Students like Cody Becker are using creativity and research to solve real problems.
Dear Friends,

As we bring to a close the celebration of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay’s 50th anniversary year, we end where our great University began: celebrating and advancing the important role of student research.

The founders of this University understood well the opportunity to actively mentor students to bring real solutions to human challenges, whether they exist here in our own backyard or in far-reaching corners of the world like Rwanda and beyond.

Their unique approach — which we call interdisciplinarity — stands today as one of the most important innovations in higher education. Imagine. An entire university organized around the idea that a college education was about solving great problems. This founding principle is even more relevant and important today and is the foundation of our future.

That point was demonstrated for me once again in April when I attended the Posters in the Rotunda Research Symposium at the State Capitol in Madison. The annual event celebrates the power of undergraduate research and has representation from all 23 UW System campuses. I am beyond proud of the work put on display by these young scholars and their faculty advisors.

Our students leave here with an incredible capacity to take on the most important and complex challenges of our time. The success of our graduates at securing employment — over 97 percent are employed, in grad school or serving in the military a year out from graduation — proves that this approach works and is in demand in the workforce and world today.

The UW-Green Bay way teaches students to actively seek connections, to consider more ideas rather than fewer, to manage uncertainty rather than fear it, and to always remember there is rarely one answer. The research stories in this issue reveal that our students are applying this approach in real time to the challenges we are facing today.

We are creating the next problem solvers that the world needs. I am thrilled, UW-Green Bay friends, that you are accompanying us on the journey!

Gary L. Miller
Chancellor
Features

2 RESEARCH AT UW-GREEN BAY
In an era of rapid economic, demographic, and technological changes, scholarship and research have never been stronger at UW-Green Bay.

18 BANNER YEAR FOR ATHLETICS
Green Bay basketball had double the fun when both men’s and women’s teams advanced to the NCAA tournaments.

23 THANKS TO DONORS AND FRIENDS
The University is being positioned to grow in enrollment and to achieve even greater excellence in academics, research, and public service.

41 50 AND FORWARD
The University reflects on 50 years and toasts the future.

on the cover
UW-Green Bay sophomore Cody Becker uses drone technology to help detect evasive species in UWGB’s natural areas.

VISIT INSIDE ON THE WEB AT
http://blog.uwgb.edu/inside/
Preparing students with research for careers that may not yet exist

Faculty scholarship and creative activity are one of the three foundational educational products that make the universities of the United States the envy of the world. Faculty and staff at UW-Green Bay generate in excess of $4,000,000 annually in external grants, creating student employment, stimulating the regional economy, and creating new knowledge, new applications, and new community opportunities through faculty-led publications, books, creative performances, public showings, and related activities.

This issue of Inside provides the UW-Green Bay community an important opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments and broader impacts of recent student creative and scholarly activity, and the dedication of their extraordinary faculty mentors. The stories are interesting, exciting, and inspiring, and the campus is incredibly fortunate to have such gifted and motivated scholars. More broadly, I hope that this issue helps the UW-Green Bay community to better understand both what is required to be a successful modern university today, and to imagine what the next 50 years of growth and innovation at UW-Green Bay will bring with continued support.

In an era where economic, demographic, and technological changes are challenging universities to reevaluate their core functions, the importance of scholarship and creative activities have never been stronger. As the information age marches forward, technical resources and content are no longer limited to the spatial isolation of professors’ heads and library book shelves, rather information is free and available with the touch of a screen in the palm of every student’s hand.

The challenge today is to create innovative, adaptable, life-long learners and problem solvers: a challenge that UW-Green Bay’s interdisciplinary education is tailor-made to meet. Faculty scholarship at UW-Green Bay engages students, creating high impact student experiences focused on knowledge application and problem solving. Please recognize, UWGB graduates today are more likely than ever before to apply for a job following graduation that didn’t exist when they started as a freshman, and experts suggest that these same students are likely to change careers, not just jobs, several times throughout their working years.

This reality was solidified for me the other day in a meeting between a state legislator and one of our particularly gifted student researchers. The legislator asked the student what he planned to do following graduation. The student said he was considering working as a drone pilot. The legislator paused, and perhaps with a bit of skepticism, asked him if jobs like that really exist. The student said that someone had recently learned about his undergraduate research, and in fact offered him one already! The point is that today universities can no longer solely train students for a job, we must train our students for the unpredictable, the next internet or smartphone revolution.

It’s clear we have a way to go in communicating this reality, as I suspect few employers would take a degree in “thinking” or “adaptability” seriously. Nevertheless, the data shows that this is exactly what employers want, and as educators we have found no better recipient for training innovators than to provide students with a little subject knowledge, perhaps a touch of too much confidence (youth and all), pair them with a great mentor, and then set them loose on an unanswered question or undeveloped vision. This research and creative activity has long been the hallmark of graduate education, and has fast become the recipe for successful undergraduate education in our period of unprecedented and increasingly rapid technological change.

I am proud to say that UW-Green Bay continues to lead the way forward by providing our students with the high impact experiences that train them for the emerging demands of the modern workplace. This issue provides unique stories, each of which captures the benefits of UW-Green Bay student-faculty collaborative research. Recognize that these projects require focused dedication, significant financial resources, and strong student mentorship by our faculty. These projects, including their funding, are almost universally generated from sources external to the University through independent, faculty-led initiatives. These stories are also only a few of the many and diversified scholarly and creative activities occurring everyday on the UW-Green Bay campus. As you read the stories, enjoy them for the storytelling, imagine the excitement and love for learning they generate in our students, and consider the un-transcripted skills they engrain into UWGB graduates.

— Mathew E. Dornbush, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs/Director of Graduate Studies

"...the student said he was considering work as a drone pilot. The legislator... asked him if jobs like that really exist. The student responded that someone had recently learned about his undergraduate research, and in fact offered him one already!"
— Mathew E. Dornbush, Ph.D.
With a combination of his own inventiveness and ingenuity, and support from UW-Green Bay faculty, sophomore Cody Becker is using high-impact experiences to uniquely tackle a local problem (invasive plants) while preparing himself for the evolving demands of the contemporary workplace.
Cofrin Center for Biodiversity with vegetation and invasive mapping of research and modify a drone to help UWGB Prof. Bob Howe and the UW-Green Bay sophomore from Sheboygan, Wis. was able to it should come as no surprise then, that when called on, water into its component gases, hydrogen and oxygen. make it motorized. By the time his was 17, he built a generator that splits and inventor with an entrepreneurial spirit. At 15, he modified a bicycle to UW-Green Bay sophomore Cody Becker is a self-proclaimed tinkerer and he studied, designed and built a kite-based multispectral imaging system that could rapidly assess the growth of near-shore algae in Lake Michigan and a large radio-controlled pontoon boat for plankton sampling. “I decided that mechanical engineering would be a great hobby, but not a great career for me. I was familiar with UW-Green Bay because of prior visits. I’m an outdoor-type person and the campus setting is a great fit for me. I explored my first semester here for research opportunities and ended up in the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity. UWGB Professors Steve Meyer and Bob Howe and others have been incredible to work with.” Becker also worked on other projects — with teams of student researchers studying mammal populations at the Wabikon Forest Dynamics Plot in the Nicolet National Forest in northern Wisconsin; helping with vegetation management of university-owned natural areas in Lower Green Bay and participating in a field inventory of remnant natural habitats in the Lower Green Bay and Fox River Area of Concern.

