

Wisconsin Achievers

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About Wisconsin Grants

The twenty-four private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without direct taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 57,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The Wisconsin Tuition Grant, now known as Wisconsin Grants, was enacted in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Each month Wisconsin Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites at WAICU member campuses for whom Wisconsin Grants have made a significant difference.

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Viterbo Student Dreams of Marketing Career in Professional

Milwaukee native Michaela Bayerl has always wanted a career in professional sports. As a proud Wisconsin resident and life-long sports fan, her perfect job would be working as a marketing professional with the Milwaukee Bucks, Milwaukee Brewers, or the Green Bay Packers.

Viterbo University in La Crosse is helping Michaela pursue her dreams. Michaela is a first year marketing major with a minor in creative media and design.

"I chose Viterbo University because it is a small campus, and I like that you have more one-to-one interactions with the professors," Michaela said. "The professors also are very helpful and care for each student as if they have known them their entire lives. Viterbo University also stood out because of its excellent marketing program."

In addition to the knowledge and skills Michaela is gaining, the college experience outside of the classroom has had a positive impact for her as well.

"Being in college, I have definitely stepped outside my comfort zone," she said. "I would not have expected to have a college campus feel like a home and one big family. It has helped me feel like I can make a difference and succeed at anything I want to do."



Michaela Bayerl

continued on page 2

Twin Nursing Majors Poised to Graduate and Work in Tandem

Twin sisters Jenna and Megan Detampel have been doing everything together since the day they entered the world. They are study partners, (often) dress the same and think alike. This includes deciding to attend Bellin College to get their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). While they were attending high school at Luxemburg-Casco in the Green Bay area, they decided to job shadow a friend who is a nurse practitioner at a Bellin Health clinic in De Pere. Their friend also happened to be a Bellin College alumna. Impressed by what they saw, both decided that becoming a nurse practitioner was the career path they wanted to take.

Jenna and Megan are currently seniors in the BSN program and will graduate in May 2017 with 50 classmates with whom they have become very close and have known since day one of their program. "I would recommend Bellin College to anyone. It is close to home, has a friendly learning environment and no waiting lists.

The simulation labs give you hands-on experience to become confident in your role as a nurse before entering the field," remarked Megan. Before Jenna and Megan started nursing school, they both understood that the schooling required to become a nurse would be challenging. They also knew that if they worked hard and continued to strive to be the best, they could excel. Completing their BSN and attending graduation in



Jenna and Megan Detampel

continued on page 2

Michaela Bayerl continued from page 1

Michaela is the first member of her family to attend a four-year college. She is paying for college on her own, and the Wisconsin Grant and other financial aid has made her education possible.

"I am grateful to be where I am and to be able to build new memories and make new friends, as well as increase my knowledge and further my education," she said.

When she isn't busy studying or attending class, Michaela is employed as a work-study student on campus. She also works in Milwaukee during academic breaks. She is involved on campus, participating in the organizations Enactus and the Society of Human Resources Management. Enactus is a student organization that applies business concepts to everyday events in order to improve lives in La Crosse and beyond. Enactus members volunteer their time using entrepreneurial approaches to empower people in need through leadership, teamwork, and communication skills. Michaela even manages to find time for some leisure activities, such as reading, writing, and watching movies.

Michaela is an ambitious and hard working student who remains focused on her career and life goals.

"A college degree is more than just a piece of paper, but rather something to show your hard work and perseverance in making your dream a reality," she said. "A degree will help me get the job I've always wanted. I hope my degree will show that, if I can do it, so can you."

FACT OF THE MONTH

Of graduates from Wisconsin colleges and universities, WAICU members produce 100% of dentists, 58% of medical doctors, 55% of physician's assistants, and 52% of 4-year BSN nurses.

Source: IPEDS Completions Survey 2015

Jenna and Megan Detampel continued from page 1

May will be their first step toward becoming the best nurses they can be.

Jenna and Megan are also members of the Bellin Student Nurses Association (BSNA), a pre-professional organization made up of and run by Bellin student nurses. Activities are primarily directed toward professional development, community involvement, participation in state and national conventions, and National Student Nurses Week. The organization has been recognized at local, state and national levels for their community work. BSNA members host a spring festival each April for the community, coordinate campus blood drives, and work with local non-profits for food, clothing and other collection drives serving those in need.

With the support of the Wisconsin Grant and other sources of financial aid and scholarships, Jenna and Megan have been able to achieve their BSN without a huge financial burden. This helps to make their careers in nursing a reality. "We are very appreciative to have someone back us, and help us achieve our goals," said Jenna.

After graduation, Jenna and Megan hope to work as nurses (preferably somewhere together) for a few years and then go on to obtain their Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) to become nurse practitioners. Caring and compassion are traits that both Jenna and Megan define themselves, and each other, as having. They can't wait to help and care for people in need as nurses.



Wisconsin's Private, Nonprofit Colleges and Universities

Alverno College Milwaukee
Bellin College Green Bay
Beloit College Beloit
Cardinal Stritch University Milwaukee
Carroll University Waukesha
Carthage College Kenosha
Columbia College of Nursing Milwaukee
Concordia University Wisconsin Mequon

Edgewood College Madison
Lakeland University Sheboygan
Lawrence University Appleton
Marian University Fond du Lac
Marquette University Milwaukee
Medical College of Wisconsin Milwaukee
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design Milwaukee
Milwaukee School of Engineering Milwaukee

Mount Mary University Milwaukee
Nashotah House Nashotah
Northland College Ashland
Ripon College Ripon
St. Norbert College De Pere
Silver Lake College Manitowoc
Viterbo University La Crosse
Wisconsin Lutheran College Milwaukee