valuable, transferable UW credits while still in high school."

The per credit cost of the Dual Academic Credit Program is \$100. Students on federally-approved free and reduced lunches will be offered an additional tuition reduction. In order to enroll, students must meet one of the following criteria and have the support of RFHS approved teachers and guidance counselors:

- Class rank in top 25 percent
- GPA of at least 3.00 on a 4.0 scale
- ACT of 24 or higher and class rank in top 50 percent

Students from the River Falls School District and other area schools will continue to have the opportunity to participate in the Early College Credit Program (ECCP) which allows them to take courses on the UWRF campus alongside university students.

RFHS students interested in taking UWRF courses either at RFHS or on the UWRF campus should contact their high school guidance counselor for details at 715-425-1830, option 4.

For more information about the Dual Academic Credit Program, call UWRF Admissions at 715-425-3500.



(L-

R) Sydni Loose, Jackie Thayer, Samantha Abrahamson, Danielle Paulson, Krista Schoenfelder, Kendyl Bennett, Libby Alders, Emma Edwards, Janie Huot (UWRF coach), AQHA Rep, and Bob Cacchione (CEO and Founder of IHSA).

Western Team places second in the nation at IHSA Nationals

May 13, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Western Team is AQHA (American Quarter Horse Association) Trophy Reserve National Champions, the highest honor the team has earned in its history at UWRF. The team earned 41 points to secure this top placement at IHSA (Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association) Nationals in Syracuse, N.Y., May 3-6.

Nine schools, including UW-River Falls, advanced to the IHSA National Western Team Competition by finishing in the Top 3 at one of the three semi-finals held across the country in March (Orlando; Findlay, Ohio; and Logan, Utah). The UWRF Western Team includes Libby Alders (animal science major from Madison Lake, Minn.), Kendyl Bennett (accounting major from Preston, Minn.), Emily Edwards (animal science major from St. Paul), Danielle Paulson (animal science major from Pine Island, Minn.), and Krista Schoenfelder (agricultural business major from Rochester, Minn.).

Individuals earned the following placements in team events:

- Alders – Reserve National Champion (second place) in Team Intermediate Horsemanship
- Bennett – Fifth place in Team Novice Horsemanship
- Edwards – Reserve National Champion (second place) in Team Beginner Horsemanship
- Paulson – Fifth place in Team Open Horsemanship and fifth place in Team Reining
- Schoenfelder – National Champion (first place) in Team Advanced Horsemanship

Individuals also participated in individual events at nationals:

- Samantha Abrahamson (agricultural education major from Minneapolis) – Eighth place in Individual Beginner
- Sydni Loose (animal science major from Cedar Grove) – Honorable Mention in Individual Advanced
- Jackie Thayer (agricultural business major from Ridgeland) – Eighth place in Individual Advanced

One rider from the UWRF Hunt Seat Team qualified for IHSA Nationals in the Intermediate Flat Class event. Madeleine Olson (animal science major from Milwaukee), placed fourth, which was the highest placement by a Hunt Seat rider from our zone/region (Zone 7, Region 3).

“I truly admire and am inspired by each one of these young equestrians every time they get on a horse, whether they win or lose,” said Janie Huot, team coach. “When the stars align and everything works, they are rewarded for their hard work, determination, their great love of horses, competition and comradery. When things don’t quite work out the way they planned, they learn from it, go back at it and work even harder. These are the keys to the success of this team.”

For more information, email Huot at janie.huot@uwrf.edu.



Chancellor Dean Van Galen presented Steve Wilcox with the Distinguished Alumnus Award during spring commencement May 11.

Wilcox named 2019 Distinguished Alumnus

May 21, 2019 – Lancaster native Steve Wilcox was honored as the Distinguished Alumnus during spring commencement ceremonies May 11 at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Chancellor Dean Van Galen presented Wilcox with the Distinguished Alumnus Award commenting that it was a well-deserved honor and thanked him for the many ways he has given back to his alma mater.

As the Distinguished Alumnus, Wilcox addressed the more than 900 graduates who filled Knowles Field House at the Falcon Center, sharing words of wisdom and inspiration.

“As you take the education you received, the network of people you have developed and the confidence of your education to impose your footprint on tomorrow, each of you will fly high to make an impact on the lives of others,” he said.

After graduating from UW-River Falls in 1974 with a degree in biology, Wilcox spent more than 40 years in business. He is currently president and founder of The Resultants, a leading Twin Cities business advisory firm.

Wilcox has many family ties to UWRF beginning with his parents ('49, '50), wife Terri ('77), in-laws ('48, '50), and two brothers-in-law ('73, '76). He and his wife reside in Hudson and have two adult children, Chris (Kristen) and Kiira (Nick).

For more information about the Distinguished Alumni Award, call the UWRF Alumni Office at 715-425-3505.

Free outdoor Tuesday concerts begin June 18

June 3, 2019 - The annual Tuesday summer concert series at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls kicks off June 18 at 7 p.m. in the Melvin Wall Amphitheatre. The concerts are free and open to everyone.

This year's concerts, all beginning at 7 p.m., are:

June 18: Sister Species and Lena Elizabeth, chamber pop and bluesy folk storytelling

June 25: Annie Mack, soulful powerhouse

July 2: Yam Haus, feel good punchy pop

July 9: Tommy Bentz Band, bluesy rock and roll

July 16: St. Croix Valley Community Band, variety musical selections for all ages

July 23: Kids From Wisconsin, show choir. Rainsite: Falcon Center

July 30: Joyann Parker, blues and grit...hear her roar

August 6: Chris Silver and the Good Intentions, bluegrass

Grilled food, ice cream and beverages will be available for purchase at all concerts. Carry-in alcoholic beverages are prohibited, but personal picnics and beverages are allowed. Smoking is prohibited. Dogs must remain on leashes. Parking in designated parking spaces is free during the concerts.

In the event of inclement weather, the concerts will be moved indoors to the University Center where food and beverages will be available for purchase.

The outdoor concert series is sponsored in part by Royal Credit Union.

For more information, weather updates or accommodations, call Elise Koop at 715-425-3911.

Klapatch receives Regents' Academic Staff Excellence Award



June 7, 2019 – Sustainability and Custodial Supervisor Mark Klapatch from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is the recipient of an Academic Staff Excellence Award from the UW System Board of Regents. The award is the UW System's highest recognition bestowed on members of its academic staff. Klapatch accepted the award June 7 in Milwaukee.

Award recipients are selected for superior performance resulting in significant contributions to the department and institution; use of positive personal interaction to manage work changes; and a consistently creative approach that improves productivity and work quality. Each recipient is awarded \$5,000.

Klapatch, of River Falls, oversees a staff of 17 full-time employees and 60-70 part-time student employees. His responsibilities include tracking sustainability initiatives; mentoring student volunteers and student organizations; working with all campus departments; and managing UWRF's waste minimization, recycling, and landfill diversion efforts. He serves as chair of UWRF's Sustainability Working Group and works with the Sustainability Faculty Fellows Committee to support and improve sustainability within the curriculum, including the recently created Sustainable Justice Minor available to all students on campus. He also serves as vice chair of the Academic Staff Council and on the Diversity and Inclusivity Committee.

Together with another supervisor, Klapatch started a surplus program on campus which annually diverts over 100,000 pounds of furniture and other materials from landfills. He has facilitated the completion of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education for the past three years. His leadership and ability to engage others is credited for the campus achieving a Gold Rating in 2018 after receiving a Silver STARS assessment in previous years.

"This year's award recipients reflect the high caliber of our academic staff across the UW System," said Regent Janice Mueller, chair of the selection committee. "We are delighted to recognize their wide-ranging and significant accomplishments as they work to support student success and strengthen their institutions and communities."

Two individuals and one program received the 2019 awards.

For more information, email dina.fassino@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4306.

Peterson named associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences



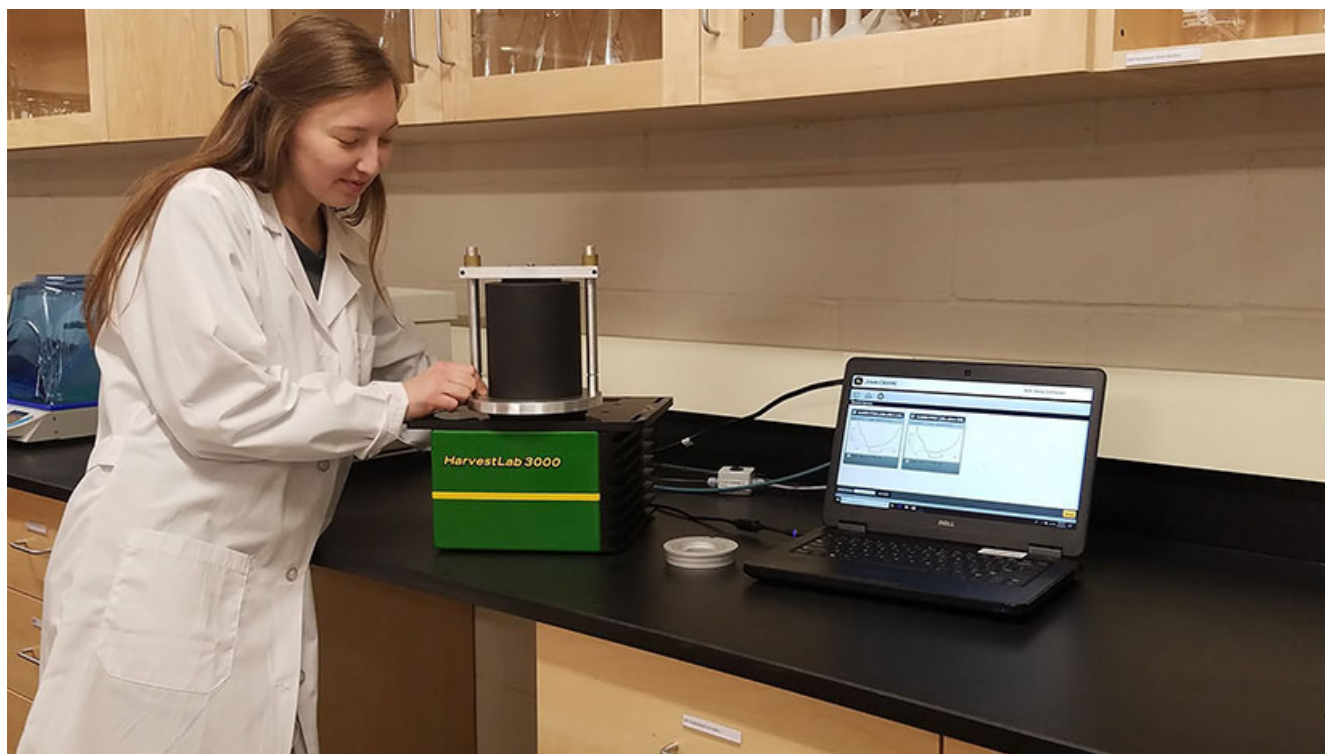
June 11, 2019 – Chemistry and biotechnology Professor Karl Peterson has been named associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, effective July 1. Peterson has 20 years of classroom experience at UWRF and has been department chair for the last eight years.

“Karl has been widely recognized at UWRF as a respected educator, scholar and service-oriented leader who is logical, fair, reasonable, organized and responsible,” said Dean Yohnk, CAS dean. “He is viewed by university colleagues as a team player who works with diverse campus groups to promote student success, academic excellence, and innovative programming.”

Peterson, of Roberts, received the unanimous support of the CAS associate dean interview and recommendation committee which noted Peterson’s outstanding qualifications and extensive experience as a department chair, member of the Faculty Senate and Senate Executive Committee, member of the University Curriculum Committee, member of the University Instructional and Learning Technology Committee, member of the University Calendar Committee and member on the URSCA and re-envisioning the Honors Program task forces as activities that have prepared him well to serve as the CAS associate dean.

In addition to his role as the new CAS associate dean, Peterson will continue to teach courses in the chemistry and biotechnology program in his areas of expertise.

For more information, email dean.yohnk@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3777.



UW-River Falls undergraduate research assistant Allyssa Frahm calibrates a near-infrared reflectance spectrometer, the underlying technology of the Deere & Company HarvestLab™ 3000 manure sensing system.

Students have role in precision agriculture innovation

June 28, 2019 - Another advance in precision agriculture was made by John Deere and students at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls played a role. Earlier this month John Deere announced the release of the HarvestLab™ 3000 with Manure Constituent Sensing. UW-River Falls faculty and students in agricultural engineering helped to ensure the technology would provide producers with accurate information on important nutrient constituents in the manure.

Manure is a useful by-product of livestock industries, containing nutrients that can be valuable to crop production and reducing the reliance on synthetic fertilizers. But manure composition is highly variable and dependent on many factors including animal species, age and diet, bedding, climate and manure handling practices. The Manure Constituent Sensing technology from John Deere uses near-infrared sensors to provide real-time measurement of total nitrogen, ammonium-nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus and dry matter content of the manure as it being applied in the field. Producers can adjust the volume being applied to meet the specific nutrient requirements for their fields.

John Deere first approached Matthew Digman, assistant professor of agricultural engineering, for assistance collecting and analyzing dairy manure samples from Wisconsin. Although John Deere was already using the Manure Constituent Sensing technology in the European Union, livestock manure in the U.S. is compositionally different. So manure from U.S. farms needed to be sampled, analyzed and compared to the predicted composition from the Manure Constituent Sensor system.

Beginning in fall 2017, Digman and his students reached out to producers who might be willing to participate and then set out across the state collecting manure samples. Back on campus, they processed the samples through the John Deere Manure

Constituent Sensing test stand and sent sub-samples to the University of Wisconsin Soil and Forage Lab in Marshfield for wet chemical analysis. The students handled the data collection and organization, maintained the database of metadata collected along with each sample, and participated in meetings with the John Deere staff overseeing the project.

Eventually John Deere expanded this effort, with UW-River Falls as the sole North American collaborator on this project to sample and test dairy and swine manure from across the U.S. and Canada. This necessitated a change in the collection process and one of the students developed the “manure by mail” program with easy to follow instructions for the producers and all the supplies necessary, including instant ice packs to keep the sample chilled while in route.

Over the nearly two years this project has been in existence, seven UWRF undergraduates were engaged in the effort. They are: Julia Rogers of St. Paul, Allyssa Frahm of Schofield, Miriam Zarling of Mount Pleasant, Aaron Timm of Plainview, Minn., Madison Schochenmaier of Waconia, Minn., Jacob Burg of LaCrescent, Minn., and Samantha Payne of Murdock, Minn.

“It was a really great learning experience to be able to work directly with the engineers and John Deere to solve problems and meet their goals,” said Rogers, who was involved with this project from the beginning. “It was fun to apply information I learned in classes to the project and things I learned on the project to my classes. And now it’s really exciting to see something I’ve worked on go to market!”

It was Schochenmaier who used her organizational and planning skills to create the manure by mail protocol.

“Now that the technology is released, I am super excited to finally be able to say I was part of the development,” Schochenmaier said. “Though we may have been doing what some consider the ‘grunt work,’ I feel we learned a lot about how much effort it takes to launch a new product.”

The completion of this phase of the work was well-timed for Digman as he accepted a position at UW-Madison beginning fall 2019.

