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Students donate \$1,700 from brat fry to family outreach

By Don Markgraf

A brat-fry fundraiser, sponsored by the UW-Sheboygan Domestic Abuse Awareness Organization, raised \$1,200 on Oct. 20 at Miesfeld's Meat Market in Sheboygan. The DAAO also received a \$500 gift from Frank Brotz (Plenco Corp.) that brought the fundraiser's total to \$1,700.

During their meeting at UW-Sheboygan on Nov. 15, the DAAO presented checks for \$850 each to Mary's Room (Pregnancy Aid Outreach) and Trisha's House (Bridgeway & Beyond Transitional Living Program) to help support their programs.

Mary's Room is an organization where all women can go if they need assistance in providing for their children. Mary's

See **Outreach**, page 7

Watch for deadlines, rolling admissions, essay requirements

By Thi Nguyen

Not only is December the time when students at UW-Sheboygan study hard for their finals, but it's also the time when some of them prepare their applications to transfer to four-year universities. In order to have a hassle-free transfer process to a four-year campus in UW System, collecting information in advance is always necessary.

Compared to other four-year universities, those in the UW System give transfer students from

UW Colleges some advantages. One advantage is that you no longer need to pay for the admission fee; you've already paid the fee at UW-Sheboygan. In other words, you can apply to as many schools as you want without worrying about \$44 fee.

Another advantage is that all the credits you have taken at UW-Sheboygan, up to 72 credits, may transfer to your four-year campus. After you are admitted to a campus, you will receive an official credit transfer evaluation. You can go to Transfer Information System website, tis.uwsa.edu, to find out beforehand which of your credits will transfer.

Transfer students have the option of applying to colleges online at apply.wisconsin.edu or filling out paper applications. Online applications have several benefits. Students can save their applications and edit them at a later time. Also, all of your personal information will be automatically recorded for other UW schools if you happen to apply to more than one, which can save a lot of time. However, the requirements for essay statements vary among the schools, so read the instructions carefully before writing.

Deadlines are an important factor that must be considered in the transfer

process. The admission deadline for transfer students may be different from that for freshmen; the time frame is longer. Some schools have their own deadlines, and others use a rolling admission policy, which means that they accept applications until they're full. For rolling admissions, you should apply as early as possible because it's first-come first-served.

There are 13 four-year universities in UW System: UW-Eau Claire, UW-Green Bay, UW-La Crosse, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Parkside,

See **Transfer tips**, page 2

Melton pursues bachelor's through collaborative program

By Wesley Melton

After having finally decided on a major for my undergraduate degree and completing my Associate of Arts degree here at UW-Sheboygan, I found transfer to a four-year institution in the University of Wisconsin system to be easy and conducive with several of my needs and goals. Being an adult student, I had changed my major six times over the years. I finally settled on majoring in the management field, because it contains elements of all of my interests: English, science, technology, psychology, philosophy and communicating arts.

I applied to and was accepted by several four-year UW schools, but I found the up-to-date curriculum and career opportunities available at UW-Stout to be the most compatible. UW-Sheboygan has worked with UW-Stout in several collaborative programs to assist students with the successful transfer and accrediting for all of the credit earned at UW-Sheboygan.



In a file photo, Wesley Melton (left) works in a UW-Sheboygan lab. He graduated last May and has continued his studies on campus through a collaborative program with UW-Stout.

Moreover, UW-Stout's relationship with UW-Sheboygan has enabled me to finish a good amount of coursework toward my bachelor's degree in face-to-face classes, rather than online courses, here at UW-Sheboygan through a consortium agreement.

The consortium agreement allows me to be reimbursed through receiving financial aid as a full-time UW-Stout

student after paying for classes in Sheboygan out-of-pocket. I also save money in this way: tuition at UW-Sheboygan is slightly less expensive than UW-Stout, but the quality of the classes here is the same or better.

Certain courses that I still need to complete my undergraduate degree are better learned face-to-face, such as math, accounting and classes that are not available through UW-

Stout that I have interest in. The classes taken under the consortium agreement must be relevant toward management: for example, I could not receive reimbursement for taking botany or chemistry because those requirements have already been met through completion of my Associate of Arts degree.

This is due, in part, to

See **Collaborative degree**, page 7



May 2012 Chelsi Hicks photo



December 2012 Thi Nguyen photo

The pond off University Drive is being reconstructed into a wetland, which will be more suitable for the fish, turtles, waterfowl and other animals.

What’s going on with the pond on University Drive?

By Amber Beardsley

Until recently, you may not have paid much attention to the pond at the end of University Drive. It was just part of the view on your way to school.

