

THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU)

WINTER 2015-2016 VOL. 47 NO. 4



INDEPENDENT INSIGHTS

A group of groups . . . or . . . groups are great

My first college-level course was called “A Group Theory of Politics,” which focused on the seminal works: *The Governmental Process* by David B. Truman and *The Process of Government* by Arthur F. Bentley. I recently received a letter from a trustee of a WAICU-member university urging that WAICU facilitate discussions among groups of key college officials on national educational issues and encourage sharing of best practices among our members. His letter made me realize that one of WAICU’s most important assets is virtually invisible outside of member campuses. I hope this “Independent Insights” changes that.

For nearly 25 years, WAICU has organized regular (2 to 4 times a year) meetings of 30 WAICU Groups. These groups meet under the WAICU umbrella to share knowledge

and information, as well as best practices, in their respective fields. These groups (in alphabetical order) include: Academic Advising (tentative), Admission Officers, Advancement Officers, Alumni/ae Directors, Assistants to the Presidents, Business Officers, Career Development Directors, Chief Academic Officers, Chief Student Affairs Officers, Community Engagement Directors, Environmental Health and Safety Directors, Facilities Managers, Financial Aid Directors, Graduate Deans, Grant Development Directors, Health Counselors, Human Resource Directors, Information Technology Directors, Institutional Researchers, International/Study Abroad Directors, Library Directors, Multicultural Affairs Directors, Public Relations/Marketing Directors, Registrars, Residence Life

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- Lawrence University
- Marian University
- Marquette University
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design
- Milwaukee School of Engineering
- Mount Mary University
- Nashotah House
- Northland College
- Ripon College
- St. Norbert College
- Silver Lake College
- Viterbo University
- Wisconsin Lutheran College

“ . . . If a tree falls in the forest. . . ”

The student debt crisis is real, and its implications for individual graduates are serious. While the average undergraduate student debt for a four-year degree program in Wisconsin is \$28,128, it is less than the average price of a new car, which is \$33,560. Unlike a car, which depreciates the minute you drive it off the lot, a college degree pays dividends in terms of increased life-long earnings, regardless of major.

Of course, when there are averages, there also will be extremes. Individuals who choose to borrow more, but are not earning enough after graduation to keep current with their payments, may not realize that there is a program with Wisconsin roots already in place to help them. The sad fact is that a majority of the students do not know the program exists and do not take advantage of it. Hence the headline drawn from an old philosophical conundrum, “if a tree falls in the forest and there is no one there to hear it, does it make a sound?”

The federal Governmental Accountability Office (GAO) recently reported that relatively few student loan borrowers were participating in the income-based repayment programs. Former US Representative Tom Petri of Wisconsin was one of

the authors of this program. According to the GAO report, the US Department of Education (USDE) has not done enough to make borrowers aware of their repayment options.

The existing income-based repayment program, known as pay as you earn, recently expanded in response to a June 2014 directive from the Obama administration. The expansion allowed borrowers to cap monthly payments at 10 percent of discretionary income and be provided complete loan forgiveness after 20 years. According to the GAO report fewer than one in seven holders of direct student loans were paying them back based on their income levels, while more than half were eligible for the programs that would allow them to do so. WAICU-member colleges and universities are doing their part to make students aware of their

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College Goal Wisconsin helps students complete FAFSA

As enrollment deadlines near, students and families have financial aid on their minds. Students are encouraged to take advantage of all means for obtaining aid. Some find the process daunting. Many state, federal, and even some private scholarships require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. College Goal Wisconsin (CGW) is set up to help.

On February 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, and 27, College Goal Wisconsin—a collaborative effort among WAICU, the University of Wisconsin System, the Wisconsin Technical College System, and others—will have events in thirty-four locations—including at Alverno, Edgewood, Marian, and Mount Mary. A complete list of CGW locations and required materials can be found on the organization's website, CollegeGoalWI.org.

Volunteers are prepared to work with all students in applying for aid. Students are encouraged to attend with a parent or guardian, if possible. However, students may attend alone if they have the appropriate materials with them. Independent students are also welcome and should bring their own income and asset information. Students and/or families who attend can also be entered into a drawing for a \$1,000 college scholarship (a complete list of eligibility requirements can be found on the College Goal WI website).