“I was intrigued by his interests and experience in applications of new technology, such as the use of remote controlled drones for scientific research. He has exceeded even our initially high expectations.” — Professor Bob Howe

Becker transferred to UWGB from UW-Milwaukee where he started out in a mechanical engineering program. In a robotics lab at UWM he studied, designed and built a kite-based multispectral imaging system that could rapidly assess the growth of near-shore algae in Lake Michigan and a large radio-controlled pontoon boat for plankton sampling. "I decided that mechanical engineering would be a great hobby, but not a great career for me. I was familiar with UW-Green Bay because of prior visits. I’m an outdoor-type person and the campus setting is a great fit for me. I explored my first semester here for research opportunities and ended up in the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity. UWGB Professors Steve Meyer and Bob Howe and others have been incredible to work with." Becker also worked on other projects — with teams of student researchers studying mammal populations at the Wabikon Forest Dynamics Plot in the Nicolet National Forest in northern Wisconsin; helping with vegetation management of university-owned natural areas in Lower Green Bay and participating in a field inventory of remnant natural habitats in the Lower Green Bay and Fox River Area of Concern.

In summer of 2016, Becker will work for a company helping with GIS mapping, but he will be back to work with the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity next fall, and hopefully until he graduates (first with his undergraduate in May of 2018 and as a ES&P graduate in May 2019). He and his faculty members have their sites on new technologies and modifications that can aid in further research such as integrating thermal imaging or infrared technology into the drone research.

Drone Video: From Collection to Desktop

During the drone flight, the onboard Pixhawk flight controller automatically creates flight logs which store all onboard sensor information. This information includes altitude, pitch, yaw, velocity, battery health and many other sensor data. The altitude at which the video was taken varies from 50 m-100 m. The GoPro has a 170 degree wide angle, which allows a large field of view to be seen in the video. However, the nature of the wide-angled lens creates a fish-eyed distortion. After each flight, the 1080p video was post-processed. GoPro Studio Software was used to remove the fish-eyed effect from the video and to extract still images from the video and Windows Movie Maker was used to edit and create publishable videos for YouTube.

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Sorrow motivates deeper understanding
Busko studies survivors of suicide

The advice of UW-Green Bay Psychology Prof. Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges hit straight to the heart for Sarah Busko as she was contemplating a research topic for her senior honors project in psychology.

"Research something you are passionate about," Wilson-Doenges said.

Busko's topic, "Survivors of Suicide: The Forgotten Grievers," was born out of watching the personal pain of family members after losing a cousin — a veteran — to suicide and her journey for better understanding of personalized grieving processes.

Busko's study included in-depth interviews with suicide survivors to understand how suicide bereavement is different than other types of grieving. Questions for her research aimed at understanding reactions to learning of the suicide, changes in daily living after the death, impacts on mental health, coping mechanisms, and more.

Perhaps most striking from the results of her research was that all but one interviewed survivor admitted to suicidal thoughts following the loss of a loved one. "They ranged from passing thoughts of suicide to having to have firearms removed from their home," Busko said.

Also among Busko's findings:

• A common coping mechanism was talking about the suicide. Ironically, the majority of those interviewed felt a stigma associated with suicide survival and many said they lost friends in the process who just didn’t want to deal with the difficult discussions.

• Family members were the strongest supporters during the bereavement process.

• Common changes in daily living: insomnia, loss of appetite, losing weight, being overwhelmed by life, and losing a sense of "normal."

• As it relates to national data, Busko found that suicide survivors go through a bereavement process that may be different from other types of death and can include prolonged grief and loneliness, shame and search for motive of the suicide.

This May, Busko was one of 41 UWGB psychology students who presented their research at the annual meeting of the Midwest Psychological Association, May 5-7.

Busko graduated from UWGB in May of 2016 with honors in her major and will pursue a master’s degree in Clinical Community Mental Health Counseling beginning in fall of 2016 at Western Illinois University.

The Marathon, Wis. senior hopes to make a career as a counselor in a juvenile detention center.

"Research something you are passionate about."
— Professor Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges
In May 2016, 41 UW-Green Bay Psychology students attended and showcased 32 distinct research projects — most of them poster presentations — at the 2016 Midwest Psychology Association annual meeting in Chicago. The number of students that faculty bring to the event has increased each year, and according to UWGB Psychology Chair Ryan Martin, UWGB has the strongest representation from any college or University.

UWGB students received seven of the 20 travel awards (a reimbursement of all expenses related to the conference) evaluated on the quality of each application. Out of 580 total posters, only 26 research awards were presented with one awarded to UWGB student Will Vogt for his project, “Examining the Effectiveness of PSA’s of Individuals Perception of Autism.” UWGB students Isaac Buhle and Jennifer Carrilo received a Research Award for Diversity — one of only eight given — for their project, “Sexual Orientation Affecting Stress and Wellbeing.”

“The field of psychology is rooted deeply in the scientific method,” says Martin. “In our program, we’ve put a considerable emphasis on helping students develop their research and data analysis skills because we think they are important for understanding psychology and being successful after graduation regardless of the field.”

Students presented far-ranging topics:
• Does childhood upbringing influence adult perceptions of gender roles and attitudes toward women
• Survivors of suicide
• Does media affect perception
• Health behaviors and consequences on exam grades
• Does a brief mindfulness intervention affect academic performance?
• Guilty pleasures or pleasurable guilt: Understanding why we binge
• Women and tattoos: The impact of body art on perceptions of personality, behavior and career

“Each of these students has a faculty mentor in the psychology program who has worked exceedingly hard to prepare them for this,” Martin said. “It’s the result of a group of dedicated faculty who have the opportunity to work with some really talented students.

“Their work is all original data that is collected, analyzed and presented. Each of the projects are completed as honors projects or research assistantships, so each of the students were mentored through an individualized learning experience.”

UW-Green Bay Psychology will host the American Psychological Association (APA) Summit on National Assessment of Psychology (SNAP) June 21-25. The summit will bring together experts in educational assessment in undergraduate psychology. Conference participants will begin the process of building a collection of digital and/or print resources to assist psychology departments at both the associate and baccalaureate levels in optimally assessing their programs.

College and university faculty, high school teachers, and other professionals can contact Prof. Regan Gurung, gurungr@uwgb.edu, for more information or go to apa.org.
How does one study a region nearly 10,000 miles away without ever setting foot in the place? The answer is rock samples, mathematical modeling, and a little help from UW-Green Bay faculty.

UW-Green Bay Environmental Science and Policy graduate student Brian Yagle resides in the “Frozen Tundra” of Green Bay, Wis. Ironic than, that he studies a true frozen tundra, thousands of miles away, in the McMurdo Dry Valleys of Antarctica.

Yagle has never set foot in the barren oasis, but that hasn’t prevented him from digging deep into the volcanic desert, particularly the geology and the magma-mixing process, which is at the core of his master’s research. Although mostly covered by snow and ice, Antarctica has an ancient history of volcanism.

“To me, magma (molten rock) is pretty darn interesting,” Yagle says. “Understanding the magma-mixing processes is important because of the potential these processes have in initiating volcanic eruptions, and also in generating economic ores,” Yagle explains. “Igneous intrusions, similar to the one I am studying in Antarctica, have been linked to petroleum and ore deposits.”

But why Antarctica? About 180 million years old, Antarctica would have been incredibly volcanic, according to Yagle's research mentor Prof. Ryan Currier. Huge volumes of magma were being generated and coursing through the crust, driven by the breakup of Gondwana (the supercontinent consisting of Africa, South America, Antarctica, India and Australia). Because of erosion and how the layers of rock are gently tilted, the McMurdo Dry Valleys offer a unique view of a magmatic plumbing system that can be traced from erupted lavas all the way down to about 3.5 km depth — near the field site being studied by Yagle.