Now, though, you’ve probably noticed that the pond has been replaced by construction workers, tree stumps, stakes connected by strings, and what looks like a bunch of burlap sacks spread all over the area.

Last May, former *Voice* reporter Chelsi Hicks reported that the pond was going to be part of a habitat restoration project funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and overseen by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Sheboygan County and the City of Sheboygan.

At the time of the article’s publication, the project had not been started, but now it has been in progress for several months.

Debbie Beyer, a UW System natural resources educator, talked about the pond restoration project when she visited UW-Sheboygan on Oct. 30 to explain what’s going on with the Sheboygan River.

Beyer said that the pond is es-

entially being reconstructed into a wetland, which will be a more suitable environment for the fish, turtles, waterfowl and other animals that frequent it.

At Beyer’s presentation, she said that the project intends to “connect the fragmented habitats” currently existing in the pond area. She explained that the result will be a combination of a woodland habitat and a wetland habitat.

In addition to the reconstruction of the pond itself, the project will also build passageways under the roads that will lead into the Sheboygan River. Quite a few turtles have been smashed while trying to cross the roads to get to the river, and these passageways will make the trip from the pond to the river much safer.

While it’s certainly the closest project to the university, the pond reconstruction isn’t the only part of the habitat restoration campaign in progress.

In fact, the pond project is a small portion of the Sheboygan River restoration work currently going on.

During her presentation, Beyer said that the Sheboygan River is being dredged “to clean up the

sediments of PCBs out of the water.”

PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, as well as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are harmful chemical compounds that have polluted the river over the years. They have collected in the river, contaminating fish, amphibians, reptiles and game.

The spring edition of *The Sheboygan River Explorer*, a newsletter created by the Sheboygan River and Harbor Area of Concern, states that the dredging will remove more than 400,000 cubic yards of sediment that’s collected at the bottom of the river, which is equivalent to more than 300 dump trucks of material moved per day for 120 days.

In addition to the dredging, there is another facet of habitat restoration going on. This facet focuses on the Sheboygan River area, which has been overrun by non-native plants like teasel, phragmites and honeysuckle.

Once the river project is complete, the Sheboygan River will have a greater depth, which will make it safer and easier for large boats to navigate. Much of the river’s harmful PCBs and PAHs will be removed, which will

reduce the amount of contaminated organisms in the water, in turn making it safer to consume river-caught fish and game. Also, the area around the river will be better suited to the native plants, which currently are being dominated by invasive plant species.

Until the habitat restoration project is finished, stay tuned for more updates.

The Voice staff

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Transfer tips: Start early (continued from page 1)

UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, UW-Superior, and UW-Whitewater.

However, according to Pam Fitzer, a senior adviser at UW-Sheboygan, most students transfer to UW-Milwaukee, UW-Green Bay or UW-Oshkosh.

UW-Milwaukee’s admission deadline for fall 2013 is July 1, 2013, whereas UW-Green Bay and UW-Oshkosh use rolling admission policies.

As mentioned above, the essay part of the application from each of the schools isn’t the same.

UW-Milwaukee requires students to write only one essay about themselves and their reasons for attending college.

UW-Oshkosh asks applicants to tell them about particular life experiences and talents that they will bring to the campus.

On the other hand, when applying to UW-Green Bay, students have to prepare two

essays. One is the same as that of UW-Oshkosh, and the other asks students to write about a personal challenge that has affected their academic performance.

Apart from information mentioned above, transfer students should work closely with their advisers to ensure a smooth transition to a four-year campus.

Also, students should start preparing applications now if they haven’t already.



Thi Nguyen photo

AMANDA McGOVERN

Amanda McGovern may be one of the most involved students on campus. She recently spoke with reporter Amber Beardsley.

Question: Hi, Amanda! Thanks for letting me interview you!

Answer: Hey, yeah, no problem!

Question: Let's get started. First question: What is your major?

Answer: I'm going to major in Community and Non-profit Development and Leadership.

Question: Wow, sounds pretty cool! I know you're a part of a lot of clubs and organizations here. Which clubs are you involved with?

Answer: Boards, Swords, and Cords; Startroopers [Astronomy Club]; Student Government Association; Gay/Straight Alliance, and [laughs] technically, Music Club.

Question: What else are you involved with at UW-Sheboygan?