Save the Date

Illinois WAICU School Counselor Workshop

No charge to attend
Wednesday, March 9, 2016
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Holiday Inn Rolling Meadows
Schaumburg, IL

Learn about selecting a college, applying for college, securing financial aid, and how WAICU can help you and your students. At this free workshop, designed by and for counselors, you can talk one-to-one with college admission officers from Wisconsin's private, nonprofit colleges and universities. The latest admission and financial aid updates are provided. Free continental breakfast and lunch will be served, and professional development certificates will be awarded.

For more information, visit our webpage just for counselors at WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org/Counselors.

WAICU AT WSCA

WAICU is once again a proud sponsor of the 2016 Wisconsin School Counselors Association (WSCA) Annual Conference and will be hosting a booth with resources and information from Wisconsin's private, nonprofit colleges and universities. The conference, scheduled for February 16-18 at the Monona Terrace in Madison, marks WSCA's fiftieth anniversary of providing information, resources, and professional development opportunities for over 1,200 members across the state.

By providing funds for the conference, WAICU aids counselors across the state in learning about postsecondary options for their students. WAICU's mission is "Wisconsin's private, nonprofit colleges and universities working together for educational opportunity," and one way this mission can be accomplished is to inform counselors—who have tremendous influence in students' college searches—about the variety of opportunities for Wisconsin students.

Alverno College

December 18 for graduate programs and December 19 for undergraduate programs.

Bellin College

October 16. The Commencement Address was given by Bellin Psychiatric Center, Inc. president, Sharla Baenen, MSN, RN. The graduating class speaker was Jordan Anderson, BSN and the alumni speaker was Steve Bomkamp, BSN.

Columbia College of Nursing

December 18. Will be held in the Italian Community Center, Milwaukee.

Edgewood College

December 20. Will be held at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center.

Milwaukee School of Engineering

November 21. Kathleen Ruehlow, MSOE regent and president of the Ruehlow Family Foundation, received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

Mount Mary University

December 19. Marmy Clason, Mount Mary Teaching Excellence Award winner for 2014-2015, will give the commencement address.

Silver Lake College

December 19. Will be held in Endries Hall in the Franciscan Center for Music Education and Performance.

Viterbo University

December 19. Will be held at the Fine Arts Center, Main Theater.

Wisconsin Lutheran College

December 17. The commencement address will be given by Dr. David Schulz, Professor of Computer Science at WLC.



Do you need additional copies of the WAICU 2016 Guide to Admission and Financial Aid? Call WAICU at 1.800.433.4733 to order more.

Students to benefit as Viterbo University receives two major grants

VITERBO UNIVERSITY

Viterbo University was recently named the recipient of two major grants, one of which is the largest award in school history.

A \$2 million Title III grant from the U.S. Department of Education will support initiatives designed to improve student success. The Strengthening Institutions Program grant is the largest in Viterbo University history and will be used to provide the latest technology in student data and advising, retention and student support training for faculty and administrators, and the implementation of proactive career and at-risk academic advising models.

In recent years, Viterbo has implemented a number of initiatives to enhance student success. The grant funds, provided over five years, will enable the Viterbo Center for Student Success to integrate efforts and respond to individual student needs more effectively. Forty-four percent of undergraduate students at Viterbo University are first-generation college students, and 40

percent receive federal Pell Grants for tuition assistance.

Viterbo will also continue to increase the number of paid internship opportunities offered to students thanks to a \$441,758 Career Ready Internship Grant from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation.

Viterbo had received a Career Ready Internship Grant the past two years. Based on the great success of the program, Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation has expanded the grant to cover an additional three years.

"This allows students who need to work, but cannot afford an unpaid internship, the same great educational opportunity as their peers," said Beth Dolder-Zieke, director of career services at Viterbo. "Internships



The D.B. and Marge Reinhart Center houses the Center for Student Success at Viterbo.

are a crucial part of a college education. Participants gain a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience, which is appreciated by employers."

Businesses, especially small businesses, nonprofits and others that may not be able to afford to offer a paid internship, also benefit greatly from the talents and efforts of interns. ■

Mount Mary faculty member introduces pioneering genetics research into classroom

MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY

Terri Holzen, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology at Mount Mary University in Milwaukee, understands the delicate balance between research and education, and she is determined to find ways to infuse her groundbreaking genomics and genetics research into the classroom for the betterment of her students.

Holzen, who earned a Ph.D. in genetics from the University of Chicago and conducted post-doctoral research at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, hopes her work has the potential to identify new insights into how cells become cancerous.