Additionally, according to Yagle, the harsh, dry conditions within the Valleys have provided a landscape where snow doesn’t accumulate and soil doesn’t form, leaving an unobstructed view to the region’s magmatic plumbing system.

“It’s the perfect scientific observatory,” says Yagle.

In search of a challenge for his thesis, Yagle approached Prof. Currier about this particular project. Currier worked there during his own graduate school experience, and brought back samples for further study.

“Understanding the processes of magma-mixing appealed to me and because it was an area of research that Dr. Currier had experience in and seemed to enjoy.”

“Magma is molten rock,” said Currier. “It’s a loose definition, because compositionally, magmas can be very diverse. When two different magmas come into contact with one another, there is the potential for magma-mixing.”

At the core of Yagle’s research is the discovery of how magma-mixing works by studying his field site, where two magmas collided, partially mixed, and solidified.

“I am analyzing the chemistry and isotopes of 13 samples Dr. Currier brought back from his trip. It has been a lot of microscope work and mathematical modeling.”

As with most UWGB-student research, Yagle received guidance from his faculty mentor to move through the project from start to nearing completion.

“With his help I have been able to use the samples he collected to estimate the temperatures the two magmas were at when they were emplaced, the time it took the magmas to cool, and the amount of mixing that occurred. We are waiting on isotope analyses to interpret how much magma mixing occurred and gain a handle on how long the two magmas were in contact with each other.”

Prof. Currier says it has been a refreshing opportunity to re-experience Antarctica and to share in the excitement of learning from a truly unique environment with Brian.

“Brian has been a model graduate student. He is by nature an extremely diligent worker, not just towards completing the task at hand, but also towards a deeper understanding as well. Magmas are complex, dirty, difficult to model substances,” Currier said. “From my perspective, Brian has made this project an absolute pleasure for me.”

Yagle currently works for the Army Corps of Engineers regulatory branch as part of its “Pathways” program on protecting America’s wetlands, with intent on full-time employment with the corps when he completes his master’s thesis this spring. And in the far distant future Yagle has an aspiration that requires completion.

“It is a dream of mine to go to Antarctica. It really is one of the final frontiers on Earth. I would jump at a chance to go there.”
“Understanding the magma-mixing processes is important because of the potential these processes have in initiating volcanic eruptions, and also in generating economic ores.

— Brian Yagle
Graduate student Marc Minani has never hesitated to get his hands dirty. Perhaps that is why he has the respect of the farmers he works with in the Lower Fox Demonstration Farm Network (LFDFN).

Minani, a Rwanda native, will take what he has learned during his thesis research in UW-Green Bay’s Master’s Program in Environmental Science and Policy back to his hilly homeland of Rwanda, where he will provide environmental expertise for maximizing crop productivity while preserving the land for future generations.

Minani is completing his analysis on the environmental and economic implications of soil conservation practices implemented by the LFDFN farms, which are dedicated to improving agriculture while practicing best practice conservation.

Specifically, Minani is looking at eutrophication (the process of enriching ecosystems with chemical nutrients — often phosphorus or nitrogen) and its correlation to phosphorus pollution in Green Bay’s freshwaters. His research will inform both environmental and economic implications of the soil conservation practices implemented by the demonstration farms.

“My brother says life is about opportunities,” Minani says. “This was an opportunity to look at a problem from the environmental aspect, but also how we can use research to make wise decisions and change policy for greater impact. The PCB cleanup progress occurring in the Fox River right now, is an example of the improvements research and policy can make on an environment.”

At the heart of Minani’s work is the collection and assessment of soil samples. He has been working with the farmers to collect samples and now is analyzing them using Soil Management Assessment Framework (SMAF), a tool used to assess dynamic soil indicators that are compiled and indexed to express overall soil performance.

To evaluate economic implications, he uses a Crop Budget Analyzer — a tool developed by UW Extension that calculates farm input costs, yields and profits while considering standard prices. The results of this research are intended to show short-term and long-term benefits of soil conservation practices as applied to the LFDFN farms.

“I have had a very good relationship with the farmers,” he says. “Perhaps because I grew up as a farmer in Rwanda. Or perhaps because ultimately farmers are good citizens and want what is best for the health of the community while being able to earn a living. Like me, they are curious and want to learn more.”

Minani’s hypothesis is that conservation practices can improve soil, which increases productivity and improves public health because of reduced nutrient run-off. He says this first baseline study will provide a launching point for further research.

“I couldn’t have had a better experience here, and I am so grateful to my mentors and advisors — Professors Kevin Fermanich, Mathew Dornbush and John Stoll, who serve on my committee and Jamie Patton, of UW Extension Shawano County.”
Investigating life-sustaining nourishment
Holder looks at nutrient value of ‘cool old squash’


These three foods provide rich nutrition. And for one UWGB researcher, a glimpse into his ancestral past and the possibility of a life-sustaining food source in the future, particularly for indigenous people.

A few years ago, graduate student (Environmental Science and Policy) Greg Holder received permission to construct a “three sisters garden” on campus. The three sisters (corn, bean and squash) are said to thrive when grown together, providing a sustainable food system and a healthy diet.

Holder found through his research that the three sisters have long been a tradition of Native Americans and a revival of the pairing, of sorts, is taking hold within Native communities. His research has included hours of investigation into the history of three sisters and interviews with tribal leaders — following in the oral traditions of his ancestry (Lakota, Wichita and French).

His garden on campus thrived, and personal investigation of three sisters has led him to believe that traditional knowledge of three sisters should be studied, shared and promoted more widely. As he approaches his master’s completion in summer of 2016, Holder has narrowed his focus, and is working with UW-Green Bay science Professors Patricia Terry (Natural and Applied Science) and Deb Pearson (Human Biology) to investigate the nutritional profile of a particular ancient heirloom squash called “Gete-Okosomin” (or cool old squash), which has thrived and is gaining in popularity.

“When I traveled to my native South Dakota, particularly on the reservations, I found that people didn’t have a nutritional food source, and were relying on gas stations and commodity distribution as a sustenance source,” he says. “It’s not that we can live without industrial agriculture, but it should be supplemented with local, organic food high in nutrition.”

Holder was gifted the original seeds for the Gete-Okosomin from two sources: a Menominee farmer and an Anishinaabe gardener. Holder is now drying and gifting the seeds as well, hoping to impact native communities.

While he patiently gathers his research results and completes his thesis in the months ahead, he is making a positive impact by sharing his knowledge and the cool old squash seeds.

“This is a natural cultural practice — to share, network and promote good health to people. It’s a perpetual gift,” he says.
He pursued a college degree at a leisurely pace

Now it is full-steam ahead for Heintzkill

It is safe to say that Reed Heintzkill lived a full life before he became a student at UW-Green Bay. And, it appears he has made the most out of every single moment since.

The Chemistry major will graduate in May 2016 with honors, and with the utmost respect of hundreds of campus community members he has come in contact with at UWGB. His list of involvement at UWGB is extensive, and his academic achievements have been thoroughly recognized.