Answer: I'm on a lot of committees, and I have a lot of jobs. The committees I'm on are Curriculum, ESFY [Engaging Students in the First Year], SGC [Student Government Committee], and within that, the Inclusive Excellence Committee. Oh, and Collegium. I'm the box office manager, but only when there's a play. I'm also the Student Life Organization assistant, that's usually one to five hours a week. I work twice a week in the Cyber Cafe, and I'm an orientation leader and middle school and HLC [Higher Learning Commission] tour guide.

Question: Wow, that's a lot of stuff! How do you juggle everything you're involved with at school and your life outside of school?

Answer: [Laughs] I have no life. But seriously, I don't make commitments when I know I don't have the time.

Question: Sounds like you don't have a lot of free time, then. On average, how much free time do you have?

Answer: Like, an hour a week. Actually, maybe like an hour a day? I don't know, sometimes it's like five hours. So I guess anywhere from one to five hours a day.

Q & A



Thi Nguyen photo

JEFFREY GOINS

Jeffrey Goins, a senior lecturer, recently talked about dinner and philosophy with reporter Wesley Melton.

Question: Would you prefer minestrone or French onion soup, or a Caesar or tossed salad with your choice of dressing?

Dr. Goins: Caesar salad, please.

Question: What is the biggest problem, or what are the biggest problems in the world today?

Dr. Goins: Economic justice issues, I would say.

Question: If there are people responsible for these economic justice issues, would severe corporal punishment correct the problem?

Dr. Goins: Severe corporal punishment would not be practical, but capital punishment would.

Question: What are two things that can be done to make the world better?

Dr. Goins: No. 1. Diminish the power of corporations in the political processes. No. 2. Get someone to mow my lawn for free.

Question: Why do you think so many people choose to believe gossip?

Dr. Goins: That is a good one. We were just having a discussion about that. I would say because it somehow makes people feel better about themselves.

Question: Out of all your life experiences, what has most greatly given you the opportunity to acquire knowledge?

Dr. Goins: Graduate school. Since becoming a teacher, it has become hard to find time to learn as much.

Question: Is there any way to stop political corruption at the local, state, and national levels?

Dr. Goins: Quit emasculating the media.

Question: How do you like your steak?

Dr. Goins: Medium rare.

Question: What, if anything, is wrong with our legal system?

Dr. Goins: The adversarial system and the way its procedures are set up

makes the truth-finding function of it without any real concern for justice, and therefore hard to establish what the truth is. Too much power is wielded by attorneys and their ability to persuade.

Question: Do you think that cruelty is an inherent human trait, or a learned behavior?

Dr. Goins: There is such a variety of human nature for cruelty to be either or both. The human nature is malleable enough for a cruel person to learn not to be cruel, or for a person that is not cruel to learn to be cruel.

Question: What pisses you off most?

Dr. Goins: Bad drivers.

Question: What do we need, more compassion, or more money?

Dr. Goins: More compassion. That was the easiest question so far.

Question: If a \$50 million winning lottery ticket, a newborn baby, and a new weapon that could kill everyone on the planet in one second were all thrown into a river at the same time, and a person was standing on the riverbank that represented the collective consciousness of our society today, what would he jump in after?

Dr. Goins: So this is a "would" and not a "should" question. I see. I am going to be cynical and say the lottery ticket. I don't think we really have any destructive desires, but on the other hand we do not have loads of compassion either.

Question: Do you find the media, especially television today, to be a negative or positive influence on our society?

Dr. Goins: A negative influence. The reason is that it seeks to entertain instead of inform. Specific policies that really affect our lives do not get covered if a catchy headline cannot be found in them.

Question: Would you like peach cobbler, ricotta cheesecake with an Oreo cookie crust, or crème brûlée for dessert?

Dr. Goins: Crème brûlée. Now that was the easiest question, the other was second easiest.

American Reunion (2012)

“Jim, Michelle, Stifler, and their friends reunite in East Great Falls, Mich., for their high school reunion” (IMDb.com).

When I watched this movie with a friend, I was expecting to be completely lost since I had only seen one of the previous American Pie movies. Surprisingly enough, I soon realized that you don’t need to know anything about the other movies to understand this one. American Reunion is basically a hilarious recap of the previous movies. It had me laughing from beginning to end. I loved every second of it. —**Nicole Couillard**

Avatar (2009)

“A paraplegic Marine dispatched to the moon Pandora on a unique mission becomes torn between following his orders and protecting the world he feels is his home” (IMDb.com).

The visual effects made me actually feel connected to the movie. The feeling of complete amazement is all I felt when I watched this movie. Its ability to bend the senses is one of the wonderful qualities it has. The story line is nothing less than brilliant. Its practical problems are relative to today’s time, which helped create a stronger connection when I was watching. —**Doug Meyer**

The Avengers (2012)

“Nick Fury of S.H.I.E.L.D. brings together a team of super humans to form The Avengers to help save the Earth from Loki and his army” (IMDb.com).