“We already get along very well with our sister department at UW-Madison,” Joe Shakal, professor of agricultural engineering and chair of the department said. “Matt’s transition will strengthen the ties between our two departments and better enable us to work together to provide research and development solutions to our corporate stakeholders, while giving students meaningful hands-on laboratory experiences.”

John Deere and HarvestLab™ 3000 are trademarks of Deere & Company.

UW-River Falls receives funds for Science and Technology Innovation Center

June 12, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen expresses his gratitude to the Wisconsin legislature's Joint Finance Committee (JFC) for its allocation of \$2 million to fund partial design of the UWRF Science and Technology Innovation Center (SciTech).

This investment will fund design of the project to the 35% level, a critical benchmark that will enable UWRF to clarify the actual cost of construction and develop a complementary fundraising plan to engage private donors. These steps will then allow UWRF to seek construction funds for the project during the 2021-23 biennium.

"JFC member Representative Shannon Zimmerman from River Falls made this a priority and we greatly appreciate his work helping raise awareness of the value of the project to our campus, region and state with his JFC colleagues," Van Galen said.

"We are also grateful for the investment allocated by the JFC for the Dairy Innovation Hub which will allow us, in partnership with our UW colleagues, to reinforce capacity in support of the state's dairy industry," Van Galen added.

"We appreciate the expression of confidence in UW-River Falls on the part of the state legislature that these investments represent," Van Galen said. "We look forward to continuing to work with our legislators and the executive branch as the biennial budget makes its way forward in the state process."

About the Science and Technology Innovation Center

The proposed SciTech project would house the departments of biology, chemistry, physics, and psychology/neuroscience providing modern laboratory spaces for instruction and undergraduate research to meet industry demands in STEM fields.

In line with UWRF's commitment to innovation and partnerships, SciTech would also include a university-business collaboration hub to support internships and incubation of joint research projects. The facility will play a vital role in supporting economic growth in Western Wisconsin by fostering collaboration between faculty, students and regional businesses.

For more information about SciTech, email beth.schommer@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0662.

UW-River Falls welcomes new chief advancement officer



June 7, 2019 – Rick Foy joined the University of Wisconsin-River Falls advancement team in May where he serves as the assistant chancellor for University Advancement.

Foy comes to UWRF after serving as the associate director/interim director-major gifts for the UW-Eau Claire Foundation for the past seven years.

Under the direction of the chancellor, Foy will develop and execute engagement and fundraising plans for UWRF's advancement program.

"I am confident that his leadership and fundraising expertise will bring lasting positive benefits to our campus," said UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen.

Raised in Amery, Foy is familiar with the River Falls community and has many ties to UW-River Falls.

"My mom and dad were both alumni, graduates of what was then River Falls State Teachers College and so were four of my mom's five sisters," said Foy. "UWRF provided some of my first college experiences. I often attended sports events on campus and attended music and journalism clinics during my high school years. It may sound cliché, but accepting this position really was a homecoming of sorts."

Foy received his bachelor's degree in journalism from UW-Eau Claire and his master's degree in communications management from S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. He and his wife, Melanie, live in Cottage Grove, Minn. They have three daughters.

Foy can be reached at 715-425-4291 or at richard.foy@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls preparing to welcome students back to campus

July 27, 2020 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is on the home stretch in its work to provide students with a safe and meaningful college experience in the fall. Across campus, extensive efforts are underway to ensure UWRF can resume activities with confidence and create an experience that is as close to normal as possible given the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

“The changes the university are adopting this summer are monumental,” said UWRF Interim Chancellor Connie Foster. “We are designing new ways of working and teaching in an unprecedentedly short amount of time and in an ever-changing environment. I am grateful for the faculty, instructors and employees who’ve been working tirelessly to prepare for a safe return to campus.”

Responding to the COVID-19 crisis

In January 2020, UWRF senior leadership activated the university’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in response to the coronavirus outbreak and was subsequently charged with three high-level objectives: 1) monitor the impact of the coronavirus nationally, regionally and locally; 2) prevent the virus from having an impact on UWRF; and 3) develop a communications plan for campus, including talking points for both inward and outward audiences. Now that the imminent threat of the emergency is over, campus is preparing for a new normal.

“A successful re-opening of campus has involved an unimaginable spectrum of changes from new custodial procedures and protocols to modifications of our classrooms, office spaces and facilities,” said Executive Director of Facilities Management Alan Symicek.

Health and safety, face coverings

Safety measures taken by the university, including its policy specific to the requirement that students and employees wear face coverings, are intended to help reduce the spread of this illness. Additionally, planning for the implementation for specific health measure is underway, including testing of symptomatic individuals and contact tracing. UWRF is discussing options with several providers to provide testing. A UWRF staff member has been assigned to manage contact tracing on campus through a team of six trained employees under the supervision of Pierce County Public Health.

UWRF is communicating decisions and updates to employees, students and their families as regularly and promptly as possible in regard to health and safety measures as well as numerous decisions being made as part of the [Falcons Forward 2020 Return to Campus Plan](#). The university has hosted town halls to inform students, families and employees and ask questions of leadership during a time that has created much uncertainty.

Residence halls and dining

Utilizing guidance from the CDC and county public health professionals, UWRF residence halls will be open, however, occupancy will be modified to decrease density and allow more single rooms, prioritizing those who have a medically related need. Several modifications are being made to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19. Extra health and safety measures will be put into place including enhanced sanitation and cleaning. Residence Life programming will be modified to utilize new ways to communicate with students, support their needs, build community, and offer educational and personal growth opportunities.

“We are planning a non-traditional move-in process that will allow us to keep large groups from gathering,” said Karla Thoennes, director of Residence Life. “Students will make appointments and two people will be allowed to assist with helping them move-in. We designed a similar model in March when the students moved out and everyone was quite flexible.”

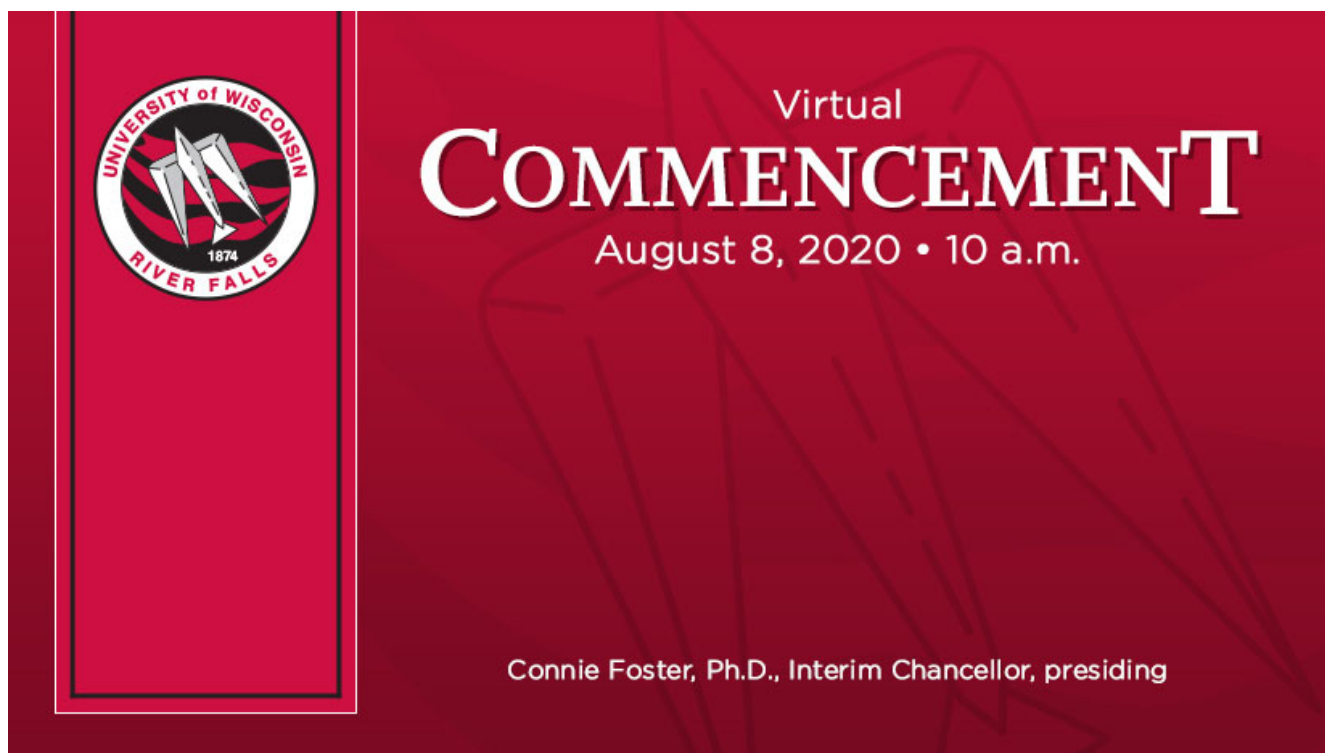
Residential dining will be available for students however, service will be modified with staff providing more to-go options versus self-serve choices. Physical distancing markers will be used at entrances to ensure compliance with CDC guidelines. Plexiglass partitions will be installed at all service counters.

Academics

The majority of classes offered in the fall will be taught in hybrid mode. This is necessary due to the restrictions on how many students can be in a classroom at any given time. Hybrid courses are taught through a combination of face-to-face and virtual learning. Faculty training and development for both online and hybrid modes of delivery have been ongoing this summer and will continue into the fall. These will include the use of technology to capture in-class lectures for those learning remotely. Based on COVID-19 considerations, almost all classroom capacities have been reduced to less than 50 percent of normal, with most rooms being in the 15-35 percent range and some being even lower.

Reflecting on the transformation that's taken place since March, Provost David Travis said he's proud of faculty and instructors who've demonstrated a clear commitment to ensuring UWRF students are well taken care of when they arrive for classes on September 2.

“Whether in the classroom, residence halls, or through virtual learning, we are committed to continuing to provide the same high-quality engagement that has served so many generations of University of Wisconsin-River Falls students,” Travis said.



Virtual commencement ceremony set for August 8

July 20, 2020 – A virtual commencement ceremony at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is set for Saturday, Aug. 8, beginning at 10 a.m. to honor 939 bachelor's and master's degree spring semester/summer session graduates. The event is replacing the traditional in-person ceremony typically held in May which was delayed because of COVID-19 concerns.

The ceremony will include recognition of Roger Williams, the 2020 Distinguished Alumnus.

A recording of the ceremony is available at www.uwrf.edu/Registrar/CurrentStudents/CommencementInformation/August82020VirtualCommencement.cfm

For more information, call the UWRF Registrar's Office at 715-425-3342.



55th annual Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo is Sept. 6-7

August 22, 2019 – The public is invited to the 55th Annual Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 6 and 7, at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Rodeo Arena.

There is a single performance Friday evening at 7 p.m. and two performances on Saturday, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. All performances are at the outdoor Rodeo Arena at the UWRF Campus Farm (1475 S. Wasson Lane) on the corner of Wasson Lane and Cemetery Road in River Falls.

Beyond the traditional competitions, the rodeo offers some events just for fun. On Friday evening, the competitors will play a round of musical chairs on horseback. The Saturday afternoon performance will feature youth activities including a boot scramble and mutton busting event. All youth are welcome to participate in the boot scramble while those interested in participating in the mutton busting must sign up at the concession stand at the start of the rodeo.

Tickets prices are \$15 for adults, \$12 for UWRF students and \$10 for children 5-12. Children age 4 and under are free. Tickets are available at the gate or online at <https://www.uwfrdeodeo.com>. Credit cards will not be accepted at the gate. Food is available for purchase at the concession stand.

UW-River Falls is one of 13 college teams competing in the Great Plains region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA). The Falcon Frontier Days Rodeo kicks off the fall season for the Great Plains region. The UW-River Falls team is welcoming a new coaching team this season, the Dunsmores. Matt and Lacy Dunsmore own 77 Ranch just outside of River Falls. Lacy has been competing in rodeo since she was two years old. She is a successful barrel racer and goat tyer. Matt has been a successful bull rider for over 20 years.

Call the UWRF Animal and Food Science Department at 715-425-3704 with any questions or visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/ANFS/FalconFrontierDaysRodeo.cfm>

Klapatch named to national recycling board of directors



August 29, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls Sustainability and Custodial Supervisor Mark Klapatch has been named to the College and University Recycling Coalition's (CURC) Board of Directors. Klapatch has represented UW-River Falls as a CURC member since 2010.

CURC's mission is to advance recycling and sustainable materials management at colleges and universities across the country. The coalition represents a community of over 900 recycling and sustainability professionals in higher education led by a board of directors made up of recycling, zero waste and sustainability managers in North America. The organization's roots date back to the 1990's when it was originally formed as a technical council within the National Recycling Coalition. In 2009, CURC branched out as an independent 501(c)3 organization.

CURC members play a vital role in exchanging knowledge among campus recycling and sustainability leaders and coordinators. Members have access to resources, toolkits, archives and networking assistance. CURC is governed by an all-volunteer board of directors.

Klapatch has been involved with waste and recycling efforts since joining UWRF in 2009. He helped create the university's surplus program, has applied for and received multiple grants for recycling bins and has piloted numerous waste minimization related projects on campus. As an active CURC member, he has participated in four annual CURC workshops including the 2018 conference where he was a presenter.

For more information on CURC, visit <http://curc3r.org/> or email mark.klapatch@uwrf.edu.



Employers and students participate in last year's Career Fair at UW-River Falls. Last year's record-breaking attendance prompted UWRF Career Services to host a two-day Career Fair this year on campus.

Seeking 2019 fall Career Fair exhibitors

August 6, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is seeking employer involvement for the Fall Career Fair to be held Tuesday, Oct. 8, and Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the University Center on campus.

This is the first time UW-River Falls is hosting a two-day Career Fair. It comes as a follow-up to last year's record-breaking attendance.

The Career Fair gives students the opportunity to meet and network with potential employers. Students can learn about internship and career opportunities with employers who relate to their area of study.

"I gained an invaluable experience speaking with professionals in my field of interest, gaining a better understanding of the jobs which are available to me and learning to be proactive in the outcome of my own future," said a past student attendee.

Participating employers speak highly of UWRF students, stating, "Some of the best I've seen, very professional" and "This is the best Career Fair I've been to."

UWRF Career Services prepares students for the Career Fair by offering a prep session prior to the event. The session features interactive stations for students to learn about and practice networking, conversing with recruiters, creating appropriate application materials, dressing professionally, and researching attending organizations.

UW-River Falls has a reputation of offering quality academic programs in more than 45 degree areas within four colleges: the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and Professional Studies, the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, and the AACSB-accredited College of Business and Economics.

Career Fair registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. UWRF Career Services encourages interested parties to register as early as possible. The registration deadline is Sept. 6.

More information and further details can be found at www.uwrf.edu/careerfair, by contacting Career Fair Coordinator Jenna Phelps at cfcoordinator@uwrf.edu or by calling 715-425-3572.

Six prominent women artists exhibit works

August 22, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Art Department will exhibit painting, printmaking and drawing by six prominent women visual artists Sept. 4-27 in Gallery 101 of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The exhibit is free and open to everyone.

The artists exhibiting are: Emily Arthur, Shannon Estlund, Pippin Frisbie-Calder, Karen Gustafson, Eleanor McGough and Joanne Price. A closing reception is set for Friday, Sept. 27, from 4:30-7 p.m.