Earlier this spring he received the award for his laboratory report, “Characterization of poly(3-hexylthiophene)(P3HT) through UV-Vis absorbance and experimental H O M O / L U M O energy level determination” — a final requirement for Asst. Prof. Jeremy Intemann’s Instrumental Analysis course. The assignment allowed Heintzkill to hone his skills in scientific writing, while gaining a better understanding of the electronic properties of polymers used in organic photovoltaic cells. He hopes to continue his research on organic photovoltaics in graduate school at UW-Milwaukee next year.

Photovoltaics describes a particular method of converting solar energy into electricity. As excited as he is about his research and his future, Heintzkill’s story is one about finding his own way, in his own time. He moved to Los Angeles without a high school diploma, and by the age of 21 was managing an accounting firm in the Virgin Islands. At the age of 27 the recession hit, and he returned home to give his education a second thought. He moved to Green Bay with his family, completed his GED and general education requirements at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College and transferred to UWGB to complete his undergraduate experience.

“UWGB gave me an opportunity that had previously passed me by and allowed me to get on track to utilize my potential,” Heintzkill said. “So we’ve got the story of someone who had thought that school was a foregone option, who ended up succeeding — there’s a lesson that it’s never too late to chase your dreams. Something that’s occurred to me on more than one occasion has been how appropriate the UWGB setting is for me as opposed to a larger state school...I think at a bigger school I would have been lost in the shuffle. With the small class sizes here, I’m able to create good relationships with instructors who have been very willing to give me the help I need to succeed.”

You can read more about Heintzkill and his story at news.uwgb.edu/?p=74077.
Trudging through murky wetlands to collect samples is no hardship for this UW-Green Bay Environmental Science and Policy (ES&P) student whose passion for habitat restoration and water quality has followed her since she entered college.

Holly Harpster received a graduate student research grant to conduct water quality research and analyze the factors that influence water quality function of restored wetlands in Northeast Wisconsin. To date, she has waded her way through 13 wetlands, collecting water samples and wetland sediment cores, while conducting an emergent plant survey.

Her research provided an extended opportunity and in summer of 2015, she started a fellowship with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) Green Bay office.

“Biologists wanted a student to conduct water quality research on wetlands they have restored between 1989 to 1999 in northeastern Wisconsin,” Harpster said. “Water quality is a major concern in Green Bay because phosphorus runoff from agricultural fields contributes to the eutrophication of Lake Michigan.”

While collecting water and soil samples, Harpster observed a high density of invasive cattails in the wetlands.

“The runoff from the agricultural fields may be contributing to an increase in nutrients. An increase in fertility provides ideal habitat for invasive species.”

She will provide her results and recommendations to the FWS Green Bay office.

“The findings from this research project should increase the understanding of which factors influence wetland water chemistry and its associated effect on biotic indexes (a scale for showing the quality of an environment by indicating the types of organisms present in it),” she said. “This should help improve project placement and design and help to maximize benefits to both wildlife and water quality in the future.”

Originally from Kenosha, Harpster received an undergraduate degree in conservation and environmental science from UW-Milwaukee in 2013. She chose UWGB’s ES&P graduate program because of program array, professor-collaborated research topics and the university size. Harpster will graduate summer 2016, and after she completes her thesis on restored wetlands, she aspires to work on habitat restoration projects for a federal agency focused on conservation, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or a non-profit organization.

By UWGB Marketing and University Communication intern Angel Kingsley
Nine of the UW-Green Bay’s finest student researchers were selected to display their work on a big stage — the State Capitol — in April. Visiting with the students each year are legislators, state leaders, UW alumni, and the public, inside the historic Capitol Rotunda. In 2016, UW System and institutional leaders welcomed 140 students and nearly 90 faculty mentors to the event. The Posters in the Rotunda (PITR) event puts special emphasis on the importance of undergraduate research and educational support at state and national levels.

At UW-Green Bay, students and their projects are selected following an extensive review process. Three faculty and staff members review the abstracts and based upon the quality of the research and ability of the students to complete the project by the PITR date, are selected to the “short list.” After that, consideration is given to projects that represent diversity of subject and engaging subject matter, with a focus on those projects which were made possible through extramural support.

RESEARCH EXPANDS HORIZONS FOR WISCONSIN STUDENTS

- **Cody Becker**, Sheboygan (Prof. Robert Howe) — “Aerial Surveying and Vegetation Mapping Using Drone Technology at the Point au Sable Nature Reserve”
- **Kortney Krajewski**, Little Suamico (Assistant Prof. Sawa Senzaki) — “Cultural Competency: Before and After Studying Abroad”
- **Noel Craig**, Green Bay (Prof. Kevin Fermanich) — “Determination of Water Extractable Phosphorus for a Northeast Wisconsin Soil Quality Index”
- **Jeremiah Shrovnal**, Green Bay (Associate Prof. Patrick Forsythe) — “Growth Rate Analysis of Coastal Wetland and Near Shore Great Lakes Fish Using Otolith Dating”
- **Matthew Nichols**, Wausau (Assistant Prof. Ryan Holzem) — “Manure Lagoon Additive Performance Evaluation”
- **Zachary Ashauer**, Hortonville (Assistant Prof. Ryan Currier) — “The Lashly Mountains of Southern Victoria Land, Antarctica: Investigating a Possible Ancient Volcano”
- **Kelli Hutchinson**, Trevor (Associate Prof. Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges) — “Timing and the Influence of Visualization on Sports Performance”
Undergraduate research is a lifeblood at the UW-Green Bay, demonstrated by the immense popularity of the University’s annual Academic Excellence Symposium. Nationwide, students say they appreciate the opportunity to do undergraduate research and it improves their ability to understand concepts and succeed in future careers.

Many of these projects are in close collaboration with faculty who guide students on expectations, help them explore research methods, teach them methods of interpretation and mentor them through the process. Undergraduate research is often a stepping-stone to graduate studies, and UW-Green Bay alumni often comment that they were extremely prepared for the rigor of prestigious graduate-study opportunities.

This year, the Symposium — the University’s 15th annual — was held in special regard and was included in the two-day itinerary planned for the University of Wisconsin System’s Board of Regents visit. There were 66 exhibits with more than 100 participants including artwork (pictured) and a musical performance.

The Academic Excellence Symposium is a chance for students to display their research, talent and creativity. Each student selected is nominated by a faculty member. The event is hosted by Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Professional Studies and the Office of the Provost.
As an undergraduate, UW-Green Bay Biology student Rebecca Mastey was presented with an incredible opportunity to work side-by-side with researchers and scientists and present her project in a space normally reserved for graduate students.

Mastey took part in the Summer Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR) through the Medical College of Wisconsin and was mentored by UW-Green Bay alumnus Dr. Joseph Carroll '97. In spring of this year, she presented her research at the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) annual meeting in Seattle. Her main focus was examining whether red-green color vision defects can be corrected using glasses that filter different wavelengths of light.

Color vision defects affect 8% of men but only 0.5% of women. “Color-correction glasses” are currently being marketed to the public — suggesting that the glasses can improve and even correct color vision defects. The glasses are being sold at hundreds of dollars per pair.

In a controlled study, Mastey’s research concluded that not only do the glasses not help, but they can make some aspects of color vision worse, according to Dr. Carroll.

“This is extremely important work, as some people with color vision defects are desperate for a ‘cure,’ and her study can potentially save people from wasting their money.”

— Dr. Joseph Carroll ’97

Mastey is thrilled about the experience to share her research in a national venue and is appreciative of the opportunity to spend the summer in Carroll’s lab.