I liked this movie so much that I saw it twice in theatres! I think *The Avengers* is an awesome movie because it has so many different movie aspects. It’s action-packed, it’s funny, it’s dramatic, and it’s one of those films that keeps you on the edge of your seat throughout its entire duration. —**Amber Beardsley**

A Beautiful Mind (2001)

“Director Ron Howard masterfully films the real-life story of John Forbes Nash Jr. (Russell Crowe), a

BEST MOVIE

Of the movies you saw last year, whether in theaters or another venue, what was your favorite?



Princeton mathematician and also a victim of schizophrenia. While Nash’s mind was of enormous service to humanity, it also betrayed him with frightening delusions. Nash won the Nobel Prize in 1994” (IMDb.com).

It took me 11 years to finally watch this movie, but I was very, very impressed. It’s absolutely brilliant. I was still so curious afterwards, that I actually did some research on Mr. Nash to find out more about his life. Someday, I do want to watch this again! —**Don Markgraf**

Colombiana (2011)

“A young woman, after witnessing her parents’ murder as a child in Bogota, grows up to be a stone-cold assassin,” according to IMDb.com.

Zoe Saldana plays a little girl who watches her parents get murdered and gets revenge on the man who did it. The movie is action packed, and I loved how she got back at this man. —**Jenny Lookabaugh**

The Help (2011)

“Adapted from the novel of the same name, the movie is about a

young, white author trying to write a book about African-American maids’ thoughts on white families and their struggles in Mississippi during 1960s” (IMDb.com).

For me, it was the best movie of 2011. Whether it’s fiction or non-fiction, the simple story and the amazing acting hooked me until the movie’s end. You wouldn’t believe how African-American maids were treated back then. Trust me, you don’t need to love history to enjoy this movie. —**Thi Nguyen**

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (2011)

“The IMF is shut down when it’s implicated in the bombing of the Kremlin, causing Ethan Hunt and his new team to go rogue to clear their organization’s name,” according to IMDb.com.

This movie is a visually captivating, suspenseful movie. You won’t be bored watching the believable acting and clever scenarios with realistic special effects. —**Nicole Struck**

Savages (2012)

“Entrepreneurs Ben, a peaceful and charitable marijuana producer, and friend Chon, a former Navy SEAL, run a lucrative, homegrown industry—raising some of the best weed ever developed. They also share a one-of-a-kind love with Ophelia. Life is idyllic in their Southern California town... until the Mexican Baja Cartel decides to move in and demands that the trio partners with them.

“When the merciless head of the BC, Elena and her enforcer, Lado, underestimate the unbreakable bond of the friends, Ben and Chon—with the reluctant assistance of a dirty DEA agent—wage a seemingly unwinnable war against the cartel. And so begins a series of increasingly vicious ploys and maneuvers in a high stakes, savage battle of wills” (IMDb.com).

I enjoyed this movie because it shows the common reality of the drug world gone bad. —**Jennifer Den Dekker**

ALL-TIME FAVORITES

Castle in the Sky (1986)

“A young boy and a girl with a magic crystal must race against pirates and foreign agents in a search for a legendary floating castle” (IMDb.com).

It’s always difficult for me to pick favorites, but after some thought, I figured *Castle in the Sky* is definitely on my “All-Time Favorite Movies” list. I love Hayao Miyazaki’s films because they’re like folk tales brought to life. They always tell a story and always have a lesson or two around which they are centered. In *Castle in the Sky*, the protagonists learn that they must be willing to stand up and fight for what they love the most in order to protect it. They also learn that sometimes, huge sacrifices must be made to achieve this, and that if they look within themselves, they can accomplish anything they set their minds to. —**Amber Beardsley**

**Dirty Dancing (1987)**

“Spending the summer in a holiday camp with her family, Frances ‘Baby’ Houseman falls in love with the camp’s dance instructor Johnny Castle” (IMDb.com).

My favorite part of this movie is at the end where she chose to go against her father and dance with a man who she fell in love with and who is also of lower class. —**Jennifer Den Dekker**

Little Shop of Horrors (1986)

“A nerdish florist finds his chance for success and romance with the



help of a giant man-eating plant who demands to be fed” (IMDb.com).