Emily Arthur earned her MFA from Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and is a professor of printmaking at UW-Madison. She has received numerous grants for her art which can be seen in art museums in Duluth and the Twin Cities, Santa Fe, N.M., Los Angeles, and Denver. Her work examines the controversies between scientists, environmentalists and the government and the manipulation of scientific data in relation to endangered bird populations.

Shannon Estlund is a painter who has an appreciation for the “impermanent and interdependent nature of things” as they relate to her surroundings in Fridley, Minn. An MFA graduate of Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Estlund has received Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative grants for fiscal years 2014, 2017, and 2019, and two Community Foundation Art Ventures grants. She has exhibited her work nationally and internationally at museums and galleries including the Crisp Ellert Art Museum (Florida), the Elmhurst Art Museum (Ill.), Soo Visual Art Center (Minn.), the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens (Florida), and at the National Galleries of Scotland.

Pippin Frisbie-Calder is a Louisiana-based artist who received her MFA in printmaking from Tulane University in 2017. Her prints examine the natural histories and narratives of the Gulf Coast. She has exhibited her work in Louisiana, Michigan, Denver, Maine, South Carolina, Rhode Island and Indonesia. She teaches printmaking at Tulane University.

Karen Gustafson is a professor of art at Normandale College in Bloomington, Minn. Her delicate drawings reflect on the complexities in the natural world. She graduated from the University of Massachusetts with an MFA and has exhibited extensively in the U.S. and abroad at prestigious institutes including GV Art (London), Plains Art Museum (N.D.), Lexington Art League (Ky.), Pence Gallery, (Calif.), and Burnet Gallery (Minn.). Grants awarded include the Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grant (2017, 2012) and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council Next Step Grant (2014).

Eleanor McGough is a painter who resides in the Twin Cities. She received her education from Kansas City Art Institute and studied abroad in Brighton, England. Her paintings reveal a lifelong fascination with biology. Of nature, McGough relays in her paintings a temporal quality of insects which relates to their rapid decline in the ecosystem. She is represented by Rosalux Gallery and Veronique Wantz Gallery in Minneapolis and was featured in a segment on the Twin Cities Public Television arts program, MN Original, in 2013. She is the recipient of two Minnesota State Arts Board grant awards as well as a Bemis Foundation Residency.

Joanne Price is a Kentucky-based printmaker and president of the National Woodcarvers Association. Her prints reveal a keen observation about nature and the environment. An MFA graduate from the University of Minnesota, she is founder of Starpointe Studio, specializing in wood engraving, letterpress, and book arts and she teaches printmaking part-time at the University of Kentucky. Price's work is represented in public collections including: Guangdong Museum of Art,

China; Museu da Casa Xilogravura, Campos do Jordão, Brazil; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Scripps College, Claremont, Calif.; Yale University, New Haven, Conn.; University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.; Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday from 2-7 p.m., and Friday from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The closing reception is September 27, from 4:30-7 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

For more information, email jeannine.kitzhaber@uwrf.edu or call the Art Department at 715-425-3266.

Student named WiSys ambassador



August 20, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls junior Sophie Ackerman has been selected to serve as a WiSys ambassador for 2019-20. The WiSys Ambassador Program aims to enhance the connection between WiSys and the research community on UW System campuses.

Ackerman, of Marshfield, is double majoring in neuroscience and biology.

“I am very passionate about research and this opportunity in particular was intriguing to me because WiSys shares my passion for getting students involved in research,” said Ackerman. “WiSys provides support, both intellectually and financially, to students who have ideas that might not be fully realized otherwise.”

As a WiSys ambassador, Ackerman will spend up to 10 hours each month raising awareness of WiSys' role across the campuses, increasing engagement with faculty and students undertaking innovative research and helping to identify potential opportunities where WiSys can provide support.

WiSys ambassadors receive training in intellectual property as well as the technology transfer process and learn how to access resources offered by WiSys and other campus organizations designed to support technology development and entrepreneurial activity.

“I would love to utilize the education I received in the area of intellectual property someday if I were to create my own technology or procedure,” said Ackerman.

Ambassadors are involved in organizing seminars, hosting educational workshops, and serving as a resource for their respective departments and campus. WiSys launched the ambassador program in August 2014 at UW-River Falls and UW-Parkside.

For more information about the program, visit www.wisys.org/about-us/ambassador-program

Photo: UW-River Falls Provost David Travis (left) stands with WiSys Ambassador Sophie Ackerman, a junior at UW-River Falls.

Vonk receives Dykstra Faculty Excellence Award



August 29, 2019 – Physics Professor Matt Vonk has been named the recipient of the 2019 Paul B. and Robert Dykstra Faculty Excellence Award at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

The Dykstra Award is designed to support faculty research, creative and scholarly activity and is awarded to a tenured or tenure-track faculty member who is either currently involved in a project or has proposed a research, creative or scholarly project.

Nominations for the award are made by faculty members.

“Dr. Matthew Vonk is passionate about improving science education,” said Physics Professor Earl Blodgett. “It is this passion that has guided his distinguished and far-ranging scholarly activity.”

“Matt’s sustained work with the development, implementation, testing, and dissemination of interactive Direct Measurement Videos (DMVs) is having an impact on STEM education across the country,” added Physics Professor Lowell McCann.

In announcing the 2019 Dykstra Award, UW-River Falls Provost David Travis shared that peers hold Vonk in high regard as a teacher, scholar and professional.

“Matt is an outstanding colleague, a caring and beloved teacher and a pioneer in the field of physics education with his development of interactive video tools for class-based activities,” Travis said.

Vonk holds a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota with specialization in chemical physics. He earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from Hope College, Holland, Mich.

For more information about the Dykstra Award, email wes.chapin@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0629.

Annual outdoor art installation set for Oct. 2-3

September 24, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Art Department's 28th Annual Outdoor Art Installation is October 2-3. The event showcases student works of art designed to be site specific on the UWRF campus grounds.

This year's guest artist is Pedram Baldari, a Kurdish-Iranian born sculptor, architect and interdisciplinary artist. Baldari's artistic practice focuses on installation, site specific performance art and social practice. An accomplished artist, he has been featured in numerous national and international exhibitions since 2010 including a solo show in Victoria and Albert Museum, London in 2012, Documenta 13th Video Import-Export program, Video Nomad Tokyo 2015, and Art Basel Switzerland 2014. Baldari's work challenges viewers on current issues such as borders, national identities, and cultural heritage.

In addition, Baldari has received art residencies internationally and has been a part of group exhibitions in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Turkey, and the U.S. He is the recipient of the 2012 Magic of Persia and Delfina Foundation Award, Jerome Fellowship Commission for Franconia Sculpture Park, and the Vermont Studio Center Award. He recently received funding through the Star Dust Fund for his fellowship and art residency at Weisman Art Museum in 2019. Baldari currently lives and works in Minneapolis.

This year's theme is "Portal." In particular, how do we engage with doorways, gateways, and other transitional spaces through the use of installation and materials? How might our intervention of space be affected and challenged by the physicality of natural and constructed environments? How does it alter our perceptions and understandings of movement through specific spaces?

On Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 11 a.m., Baldari will give a short presentation of his work in North Hall Auditorium. From 1-3:30 p.m., Baldari will give his thoughts on installations during the walk-about with students and guests on the campus grounds. The public is welcome to attend the presentation and the walk-about.

Site maps identifying the individual installations can be picked up in the lobby of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building near Gallery 101 beginning at 9 a.m. Oct. 2. Work will be de-installed Oct. 4.

The installations, walk-about and presentation are free and open to the public. Everyone is asked to please respect the artistic ideas by not altering or damaging the artwork.

For more information, call the UWRF Art Department at 715-425-3266.

Ayers receives teaching excellence award

September 12, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls Associate Professor Melanie Ayers has been named the recipient of the 2019 Keith G. Wurtz Award for Teaching Excellence.

The Wurtz Award recognizes outstanding and innovative teachers who have made exceptional contributions to the university and to the community. Recipients demonstrate “trailblazing” innovative approaches to teaching, display scholarship of teaching and learning, innovative use of technology, curriculum development, assessment approaches and outreach and partnerships with collaborators on or off campus.

Peers who nominated Ayers described her record as an educator as being “beyond outstanding.”

“I am consistently impressed with the sophistication of her students’ studies and their ability to talk about research fluently and confidently,” said one nominator. “Her innovative approaches to teaching have been an inspiration to me. Melanie is the model recipient of an award for innovation in teaching.”

Ayers holds a Ph.D. in developmental psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

She earned her master’s degree in developmental psychology from the University of California, and her bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Oregon.

In congratulating Ayers on her award, UW-River Falls Provost David Travis emphasized comments from colleagues who described her as a student-centered educator, a mentor, a trailblazer in the use of instructional strategies and an innovator in her approaches to assessment.

“I appreciate the tremendous energy, creativity and thought Professor Ayers has invested in her work as a teacher and scholar at UW-River Falls,” said Travis. “She is making a significant difference in the academic trajectory of our students.”

For more information about the Wurtz Award, email wes.chapin@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0629.



UW-River Falls: 8th in the nation

September 23, 2019 | Dean Van Galen

When you wake up to find an email from one of your prominent alumni referring you to an article about the university in a major national media source—well, it causes a bit of apprehension. I experienced that feeling earlier this month when I was sent a link to a Wall Street Journal article by not one but two alumni that serve on our Foundation Board.

A series of articles had been published, summarizing various results from the Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings for 2020. In their fourth year, these rankings are intended to help prospective college students assess their higher education options based on factors identified as those most important to students and their families. One such factor relates to a question they posed to over 170,000 current students across the nation, basically asking: Is your college worth the cost?"

There, ranked at number eight, was UW-River Falls. Our institution was **the only university listed from the Upper Midwest, public or private**, and we were tied with highly-reputed institutions such as Yale.

1. Brigham Young University-Provo
2. United States Naval Academy
3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
4. Virginia Military Institute
5. Louisiana Tech University
6. Princeton University
7. University of Wyoming

8. Bowdoin College

Missouri University of Science and Technology

University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Washington and Lee University

Yale University

To have UW-River Falls ranked eighth in the nation seems to have surprised some people (no, we did not pay to get in the rankings!). I, however, was not surprised. UWRF is a public university that offers an exceptional student experience at an affordable price. Our annual tuition, fees, room and board are just around \$14,500 for Wisconsin residents. We offer guaranteed scholarships based on academic achievement to eligible incoming freshmen, as well as millions of dollars in grants, scholarships, and financial aid. UW-River Falls graduates have relatively low levels of debt upon graduation, often the lowest amongst all of our peer schools in the UW System.

But value isn't only about cost. It's also about our commitment to excellence and the opportunities students have throughout their time at UW-River Falls. We have great faculty who are committed to teaching and mentoring students. We support students' engagement in activities such as study abroad, undergraduate research and internships. We encourage our students to get involved outside of the classroom, be it through student organizations, athletics, volunteering or recreational activities.

Many universities like UW-River Falls boast about providing a "private college education at a public school price." I think the Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education rankings confirm that, among the many who make that claim, we have earned those bragging rights. Best of all, the eighth in the nation ranking is based on the perspectives of those who would know best—our students.

What are the takeaways? UW-River Falls is one of the best college values in the nation. And, early morning email messages are not always bad!



Internship Spotlight: Colton Booth



Hometown: Owen

Internship: TurnKey Corrections | Three Square Market

Major: Business Administration, management emphasis

“It’s never too soon to get your foot in the door.”

Colton Booth is passionate about networking. His internship experience is a textbook example of the impact relationships can make.

“I grew up in a small town. My graduating class was all of 32 students,” recounts Colton. “I took advantage of everything Owen-Withee had to offer – sports, band, choir, theatre. My high school friends and I we were a tight knit group. In a small town, community becomes family.”

For as much as he loved his hometown, Colton knew there was a “great big world” out there and took interest in UW-River Falls when it came to advancing his education.

“The small class sizes and opportunity to work closely with faculty felt right,” he said. “I’m good with numbers and people so I decided to look at business as a major. When it came time to consider an internship, the UWRF Career Services team encouraged me to tap into business owners I knew near my hometown.”

It didn’t take long before Colton was offered a project management internship in Thorp where he worked for three months.

"I found that people were very supportive, they are willing to help you get something on your resume," he said. "After my internship I worked closely with Career Services to really spiff-up my resume. They were amazing, helping me to bring out the best of my skills and experiences. When I started talking with the companies who came to the Career Fairs, my resume showed that I was serious about the opportunities I was applying for."

Colton said he never missed a Career Fair or a speaker or any other event sponsored by Career Services, not even the one held during last year's blizzard of blizzards.

"I definitely ruined a pair of pants getting to that one, but that's ok, that's where I met my TurnKey contacts so it was worth it!" he said.

TurnKey Corrections and Three Square Market provide vending services worldwide. Colton describes his internship with the organization as one of the most unique, intriguing and engaging he could have asked for.

"With many internships you are given a single task or project to do for three months and then you are done. Turnkey wants you to grow with them, to be a part of the organization long-term, so they provide opportunities in every aspect of the company," Colton said. "In my first week, I was working with the assembly area, then finance, marketing, human resources and the warehouse."

Colton was impressed by the way TurnKey gives its interns a taste of every aspect of the company to ensure they have an understanding of what the organization is about and where it's going. To his delight, Colton and a fellow intern will be "going" along with the company next year. They've been selected to work as account executives for TurnKey at its Birmingham, UK, location beginning in March 2020.

"This is an amazing opportunity and I am looking forward to growing with the company. I'm actually doing a bit of market research during the final months of my Wisconsin in Scotland Program that I believe will support our efforts," Colton said.

True to TurnKey's philosophy of providing hands-on experiences, Colton will have a wide scope of responsibilities, including marketing, operations and sales. His advice to anyone in the business program: get your foot in the door as soon as possible. Start making connections, developing relationships and don't worry, it will all work out in the end!

Free strategy workshops for graduate school exams offered

September 12, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is hosting free workshops this fall to demonstrate how certain test-taking strategies can help those planning to take the GRE, GMAT or LSAT admission exams for graduate school.

"If you are preparing for graduate school, you know that success on your admission exam plays a critical role," said Randy Zimmermann, director of UWRF Continuing Education. "Standardized tests like the GRE, GMAT and LSAT help determine your admission status and are used in merit-based scholarships, grants, fellowships, and assistantships."

At these workshops, experienced test preparation instructors demonstrate how strategies may help students achieve great test results. Workshops are delivered online for all three exams and face-to-face on the UWRF campus for the GRE.

Upcoming online workshops include the GMAT Exam Workshop on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 6 p.m.; the LSAT Exam Workshop on Wednesday, Sept. 25, at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and the GRE Workshop on Sept. 25 at 8 p.m. There will be a face-to-face workshop for the GRE on Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center.

Students must register in advance to receive access to the online workshops. Visit the website at <http://go.uwrf.edu/testprep> to register and view the schedule of test prep workshops and classes offered this year.

UW-River Falls offers its test preparation courses in partnership with Educational Testing Consultants, a leader in higher education test preparation.

UW-River Falls provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available online at <http://go.uwrf.edu/ce>, by calling 1-800-228-5607 or by email to continuing.ed@uwrf.edu.

Furness receives award for teaching excellence



September 12, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls Associate Professor Stacy Furness has been named the recipient of the 2019 Dr. Keith G. Wurtz Award for Teaching Excellence.