“The opportunity to present my research at the ARVO conference was simply amazing,” she said. “It provided an opportunity to show my work and allowed me to get feedback from other people in the field. Networking is huge and this experience provided me with so many chances to meet different people from all over the world. I can’t thank Dr. Carroll enough for the opportunities he provided me and for allowing me in his wonderful lab,” Mastey said.

“It is quite unusual for an undergrad to present at a major national meeting,” Carroll said. “Becca was an outstanding SPUR student. I was very impressed at how well she interacted with the medical students, graduate students, and post docs. She was exceptionally well prepared for this experience, and I think this is a testament to the quality of the program at UWGB.”

Mastey will be rejoining Dr. Carroll’s lab this summer while she takes a year off of school to prepare and apply to graduate programs in the medical field.
Weidner Center attendance... up and up and up

For the fifth consecutive year, the Weidner Center for the Performing Arts has seen an increase in attendance, with an overall growth of 64% during that time period. Sellouts included: Celtic Woman, Mannheim Steamroller, Wild Kratts Live!, Gaither Vocal Band, Joe Bonamassa, and truTV’s Impractical Jokers.

The Stage Doors Education Series served 15,580 students this school year, an increase of 8 percent over last year. Pre-K through 12 students and schools served came from 67 cities spanning 23 counties in Wisconsin and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. UWGB Theatre produced a special production of “Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse” for the Weidner’s Stage Doors Education Series, with 2,200 grade-school students attending on April 20.

Multi-platinum selling artist Andy Grammer known for such hits as “Honey, I’m Good” and “Keep Your Head Up” was one of the headliners at the Weidner Center in an event sponsored by the University’s Good Times Programming team.

AWARD-WINNING YEAR FOR CAMPUS HOLIDAY PARADE PARTICIPANTS

UW-Green Bay’s entry in the Green Bay Holiday Parade earned an award for the second straight year. UWGB’s float, themed “Everytime a bell rings, a Phoenix gets its wings,” received the Mayor’s Award for “most original.” In celebration of UWGB’s 50th Anniversary, UWGB Chancellor Gary Miller and Georgia served as the parade marshals. It was also a service opportunity, as the parade committee collected hundreds of school supply donations from UWGB faculty, staff, students and administrators, and local businesses, and donated them to local schools.

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Nursing receives flawless evaluation, 10-year reaccreditation

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) officially granted reaccreditation to UWGB’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and new Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree programs. Both programs met all accreditation standards and had no compliance concerns.

UWGB THEATRE AND MUSIC PROGRAMS ENJOY SPOTLIGHT PERFORMANCES

UW-Green Bay Chorale members had the opportunity to sing back-up to Barry Manilow on his “One Last Time” Tour at the Resch Center. UWGB Theatre played to big crowds with a radio-play performance of “It’s a Wonderful Life,” at the Weidner Center. Combined, the programs presented more than 30 concerts, plays and performances during the academic year, providing incredible learning opportunities for students and enriching the arts culture in Northeast Wisconsin.

Cofrin Library receives Regents’ highest honor

The UW Board of Regents honored the David A. Cofrin Library as this year’s recipient of the Academic Staff Award for Excellence. This is the UW System’s highest recognition bestowed on members of its academic staff.
Green Bay Athletics had a year to remember in 2016, achieving numerous successes on and off the playing field. In the classroom, Phoenix student-athletes earned a record 3.33 cumulative fall GPA, marking the department’s 32nd consecutive semester above a 3.0.

On the court, for only the second time in school history the basketball programs simultaneously reached the NCAA Tournament. A number of other programs continued their ascent. It was a record-setting year for the community as well. The annual Phoenix Packers Steak Fry raised a record $234,315, while maintaining a strong presence in the community. Green Bay athletes continue to contribute hundreds of volunteer hours in the community. As an example, the Green Bay men’s soccer team partnered with local non-profit Team IMPACT to sign to its squad 13-year old Luke Peters, a local youth battling various medical challenges.
A Refresh for UWGB Website

Led by Web Services, UWGB rolled out a new fresh look for the UW-Green Bay homepage (uwgb.edu) and other top-level pages in December 2015 and the Admissions homepage in April 2016. A commitment to “responsive design” — automatically providing users an attractive and comprehensible site for all devices from laptop to tablet to smartphone — with a priority placed on recruitment and enrollment were the driving factors in the redesign.

FACULTY NOTES

Experts get calls on elections

When the elections heat up, so do the calls to UW-Green Bay campaign experts. Among them, Dean Scott Furlong, Professors Phil Clampitt (Information & Computing Science) Aaron Weinschenk and David Helpap (from Public and Environmental Affairs) and Harvey Kaye (Democracy and Justice Studies). Each continues to be in high demand on both regional and national stages to discuss subjects such as polarization, voter turnout, public opinion, citizenship and more.

Prof. Martin gets national mention

Professor Ryan Martin has been a source for national publications including the Boston Globe, USA Today and Inside Higher Education. His area of specialty is anger and improving assessment and treatment of anger disorders. His commentary on social media as an anger outlet was the focus of a Joy Cardin Show on WBUR. The show was the focus of a Joy Cardin Show on social media as an anger out-

Gurung writing a new chapter in psychology

UWGB Prof. Regan A. R. Gurung (Psychology, Human Development) was published recently in American Psychologist®, the official peer-reviewed scholarly journal of the American Psychological Association and one of the most prestigious peer-reviewed journals in the field of psychology. The article — Strengthening introductory psychology: A new model for teaching the introductory course — is published in the February-March 2016 issue of the journal.

Last Lectures provide thoughtful insight

Given the opportunity, what would UW-Green Bay faculty say if they had one last lecture to give? This question propelled the 50th Anniversary Last Lecture Series, which spanned from September to April and featured six faculty members. The presenters were professors Derek Jeffrey (Humanistic Studies); Jeff Entwistle, (Theatre and Dance); Susan Gallagher-Lepak (Nursing); Lucy Arendt, (Business Administration); Phil Clampitt (Information & Computing Science) and Steve Meyer, (Natural and Applied Science). Videos of the Last Lectures are available on the 50th Anniversary website, 50.uwgb.edu.

Katers named Dean

UWGB Professor John Katers was named founding Dean of UWGB’s College of Science and Technology. Katers is the first dean to be appointed in the University’s new four-college model, the first major restructuring of academic administration at the University in two decades. Katers’ appointment is effective July 1, 2016. Other key members of the college’s administration are Associate Deans: Dr. Jane Kuss (Business Administration), Dr. Steve Meyer (Nursing), Dr. Lucy Gallagher (Humanistic Studies); (Theatre and Dance); Dr. Phil Clampitt (Information & Computing Science) and Dr. John Katers (Natural and Applied Science). Videos of the Last Lectures are available on the 50th Anniversary website, 50.uwgb.edu.

Lambeau Lectures a well-diagrammed play

About 500 faculty, staff, students, alumni, community members and prospective students and families joined UWGB and the Green Bay Packers for a “TED Talks”-type event at Lambeau Field, Thursday evening, March 3. The event was titled “Lambeau Lectures: An evening with UW-Green Bay and the Green Bay Packers.” UW-Green Bay Professors Lucy Arendt, Ryan Martin and John Katers gave prospective students and parents an idea of what it is like to hear a lecture from a UWGB faculty member. Packers Director of Player Engagement, Rob Davis, a graduate of UW-Green Bay’s Master’s Program in Applied Leadership for Teaching and Learning, and Eric Craver, Director of External Relations for UWGB’s Office of Outreach and Adult Access, emceed the event.