Great comedy, hilarious scenes, and overall great musical. It was amazing to see what one man (Seymour) would do to get the attention of Audrey. —**Jenny Lookabaugh**

Mean Girls (2004)

“Cady Heron is a hit with The Plastics, the A-list girl clique at her new school, until she makes the mistake of falling for Aaron Samuels, the ex-boyfriend of alpha Plastic Regina George,” according to IMDb.com.

At first glance, this movie appears to be just another chick flick. However, I’ve found that both women and men enjoy it. This movie is funny, clever, well executed and one of a kind. —**Nicole Struck**

The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)

“Jack Skellington, king of Halloweentown, discovers Christmas Town, but doesn’t quite understand the concept” (IMDb.com).

I love this movie because of the director’s unique filming ideas. The way the movie is made along with his other movies are engaging and fun. They have a creepy factor to them in the way the story lines are established, but the ideas and details that are presented catch my attention the most. It’s fun, and the songs

(continued on page 5)

Hunger Games (2012)

“Katniss Everdeen voluntarily takes her younger sister's place in the Hunger Games, a televised fight to the death in which two teenagers from each of the twelve Districts of Panem are chosen at random to compete” (IMDb.com).

I did not like this movie because it didn't compare to the book or have the same effect on me as the book did. I didn't think there was enough emotion. I felt like I was missing a bunch of the story. —**Jennifer Den Dekker**

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (2012)

“Sean Anderson partners with his mom's husband on a mission to find his grandfather, who is thought to be missing on a mythical island” (IMDb.com).

I thought this movie was so poorly done that I was laughing through most of it. It wasn't remotely believable, and absolutely everything was exaggerated or clichéd.

Granted, this is no-doubt meant to be a kid-oriented family film, so it's bound to have a lot of plot holes (as it's clearly aimed at the juvenile audience), but I really think there are better movies of this genre out there. —**Amber Beardsley**

Paranormal Activity 4 (2012)

“The story takes place in 2011—five years after Katie killed her boyfriend, Micah; sister, Kristi; and her husband, Daniel; and took their baby, Hunter. The story focuses on Alex and her mom, experiencing weird stuff since the new neighbors moved in the town” (IMDb.com).

I hated this movie not only because I hated the other three, but because they drag on and on and on. I did not find this one or any of the others scary one bit. Watching this movie along with the others is a huge waste of time to me. Another bad thing is that, in order to understand and follow this movie, you would have had to watch and understand the others as well. I fell asleep during all four of the Paranormal Activity movies. —**Nicole Couillard**

WORST MOVIE

Of the movies you saw last year, whether in theaters or another venue, what was the biggest waste of time?



Piranha 3DD (2012)

“Director John Gulager films the story of a swarm of piranha's that awoken from their spring break extravaganza at Lake Victoria and head upstream where they look to make a meal out of Big Wet, a local water park—where, when it comes to fun, nobody does it wetter!” (IMDb.com).

Up to this point, I had only seen the original 1978 Piranha movie. That movie gave us genuine horror, while this one is so dumb that it's near intolerable. Because the characters are shallow, it's hard to feel any-

thing for them other than irritation. It lacked energy, and the suspense was nonexistent. Stars Danielle Panabaker and David Hasselhoff. —**Don Markgraf**

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011)

“Jack Sparrow and Barbossa embark on a quest to find the elusive fountain of youth, only to discover that Blackbeard and his daughter are after it too” (IMDb.com).

The story line was not as well prepared and exciting as the

previous movies. I did not feel engaged to the movie at all, and the ending was very blurry in its content. I didn't understand how the movie ended, and it left me with a lot of unanswered questions. When you have an ending to a successful series you have to end it in a clear way. This movie failed. I did not think they made it the great ending that everyone anticipated. —**Doug Meyer**

Repo! The Genetic Opera (2008)

“A worldwide epidemic encourages a biotech company to launch an organ-financing program similar in nature to a standard car loan. The repossession clause is a killer, however” (IMDb.com).

Very boring with constant opera singing. The movie was just not my forte. —**Jenny Lookabaugh**

Scream 4 (2011)

Like the three previous installments in Wes Craven's Scream series, *Scream 4* is still focused on the main protagonist, Sydney Prescott. “Ten years have passed, and Sidney Prescott, who has put herself back together thanks in part to her writing, is visited by the Ghostface Killer” (IMDb.com).

I liked the first three films in the series, but *Scream 4* disappointed me. The storyline didn't make sense, and it was predictable. Plus, the terrible acting of the young actors didn't help the movie. Frankly speaking, they should've stopped making the series after the third installment. —**Thi Nguyen**

Wanderlust (2012)

“Rattled by sudden unemployment, a Manhattan couple surveys alternative living options, ultimately deciding to experiment with living on a rural commune where free love rules,” according to IMDb.com.