Holzen is resuming her studies of the unique properties of yeast. Yeast are eukaryotic organisms, like plants and animals, which means that they contain cells with a nucleus, and this creates promising new avenues of research on cellular divi-

sion within human beings. "It's a very useful organism on which to perform genetics studies," she said. "A lot of the processes that I'm interested in involve DNA repair or DNA



Assistant Professor of Biology Terri Holzen provides her students with research opportunities.

replication and have pretty much stayed the same [in yeast] throughout its evolution. The work done on yeast cells provides insights into what is happening in human cells as well."

Holzen is interested in studying the genetic programs that are in place in yeast cells that regulate when a cell replicates its DNA. Cells replicate their DNA immediately before they divide, and irregular cell division is closely related to cancer.

Holzen is applying for grants through the National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation to acquire funding for the necessary equipment to continue this research at Mount Mary.

In addition to the potential for substantial scientific contributions, Holzen is developing a stronger link between her research and the classroom. Her goal is to create a small research lab at Mount Mary and extend opportunities to students to join her in her work.

Dr. Holzen teaches by modeling what an advanced researcher does. "I am an educator but I'm also a scholar, and I should be an example of scholarly activity to my students," she said. ■

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Wisconsin Lutheran College launches Christian Leadership Certificate Program

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Wisconsin Lutheran College's new Christian Leadership Certificate Program embodies WLC's mission of preparing students for lives of Christian leadership. The certificate is designed to recognize what students are already doing as leaders and guide their next steps in skill development. Colleges have long recognized academic achievements with honors and athletic accomplishments with awards; this certificate recognizes leadership excellence. The program provides a valuable opportunity for students to develop and strengthen their leadership skills.

"The purpose of our Christian Leadership Certificate Program is to thoroughly equip students with a framework for Christ-centered servant leadership, and to provide them with tangible recognition of their leadership experience to use once they're in the work world," said Dr. Rhoda Wolle,

Dean of Student Success and director of the certificate program. "The launch of the program is the result of six years of planning and preparing, and we're excited



At Wisconsin Lutheran, Dr. Rhoda Wolle works with students in the Christian Leadership Certificate Program.

to have an excellent group of 15 students enrolled in the pioneering class."

WLC students who exhibit integrity and have a passion for leadership are encouraged to enroll in the certificate

program during their sophomore year. They will spend more than 200 hours participating in workshops, volunteering, developing an electronic portfolio demonstrating their growth, working with a leadership coach on campus and a leadership mentor off-campus, attending academic classes focused on leadership, and taking responsibility for planning and leading service initiatives both on and off campus.

"Our certificate program is a profound differentiator for our institution," said President Daniel W. Johnson, a strong champion of the initiative. "Every WLC student – regardless of major – has the opportunity to fully develop his or her leadership skills and

positively influence others for Christ's sake. That's why we're so passionate about this program." More information on the program is available on the WLC website at: <http://wlc.edu/certificate>. ■

Silver Lake College receives \$1 million gift for BSN program

SILVER LAKE COLLEGE

Silver Lake College received a \$1 million anonymous gift to support the launch of its new four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

"We greatly appreciate the generosity of this donor," said Dr. Chris Domes, in his third year as president of Silver Lake College. "Not only are they helping to prepare high-quality nursing professionals who will serve Manitowoc County and the surrounding area, but they are also helping advance our mission as a college. We are very pleased to have this type of strong support from our community."

The anonymous donor expressed confidence in Silver Lake College's ability to respond to the nursing demand in this area, and the donor challenged the

greater Manitowoc County community and Silver Lake College alumni to support the college's efforts, as well.



SLC president Dr. Chris Domes meets with Brianna Neuser, assistant dean of SLC's School of Professional Studies, who will help lead the new BSN program.

"This lead gift is an investment not only in Silver Lake College, but the entire community," said Marc Barbeau, the college's

vice president of advancement and external relations.

Silver Lake College's board of trustees approved a proposal for the BSN program on May 22. On August 13, the Wisconsin Board of Nursing approved Silver Lake College's request for authorization to plan a new School of Nursing. Currently, Silver Lake College personnel are developing a nursing curriculum, hiring faculty, securing clinical practicum sites and preparing for renovations to a section of the third floor in Main Hall, which is where the clinical skills and simulation labs will be based.