HISTORY REPEATS

UW-Green Bay hosts presidential hopefuls

MSNBC hosted Donald Trump at the Weidner Center for the Performing arts and a few days later the Bernie Sanders campaign rallied at the Kress Events Center. The campaign visits follow a long history of presidential hopefuls and their key supporters campaigning at UW-Green Bay including President Barack Obama, Bill and Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, Ted Kennedy and Walter Mondale.

UW-GREEN BAY LEADERSHIP CHANGES

J. Lance Cavanaugh was selected as the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement in January 2016. Cavanaugh came from the University of Arizona Foundation. In March, interim members of the Chancellor’s Cabinet, Greg Davis and Sheryl Van Gruensven, were permanently named to the leadership team — Davis as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and Van Gruensven as vice chancellor for business and finance.

LifeAtUWGB

In September 2015, UWGB expanded its social media presence to include “LifeAtUWGB” a volunteer-hosted Instagram account featuring a different Phoenix each week. The LifeAtUWGB account has been run by students, staff and faculty, and highlights include: University cheerleaders; students on a Habitat for Humanity trip and Library Director Paula Ganyard, who even saw “likes” from the Instagram account of the children’s show, “Reading Rainbow.”

LGBTQ and Military Friendly

For the seventh consecutive year, UW-Green Bay was named military friendly by Victory Media, Inc. This honor places UWGB in the top 15 percent of colleges and trade schools embracing America’s student service members and veterans. For the second consecutive year, College Choice ranked UWGB as one of the 50 Best LGBTQ Friendly Colleges and Universities. The top 50 are assessed to be the best in the country at committing time and resources to equipping their students, staff, and faculty with tools that encourage education, support, safety and inclusion campus wide.
ENCOURAGING ENROLLMENT

A collective campus effort has resulted in promising enrollment numbers for UW-Green Bay despite challenges across the UW System. Through April of 2016 new freshman admissions were up 8%, nonresident new freshmen admissions were up 50% and international new freshmen admissions were up 160%. Early indicators are encouraging, however actual registration and attendance is the figure that has the most significance to an institution. Outreach to admitted students is at the top of the list.

Among new or enhanced enrollment initiatives over the academic year:

• Faculty members have stepped up efforts to host open houses and receptions, met with countless prospective students and participated in the creation of videos and microsites.
• Donors are providing private funding to pay the application fee for local students to apply at UWGB.
• Partnerships with two-year UW institutions have been strengthened.
• Specific marketing plans, including new websites, microsites and videos, have been built around “signature majors” including Business/Accounting, Human Biology, Psychology, Environmental Sciences, Engineering Technology and Social Work.
• Development of an “Affording College Workshop”
• Expanded recruitment regions including out of state and international recruiting.
• New majors and areas of study including new emphases in psychology including Brain, Behavior and Health; Cultural and Gender Diversity; General Psychology; Mental Health; Sustainability
• The new Humanistic Studies emphasis in Science Fiction Studies
• Game design learning opportunities in the Information Science program
• 1+2+1 Nursing partnership with Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

EXPANDED ONLINE AND NEW MAJORS

UW-Green Bay’s Division of Outreach and Adult Access is expanding its role of providing services and support for almost all of the University’s online degree programs. The most recent additions to programs are online Psychology, Business Administration and Human Development degrees. The Adult Degree Program provides marketing, recruitment and/or academic advising services for three collaborative degree programs offered in conjunction with UW-Extension and other UW System partners. These degrees include a Master of Science in Sustainable Management, a Master of Science in Data Science and a Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management and Technology. The Adult Degree program continues to enroll record numbers in Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Applied Studies degrees in Integrative Leadership Studies previously titled “Interdisciplinary Studies.” See www.uwgb.edu/adults as a point of entry for more information for any of these programs.
In celebration of both the University’s 50th Anniversary and National Make a Difference Day, more than 300 students, faculty and staff participated in Make a Difference Day activities spanning across two days in October. The UWGB contingent was responsible for more than 1,000 hours of service, and they delivered letters to 5,000 homes in local neighborhoods encouraging residents to volunteer in their own neighborhoods.
Greetings,

On Sept. 2, 1969, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay opened its doors for the first time on its new campus to 2,000 students.

It was a dream come true for many people in Green Bay and Northeast Wisconsin who had worked hard to establish a four-year public university here. Classes were held in two buildings on the new campus and at a building five miles away on Deckner Avenue. Students traveled in shuttle buses between the new campus and the Deckner Avenue facility.

Over the years, UW-Green Bay has come a long way as an institution of higher education. UWGB has a beautiful campus. UWGB has preserved its commitment to interdisciplinary higher education and strived to achieve continuous quality improvement.

Philanthropic support has always been important to UW-Green Bay. Several buildings — including Cofrin Library, Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, and Kress Events Center — were made possible through generous contributions. The University has several scholarship funds, endowed faculty chairs and professorships, and other funds that have been donated by alumni, friends in the community, businesses, and private and family foundations.

UWGB is a university on the rise. The University is being positioned to grow in enrollment and to achieve even greater excellence in academics, research, and public service.

A concern, however, is that UW-Green Bay and other public universities are facing several challenges in sufficiently financing their programs, faculty and staff, and facilities. In the last decade, many state legislatures across the nation, including Wisconsin, have substantially cut tax-funded appropriations to their public universities. To ensure that the people of Wisconsin have access to quality and affordable higher education, it is clear UW-Green Bay and other universities must build even stronger public-private partnerships of support and increase philanthropic fundraising.

In this 2015 Annual Report of the UW-Green Bay Foundation, we provide information showing how our donors designated their contributions in the past year. Gifts totaled nearly $4.6 million. The UW-Green Bay Foundation distributed more than $3.3 million of support to UWGB for students, faculty, staff, programs, and facility improvements.

On the following pages, we proudly list the names of our contributors who gave at leadership levels. Donors are recognized for the total of all their gifts in support of the University during the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

We are grateful to all of our donors who support UW-Green Bay. Thank you for giving and for your commitment to the success of our University.

Sincerely,

J. Lance Cavanaugh
President, UW-Green Bay Foundation
Vice Chancellor for University Advancement

Contributions by Area
January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

TOTAL $4,598,500
The UW-Green Bay Foundation and Office of University Advancement build relationships with donors and secure, manage and invest philanthropic gifts in support of UWGB. Every gift in support of the University is received, processed, acknowledged, and managed by the UW-Green Bay Foundation, a tax-exempt non-profit charitable organization.

Several donors have multiple interests in supporting UWGB; they give to a variety of programs, scholarships, and funds. We are proud to honor alumni, friends, corporations, foundations and organizations that made major gifts and leadership annual gifts in 2015. Names of donors are listed by levels of giving, based on the total amount of their contributions during the calendar year. The minimum amount for recognition in this Honor Roll of Donors is $500. We are very grateful to all donors who give in support of UW-Green Bay.

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Humble Scotty Dickert is finding HOLLYWOOD fame

He’s a versatile actor playing AJ — a burnout pothead in Comedy Central’s Workaholics, to Willie — an intense and pony-tailed redneck from Central Florida on TNT’s hit drama The Last Ship. It appears that UW-Green Bay alumnus Scotty Dickert ’07 is well on his way to fame.

Just a few months after relocating to Los Angeles, Dickert booked a role on HBO’s “All Signs of Death,” and after day one was bumped to a recurring role. He is currently filming the Netflix original movie “XOXO” in a strong supporting role opposite Modern Family’s Sarah Hyland and others. “XOXO” was recently named the #1 Netflix movie to watch in 2016 by the CheatSheet entertainment website ahead of big named titles, such as “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” and Brad Pitt’s “War Machine.”