This movie was not what I had expected. Soon after it started, the overall theme of it completely changed. The movie became crude and strange, which continued for the rest of the movie. —**Nicole Struck**

ALL-TIME FAVORITES

(continued from page 4)

it contains are catchy and easy to sing along too. I always enjoy the movies made by the amazing Tim Burton. —**Doug Meyer**

Saving Private Ryan (1998)

“Director Steven Spielberg's masterpiece focuses on Captain Miller (Tom Hanks), along with his very effective men, ordered to find Private James Ryan (Matt Damon) behind enemy lines. Amidst the fighting, Ryan's other three brothers have been killed in action, and the Army wants to alleviate some of his mother's grief by sending the lone surviving son home” (IMDb.com).

This movie opens with a brilliant 30-minute sequence that is extremely graphic as masses of men have been ordered to shoot at one another until one side is destroyed during the



Allied Invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. But there is a human element. Between surviving the opening beachhead invasion, to actually finding Ryan, there are many emotional tests that the men must overcome. The impact of this movie must be experienced; it cannot be adequately described. —**Don Markgraf**

The Silence of the Lambs (1991)

According to IMDb.com, “In order to track down a serial killer who skins his victim, an FBI rookie has



to play the psychological game with an imprisoned, cannibalistic psychiatrist for clues.”

No other psychological thriller films could beat *The Silence of the Lambs* in terms of the suspense, horror and brilliance. Anthony Hopkins's acting is top-notch, successfully describing a cold-blooded psychiatrist, although he appears in the movie for 16 minutes only. —**Thi Nguyen**

Step Brothers (2008)

“Brennan Huff and Dale Doback

are both about 40 when Brennan's mom and Dale's dad marry. The sons still live with the parents so they must now share a room. Initial antipathy threatens the household's peace and the parents' relationship. Dad lays down the law: both slackers have a week to find a job. Out of the job search and their love of music comes a pact that leads to friendship but more domestic disarray compounded by the boys' sleepwalking” (IMDb.com).

I fell in love with this movie as soon as I saw that Will Ferrell (Brennan Huff) was in it. I have watched this movie dozens of times, and it never gets boring. It's pretty sad when you can repeat every line someone says word for word throughout the entire movie and yet still find it hilarious. So if you're looking for a good laugh, *Step Brothers* would be perfect for you. —**Nicole Couillard**

Q & A

ANN MATTIS

Reporter Amber Beardsley talked with Ann Mattis, UW-Sheboygan's new English professor, about studying abroad, favorite classes (to take or teach) and Mattis's research into servants in literature.

Question: Where are you from and how long have you lived there?

Ann Mattis: I'm originally from the suburbs of Chicago, in Elmhurst, Ill. I lived there until I went to college in Chicago. I studied abroad in Italy and then lived there for work for a couple years. I moved to Milwaukee three years ago, and I commute from Milwaukee to Sheboygan.

Question: Since you studied abroad, I was wondering, what kind of a process is that?

Dr. Mattis: My experience going abroad was pretty easy, actually. There's a whole department that helps facilitate that process. There's a Loyola campus in Rome, and I was able to stay and work for the college after finishing school.

I think all universities understand that this is a really important experience, so your tuition and financial aid can go toward studying abroad.

Students should know that if they want to spend time abroad, they should do it while they have access to financial aid. I think it's especially important to do a program that allows you to learn another language. It allows you to speak to a community and immerse yourself in another culture and just have another country feel like home to you, which is something that I really treasure.

There's a lot of pressure put on undergrads now to try and get done as quickly as possible. I think, though, that there's a lot to be said about these years of your life. People really should take this opportunity to grow themselves, because education is about more than just getting the credit for classes.

There are so many different programs, too. It used to be that you'd spend a semester in Europe, England, France or Spain, but now there are just so many more opportunities for studying abroad—semester at sea or China or South America—and all these different places that are just so much more diversified than the classic European experience.

Question: You mentioned where you've been teaching. How long have you been teaching?

Dr. Mattis: I finished my doctorate in the fall of 2009, and I was teaching even as an undergrad student, so I've been teaching since 2003. I've been teaching writing, literature and women's studies classes. I taught at Loyola and Columbia, which is a creative arts school in Chicago. I've been really lucky to teach in all of those different environments, public and private schools.

Question: What were your favorite classes you took when you were going to college?