Official approval for the School of Nursing is anticipated in spring 2016, with the first group of nursing students expected to begin classes in fall 2016.

Silver Lake College's short-term expenditures for the nursing program—to be raised through donor support—is expected to total about \$2.6 million. Of that amount, \$1.2 million is targeted for project space renovation and lab equipment. ■

Sustainable Alverno: A commitment to the future

ALVERNO COLLEGE

Instead of a sea of concrete, the top of Alverno's new La Verna Commons is covered with a low, living carpet of green flecked with tiny pink, yellow and white flowers. The sedum plants offer more than just an attractive view from the adjacent offices of Founder's Hall, they also serve the practical purpose of soaking up storm-water runoff.

The 9,200-square-foot green roof, funded in part through grants from the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) and the Fund for Lake Michigan, is just one of the new environmental features of the recent \$30 million Campus Improvement Project.

"The more we can make our campus sustainable and not negatively affect the environment, the better," says Dawn Helsing Wolters, director of Institutional Giving. "The project helps us save money and direct more of the college's funds to



Alverno's new green roof is one of the environmental features of the recent \$30 million Campus Improvement Project.

students and their needs. It's always been part of the mission of Alverno to serve our community and as a leader in education."

In addition to the green roof, Alverno created a bioswale (a landscaped channel that retains and filters stormwater as it flows through) and a new underground water retention system that will retain and slowly release water to the storm sewer

system after heavy rainfall. Together, the green roof and bioswale capture up to 26,210 gallons of water that would otherwise flood into the Kinnickinnic River basin after a storm.

The environmental features are also fertile learning ground for students. Environmental science students will study the College's new green infrastructure, and students in the Media Hub will create a video

explaining how the green infrastructure works.

"For us, that's a win-win," Helsing Wolters says. "It's an opportunity for us to continue to improve our campus and community while providing learning opportunities for students. ■

Ripon College launches project space in downtown Ripon

RIPON COLLEGE

314: Ripon College Project Space, a new multi-use venue in downtown Ripon, launched September 4. The space is located at 314 Watson Street in a reclaimed historic building beautifully restored after a devastating December 2013 fire. The fire destroyed one building, severely damaged two others, and displaced many residents.

The Watson Street location was intentionally chosen to highlight the long-standing and warm town-gown relationship between Ripon College and the City of Ripon.

"Ripon College wants a vibrant downtown, the City of Ripon and downtown need a vibrant Ripon College. It's a

two-way street," said Dr. Zach Messitte, president of Ripon College. "We believe strongly in our community and owe a debt of gratitude to Ripon's first responders who helped save Watson Street."



314: Ripon College Project Space offers a new and vibrant downtown location for gathering.

The space is envisioned as a multi-use venue for art exhibits, concerts, poetry readings, lectures, performances, speakers, classes, community events and more. 314: Ripon College Project Space was

made possible with support from the Kemper Foundation. The goal behind the grant was fostering community relations.

314 is equipped with a sound system, public address system, projector, electronic keyboard, movable stage, variable lighting, tables, chairs and WIFI. The entrance and restroom are wheelchair accessible.

Coordinators for the project space are Ripon College Associate Professor of Art, Rafael Francisco Salas; Assistant Professor of Art, Travis Nygard; and Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities, John Hughes.

Three Ripon College students have been hired to manage the space and will gain valuable life skills in event planning and gallery coordinating. They are: Alexandria Wilber '17 of Bonduel, Wisconsin; JaneMarie Erickson '16 of Redgranite, Wisconsin; and Tara Schultz '17 of Ripon, Wisconsin.

More about upcoming events or submitting an idea for an event is available on the website ripon.edu/314. ■

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Marian University launches its new Family Nurse Practitioner Program

MARIAN UNIVERSITY

Since nursing became a profession there have been many changes in practice and in the way nurses are trained. To accommodate the changing needs of today's nurses, Marian University has launched a new master's degree, the Family Nurse Practitioner program.

"We have transformed our adult gerontology nurse practitioner program to a family nurse practitioner program," explains Greta Kostac, FNP, CS, associate professor of nursing at Marian. "This move allows us to meet the growing needs of the nursing industry, and of nursing professionals, as well as expand job opportunities for our graduates."