The Wurtz Award recognizes outstanding and innovative teachers who have made exceptional contributions to the university and to the community. Recipients demonstrate “trailblazing” innovative approaches to teaching, display scholarship of teaching and learning, innovative use of technology, curriculum development, assessment approaches and outreach and partnerships with collaborators on or off campus.

Peers describe Furness’ record as an educator as “beyond outstanding.”

“Stacy is fully-committed and involved, a highly skilled advisor and an accomplished researcher,” one peer wrote. “She has never lost her focus on high-quality teaching.”

Students supporting Furness’ nomination expressed appreciation of her support of their academic journey.

“Having Dr. Furness as my professor within the Health and Human Performance Department has been a true blessing,” a student wrote. “Her teaching brings clarity through her challenging and engaging style. The manner she uses to present the material equates to student success.”

Furness is an associate professor in the UWRF department of health and human performance. She holds an education doctorate in leadership from Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota.

In congratulating Furness on her award, UW-River Falls Provost David Travis emphasized comments from colleagues who described her as a student-centered educator, a mentor, a trailblazer in the use of instructional strategies and an innovator in her approaches to assessment.

“I appreciate the tremendous energy, creativity and thought Associate Professor Furness has invested in her work as a teacher and scholar at UW-River Falls,” said Travis. “She is making a significant difference in the academic trajectory of our students.”

For more information about the Wurtz Award, email wes.chapin@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0629.

Guest presentation addresses men, masculinities and Earth

September 17, 2019 - Why is it that compared to men, women litter less, recycle more, and leave a smaller carbon footprint? Do men shun eco-friendly behavior, fearing what it might convey about their masculinity? New research confirms that men do care about the environment--but they also tend to want to feel macho, and they worry that eco-friendly behaviors might brand them as less...manly.

Ecological masculinities offer an Earth-inspired response to the limits of our times. This new way of thinking about men and masculine socialization cultivates greater care for the global and local commons.

Please join us for "Men, Masculinities, and Earth" presented by scholar Paul Pule, of Chalmers University, Sweden, on Wednesday, Sept. 25, from 4-5:30 p.m. in 222 North Hall at UW-River Falls. The discussion is based off his research from his recent book, "Ecological Masculinities" by Martin Hultman and Pule.

Join in a lively discussion as we redefine masculine socializations in support of all planetary life. Refreshments provided. Sponsored by UWRF's Sustainability Faculty Fellows.

For more information, email greta.gaard@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4195.

McCarty named 2019 Distinguished Teacher



September 6, 2019 – Claire McCarty, professor of management, has been named the 2019 UW-River Falls Distinguished Teacher. The Distinguished Teacher Award, initiated in 1965, is the most prestigious honor bestowed on campus.

Chosen by graduating seniors and recent graduates, distinguished teaching recipients represent talented and caring educators – teachers who make a difference.

"Professor McCarty pushes students to achieve their full potential," said one nominator. "She is eager to connect students and get them involved in internships, student organizations and study abroad opportunities while ensuring that they feel supported throughout the entire process."

McCarty earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and anthropology from UW-Madison and her doctorate in labor and human resources/organizational behavior from The Ohio State University in Columbus.

The Distinguished Teacher Award recognizes excellence in both mentoring as well as teaching, something former students spoke to in letters of nomination.

"Before coming to UWRF, I never imagined I would have family-like support from my professors," said one student. "However, I quickly learned that my professors were my biggest cheerleaders. I can tell that Professor McCarty truly listens and cares about what I have to say."

McCarty has been a resident of River Falls since 2000, when she began teaching in the College of Business and Economics. Her research interests include leadership, recognition, ethics and case research in human resource management.

As the coordinator of Semester Abroad: Europe, McCarty has a goal to help students see the world. She has participated in Experience Scotland, Experience China and has led three classes through Vietnam.

"One constant, throughout my time here at UWRF, has been the meaningful relationships I've developed with students," she said. "I've kept in touch with many – now lawyers, HR managers, business owners, and raising families. I try to share my enthusiasm for knowledge, for self-examination and for seeing the world. And it's a two-way street – they keep me grounded and current. It's a really rewarding job."

McCarty will be honored on Sept. 17 during a reception on campus. A plaque of her likeness will be added to the wall of distinguished teacher honorees in the Wyman Education Building. As the recipient of the Distinguished Teacher Award, she will deliver an address at fall commencement in December.

For more information, email cbe@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3335.

For a history of the award and to view a list of previous distinguished teachers, visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/Awards/Teachers/>



Public astronomy talks and observatory viewings

September 11, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Physics Department begins its fall season of free public observatory viewings and astronomy talks on Tuesday, Sept. 24. The viewings and talks are suitable for all ages.

The Sept. 24 stargazing (waning crescent moon, Saturn and Neptune) session includes Physics Professor Eileen Korenic presenting "Death of Opportunity on Mars" at 8 p.m. in 271 Centennial Science Hall, located at the corner of 6th Street and Cascade Ave. The discussion precedes the 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing on the third-floor observation deck. Objects seen include planets, globular clusters, open clusters, nebulae, galaxies, moons, and double stars.

All observatory viewings are dependent on a clear sky. Please call 715-425-3560 after 6 p.m. or visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/PHYS/Observatory.cfm> to verify that the sky is clear enough for viewing. The talks go on as scheduled regardless of the sky.

A Physics Department faculty member and/or student will staff each telescope and be available to answer questions at each open telescope session. Observers are encouraged to stay and look at as many elements as possible and request personal observing targets.

Since the dome is unheated and the observation deck is outside, visitors should dress appropriately for the weather.

Additional viewings this semester:

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 8 p.m., "Multiple Messengers from Space: Waves and Particles from a Galaxy Far, Far Away" presented by Associate Professor of Physics and Chair Suruj Seunarine in 271 Centennial Science Hall, followed by telescope viewing (new moon, Uranus and Neptune) on the third-floor observation deck at 8:30 p.m., weather permitting.

Wednesday, Nov. 20, 8 p.m., "Gravity, Relativity and the Milky Way" by Physics Professor Eileen Korenic in 271 Centennial Science Hall, followed by telescope viewing (waning crescent moon, Uranus) on the third-floor observation deck at 8:30 p.m., weather permitting.

For more information, email glenn.spiczack@uwrf.edu or eileen.korenic@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3560.

Russ-Yribar receives professional development grant



September 11, 2019 – Modern Language Associate Lecturer Erin Russ-Yribar has been selected to receive a \$1 thousand grant in support of professional development in her role teaching modern language at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

The grant, funded by UWRF alumnus and long-time donor Manley E. Olson, '59, is designated for instructional academic staff in the early stages of their career and provides resources to support individual professional development. All proposals for use of the grant are evaluated by the UWRF Academic Staff Professional Development Committee.

Russ-Yribar plans to use the funds to attend the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) Conference.

After five years of teaching Spanish, Russ-Yribar says she's noticed an evolution in teaching and presenting materials and concepts to students, as well as, how students are adapting to new teaching methods.

"Many of the workshops at this conference revolve around this very idea – changing and evolving teaching methods to align with students' learning abilities, particularly the Spanish language," said Russ-Yribar. "As a language Instructor, I find myself constantly making an effort to maintain my students' interest for learning a second language."

As requirement of the grant, Russ Yribar will provide a brief written report to the donor on how the funds were used and the impact it had on her professional development.

Russ-Yribar joined UWRF in August 2018.

For more information about the award, email wes.chapin@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0629.

About Manley Olson

Manley E. Olson graduated from UWRF in 1959 with majors in both history and political science, having been the first UWRF student to major in political science. While a student, Olson participated in many campus activities outside the classroom and was a member of the men's basketball team. He continued his education at the University of Minnesota where he received his Ph.D. and worked in education for over 40 years and served in a variety of volunteer activities.

Seminar examines Star Tribune's reporting on sexual assault

September 27, 2019 - To tell the story of how law enforcement officials in Minnesota failed to fully investigate reported cases of sexual assault, journalists with the Star Tribune newspaper examined more than 1,400 cases across the state and interviewed dozens of rape survivors and experts.

The result of their work was a nine-part multimedia series, "Denied Justice," published in the second half of 2018, that earned the Minneapolis daily newspaper a Pulitzer Prize nomination.

Three journalists who worked on the "Denied Justice" series will speak at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls during this semester's Communication and Media Seminar at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, in the Kinnickinnic River Theater in the University Center.

Speakers are Jennifer Bjorhus, Brandon Stahl and MaryJo Webster. Bjorhus has been with the Star Tribune for more than 10 years, covering business, criminal justice and currently the environment. Stahl is an investigative reporter for KARE-TV, the NBC affiliate in the Twin Cities, and previously spent six years at the Star Tribune. MaryJo Webster, a 1994 alumna of UW-River Falls, has been data editor at the Star Tribune since 2015, where she works on a wide variety of stories that benefit from data analysis.

They will discuss how the "Denied Justice" series came to be, the methods used in reporting the stories, and the continuing effects of the coverage.

The event is free and open to the public.

UW-River Falls places 8th in the nation in Wall Street Journal college ranking of value

September 11, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls has always prided itself on providing an exceptional education at an affordable price. According to a recent college ranking article in the Wall Street Journal, UW-River Falls students agree.

UW-River Falls was ranked 8th in the nation in the category of schools ranked highest by their students for being worth the expense.

1. Brigham Young University-Provo
 2. United States Naval Academy
 3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 4. Virginia Military Institute
 5. Louisiana Tech University
 6. Princeton University
 7. University of Wyoming
 8. Bowdoin College
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- University of Wisconsin-River Falls**
- Washington and Lee University
- Yale University

The Wall Street Journal partners with Times Higher Education College Rankings in developing its annual survey. Based on roughly 174,000 survey responses over the past two years, each school was scored on a 10-point scale. In addition to being ranked #8 in the nation by students as being worth the expense, UW-River Falls was the highest such ranked institution, public or private, in the Upper Midwest.

"This recognition is meaningful because it comes from our students and affirms that UW-River Falls provides an excellent yet affordable education," said UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "We are delighted to be recognized as national leaders in student value."

College is an investment that prospective students and families take seriously. UW-River Falls provides a scholarship guarantee to every new freshman who demonstrates strong academic potential. Scholarships are renewable for a second year with a 3.0 GPA and progress toward a degree.

"Affordability is an important consideration for many of our students and their families," said Sarah Nelson, executive director of admissions. "These rankings confirm our value – the opportunities students have while at UWRF is worth the investment."

In the 2018-19 academic year, UWRF awarded over \$2.4 million in scholarships.

For information about enrolling at UW-River Falls, email admissions@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3500.

UW-River Falls to celebrate Sustainability Month with events

September 24, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls will host public events Oct. 1 to celebrate the kickoff of Sustainability Month. The events are part of the We are Falcons Values Series, which this month focuses on UWRF's innovative sustainability efforts.

"Our events will bring a number of companies and local organizations that focus on climate action to educate and create a conversation around this important topic," said Mark Klapatch, UW-River Falls sustainability and custodial supervisor. "These events are part of our broader campus sustainability education initiatives."

A **Sustainability Day Fair** is set for Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom in the University Center. This event will highlight campus, community, and regional groups supporting sustainability.

In addition, a **Climate Action Panel** is set for Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. in the Falcon's Nest in the University Center. A panel will discuss climate action featuring campus, community, and regional organizations.

Each month the We are Falcons Values Series showcases events, speakers and activities that tie to one of UWRF's value words: Student Centered, Innovation, Global Engagement, Academic Excellence, Inclusiveness and Integrity.

All sustainability events are free and open to the public. For more information, email elise.koop@uwrf.edu or mark.klapatch@uwrf.edu.

Wahlin is Innovator in Residence speaker Oct. 2



September 11, 2019 – TurnKey Corrections President Dewey Wahlin is the Fall 2019 Innovator in Residence at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Wahlin will speak on “Innovation Big and Small” at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2, in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center. The lecture, hosted by the Center for Innovation and Business Development (CIBD) at UW-River Falls, is free and open to the public.

Wahlin has served in leadership positions with large Fortune 500 companies and medium-sized entrepreneurial companies for over 30 years. He has extensive experience in marketing, sales, strategy and innovation with companies including Dow Chemical/DowBrands, Pillsbury, Land O’Lakes, DecoPac and TurnKey Corrections/Three Square Market. He is currently president of TurnKey Corrections, an industry leading technology company in River Falls providing services to the corrections industry including county jails, rehabilitation centers and state prisons.

Wahlin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business from United States International University in San Diego and a MBA with a focus in marketing and finance from Butler University in Indianapolis, Ind.

For more information, contact Danielle Campeau, CIBD director, at danielle.campeau@uwrf.edu or 715-425-4775.

Wiesen-Martin receives Wurtz Award for Teaching Excellence



September 12, 2019 – Assistant Professor Desiree Wiesen-Martin has been named a recipient of the 2019 Dr. Keith G. Wurtz Award for Teaching Excellence at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

The Wurtz Award recognizes outstanding and innovative teachers who have made exceptional contributions to the university and to the community. Recipients demonstrate “trailblazing” innovative approaches to teaching, display scholarship of teaching and learning, innovative use of technology, curriculum development, assessment approaches and outreach and partnerships with collaborators on or off campus.

Peers who nominated Wiesen-Martin described her record as an educator as being “beyond outstanding.”

“I have seen her on a very steep trajectory of growth in just five years on our campus; student learning and student success have clearly been of central importance to Desiree’s approach. Never one to rest on what she did previously, she seeks out approaches that keep students engaged,” wrote one peer. Another wrote “Dr. Wiesen-Martin is constantly looking to push her boundaries as a teacher, challenging herself to improve.”

Wiesen-Martin holds a Ph.D. from the University of New Hampshire. She earned her master’s degree in sociology and bachelor’s degree in political science from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

In congratulating Wiesen-Martin on her award, UW-River Falls Provost David Travis emphasized comments from colleagues who described Wiesen-Martin as a student-centered educator, a mentor, a trailblazer in the use of instructional strategies and an innovator in her approaches to assessment.

“I appreciate the tremendous energy, creativity and thought Associate Professor Wiesen-Martin has invested in her work as a teacher and scholar at UW-River Falls,” said Travis. “She is making a significant difference in the academic success of our students.”

For more information about the Wurtz Award, email wes.chapin@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-0629.

Internship Spotlights 2019

UW-River Falls prides itself on the success of its students – before, during and after graduation. Supporting student success looks different for every student and may take the shape of exploratory programs or academic enrichment opportunities and regularly includes internship experiences.



Colton Booth
Business Administration, management emphasis



Gina D'Agostino
Marketing Communications



Katie Buria



Aricka Roberson



Mirza Naveed
Information Systems



Internship Spotlight: Aricka Roberson



Hometown: Mazeppa, Minn.

Major: Crop and Soil Science, emphasis in soil science

Internship: Pioneer Seeds

Aricka Roberson grew up in Mazeppa, Minn., with a passion for soil.

Throughout high school, Aricka was very active in Future Farmers of America (FFA) at the national level. She also participated in and helped rebuild her school's soil judging team. In soil judging, students stand in large soil pits to identify different horizons in the soil, explain their characteristics and how they were formed and determine their implications for various land uses all through observations and textural analysis by hand.

Although Aricka didn't technically grow up on a farm, she says she was always surrounded by agriculture. When it came to selecting a school for her post-secondary education, UW-River Falls was an easy choice for Aricka.