But what appears as a quick ascent into stardom (Dickert says it’s ironic that he has now been in “acting school” as long as he was at UWGB) has actually been a balance of hard work, opportunities, and a few disappointments.

“I’ve known for years that I’ve worked extremely hard and have developed the chops to do this; but I dealt with the same frustration that every other actor goes through while relentlessly pursuing this passion to hopefully come across the chance to get that break,” Dickert says. “Sadly, though, without a great resume you don’t get opportunities; but without opportunities, how are you supposed to build a great resume? It’s a pretty thick, well-bolted door out here that everyone is trying to get through, and that’s why you have to be prepared for the long haul in this career. You have to be ready to work your butt off, accept rejection, and somehow find the patience to wait for someone to take a chance on you.”

Dickert, a communications major and member of the Phoenix tennis team, says he is pleased with his career and can’t wait to see what the future holds. On top of his theatrical work, he recently booked his eighth national commercial and is fortunate to have multiple platforms to be seen. He says he is thrilled to be in the middle of the “crazy.”

Reflecting back on his time at UW-Green Bay, he said he was happy that his grandparents lived in Green Bay and were close for support. In addition, he could always turn to his Phoenix family.

“I always said I wouldn’t trade my college experience for anything. I’m proud to be a Phoenix and UWGB will always be in my heart. I was fortunate to receive a tennis scholarship while attending ‘Geebs’ and had a great coach, Dan Oliver, and a team of friends that were like family to me. I had great professors that helped set me on a successful path and helped build my confidence and make me a better person. I loved my film classes, which helped build a general idea of the history of film before I moved to LA and expanded on that knowledge, as well as marketing and psych classes. I’ll always think of professors like Tim Meyer (Communications) and Regan Gurung (Psychology) as having an impact on my life as well as staff in other departments such as Sherri Arendt (coordinator of Tutoring Services), who could not treat students with more care or interest.”

You can find his theatrical reel at www.scottdickert.com. A longer version of this story is available at news.uwgb.edu/?p=75846.
Aaron and Dr. Angie Qualio:

We decided to participate because UWGB was a major stepping stone in our lives both academically and personally. We wanted to give back to the University that gave us so much!
Angela (Stangel) Duckart ’03
communication processes, is a senior project manager at Laughlin Constable in Milwaukee. She co-chaired and coordinated the Marquette University & Laughlin Digital Advertising and Marketing Summit.

Ryan Finger ’03
information and computing sciences and psychology, is a client executive at Avanade in Baltimore, Md.

Angela Weideman ’03
psychology, is the director of Western Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs in Chippewa Falls.

Richard Saeger ’04
computer science, is a senior manager of software engineering at Ameriprise Auto & Home Insurance in Green Bay.

Paul Schneider ’04
history, is a high school instructor at Penn Foster in Scranton, Pa.

Kathleen Morris ’05
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Laura Nighbor ’05
English, is the director of first impressions at Heckmann Financial in Middleton.

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Laura Markley ’07
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Matthew Parkansky ’07
history, is a social studies teacher for the Wausaukee School District.

Ashley Radichel ’07
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Amber DeLasky ’08
communications, is the local sales manager at WAOW Channel 9 in Wausau.

Paul Gazdik ’08
social change and development, is an emergency manager in Bellingham, Wash.

Molly (Waldschmidt) Jaster ’08
communications, is the coordinator of campus events, advancement at Marian University in Fond Du Lac.

Michael Mathison ’08
communication and psychology, is a technology recruiter for Kforce Professional Staffing in Madison.

Brittany (Remiker) Perkins ’08
human biology, is a physical therapist with ThedaCare in Shawano. She earned her doctorate of PT from Concordia University in May, 2011.

Jennifer Schanen ’08, ’13
social work and masters of social work, is a lecturer and the BSW Field Coordinator at UW-Green Bay.

Nicole (Mader) Virant ’08
business administration, is a corporate trainer and instructor at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay.

Kate Dorner ’09
economics and business administration, is the director of human resources at Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac, MI. She earned her PHR certification in 2013.

Paul Gazdik:
I am participating in the Duck Duck Give campaign because I enjoy its message of ‘joining the flock.’ Whether you live in northeast Wisconsin or you “flew the coop” it’s a way to stay connected to UWGB. College is still a great social experiment of learning and I feel that is still important to all people no matter their background or upbringing. Go Phoenix!
Elaina Koltz:

The Phoenix 500 Anniversary Scholarship is an awesome way to raise funds and be a part of a scholarship that will continue to help UWGB students achieve their educational goals. My husband, Gary, daughter, Jenna, and I are UWGB alumni and at this point in our lives we cannot afford to give $10,000. With this scholarship program we feel like we can be a small part of something big!
UW-Green Bay has provided a **LEGACY** of learning for the Saldaña family

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One could say the Saldaña family is green with Phoenix Phever. When Savanah crossed the stage at commencement in May 2016, she joined her parents, alumni Antonio ’88 and Judith ’08, in earning a University of Wisconsin-Green Bay degree. Her younger brother Nicholas is just a year away from the same outcome.

Savanah, a Human Biology major, has high aspirations, hoping to become an oral and maxillofacial surgeon to help patients with extreme facial and dental deformities. In her time at UW-Green Bay, she says she has learned about the importance of teamwork and how a support system will lead to success.

Nicholas has chosen UW-Green Bay to further develop his musical abilities, and after earning an undergraduate degree in music, hopes to get a double masters degree in music performance and composition. Both Saldana children say their parents provide the inspiration for a successful future.

Like many first-generation college graduates, the parents set an expectation for the next generation. Antonio and Judith, Green Bay natives, both chose to attend UWGB because of its proximity. They soon found out it was a nurturing atmosphere and a special place.

“It has a small town feel with a feeling that professors seem to really connect with the students,” says Judith, who graduated in ’08 with an associate’s degree of Arts and Sciences and is now the pre-employment and Certification Test Examiner at NWTC.

Antonio earned an associates degree in social work in 1985. He pressed on to achieve a bachelor’s degree in Spanish in 1988. That moment was significant for both him and his family.

“I was a migrant worker from age four to 18,” he explains. “Although I am a fourth generation American, I was the first Saldaña to graduate from high school. When I received my college degree, it was an even bigger milestone.

“I had the capability to better myself,” he says. “The professors were very interested in my background and wanted to hear what I had to say.”

Antonio is now in his 28th year of teaching Spanish in Brown County. He also enjoys freelance writing — often writing guest columns for the *Green Bay Press-Gazette* — particularly if he can help educate the public about discrimination, prejudice and racism.

The Saldaña family didn’t have to travel far to find a home away from home. The University has given each one a sense of belonging, and has provided a way for them to aspire and to achieve.

An extended feature is available for viewing at news.uwgb.edu/?p=75848.
ALUMNI NOTES

Erin Fahey ’05 to Lance Mexner
Debra Lucas ’07 to Erik Scott
William Curtis ’08 to Brenton Butterfield ’10

Ellen Mattson ’15
social work, is a clinical services case manager
with Menominee County Human Services.

Rory Mileham ’15
communications, is a flight attendant with
American Airlines.

Megan Leonard ’15
arts management, is a residence hall director at
University of North Dakota.

Andrea Miller ’15
business administration, is the internet sales manager
at Dorsch Ford Lincoln Kia in Green Bay.

Kayla Peterson ’15
elementary education, is an out of state admissions
advisor at UW-Green Bay.