The master's program is offered at Marian's Fond du Lac, Appleton, and West Allis campuses and focuses on a personalized, cohort approach. Graduates

are well prepared for their role, and have continued to earn a 100 percent pass rate on the national certification exam since December 2013. Marian University



Marian University launched its new Family Nurse Practitioner Program during the fall 2015 semester.

understands that when you have health challenges, you want the best.

"The program is hybrid, and allows students to get to know their classmates and professors," said Kostac. "Nursing is about the personal care and compassion

for each patient, and our program begins with that in mind."

The Family Nurse Practitioner program serves to educate nurses in caring for individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly. With this broad range of patients, Marian's graduates are able to enhance healthcare opportunities in their communities, especially as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics expects the employment of nurse practitioners to grow 31 percent from 2012 to 2022.

"We know nurses today are busy, and our program allows students to find a balance between work, family, and their education, all while advancing their careers and opening doors for future possibilities for quality care," said Kostac.

For more information about the Family Nurse Practitioner program or other programs, contact the Office of Admission at admission@marianuniversity.edu or at 1-800-2-MARIAN. ■

Carroll University's sustainability goal: make every bite count

CARROLL UNIVERSITY

Sustainability is key at Carroll University in Waukesha, Wisconsin. When it was time to replace the university's aging dishwasher in the Main Dining Room on campus, the dining team looked for the option that reflected Carroll's green efforts. "It was important for us to be stewards of the institution's resources, and to look ahead another 25 to 30 years," said Matt Sirinek, senior director of auxiliary services.

After reviewing a range of possibilities, the team purchased a state-of-the-art, award-winning food waste reduction system called Trisys. The Trisys system reduces organic waste volume by as much as 95 percent and can process all organics including produce, fruits, cut flowers, meat, fat trimmings, paper napkins, coffee grounds, spoiled milk, deli products and some soft plastics.

The machine can also process up to 1,250 pounds of commercial food waste per hour. This efficiency is essential for meeting the ongoing dining needs of Carroll's nearly 3,500 students—1,800 of whom live on-campus.

In addition to its impressive waste



The Trisys converts waste into a dried, sterile biomass soil amendment that can be used as compost. The byproduct is easily collected in a bin.

reduction capabilities, the system also features a dehydrator that converts the waste into a dried, sterile biomass soil amendment that can be used as compost. The system reduces ventilation requirements and guarantees no pathogen, biohazard, or harmful emissions to endanger students, staff and the environment. "Going green" also means more money in the bank, with an anticipated \$10,000 in cost savings annually. Sirinek explains, "The university takes pride in its green initiatives, and we're very pleased to have our eye on the future with this one."

Carroll's foodservice excellence also extends to the menu. The university was recently included in the top 75 Best Colleges for Food in America by The Daily Meal. The national ranking recognized Carroll for its green initiatives and its in-house meal preparation approach, which builds menu offerings from fresh, never-frozen ingredients. ■

A group of groups

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Directors, Risk Management/Insurance Managers, Safety and Security Directors, Student Activities Directors, Student Health Services Directors, and Teacher Education Deans/Directors. WAICU staff serve as conveners and take responsibility for keeping the lines of communication open.

It is impossible to overstate the importance of these groups and the value added to achieving WAICU's mission: "Wisconsin's private, nonprofit colleges working together for educational opportunity." The groups are composed of officials at member campuses who bring to bear a breadth of hands-on experience and a boundless commitment and enthusiasm for the cause. These leaders are WAICU's "eyes and ears" and—frequently—"brains."

Someone once said to me that I was "consultation-mad" and that so many groups must lead to chaos, reducing WAICU to a "group of groups." Just the opposite. As it says in Scripture, ". . . in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14). Consultation does not mean control. The strategic policymakers at WAICU are the 24 college and university presidents who constitute our Board of Directors. The presidents are the ones on their campus and across WAICU who see the broadest perspective and are "keepers of the vision" of their college or university, as well as of WAICU. However when they do decide, they have the advantage of the particular expertise refined by debate and discussion within the various WAICU Groups.

Groups are good, and WAICU Groups are great.