Finding her fit

"I knew the first time I visited UWRF in high school with my FFA team that this was the place for me," said Aricka. "The home atmosphere and care of the professors to know you by name made me fall in love with the campus."

Aricka has been involved with the UWRF crops and soils club as an officer for three years and loves the experience. She has

also had the opportunity to travel around the United States with the UWRF soil judging team. In the past two years, she has gone to Nebraska and Kentucky and this year, she will travel to Kansas to compete in the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Judging Conference. In addition, Aricka has been involved in Sigma Alpha Agricultural Sorority and is serving her second year on the organization's executive leadership team.

In November, Aricka will be traveling to San Antonio, Texas, to compete in an undergraduate research poster contest that ties the effects of certain soil formation characteristics to farm land value. She will also present this research at a later date during the UWRF Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity (URSCA) Fall Gala.

"I regret not doing undergraduate research sooner," says Aricka. "I knew that it was something I wanted to do before graduating. It is such an amazing resource we have here and I strongly encourage it."

Relationships matter

During her time at UWRF, Aricka has had two summer internships with Pioneer Seeds. In addition to the hands-on experiences, she learned the importance of networking and connections.

Aricka had connections with a Pioneer Seeds employee from a previous high school job. He knew of her interest in agronomy and contacted her during her sophomore year of college to let her know of an internship opportunity with Pioneer Seeds.

"He told me I should reach out and apply," said Aricka. "Without him, I wouldn't be here today talking about my internship experience. This is a testimony to the fact that networking opportunities exist everywhere you go."

Her first summer, Aricka worked throughout Southeast Minnesota on the sales and agronomy side of the business. This past summer, she took a second internship with the company as the National Corn Marketing intern in Des Moines, Iowa. Aricka says her favorite part of the internship was seeing the strategy behind positioning the products in the market. Her main tasks were to educate, train and motivate the field teams to grow sales.

Future in focus

As Aricka reflects fondly on her experiences, she wonders how the connections she has made now will help her build her career in the future.

"Being involved in an internship allowed me to discover what my passion is," said Aricka. "Even though this is one of the busiest times in our lives, I recommend doing at least one, if not two internships prior to graduation."

This summer, Aricka accepted a full-time position with Pioneer as an associate territory manager. She'll begin that role after graduating in May 2020.

Community invited to attend 2019 Veterans Day Program

October 24, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls invites campus and community members to attend a ceremony honoring and supporting veterans and active duty members of the military on Monday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. in the Falcon's Nest, University Center.

Speakers include Chancellor Dean Van Galen; (Ret) COL Steven Bense, Wisconsin National Guard; and, UWRF student Joshua Flores Hanson, president of the UW-River Falls Veterans Club.

A presentation of colors by the UWRF ROTC Program will take place during the ceremony.

For more information, email Peter Johnston, military veteran student service coordinator, at peter.johnston@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4042.



Internship Spotlight: Gina D'Agostino



Hometown: Appleton

Major: Marketing Communications

Minor: Psychology

Internship: Golf Channel Academy

Golf comes naturally to Gina D'Agostino, so does the love of learning.

As a freshman in high school, Gina was encouraged by her parents to try out for the Appleton North High School girls golf team.

"I really wasn't interested in golf at the time," she remembers. "Looking back, I'm glad I had a change of heart. I made all my best friends playing golf and really enjoyed the time I spent golfing with my dad."

During her freshman year at UW-River Falls, Gina considered trying out for the golf team but followed her hopes for a sports marketing internship instead, ultimately securing a social media internship with the Athletics Department.

The fact she wasn't on the course didn't mean golf wasn't on her mind. This year she applied for an internship with PGA Tours. The opportunity seemed like a great chance to be close to a sport she enjoyed while also providing her valuable experience. Off went her application and resume.

"I'll never forget the day I received my rejection letter. I was definitely disappointed, but not discouraged," Gina said. "I knew there was more than one place to learn about sports marketing, so I Googled golf internships and discovered opportunities at

the Golf Channel!"

Gina, a peer adviser in the Career Services office and Orientation Team Leader with New Student and Family Programs, fine-tuned her resume before applying, something she strongly recommends all students do when applying for internships or jobs.

"Your resume should not be one-size-fits-all. Take time to customize your resume for each job or internship you are applying for, employers will take note. And don't discount the value of part-time jobs or jobs outside of your major," she adds. "You are learning essential skills such as interpersonal communication, management and organization, no matter the job you have in college."

Gina took her application to the next level by spending a bit more time on her cover letter. She added a personal touch, sharing her "back story" - how she was introduced to golf, how it impacted her relationship with her family and how she's "paying forward" her gifts by serving in roles where she can teach young golfers. It was a touch that helped differentiate her from others and resulted in a call from an HR hiring manager who offered her the internship without an interview.

Gina learned a great deal during her time in Orlando, making friends, networking and taking full advantage of the assignments she was presented.

"I learned that behind the scenes market research might be a better fit for me than public-facing, in the moment social media projects," she said.

Gina is looking forward to learning more about herself during her next internship - yes, she was recently accepted into the Disney College Program at Walt Disney World where she will spend spring semester 2020. That makes four internships for Gina since starting her academic journey at UWRF.

"I've greatly enjoyed the internship experiences I've had. It's very motivating for me to hear from professionals and even other students I've connected with," she said. "I'm energized by the intersection between what I'm learning in class and how it relates to what I may be doing one day in my chosen profession. These opportunities are invaluable – truly a foundation for our future success. I encourage all students to seek internships if they are able — you won't be sorry."

Gina plans to graduate in spring 2021.



Students package freshly made cheese curds in the UWRF Dairy Pilot Plant in 2018.

Grassland Dairy Products, Inc. invests in dairy education

October 30, 2019 – Dairy industry leader Grassland Dairy Products, Inc. has announced a second financial commitment of \$350,000 toward the Dairy Pilot Plant Renovation Project at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, bringing its total support to \$525,000.

The Dairy Pilot Plant provides students with hands-on learning experiences in the development, production and marketing of cheeses and ice cream and has been doing so for over 30 years.

To ensure the plant meets industry standards as the university prepares students for future careers, UW-River Falls developed a plan in 2013 to renovate the facility. UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen described the \$3.5 million Dairy Pilot Plant modernization project as transformational and a high priority for the university. Grassland President Trevor Wuethrich agrees.

“In order for the future of dairy processing in Wisconsin to advance, innovation and modernization are essential,” said Wuethrich. “The new plant can more effectively provide students with an understanding of product and processing safety by integrating separation of raw and finished product rooms, thus providing real life experiences in dairy processing.”

“Graduates who’ve taken advantage of this unique educational opportunity have consistently gone on to become industry experts at top organizations in the region and the nation,” said Van Galen. “We are grateful to Grassland for a gift that is aligned with the future success of our students.”

Both state and industry partners have contributed to the Dairy Pilot Plant’s ongoing renovation project. In 2013, Grassland

Chairman Tayt Wuethrich pledged \$175,000 to help get the renovation project off the ground.

"I am pleased to say Grassland has committed to invest another \$350,000 over the next three years to help finalize the project," Wuethrich announced last week.

"As you may notice I did not call this a donation, but an investment, which I believe it is," said Wuethrich. "This not only serves to educate our future employees but may open opportunities for research and product development."

Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association (WCMA) Executive Director John Umhoefer congratulated Wuethrich for Grassland's continued support of the project.

"I'm proud of the Wuethrich family and Grassland for their vision," Umhoefer said. "Campus leaders at the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences and Chancellor Dean Van Galen have earned this investment through their hard work and tireless commitment to their students, programs and this renovation project. UW-Rivers Falls is a place where things get done."

Last week, WCMA pledged \$50,000 to challenge industry for matching contributions in the final phase of the renovation effort, bringing the association's total contribution to \$250,000.

"Obviously, this level of giving means a great deal to us," said UWRF Dairy Pilot Plant Manager Michelle Farner. "These gifts highlight UWRF's profound partnerships with the dairy industry and our commitment to train the next generation of industry leaders."

The UWRF Dairy Pilot Plant is expected to be fully operational by fall 2020.

Homecoming events planned for Oct. 14-20

October 3, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls invites the public to share in the exciting and memorable experiences of Homecoming.

Throughout the week of Oct. 14-20, traditional Homecoming festivities will be combined with new family-fun events to create one large celebration, bringing parents and family members together with alumni and students.

"Homecoming is a wonderful time to come back to campus to enjoy and connect with the community, our students and alumni. It's a weekend filled with laughter and memories," said Pedro Renta, director of Alumni Relations. "We are excited with our 2019 homecoming event lineup and are ready to welcome our alumni home."

Featured events include:

Home Cooked Homecoming, Monday, Oct. 14, 5:30-7 p.m., University Center mall. Professor Jake's Bean Soup is a Homecoming tradition. Free and open to the public to kick-off Homecoming Week. Hosted by UWRF Greek Life.

Homecoming Band Concert, Thursday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m., Abbott Concert Hall in Kleinpell Fine Arts. Admission is \$8/adult, \$5/seniors and students.

Free showing of Aladdin, Friday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., Kinnickinnic Theater, University Center. Bring the whole family and enjoy some free popcorn.

Homecoming Volleyball Game, Friday, Oct. 18, 7 p.m., Page Arena at Falcon Center. Falcons vs. UW-Whitewater.

Planetarium Tour, Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., 201 Ag Science building. Program includes a tour of the solar system and flying out to the edge of the universe. Maximum capacity of 50 people per tour.

Homecoming Parade, Saturday, Oct. 19, 10:30 a.m., downtown River Falls. See UWRF's Falcon spirit come alive! Bring a bucket to hold all the candy.

Falcon Center Tours, Saturday, Oct. 19, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Falcon Center main entrance. Tours depart every 15 minutes from entrance of Falcon Center by the ticket window. Free tour of the \$63.5 million center that provides outstanding spaces for academics, wellness, recreation and athletics.

Homecoming Football Game, Saturday, Oct. 19, 1 p.m., David Smith Stadium at Ramer Field. Falcons vs. UW-La Crosse.

Homecoming Choral Concert, Sunday, Oct. 20, 3 p.m., Abbott Concert Hall in Kleinpell Fine Arts. Admission is \$8/adult, \$5/seniors and students.

A complete list of the Homecoming 2019 events can be found at <https://bit.ly/UWRFhomecoming>. For more information, call Alumni Relations at 715-425-3505.



Internship Spotlight: Katie Buria



Hometown: Chisholm, Minnesota

Major: Health and Human Performance | Exercise Science

Minor: Coaching

Internship: WNBA - Atlanta Dream

Basketball is Katie Buria's sport. She played in high school and was considering playing as a Falcon but set her sights on the sideline instead.

"I knew all along that being an athletic trainer was what I wanted to do," said Katie.

"The opportunity I had working with the athletic training staff at UWRF definitely reinforced my interest."

After graduating with a degree in exercise science from UW-River Falls in December 2017, Katie decided to pursue graduate school at the University of Arkansas. Through a series of fortuitous conversations and connections she landed a chance-of-a-lifetime graduate internship with the WNBA's professional women's basketball team, the Atlanta Dream.

"The head athletic trainer/physical therapist for the Dream, Jessica Cohen, was actually a graduate of the University of Arkansas," Katie said. "The program director was aware of my goals and helped bring us together knowing that she was in the WNBA."

Katie's role with the Atlanta Dream was very hands-on. She worked side-by-side with Cohen in all aspects of the athletic

trainer role – attending practices, supporting game day set-up, participating in daily rehab and attending doctor's appointments with the athletes.

Prior to the Atlanta Dream internship Katie had a chance to work with the University of Arkansas women's basketball team which turned out to be an eye-opening experience.

"We flew chartered planes when we traveled, had unlimited medical resources for the athletes and a great practice facility," said Katie. "The Dream team flies commercial and sometimes did rehab at the athlete's apartment complex. The limited resources motivated us to be creative in managing injuries and rehabilitation."

Katie looks back upon her internships with pride and appreciation. She says she was fortunate to learn from and be mentored by experienced athletic trainers and coaches.

"Both the University of Arkansas and WNBA internships were amazing experiences. I had someone to guide me and support me as much as I needed and to teach me what I needed to know."

With two great experiences to compare and contrast Katie plans to take some time to consider her next steps.

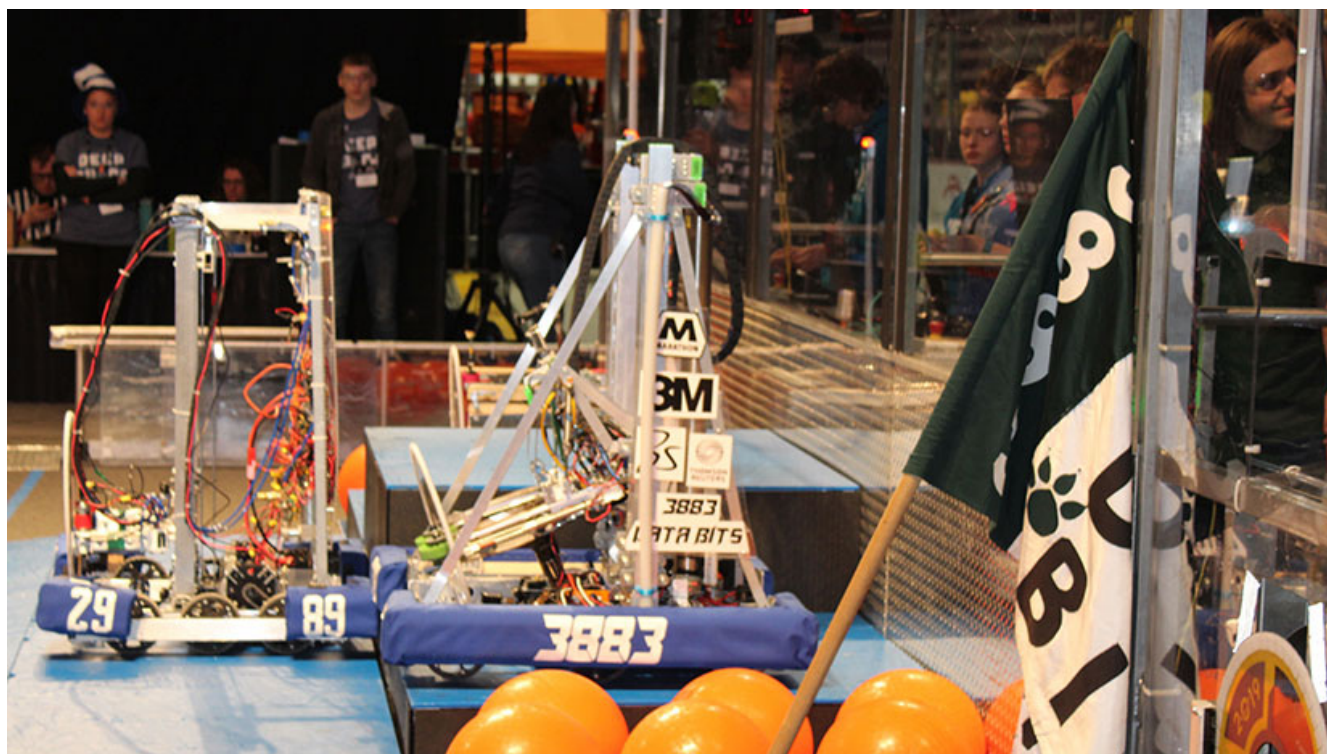
"The end goal for me would be professional basketball, but I am not exactly sure what that looks like for getting there. I'll probably try to get another WNBA internship next summer to continue growing my network." Katie said.