Dr. Mattis: I always loved literature classes, obviously. I'm an English professor! But I guess, to me, the classes that were most interesting were the ones that made me think differently about American culture. There's something to be said about how different, say, the Medieval Ages were, but I was always more interested in looking at what's familiar to us now. I like to complicate what's normal and ordinary to us. I was interested as an undergrad in contemporary American culture and literature and film. I wanted to examine topics that were relevant to the people around me.

Question: That makes me think about sociology and psychology a bit.

Dr. Mattis: Yeah! I think I have a very interdisciplinary approach to the way I approach literature. I like women's studies, and I think about literature in that sort of way, too.

I'm teaching this early American class, and I love having conversations about the literature because it's like, wow, everything that we think of as American citizenship and American identity can be traced back through these early texts.

Question: What other classes are you teaching?

Dr. Mattis: I'm glad you asked! Next semester, I'm teaching a class called the American Gothic. The course is kind of a hodge-podge, roughly divided into ghosts, aliens, and monsters. It's all contemporary text, with a little bit of gothic, sci-fi, and horror. I'm teaching The Shining and The Innocence, and I think it's going to be a really cool class.



Carrie Hoppe photo

I've taught different courses on the gothic, like the female gothic. I taught a British literature class at Marquette. If there's interest, I'd love to teach Intro to Women's Studies, which would be feminist theory.

Question: What's the most rewarding aspect of teaching?

Dr. Mattis: There are so many things, but I would say when you see your students apply something, and they're not just regurgitating information, but they've taken that information and made it their own. When I hear students say, "Hey, I was talking to my friend about [this movie] that I watched in my class," it's really exciting seeing how they're excited enough about the class that they're talking about it outside of the class, and they're actually changing their lives. It's not just about them learning something or developing intellectually. It's about them changing their perspective in the world! They're becoming more dynamic as a result of something you've introduced to them.

Question: I know a lot of English professors write papers or other works and publish them. Are you working on anything like that?

Dr. Mattis: I am! My dissertation is turning into a book. My goal is to have it finished by the end of the summer, and I've gotten some interest from a publisher, but that's a process, trying to find a university press. The book is on servants in early 20th century American literature. It's on the representation of servants in American women's fiction.

Question: That sounds pretty interesting! What's it about?

Dr. Mattis: Well, basically, Americans always felt uncomfortable about servants, right? So, obviously, it's different from aristocratic society. You have these democratic, egalitarian ideals, so servitude was always sort of uncomfortable to Americans. It used to be that you regard your servant as a family member. There was the home economics movement at the turn of the 20th century. In this movement, they sought to professionalize the bond between the servant and the family for liberal, progressive reasons. However, there was a lot of residual intimacy and sentiment associated with the relationship, and we see that even today.

I was interested in why we even have films like The Sound of Music and all these stories about, basically, nannies. Why is the governess put at the center of pop culture as the height of sentiment? She's a paid worker, but we sentimentalize her function in that historical moment. I see this gap between the sentimental ideals and the professional imperatives originating with these early 20th century texts.

Question: My last question is whether you have any advice for students?

Dr. Mattis: Do what you want! Instead of being "X," just because there's a high demand for that job, do what you want. There's no linear track between what you study and what the rest of your life looks like. Nobody knows what the world and life will look like down the road. So don't force yourself into a life track that you're going to hate. Just search yourself and find what it is you want to do, and do it!

New Faculty

Julie Konik joins Psychology Department

By Nicole Couillard

Julie Konik joined UW-Sheboygan this fall as a new professor in the Psychology Department.

She said she came to work for UW-Sheboygan because she has worked for the UW System before and really enjoys it.

After 12 years of schooling, she holds a joint doctorate in psychology and women's studies. She said she chose to go into the psychology field because she is interested in finding new ways to improve people's lives.

Throughout her lifetime, Konik has moved around quite a bit. She grew up on the west side of Philadelphia. Then she moved to Michigan, where she graduated from the University of Michigan and got her Ph.D. in psychology. Next, she moved to Ohio to be around family, and now she has been living in Wisconsin for four years. She has been teaching since 2003.

When asked why she chose to teach psychology instead of becoming a psychologist or therapist, she said that she just prefers to teach and loves to do it.

Konik said the best thing about being at UW-Sheboygan is meeting all the bright students and welcoming faculty. She said that her biggest challenge is learning



Julie Konik

Carrie Hoppe photo

all the students' names.

When asked if she could go back and chose a different major, Konik said she had thought about becoming a lawyer, but in the

end, all she wants to do is make a good social impact on the world and to just do good things. She said she is content on the path she has chosen to take.