Jo-An Rintamaki ’15
integrated leadership studies, is an accounts
receivable manager for Schneider National in
Green Bay. She received the Presidential Award for
customer service in 2013.

Laura Schley ’15
art and arts management, is the interim curator at
the Lawton Gallery at UW-Green Bay.

Jayson Smolenski ’15
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for the West Corporation.

Tyler Sterr ’15
business administration, is an inside sales representa-tive for Heartland Business Systems
in Little Chute.

Lara Whitman ’15
human biology, is a senior pharmacy technician at
Kriger Pharmacy & Home Medical in Green Bay.

Hilary Cordova ’16
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Lance Mexner

Debra Lucas ’07 to
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William Curtis ’08 to
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Jessica Knox ’10 to
Coleen Motyl-Szary

Allison Tappa ’10 to
Luke Peshman

Melissa Tryniszewski
’10 to Shane Brahm ’09

Emma Bobholz ’11 to
Andrew Kopitzke ’08

Amanda Cheney ’13 to
Alexander Young ’12

Cassandra Stanzel ’15
to Aaron Samplawski

Lara Carrier ’15 to
Lucas Whitman

Lona Ninham to
Keith Tourtillott ’91

Amber DeLasky ’08 to
Adam Siewert

Brittany Remiker ’08 to
Jaimie Perkins ’08

Jessica Ward ’09 to
Casey Dennis

Ashley Baranowski to
Justin Hilgemann ’02

Heather Finger to
Ryan Finger ’03

Emily Turriff to
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The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes graduates who have distinguished themselves in their professional field and are widely recognized for their career accomplishments. Civic and/or humanitarian activities for the benefit of others is also taken into consideration.

The course has changed, but the fun remains. Join us for the Alumni Association’s 36th annual Scholarship Golf Outing at Brown County Golf Course. The day includes a putting contest, 18 holes of golf with power cart, lunch, raffle, hole events, hors d’oeuvres reception and more. Team play will use a four person scramble format. Prizes will be awarded to the low gross team and handicap team.

Date: Friday, June 10, 2016
Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: Brown County Golf Course
Cost/person: $125 if registered before May 27 and $135 after
Cost/foursome: $500 if registered before May 27 and $540 after

Visit www.2016uwgbgolfouting.eventbrite.com to register today.

We hope to see you on June 10!

Nominations sought for Distinguished and Recent Outstanding Alumni Awards

On Tuesday, October 4, 2016 the UW-Green Bay Alumni Association will present the annual Distinguished Alumni Award and the Outstanding Recent Alumni Award. These awards recognize the professional accomplishments of UW-Green Bay Alumni.

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes graduates who have distinguished themselves in their professional field and are widely recognized for their career accomplishments. Civic and/or humanitarian activities for the benefit of others is also taken into consideration.

The Outstanding Recent Alumni Award recognizes graduates who have graduated from a UW-Green Bay undergraduate or graduate program within the past 15 years. Selection is based on professional accomplishments and future potential in their selected field of study and/or contributions to their community through civic or humanitarian involvement or both.

If you know of a UW-Green Bay alumnus who meets the criteria for these awards, please visit www.uwgb.edu/alumni and complete the online nomination form by June 30 so he or she can be considered for a 2016 award.
ALUMNI ID CARD
More than 200 alumni are already enjoying the rewards of the Alumni ID Card. You should too! This lifetime card costs just $10 and allows you to take advantage of benefits throughout campus including on-campus discounts and special promotions from The Phoenix Bookstore, Green Bay Athletics, the Weidner Center, Marcus Cinema East and more. To learn more about the benefits of the card or to order, visit www.uwgb.edu/alumni.

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP
Each year, the UW-Green Bay Alumni Association seeks to acknowledge and reward individuals who attend UW-Green Bay in the footsteps of their parent(s), step-parent(s), sibling(s), step-sibling(s), legal guardian(s) and/or grandparent(s). If you have family members who are planning to attend UW-Green Bay, they may be eligible for this fantastic $2,000 scholarship. Please visit www.uwgb.edu/alumni.awards to learn more. Scholarship applications are due no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 23 so be sure to tell any family members who are following in your footsteps about this great opportunity.

GET SOCIAL!
Don’t be left out on all the alumni happenings. Your Alumni Association is using Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to tell you about jobs, networking, events, photo sharing and more. Here’s how to find us:
Facebook: uwgbalums
Linked In: UW-Green Bay Alumni
Twitter: @uwgbalumni

Sign up for e-mail communications
Did you know the Alumni Relations office sends out a monthly Alumni E-newsletter and regularly communicates about events and alumni benefits via email? Approximately 11,000 alumni stay connected through email, and we want you to share in this connection. Please send a “subscribe” message to alumni@uwgb.edu or visit the alumni website at www.uwgb.edu/alumni and sign up today. We hope you allow us the opportunity to share the great alumni news, events and benefits that are available only to you as a UWGB grad.

JOIN THE FLOCK. GET THIS COOL PHOENIX DUCK!
Would you like to make a personal statement to help celebrate your alma mater’s 50th Anniversary? Please consider making a big splash this summer with a $500 gift to support UWGB students. In return, you will receive a Phoenix Duck that you can display at your home or office. It only goes to Phoenix 500 donors and graduating seniors making their first gift to the alumni association.

The goal is to raise more than $250,000 in unrestricted scholarships for UW-Green Bay students. Gifts can be made in full or divided into equal monthly installments for 20 months or less (that’s only $25 per month), are tax-deductible, and can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. Please visit http://www.uwgb.edu/foundation/phoenix500/ to learn more about the Phoenix 500 Challenge.
HONORING THE PAST, TOASTING THE FUTURE

Friends and colleagues joined together on Friday, May 6 for the culminating event of UW-Green Bay’s 50th Anniversary year — 50 and Forward. Hosted by Gary and Georgia Miller, the casual evening presented an opportunity to join collectively with current faculty and staff, retirees, donors and friends who understand the specialness of UW-Green Bay. With the jazzy sounds of Hip Pocket in the background, friends reconnected and reminisced before joining in a rendition of both the Phoenix Fight Song and the Alma Mater.

From the stage, Chancellor Miller recognized a number of people, expressing his gratitude to the 50th Anniversary Committee and the 50 and Forward Committee for the passion behind the anniversary year. He also recognized senior faculty member Kumar Kangayappan, who retired in Spring after 48 years with the institution.

With a toast, Chancellor Miller offered farewell to the past and inspired the future —

“To the University’s past, may we always remember our roots, our rich history and where we came from...

To the present, may we appreciate this special moment in time, including the challenges and opportunities it represents and our resiliency to move forward with trust and determination...

And to our future, may we welcome the tremendous opportunity before us to put our interdisciplinary philosophy to work to transform students, society and this great institution for the next 50 years.

Here’s to 50 and Forward! Cheers!”
JUST DUCKY

How is your duck spending its summer? Is it getting its much-needed rest between sprint training and distance swims? Is it building up its endurance, getting appropriate nutrition and keeping stress levels low (like our model)? It’s time to get it in shape for Phoenix 500 Race Day. Anyone who made a big splash by donating $500 to the Phoenix 500 Challenge (for alumni scholarships) can race his or her duck for fabulous prizes. Join the flock. Buy a duck. Race and win. See page 40 for details.

Race Day:
12:30 p.m. Saturday, August 6
Hagemeister Park
Downtown Green Bay

www.uwgb.edu/foundation/phoenix500/