"Physical therapy school is another option. Professional basketball is moving to a medical model and there could be more opportunity if I would seek additional training, dual credentialing is definitely a possibility."

It doesn't take but a moment for Katie to gather her thoughts regarding "words of wisdom" for students preparing for either an internship or a job – "use your connections."

"Volunteer, shadow, get experience. Anything you can do to set yourself apart will make you more marketable."

Katie plans to graduate with her master's degree from the University of Arkansas in May 2020.



Internship Spotlight: Mirza Naveed



Hometown: Cottage Grove, Minn.

Major: Information Systems

Minor: Graphic Design

Internship: Desktop Engineering Intern, 3M

Mirza Naveed grew up in Cottage Grove, Minn., and is an advocate for being involved. Throughout high school, he participated in orchestra, Math League and Spanish Club. Each club helped him to grow, but the activity he takes the most pride in is being a part of his school's FIRST robotics team.

"I learned so many valuable life skills and improved my soft skills in communication, problem-solving, teamwork and collaboration, which I still use to this day," said Mirza.

Mirza says he knew that the University of Wisconsin-River Falls would be a good fit for him since his first visit to campus during his senior year in high school.

"Not only did I enjoy how the campus looked and was set up, but the tuition was affordable and the campus was only 30-minutes away from my hometown," he said.

Involvement opportunities

On campus, Mirza is involved in many organizations and holds numerous positions. He is a tier-one service center technician for the Division of Technology Services (DoTs,) the public relations officer for Chancellor's Student Ambassadors, the

communications director for the UWRF College Democrats and is in his fourth year of serving as the public relations mentor for the robotics team that he was on as a student in high school. Needless to say, Mirza is involved and keeps very busy through his activities on campus.

When he first came to UWRF, Mirza had an interest in technology which was fostered by his involvement with robotics.

"I enjoy solving problems especially with technology which is becoming more important and relevant as our society becomes more digital," he said. "As a freshman, I talked to Dr. Hossein Najafi who went over the Information Systems Program with me. It was because of him that I finalized my choice to major in information systems."

Focus on experience

In October 2018, Mirza attended an informational event with 3M recruiters, hosted by the College of Business and Economics. At the event, they discussed 3M's summer internship program for data science and CSIS students. After submitting an application and meeting with the recruiters on campus, Mirza received an internship offer a month later.

As a desktop engineering intern, Mirza's main responsibility was to administer a PC Telemetry software called Nexthink. When working with this software, he was responsible for troubleshooting and optimizing the global end-user experience for 83,000 workstations at 3M. This proved to be an area where Mirza excelled.

"My experience working at DoTs prepared me for this role since it gave me the foundational experience to troubleshoot and resolve issues in a quick, efficient manner," said Mirza. "In addition, my experience being a Chancellor Student Ambassador prepared me to be comfortable talking with different groups of people at 3M since I frequently work with UWRF students, faculty, staff, and alumni at events."

"I created a module that monitored the day-to-day performance of Microsoft Office 365 applications on workstations at 3M," explains Mirza. "This module was published and is being used to identify what areas of performance need improvement within the Office 365 Suite."

Words of wisdom

Considering his successful internship experience, Mirza has solid advice for other students.

"Try to be as involved as possible on campus and in the community," he said. "Not only do you have the opportunity to learn through your involvement in activities but you can also develop connections that can help you later in life."

Mirza says his vast array of involvement helped expand his career opportunities. At the end of his internship experience, Mirza accepted a full-time position with the 3M Optimization Team. The position will begin after Mirza graduates in May 2020.

"This experience gave me the confidence to determine that I do have a place in IT and I am excited to come back to 3M after I graduate to see where my curiosity will take me next," Mirza said.

National Coming Out Day activities at UW-River Falls

October 4, 2019 – The Center for Diversity Inclusion and Belonging (CDIB) at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is hosting a variety of events to engage students, faculty and staff during National Coming Out Day on Friday, Oct. 11.

National Coming Out Day is an internationally observed civil awareness day for coming out and creating a safe space for the discussion and celebration of LGBTQIA+ lives.

Events include group activities to strengthen campus partnerships as well as a panel discussion led by UWRF's Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) Executive Board. The community is welcome to participate. Events will be held in the Falcon's Nest in University Center beginning at 1 p.m. with cookie decorating and conversation, a panel discussion at 2:30 p.m. and BINGO at 3:30 p.m. The Center of Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging at UW-River Falls exists to create an inclusive campus community where all people can feel valued, respected and safe.

Also part of National Coming Out Day and month is a staged reading of "The Laramie Project: 40 20 Years Later" on October 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Syse Black Box Theatre in Kleinpell Fine Arts. Free admission. The production is directed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Dean Yohnk. There will be a post-show discussion related to LGBTQ+ hate crimes with the cast and Wiesen-Martin following both performances. Oct. 10 is the 21st anniversary of Shepard's death, which ultimately led to the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009.

For more information, email nathan.riel-elnness@uwrf.edu.

Peterson Lecture Series speaker to address music and politics in East Germany and Poland



October 24, 2019 - "The Sound of Stalinism: Music and Politics in East Germany and Poland" will be presented at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 4:30 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center and will be preceded by a reception at 4 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The lecture, part of the Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series, is being presented by David Tompkins, Ph.D., associate professor of history, director of European Studies and director of the Center for Global and Regional Studies, Carleton College.

In the early years of the Cold War, communist officials in Central Europe sought to remake their societies in the Stalinist mold. Music played a crucial role in this attempt to create new socialist citizens. This talk will delve into the music and politics related to the drive to transform the worldviews of Poles and East Germans.

The Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series honors the memory of Professor Edward N. Peterson, who taught at UWRF from 1954 to 2005. It addresses issues that were the focus of Peterson's academic life and are still relevant today: war and peace, abuses and limits of power, the struggle for democracy in the 20th century.

Additional information about this lecture series and this event is available at <http://bit.ly/2Jd7dKK>. For more information, call the UWRF History Department at 715-425-3164.

Public invited to Freaky Family 5K

October 3, 2019 - Come on out and push, pedal or run freaky fast at a 5K event on Saturday, Oct. 26, hosted by the Health and Human Performance Department at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Costumes are encouraged and treats will be provided. Bring family and friends out for a spooky fun time.

The Freaky Family 5K event welcomes individuals of all ages to participate in the running, pushing or pedaling of our 3.1mile route throughout and around the UWRF campus. Participants and supporters are encouraged to dress in Halloween attire. Fun prizes and awards will be given to runners and those with the most creative costumes!

Stick around after the run for the Trunk or Treat event across the street in the Dick's Market parking lot. Bring the family! Local businesses and sponsors are donating goods and treats available for trunk or treat participants.

Registration can be accessed at **www.uwrf5K.yolasite.com** as well as on site the day of the race. Adult registration is \$20. Kids can run, bike or scooter for free with a registered adult. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at the UWRF Falcon Center, 185 Emogene Nelson Ave., River Falls. Race time is 9 a.m.

For more information, call Mari Kline-Kluck at 715-425-0743 or email mari.kline@uwrf.edu.



Temple Grandin to speak Oct. 22, event also livestreamed

NOTE: The event has sold out.

UPDATE: Due to the extreme amount of interest in Grandin's presentation, her talk will also now be livestreamed at <https://livestream.com/uwrf/events/8857168>

October 1, 2019 - Temple Grandin, world-renowned professor of animal science at Colorado State University, will speak about "Educating Different Kinds of Minds" at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom in the University Center. The public is invited.

Grandin is one of the most respected experts on humane animal handling in the world and a prominent author and speaker on both autism and animal behavior.

A book signing will follow her presentation, where five of her books ("Calling all Minds," "The Autistic Brain: Thinking Across the Spectrum," "Animals Make Us Human," "Animals in Translation," and "The Way I See It") will be available for purchase.

Tickets to the lecture are \$10 and can be purchased in person from the Information Desk in the University Center. Advanced ticket purchase is encouraged as the event is likely to sell out. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. prior to the presentation and seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

The event is being hosted by the UWRF Alpha Zeta Fraternity and Animal Welfare Lab. Grandin's last visit to campus was in 2014.

For more information, email Ariel Graveen at ariel.graveen@my.uwrf.edu or Elizabeth Knoebel at elizabeth.knoebel@my.uwrf.edu.

Tuition discount offered for qualified educators

October 3, 2019—For a limited time, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is offering a tuition discount to teachers and other educational professionals who apply to the Professional Development Learning Community master's degree within the College of Education and Professional Studies.

Eligible students who enroll before November 15 will receive \$500 off their tuition as they take courses toward a master of science in education degree.

"We use a learning community model that connects theory into practice, practice into strategy, and strategy into transformation," said Elizabeth Janey, faculty coordinator. "Upon completion, graduates are well positioned to become an educational leader in their school or other educational workplace."

Interested students should contact Pamela Bowen, UWRF Continuing Education Office program manager, at 715-425-0633 or pamela.bowen@uwrf.edu for more information about the tuition discount and application instructions. Additional information about the degree program is available at <http://choose.uwrf.edu/mse-pd/>



University Theatre presents “The Laramie Project: ~~10~~ 20 Years Later”

October 3, 2019 - A staged reading of “The Laramie Project: ~~10~~ 20 Years Later,” directed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Dean Yohnk will be performed October 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Syse Black Box Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Admission is free.

The brutal 1998 hate crime murder of 21-year-old gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard brought playwright Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of New York’s Tectonic Theater Project to the town of Laramie in search of answers. The nation’s and world’s attention were focused on this highly publicized hate crime.

The resulting 2000 award-winning play “The Laramie Project” tells the powerful story of Matthew who was kidnapped, severely beaten, and left tied to a fence in the middle of the prairie outside Laramie, Wyoming because he was gay. In their original script, Kaufman and Tectonic Theater members constructed a deeply moving theatrical experience from these interviews and their own experiences in Laramie.

Ten years after their initial visits and interviews, Kaufman and the Tectonics returned to Laramie to find out how much the city and its residents had changed in the ensuing decade after Matthew’s murder, the result of which was “The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later.” This staged reading of “The Laramie Project: ~~10~~ 20 Years Later” will also include a new original prologue and epilogue created by Dean Yohnk which will include important texts from the ceremony when Matthew’s remains were interred in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. on the 20th anniversary of his murder in 2018. The cast consists of:

- Damon Swaser of Anoka, Minn., and Natalie Rodgers of Sun Prairie as narrators
- Corrina Brose of Little Falls, Minn.: Kelli Simpkins, Leigh Fondakowski, Zackie Salmon, Jan Lundhurst, Romain

Patterson, Clerk in WY Legislature, Boomerang Editor

- Morgan Coleman (Superior): Amanda Gronich, Beth Loffreda, Marge Murray, 20/20 Narrator, Mom
- Jake Marvin of Burnsville, Minn.: Greg Pierotti, Jonas Slonacker, Rob DuBree, University Official, Aaron McKinney, Governor Freudenthal, Jim Osborn
- Tyler Franklin of River Falls: Stephen Bilber, Cowboy, Dave O'Malley, Friend #1, George, Republican man, boy, desk mate
- Benjamin Brannon of New Brighton, Minn.: Andy Paris, Matt Michelson, Jedadiah Shultz, Jerry Parkinson, Gene Pratt, Jim, Russell Henderson, Peterson, student
- Abbey Graham of Spring Valley: Barbara Pitts-McAdams, Catherine Connolly, Grandma, Lucy Thompson, Friend #2, Ben, Judy Shepard, Deb Thomsen, Susan Swapp
- Claire Eckert of Clear Lake: Mercedes Herrero, Reggie Fluty, Desk Mate, girl, Nikki Elder, clerk
- Eli Gallenberg of River Falls: Moises Kaufman, Jeffrey Lockwood, Rental Car Agent, Dennis Shepard, Father Roger, Glenn Silber, John Dorst, Chairman Childers

The production is also part of National Coming Out Day and month. Oct. 10 is the 21st anniversary of Shepard's death, which ultimately led to the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. There will be a post-show discussion related to LGBTQ+ hate crimes with the cast and Wiesen-Martin following both performances.

For more information, email dean.yohnk@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3777.



UWRF student Rachael Buckallew is Robin Hood in the University Theatre's upcoming play "Robin Hood" Nov. 1-2 and 8-9 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 2 at 2 p.m., and Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. in the Davis Theatre, KFA.

University Theatre to present 'Robin Hood'

October 24, 2019 - University Theatre at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls will present "Robin Hood" by Greg Bank Nov. 1-2 and 8-9 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 2 at 2 p.m., and Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. in the Davis Theatre in Kleinpell Fine Arts.

Journey with the University Theatre to Sherwood Forest to join Robin and his Merry Makers in this swashbuckling and hilarious adaptation of the medieval tale of good versus evil. There will be fun optional audience participation for adventurous young people. (Best enjoyed by audiences 6 and up).

The play is directed by Kathy Welch. The cast consists of Rachael Buckallew of Little Falls, Minn., as Robin Hood; Ryan Huling of Farmington, Minn., as The Sheriff and King Richard; Klara Fansler of Osceola as Maid Marian and Much; Brooke Hafner of St. Paul as Will Scarlett and Friar Tuck; Ben Larson of St. Paul as Prince John, Little John and Soldier; Alex Symond of Webster as Alan-a-Dale and Soldier; Tyler Franklin of River Falls, Corinna Brose of Little Falls and Kendall Koll of St. Paul as Audience Wranglers and Green Show cast.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (60+) and \$5 for children and UWRF students. The Box Office near Gallery 101 is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is also open one hour prior to each performance. Tickets can be purchased in person or online at marketplace.uwrf.edu.

Questions can be directed to the Box Office staff at 715-425-3114.



Kate VandenBosch, Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at UW-Madison (left), Wayne Weber, Dean of the College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture at UW-Platteville (middle), and Dale Gallenberg, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences at UW-River Falls (right), discuss the impact of the \$8.8 million Dairy Innovation Hub at a news conference at Four Cubs Farm in Grantsburg.

UW Dairy Innovation Hub seeks solutions to challenges facing Wisconsin dairy industry

October 9, 2019 (MADISON, Wis.)— From improving human nutrition to assuring clean water to growing the farm economy while caring for animals, the Dairy Innovation Hub will harness the intellectual and creative power of three University of Wisconsin institutions to address the most complex challenges facing the state's dairy industry.

The Legislature allocated \$8.8 million for the Dairy Hub in the 2019-21 budget to UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and UW-River Falls.

Last week, the legislature's Joint Finance Committee released the funding, \$1 million this fiscal year and \$7.8 million allocated for 2020-21. On Wednesday, the agriculture deans of the three institutions participating in the UW Dairy Innovation Hub toured Four Cubs Farm, the 700-cow dairy operation owned by Regent Cris Peterson and her family.

The funding will allow for hiring dozens of faculty and researchers, creation of an Advanced Dairy Management Academy, improving research labs and farms, and purchasing equipment.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for increased collaboration among our campuses," said Dale Gallenberg, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences at UW-River Falls. "We look forward to serving as a model for other

collaborative initiatives within the UW System.”