Sincerely,
Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D.
President



WAICU BULLETIN BOARD

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Cardinal Stritch University, Carthage College, Lakeland College, Marquette University, Silver Lake College, and Viterbo University** were awarded a total of over \$2.3 million in three-year Career Ready Internship grants from Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation as part of a \$33 million grant initiative to create 7,000 new paid internships.
- **Ripon College** will establish the Patricia Parker Francis Distinguished Professorship in Economics as part of a \$3.2 million gift from the estate of Patricia Parker Francis, a longtime friend of the College and a member of the family that founded the Parker Pen Company in Janesville.
- **Beloit College** has established the Wisconsin Distinguished Scholars Award, a \$100,000 scholarship program for all admitted Wisconsin seniors with a 3.5 grade point average or better.
- **Concordia University Wisconsin** was recently ranked in the top 50 most affordable online colleges with high graduation rates by Best Colleges Online.
- **Edgewood College** was recognized for its excellence in veterans education by Military Times in their annual national ranking, Best for Vets: Colleges 2016.
- Assistant Professor of English **Melissa Range** of **Lawrence University** has been named one of five national winners in the annual Open Competition sponsored by the National Poetry Series, which was established in 1978 to promote "excellence in contemporary poetry."
- The **Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design** was awarded one of two \$3 million U.S. Department of Labor grants aimed to create 600 Milwaukee-area apprenticeships over the next five years. The MIAD program, AIM High Wisconsin, is a consortium that includes **Marquette University's** Opus College of Engineering and multiple corporate partners.
- The **Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW)** has been awarded a four-year, \$2.7 million grant by the National Institutes of Health to support the Midwest Child Patient Reported Outcomes Consortium which is designed to advance the understanding and measurement of outcomes in children with chronic disease and improve their well-being.
- The **Milwaukee School of Engineering's** fall career fair attracted a record 240 regional and national employers in a variety of industries, including business, engineering, and health care.
- **Northland College** has announced its new Center for Rural Communities, which will conduct surveys and research into the current status of rural communities and analyze the future of sustainable community development.
- **St. Norbert College** associate professor of education **Bola Delano-Oriaran** was named one of Madison365's most influential African Americans in Wisconsin, among recipients who are leaders in business, civil service, nonprofit service and education.
- **Marquette University** has received \$6 million in grants from the Burke Foundation to continue and expand the Trinity Fellows scholarship program for graduate students and the Burke Scholars undergraduate scholarship program.
- **Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC)** formalized an agreement enabling select associate degree graduates of Madison Area Technical College to enroll in WLC's accelerated Business Management and Leadership bachelor's degree program.
- The **Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW)** will be providing over \$1 million in research funds through the Clinical & Translational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin (CTSI) consortium, with a research emphasis on health disparities research and cardiovascular research in the Milwaukee area.

APPOINTMENTS

- **WAICU** president, **Dr. Rolf Wegenke**, has been appointed by Governor Walker to the Wisconsin Council on Workforce Investment (CWI). **Dr. Chris Domes**, president of **Silver Lake College** and **Dr. Eileen Schwalbach**, president of **Mount Mary University** have been named to CWI's committees: the Committee on Talent Development and Planning and the Committee on Partnership Development and Resource Alignment, respectively. The Council provides recommendations to the Governor and the DWD on strategic investments of federal funds. The advisory panel also reviews the workforce activities of Wisconsin's Workforce Development Areas, ensuring that workforce development programming is efficient and effective.
- The **Marian University** Board of Trustees has appointed **Andrew P. Manion, Ph.D.**, as the 16th president of Marian University, succeeding interim president **Robert A. Fale**, who has been

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*“Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world.”*

Nelson Mandela
1918-2013

WAICU: WISCONSIN'S PRIVATE, NONPROFIT COLLEGES WORKING TOGETHER FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT

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WAICU
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608-256-7761, fax 608-256-7065
www.waicu.org
www.WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org

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options.

The other good news is that, as our graduates get jobs, their default rates decline. Nationally, 11.8 percent of graduates default; in Wisconsin, it is 9.2 percent; at WAICU members—which actually enroll higher percentages of low-income students than public campuses—the default rate is 4.4 percent.

If you know a student for whom this income-based repayment program would make a difference, encourage them, and even if you don't, be encouraged yourself that there are bipartisan solutions already in place—if we would just use them.

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serving since June 2013. Manion will assume the position on or before March 30, 2016. Manion previously served as provost and executive vice president of Aurora University and is the son of Dr. Tom Manion, president emeritus of St. Norbert College.

NEW DEGREES AND PROGRAMS

- **Alverno College** launched a new Communication degree in fall 2015 that combines communication theory with the latest digital production techniques.
- **Carroll University** is now offering a Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) program, which integrates medical humanities with a graduate health science curriculum in order to prepare graduates for greater workplace collaboration.