Coed soccer team wins state championship

By Eric Benti

For the first time in school history UW-Sheboygan's coed soccer team won the state title. After taking second place in the finals last year, the team was ready to take it home this year. The team beat UW-Marathon, 5-2, on Oct. 20.

After finishing the season with 10 wins, the UW-Sheboygan team was second place in the playoffs and had home field advantage.

SPORTS UPDATE

The team beat Fond du Lac, 9-2, in the first round on a rainy Saturday morning, and then edged past Washington County, 3-2, to make it into the championship game.

After a long bus ride up to Wausau for their last game the team couldn't have been more confident and ready to play UW-Marathon. After going up 3-0 in the first half, the team settled in and allowed Marathon to score two goals. Following the second goal, Yang Lee put one in the net and pushed the Wombats ahead

for the win.

Head Coach Enrik Braho said, "I'm very proud of the team winning. They deserved it because they proved to be the best, and they were determined since the beginning of the season."

Eric Bergamen scored three goals in the final game and ended the season with 33 total goals—also setting the school record.

Flag football team brings home Lakeshore Bowl

The Green Goblins flag football team from UW-Sheboygan traveled to UW-Manitowoc on Oct. 23 and came home with the intramural championship for the first time since 2009.

UW-Sheboygan defeated UW-Manitowoc, 42-28. The team consisted of Matt Sharpe, Eric Benti, Nick Tesmer, Jon Stinson, Max Konetzki, Tom Brickner, Zach Glaser, Rob Betke and Ryan Bruesewitz.



The soccer state championship is a first for the UW-Sheboygan team.

Collaborative degree: Study here for bachelor's

(continued from page 1)

financial aid rules that regulate satisfactory progress and timely completion of a degree. The rules prevent wasteful spending, too many years in college, and not completing a degree like the character "Blutowski" in the 1978 film National Lampoon's *Animal House*. According to my research, the purpose of federal financial aid is to develop a qualified workforce to meet the educational demands of business and commerce in the United States that sustains our economy.

My other choices included relocating to another city and campus to complete my degree, which I am unwilling to do because of my employment in Sheboygan and lack of such flexibility because of my adult status.

Some of the schools in the University of Wisconsin system are not as readily willing to facilitate consortium agreements. For example, UW-Superior wanted me to enroll in all of my classes online. They did not seem to care about the benefits I receive or the success I attain from taking courses face-to-face at UW-Sheboygan. The program I am in at UW-Stout offers courses that teach skills that are in demand in today's job market.

According to Kristine Feggestad, mental health counselor here at UW-Sheboygan, students receive many benefits from connectivity and involvement on campuses. Being involved in campus activities, interpersonal relationships, making friends, and getting to know your instructors greatly improves mental health and reduces stress, anxiety, and risks of depression that students can face if they become isolated. I have found much benefit from my experience of completing my associate's degree, transferring to a four-year school that allows me to remain in Sheboygan, and maintaining dual enrollment.

Outreach for families

(continued from page 1)

Room helps provide mothers with all items that a child would need from infancy to age 4.

Trisha's House was started in 2006 by Trisha Bergemann's family and friends after 22-year-old Trisha and her unborn child died as a result of domestic violence. Trisha's House teaches single mothers how to provide a safe, stable, loving and nurturing environment for their families.

Children's Book Festival

The 3rd annual Sheboygan Children's Book Festival was held on Oct. 12-14. Free festival events took place simultaneously at three venues: John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Mead Public Library and Bookworm Gardens. The weekend also marked the Annual Birthday Bash of Bookworm Gardens.

The mission behind the Children's Book Festival is to "foster a love of reading and inspire young readers, writers and artists." The theme for this year's Children's Book Festival was family. The festival hosted authors and illustrators who talked about how their own families have influenced their work.

This festival allowed the young and old to interact with many children's book authors through book sales, book signings, workshops, illustration demonstrations, and discussions. Although it rained nonstop all weekend, there were still plenty of smiles.



Taylor DeSmidt, who is majoring in electrical engineering through a collaborative program with UW-Platteville, helps children with a science experiment during the festival.



Author Matthew Cordell shows how to draw "Ruben" the pig from his book *Trouble Gum*.



Above: Musician Kyane Howland leads a sing-along with the Lake Country Academy Brownie Troop.

Left: Author Judi Fors of California reads to children from her book *Twitch*. The book is featured via the Twitch Deck at Bookworm Gardens.



Preparations take place outside the barn at Bookworm Gardens on a rainy day. Activities inside include face painting and readings by the authors.

**Text and
Photos
by Don
Markgraf**