The vision for the Dairy Innovation Hub was originally crafted by industry partners following the 2017 UW System Dairy Summit and was supported as a top priority by members of the state's Dairy Task Force 2.0.

Wayne Weber, Dean of the College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture at UW–Platteville, stated that “our industry supporters are vital to the success of our programs. We greatly appreciate their support and we will continue to work with them in setting priorities for the Hub. In fact, one of our first items of business is to establish an advisory council that will consist of members of each of the three campuses along with equal representation from industry.”

The three campuses have already been working together to plan for the launch of the Hub. Now that it has received final approval, they are working in earnest to launch Hub activities.

“We are excited for the possibilities this funding will provide our faculty and staff to work together on research and talent development for the state,” said Kate VandenBosch, Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at UW-Madison.

The Hub will enable the expansion of research efforts in four focus areas:

- Stewarding land and water resources
- Enriching human health and nutrition
- Ensuring animal health and welfare
- Growing farm businesses and communities

The deans look forward to tackling such challenges as:

- Increasing capacity for groundwater and runoff monitoring
- Repurposing waste from cheese production for bioenergy or other uses
- Developing new products for people with allergies or sensitivities to traditional dairy products

In addition to research, academic programming is an important aspect of the initiative. The deans agree that developing the future leaders of the dairy industry is an essential function of each campus that will be fostered by the Hub.

“The Dairy Innovation Hub holds great promise for assisting Wisconsin’s dairy industry,” said UW System President Ray Cross. “It’s another example of the way the UW System is meeting the needs of Wisconsin.”

Gallenberg, Weber, and VandenBosch are scheduled to discuss the Dairy Hub on Thursday when the Board of Regents meets at UW-Superior.

For more information, contact Mark Pitsch, UW System, at 608-265-3419 or mpitsch@uwsa.edu

Virtual open house features career-advancing courses

October 3, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Continuing Education Department will host a virtual open house with their education partner ProTrain, a national training provider, on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at noon-1 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Those interested in career growth can learn how to gain new skills, retool, or enter a new field during the virtual open house. Register online at choose.uwrf.edu/pt.

Attendees will hear about the fastest-growing careers in the Twin Cities and western Wisconsin regions, including healthcare, business, leadership and industrial fields. In addition, attendees will discover noncredit online courses that provide the job skills local employers demand.

“It can be difficult for small or rural employers to build the capacity and expertise they need in their current workforce,” said Randy Zimmermann, director of UWRF Continuing Education. “With these online classes, employees simply need access to the internet to learn and acquire new skills for their current and future careers.”

The noncredit, online classes also provide an option for education to employment. Recently, UWRF Continuing Education received approval from the West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board for six of these courses to be listed in the Eligible Training Program List (ETPL). The approval serves to expand options for individuals qualified under Federal Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (WIOA) by adding to the portfolio of programs that qualify as eligible for use of WIOA funds.

“The approved courses serve to prepare individuals for work in administrative medical assisting, digital marketing, human resources, industrial maintenance, and project management. There is also a course that prepares you for the exam in Six Sigma Green Belt certification,” said Angela Whitaker, UWRF Continuing Education program manager. “We are working with job centers in the region to understand the needs of our community and identify additional courses to submit for approval.”

UWRF’s online catalog—uwrf.theknowledgebase.org—provides a complete list of courses and registration instructions. Online classes may be delivered live on a certain date and time, or students can complete the work at a time and place that fits their schedules.

A leader in workforce development classes, ProTrain offers professional development, certificates and quality classroom online training. They also provide mentors to guide and support students taking classes.

The UWRF Continuing Education office provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at go.uwrf.edu/ce, by calling 715-425-3256, 1-800-228-5607 or by sending an email to continuing.ed@uwrf.edu.

'Teachers and the First Amendment' public forum Nov. 13



November 1, 2019 - Join the University of Wisconsin-River Falls community in welcoming Keynote Speaker Julie Underwood, professor of education law, policy & practice at UW-Madison; Michael Hume, freelance writer, singer, and songwriter; and other guests on Wednesday, Nov. 13, in the Riverview Ballroom in the University Center as they discuss the role of the First Amendment in school and society.

A social with refreshments begins at 5 p.m., Hume will read and perform at 5:30 p.m., presentations and public discussion will begin at 6 p.m.

This public forum is open to anyone interested in joining the conversation on how “public” are our public schools and how “free” is the right to free expression in education? Discussion topics will include academic freedom, hate speech and

censorship, role of culture and community standards in promoting values, and character education, especially as these apply to the rights and responsibilities of beginning teachers.

Hume is the author of “The 95th Christmas,” a story about finding the alternative to holiday commercialism. One reviewer said, “It is a tale full of wonder, mystery and the truth that leads us all to follow our hearts and experience our own nativity each and every day.” Hume has composed and recorded original songs referenced in the novel on an album titled The Christmas in Me. He will read and perform as a warm-up and stimulus to the discussion of the First Amendment which will begin with the question “How much Christmas is too much Christmas in school and society?”

While in River Falls, Hume will also perform, read, and sign books and CDs on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 9:45 a.m. at Ezekiel Lutheran Church, River Falls, and on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the River Falls Public Library. He will present a master class, “Music Beyond Listening and Literature Beyond Reading,” in the Breezeway (second floor) of Davee Library on campus on Monday, Nov. 11, at 3 p.m. Hume’s book and CD will be available at each event and at Fox Den Books, River Falls.

Underwood, a nationally recognized authority on school law and former dean of the UW-Madison School of Education, will provide the keynote address and then serve as a discussant on the panel. She has served as general counsel for the National School Boards Association in Washington, D.C. and Council of School Attorneys. Underwood has written several books on school law for teachers and contributes a column, “Under the Law,” to Kappan Magazine, a journal devoted to educational issues, often used in the UWRF teacher education curriculum.

Other panelists include Tanya Misselt, director, River Falls Public Library; Leiataua Dr. Jon Peterson, private educational entrepreneur, ex-teacher and school administrator in the Roseville, Minneapolis, and St. Paul public schools; and Jessica Slaikeu, middle school teacher, Hudson Public Schools. Each has firsthand experience with issues involving individual liberties and academic freedom. Other experts include Professor Geoffrey Scheurman, UWRF Teacher Education; Professor Neil Kraus, chair of the UWRF Political Science Department; and UWRF students from educational foundations courses who will raise questions and present excerpts from essays on issues and concerns related to beginning teachers and the First

Amendment.

The public forum is sponsored by UWRF's Aspiring Educators student organization, School and Society capstone courses, UWRF College of Education and Professional Studies, and the UWRF Political Science Department. It is supported by a grant from the Center for the Study of Institutions and Innovation whose mission is to promote discussion about civil liberties through scholarly inquiry, educational activities, and community outreach.

Free parking for the event will be available in Pay Lot 1 next to North Hall off 2nd Street and in Pay Lot 2 on Wild Rose Avenue behind the University Center.

For more information, email geoffrey.scheurman@uwrf.edu.



Left to right: Bill Alms, Karen Schaffhausen, Cheryl Nelson, Matt Kresel, James Esch, Taren Weyer, Karl Anderson, April Wilson, Krissy Swearingen, Leslie Harmel, and Mike Webb all recently completed the Entrepreneurial Training Program at UWRF.

Business owners complete SBDC Entrepreneurial Training Program

November 15, 2019 - On Sunday, 10 local business owners graduated from the 10-week Entrepreneurial Training Program offered by the Small Business Development Center at UW-River Falls.

Businesses represented included videography, commercial cleaning, grass fed beef, retail, fitness, wellness consulting and vacation cabin rental. Business stages were pre-venture through established, all looking for a new business model.

"There was so much value in taking this class - the information, tools, advice and being in the same room as other likeminded people," said one graduate. "It cannot be replicated on your own, and I don't know of any other programs like this."

The Entrepreneurial Training Program is offered every fall and spring. At the end of the 10 weeks, students have a fully executable business plan and three years of financial projections. Program cost is \$250. The next cohort begins March 10, 2020.

For more information, email Program Director Katherine Fossler at katherine.fossler@uwrf.edu



Celebrate with us: Summit on International Education and Engagement

November 17, 2019 | Dean Van Galen

This week, November 18-22, will be a very special one for our university and community as we host the Summit on International Education and Engagement. With over 30 events, most of which are free and open to the public, it will be a unique opportunity for global and intercultural learning. Our campus will also welcome some of our international partners, as leaders from Taiwan, Germany and the Netherlands join us for the Summit. A full schedule of events can be found [here](#).

I admit it—I am passionate about international education. I suppose it started in August 1994 when I landed at Oslo Lufthavn (airport) with eight very excited college students. As a young faculty member, I was leading my first three-week study abroad course, “Environmental Science in Norway,” and was probably as anxious as my students. It was only a year earlier that I had had my own first overseas experience, travelling to Norway to develop the course.

I have many memories of that and subsequent trips with students to Norway— watching their amazement and their worldview expand on visits to cultural sites such as the Viking Ships Museum and Edvard Grieg’s home, the scare of a middle of the night trip to an emergency room (at a total cost of \$30 for what turned out to be an allergic reaction to a Norwegian sweater), students grappling with how Norway as a socialist democracy can have both such a high tax rate and a very high standard of living, and the excitement of discovery and collaboration doing environmental research with Norwegian students in the western fjords.

Like many others who have led a group of students on an education abroad experience, I deeply believe in the value of international education. Visiting important historical sites for the first time, experiencing the beauty of another part of the world, and learning about other ways of life are amazing. Yet I believe the deeper value is in how these experiences inspire

students to reflect on their own lives and their place in the world, broadening and deepening their understanding of different cultures and people. This is an essential component of education itself, not to mention a key ability that today's employers require in our graduates.

For decades, UW-River Falls has been committed to international education. We are now among the national leaders for universities of our type. Many of our graduates speak not only about how important these experiences were to their college education, but also how they have shaped who they went on to become. A few years ago, Jamison Reichart, then a UW-River Falls student, was speaking at an event about the impact of her UWRF study abroad experience and shared the following quote by John A. Shedd:

A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what a ship is built for...

Indeed, for many of our students, studying abroad involves "leaving a safe harbor," but so too can be simply experiencing another culture by building a deep friendship with a student from a different country, or attending a cultural event sponsored by a community one knows little about. All of these growth experiences are the opportunities that students tell me, time and time again, have powerful impacts on them.

As Chancellor, I am deeply grateful for the UWRF faculty and staff who, over the years, have committed themselves to developing global learning experiences for our students. I am especially excited to invite everyone to participate in this week's Summit on International Education and Engagement. All are welcome—please join us for a great week of international learning, entertainment and fun!



Meet Christopher Kuechenmeister

Hometown: Frederic

Year: Senior

Major: Business Administration

Christopher Kuechenmeister has been serving in the Wisconsin Army National Guard since 2014. Additionally, Kuechenmeister has also been involved with the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC).

"I have also taken advantage of the Veteran Services and I have found their assistance to be incredibly beneficial," said Christopher. "They have been able to explain exactly how to best use my military benefits to help pay for my schooling."

The friendly environment and positive energy drew Christopher to UW-River Falls. He was also impressed by the faculty and accredited programs offered through the College of Business and Economics. After graduation, Christopher will commission as a Second Lieutenant and continue to serve in the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

"I am proud to be a member of the veteran community on the UW-River Falls campus," Christopher said. "I have found the students and staff of UW-River Falls to be very accepting of members of the veteran community on campus and have been overall very supportive."



Meet Christopher Pedersen

Hometown: Black River Falls

Year: Senior

Major: Exercise and Sports Science

Christopher Pedersen has been serving in the Army National Guard for nearly 14 years.

“The campus does a wonderful job giving me the needed resources as a veteran to be successful and working with my needed days off of class to attend military training,” Christopher said.

Pedersen said it was a combination of things that brought him to UWRF.

“The goal was to get my wife in the equestrian program and to complete my degree,” notes Christopher. “We both loved the area when we came for a tour of the campus.”

After finishing his bachelor’s degree, Christopher will be taking part in the new UWRF master of science in strength and conditioning program.

“It feels like I am being looked out for my best interest here on campus. Having easy access to resources and the ability to sign up for classes earlier than most is a definite plus,” said Christopher.



Community invited to celebrate week of global engagement

November 7, 2019 - The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is hosting a weeklong series of activities and events as part of International Education Week, Nov. 18-22. The Summit on International Education and Engagement features internationally recognized speakers and performers, as well as university faculty, staff and student groups.

"This unique event is a celebration of UW-River Falls' commitment to international education and activities," said Heidi Soneson, assistant vice chancellor of international education and executive director of the Office of International Education. "The event highlights the importance of international engagement for the university and its faculty, staff and students. It is also a celebration of our commitment to community engagement with our university."

Events will be occurring throughout each day and during the evenings. Most events are free and open to the public. A few of the week's activities are included below. For a complete list of the more than 30 activities taking place, visit go.uwrf.edu/summit

"They Call Me Q," Monday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., Davis Theatre, Kleinpell Fine Arts. Qurrat Ann Kadwani searches for identity in her autobiographical one-woman show. This is the story of a girl from Bombay growing up in the Boogie Down Bronx who gracefully seeks balance between cultural pressure and acceptance into the American culture. Free and open to the public.

Ceilidh Dancing - Traditional Scottish Dancing, Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Falcon's Nest, University Center. Participants will learn a few of the most popular dances such as the Dashing White Sergeant, Gay Gordons, Britannia Two-Step, and Strip the Willow. Free and open to the public.

Teaching Kitchen, Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2-4 p.m. or 5-7 p.m., Falls Room, University Center. Interactive Teaching Kitchen

featuring food and recipes from Somalia. Free and open to the public. Register at go.uwrf.edu/summit

Featured Keynote: Ann Bancroft, Thursday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m., Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts. Explorer Ann Bancroft, the first known woman to cross the ice to reach both the north and south poles and a U.S. National Women's Hall of Fame inductee, will speak. Free and open to the public.

Horses, Heifers, and a Whole Bunch More, Friday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Mann Valley Farm, 129 S. Glover Road, River Falls. Bring the family to the farm and learn about the various species and breeds of animals that were originally developed all over the world. Free and open to the public.

In addition to celebrating International Education Week, the Summit also marks the completion of the university's eight-year Pathway to Distinction Strategic Plan. The plan was developed to ensure that the university is prepared to meet current and future global challenges and opportunities.

"This historic event reminds us of the importance of building understanding through engagement and strong partnerships," said UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "We are grateful to all who share our commitment to international education and our mission to help prepare students to be engaged citizens and leaders with a global perspective. The summit reflects internationalization at its finest."

Free parking for guests coming to summit events is available in Pay Lot 1 (corner of 2nd and Spring streets, near North Hall) Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Nov. 18-22 only.

For more information, email internationalsummit@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3911.



Temple Grandin with UWRF professors Brian Greco and Kurt Vogel and students in the Animal Welfare Lab.

Grandin's animal welfare focus put into action

November 4, 2019 - World-renowned speaker on animal behavior and autism Temple Grandin, animal science professor at Colorado State University, spoke to a sold-out crowd of more than 600 campus and community members October 22 at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Her presentation, "Educating Different Kinds of Minds," focused on how different types of minds - creative, visual, mathematical - have worked together throughout history to invent most of what we know today and how those minds must continue to work together to design and innovate the technology and agricultural sectors.

Grandin also discussed her career, her visual thinking, and how she used her "different kind of mind" to excel in her field. Her talk was livestreamed at <https://livestream.com/uwrf/events/8857168> and has been viewed over 2,600 times to date.

Kurt Vogel, associate professor of animal science at UWRF, pursued his Ph.D. under Grandin at Colorado State University during which they engaged in research projects designed to improve humane animal handling methods. Since he joined UW-River Falls in 2011, Vogel has continued his focus on animal welfare. This has included further development and expansion of the Introduction to Animal Welfare course and the addition of a Quantitative Animal Welfare Assessment course to the curriculum.

In 2012, the Animal Welfare Lab at UW-River Falls was established with support from a grant by Oscar Mayer, part of The Kraft Heinz Company. The lab's mission is to prepare the next generation of animal caretakers and welfare scientists to care for our animal resources in ethical and sustainable ways, and to conduct applied animal welfare and behavior research that can be translated to use in the field.

“Temple has been a friend and supporter of the Animal Welfare Lab at UWRF for the past decade,” says Vogel. “Her relationship with our program has been a springboard for the early careers of the many students that have become involved in the applied research, judging and assessment, outreach, conferences, and applied learning activities in which our lab group participates. We are all so grateful to have such close contact and influence from a true icon and pioneer in the animal welfare field.”

Each year, six to ten undergraduates at UW-River Falls are involved in several applied welfare and/or behavior research projects on a variety of animal species. Some research projects have included studying the pain associated with horn tissue removal in dairy calves and assessing the welfare of culled dairy cattle.

UWRF animal science alumna Faith Baier, '17, was one such undergraduate who was involved in the Animal Welfare Lab as a research assistant as well as the lab coordinator during her senior year.

“The educational foundation and research experience provided to me by UWRF, Dr. Kurt Vogel and the Animal Welfare Lab is what enabled me to have the once in a lifetime honor of working with Dr. Temple Grandin at Colorado State University while completing my master’s in livestock behavior and welfare,” said Baier. “Animal welfare science is my passion and this passion was ignited within the Animal Welfare Lab and grew stronger from the mentorship of Grandin as a world-renowned expert in the field.”

Baier is currently a Ph.D. student at UW-Madison.

Since it was established, the lab has expanded to include an Animal Welfare Judging Team and an additional faculty adviser Brian Greco, who joined the faculty in 2018 from the University of California, Davis. The Animal Welfare Judging Team competes each year at the Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest.

For more information about the Animal Welfare Lab at UW-River Falls, visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/ANFS/AnimalWelfare/> or call Vogel at 715-425-3704.



Meet Jenn Hayes

Hometown: Spring Valley

Year: Junior

Major: Criminology and Sociology

Minor: Communication Studies

Jenn Hayes has served in the Air National Guard since 2016. While on campus she is involved in the UW-River Falls Veterans Club.

"It is always nice to network with others and learn from their experiences and share your own," said Jenn.

She has been grateful for the help of Military Veteran Student Service Coordinator Peter Johnston who assists UWRF veterans with their benefits.

"Peter works really hard to make sure all of the student veterans get the maximum benefits," Jenn said. "He is great with troubleshooting problems with the VA and listening to exactly what you have a problem with."

The close-knit community and small department size led Jenn to the UW-River Falls campus. After graduation, she wants to work with veterans in the civilian sector or make a career in the military.

"Veteran suicide and mental health are close to my heart and working in that area would be more than rewarding to me," added Jenn.

Masquers to present 'A Dickens' Christmas Carol: A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts'

November 19, 2019 - The Masquers student drama organization at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls will present "A Dickens' Christmas Carol: A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts" by Michael Landon Smith Dec. 3-7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Syse Black Box Theatre in Kleinpell Fine Arts.

In this farcical and witty adaptation of the classic Christmas story, the members of the fictitious Stykes-Upon-Thump Repertory Theatre Company are embarking on their fifteenth annual farewell tour of the Dickens tale. When the company's diva feigns illness, this merry troupe of over-the-hill and upstart actors tries to carry on. Mayhem ensues as the company struggles to keep the show going while everything goes hilariously wrong.

The play is directed by Becca Donley from Mounds View, Minn. The cast consists of Jan Rozumalski, of Luck, as Sir Selsdon Piddick; Elijah Gallenberg, of River Falls, as Mr. Elyot Crummels; Bailey Hudak, of Medford, as Mrs. Bettina Salisbury; Hannah Robb, of Medford, Minn., as Mrs. Cordelia ffoliet-ffolkes ffortescue Woods; Blake Stinson, of Andover, Minn., as Teddy Shub; Corinna Brose, of Little Falls, Minn., as Dame Rowena Middleton-Lewis; Audra LePage, of Superior, as Cynthia Imbry; Grace Koppen, of Lakeland, as Acting Crew Member 1; Sara Jorgensen, of Stillwater, Minn., as Acting Crew Member 2; and Benjamin Brannon, of New Brighton, Minn., as Acting Crew Member 3.

Tickets are free and seating is general admission. Tickets can be reserved in person at the Box Office, online at marketplace.uwrf.edu or over the phone at 715-425-3114. The Box Office is near Gallery 101 in Kleinpell Fine Arts and is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is also open one hour prior to each performance.

Nasara and Wells-Mangold honored with UW System awards

November 8, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin System recently announced the recipients of awards promoting diversity, equity and inclusion on its campuses, including two honorees from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Associate Professor of English and Interim Director of the Honors Program Catherine Nasara, of Lake Elmo, Minn., was one of 13 recipients of the 2019 Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award and Assistant Athletic Director Kellen J. Wells-Mangold, of River Falls, was one of 13 recipients of the 2019 Dr. P. B. Poorman Award for Outstanding Achievement on Behalf of LGBTQ+ People presented by the UW System.

Nominations for the awards are submitted by the UW institutions, highlighting the nominee's contributions to improving the status and climate for women and people of color and to advancing the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion for LGBTQ+ people.

Nominators lauded Nasara for providing both insight and challenge to her students, inviting them to think more deeply about literature and culture, race and gender and the strategies and texts that future teachers will use in their own classrooms.

Similarly, Wells-Mangold stood out to nominators as an advocate and ally for all underrepresented populations, the LGBTQ+ community in particular. One of his most recent contributions has been the creation of a new policy for the inclusion of transgender athletes. Formally implemented in 2018, the policy was one of the first in the WIAC Conference and has been used as a model by other campuses.

"Dr. Nasara and Kellen are wonderful examples of campus leaders who are committed to supporting the success of all of our students," said UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "This recognition of their important contributions to our campus and community is well-deserved."

The Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award is an annual honor given to faculty, staff, students, or community members to recognize their achievements in advancing equity and inclusion for people of color within the UW System as well as communities across the state.

The Dr. P. B. Poorman Award for Outstanding Achievement on Behalf of LGBTQ+ People is an annual honor given to LGBTQ+ people or their allies who have helped to create a safer and more inclusive climate for LGBTQ+ people. The award celebrates the memory and legacy of Paula B. Poorman, a highly regarded faculty member at UW-Whitewater who dedicated her life to improving the lives of LGBTQ+ people.

For more information about the awards, email dina.fassino@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4306.

Native Pride Dancers mark Native American Heritage Month

November 26, 2019 - Celebrate Native American Heritage Month at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with the Native Pride Dancers on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. in the Falcon's Nest, University Center. The event is free, open to everyone and includes food.

Based in St. Paul, Native Pride's performances incorporate information about the dances, the regalia (dress), and the meaning and importance of the traditions of Native American peoples. Their talent roster are members of numerous tribal nations including Meskwaki, Navajo, Dakota, Lakota, Ojibwe, Lumbee, Cree, Pueblo, Choctaw, and Chickasaw. They have performed locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, including the U.S. Embassy Tours to Uzbekistan (2016), Kazakhstan (2015), Guatemala (2014), Republic of Moldova (2013), and the Kingdom of Jordan (2012); the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (2005 & 2013); WeDay 2013 in Minneapolis; the SteppingStone Theatre, St. Paul; the Bellagio in Las Vegas; the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. and NYC; the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.; and others.

Hosted by the UWRF Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Office. For more information, email martin.olague@uwrf.edu or call 3527.



Meet Peter Speckman

Hometown: Brodhead

Year: Senior

Major: Environmental Science

Peter Speckman has been serving in the Wisconsin Air Force National Guard since 2017. He found the UW-River Falls campus community very welcoming.

"I feel that UW-River Falls is very inclusive and offers a variety of opportunities and resources for student veterans," Peter said.

Peter's love for the environment and agriculture led him to find a home at UWRF. He is very fond of the small, rural community. After graduation, Peter hopes to acquire a full-time position in the environmental science field with the Wisconsin Department of

Natural Resources.

"I have found the Veteran Services here on campus to be very beneficial," said Peter. "They are always willing to help with paperwork and let you know about the benefits available."



UW-River Falls student winners at the SASES National Conference (left to right) Laura Ringeisen, Paul Tietz, Molly McIlquham, Mitchell Hockbein and Aricka Roberson.

Students earn top placements for research at the SASES National Conference

November 21, 2019 - Twenty UW-River Falls students along with three professors from the Plant and Earth Science Department in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences attended the 2019 Students of Agronomy, Soils and Environmental Sciences (SASES) National Conference, Nov. 10-13 in San Antonio, Texas. In addition to engaging in professional development and educational activities, UWRF students took top placements in several of the undergraduate research contests.

In the Soils and Environmental Science section of the Poster Contest, UW-River Falls secured all three top awards. Placing first was Paul Tietz of Waunakee with his research poster “Determining the Impacts of Land Use Change on Paleolimnological Features.” Aricka Roberson of Mazeppa, Minn., took second with her poster “Implications of Glacial Ice Source Region on Farmland Value in Wisconsin,” and Laura Ringeisen of Red Wing, Minn. came in third with her poster “Assessment of Diurnal and Nocturnal Ichthyoplankton Drift in the Black River.”

“This was my third year participating in a SASES conference,” said Tietz. “Each time, the impact and benefits have multiplied. Being part of UWRF’s wins in the poster contest this year was exciting, but I valued the social and professional networking even more than the competition. I came home from San Antonio with solid connections to graduate programs and some great new friends from across the country.”

In the Oral Contest, Molly McIlquham of Chippewa Falls placed second with her presentation “Evaluating Management

Practices on Winter Kill of Alfalfa.” For the Visual Presentation Contest in which students submit a PowerPoint video presentation with recorded narration, Mitchell Hockbein of Hudson earned second place for his presentation “Environmental Effect on Leaf Morphology and Adjuvant Performance.” In his research, Hockbein worked with Winfield United at their facility in River Falls to examine the leaf structure of plants grown in the greenhouse and those in the field to see if they are similar enough that testing done on greenhouse plants versus field trials would have little to no margin of error.

National officers were also elected at the conference. UWRF student Leanna Schneider of Foley, Minn., was elected corresponding secretary and will assist with the organization’s social media and publications. Jordyn Bush of Lakeville, Minn., on the other hand, marked the end of her 2019 term as president.

“Serving as the 2019 National President for the Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences was a great way to round out my senior year,” said Bush. “Getting involved with an organization that had an extremely positive impact on my college career only opened up more opportunities for me to pursue after graduation and I’m very grateful for that!”

For more information, email Plant and Earth Sciences Department Chair Holly Dolliver at holly.dolliver@uwrf.edu.

Fall commencement is Dec. 14

December 3, 2019 – Fall commencement at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is Saturday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m. in the Robert P. Knowles Field House in the Falcon Center. A total of 315 bachelor's and master's degree candidates have applied for graduation.

A commencement concert by the River Falls Brass will begin at 12:30 p.m. followed by recognition of the 2019 UW-River Falls Distinguished Teacher, Management Professor Claire McCarty.

Chancellor Dean Van Galen will confer degrees. Presenting candidates for degrees are College of Arts and Sciences Dean Dean Yohnk; College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences Dean Dale Gallenberg; College of Business and Economics Interim Dean Marina Onken; College of Education and Professional Studies Dean Michael Harris; and Associate Provost Wes Chapin.

For more information, call the Registrar's Office at 715-425-3342 or visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/Registrar/CurrentStudents/CommencementInformation/Index.cfm>

Fund created to support students facing financial crisis

December 19, 2019 – The University of Wisconsin-River Falls has established the UWRF Emergency Grant/Loan Program to assist students facing unplanned financial emergencies that can negatively affect their academic success and progress toward a degree.

The emergency funds can be used to for a wide variety of expenses ranging from housing and food to travel due to serious illness or death in the immediate family. The program cannot provide financial support for tuition, fees, books, legal fees, tobacco, alcohol, and entertainment.

To learn more about the program, visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/Student-Success/EmergencyGrantLoanProgram.cfm>

A fund in the same name has been established in the UWRF Foundation so that tax-deductible contributions may be made to support this effort.

Visit www.uwrf.edu/give or contact Rick Foy, assistant chancellor for University Advancement at 715-425-4291 or richard.foy@uwrf.edu with questions regarding the fund.



UWRF senior Kimberly Mackiel, left, accepts her WiSys Quick Pitch @ UW-River Falls first place award from WiSys Regional Associate Ray French, right.

Senior chemistry major wins WiSys Quick Pitch@ UW-River Falls event by explaining nanotech research

December 13, 2019 – University of Wisconsin-River Falls senior chemistry major Kimberly Mackiel won the WiSys Quick Pitch @ UW-River Falls Dec. 2 by explaining nanotech research. She won a \$300 prize and is now eligible to participate in the WiSys Quick Pitch State Final at the WiSys SPARK Symposium July 27-28 in Madison.

Mackiel's winning presentation was called "Producing Polymer-Quantum Dot Composite Materials Through Direct Ligand Reaction." Nanotechnology is a readily growing billion-dollar industry and nanoparticles are being used in devices such as flat panel displays for better color saturation, according to Mackiel. Mackiel is from Lake Elmo, Minn.

The competition inspires UW System students to consider the impact of their research and effectively communicate it to the public.

UWRF senior and animal science major Karly Anderson, of Cottage Grove, Minn., took second place in the event and earned a \$100 prize. Anderson's presentation was titled "Relationship of Captive Bolt Stunning Location with Basic Tissue Measurements and Exposed Cross-Sectional Brain Area in Cadaver Heads from Market Pigs."

Anderson's research focuses on finding a more consistent and humane method of on-farm euthanasia for market weight pigs using the common method of a penetrating captive bolt. As pigs mature, the frontal location becomes less effective due to changes in the thickness of the bone and tissue that protects the brain. Alternative locations for captive bolt euthanasia are

needed for mature pigs, according to Anderson.

UWRF senior and neuroscience major Anthony Craig, of Burnsville, Minn., took home the People's Choice Award, sponsored by the UW-River Falls Chancellor's Office and voted on by the audience. His presentation was titled "Reduction of Waste: Mechanochemically Induced Reactions."

Solvents—which have historically been used to assist in making and breaking bonds in chemical reactions—allow people to do many things. The use of solvents, however, can be harmful due to the waste produced. One potentially advantageous route to consider is mechanochemistry, which can remove the solvents from chemical synthesis, reducing the amount of waste production, according to Craig.

WiSys is a nonprofit organization that works with faculty, staff, students and alumni of the UW System to facilitate cutting-edge research programs, develop and commercialize discoveries and foster a spirit of innovative and entrepreneurial thinking across the state.

For more information about WiSys, call Craig Sauer at 608-316-4039.