

About the WTG

The twenty private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 60,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the low-income students who apply for the WTG are turned away every year for lack of funds. Each month WTG Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites for whom the WTG has made a significant difference.

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WTG helps Edgewood student connect with others

Edgewood College junior Chris Handrick loves to connect with others. Whenever he gives a prospective student a tour, it always ends the same way: Chris jots down his e-mail, inviting the visitor to stay in touch and to send any questions to him. In addition to giving tours as a College Ambassador, the Mount Horeb native is on the soccer team, works on campus in the Information Technology Services Office,



Chris Handrick of Mount Horeb is a technology guru with a knack for interacting with people.

and is pursuing a double major in Business and Computer Information Systems. He's

also active in College Ministries, helping to organize student retreats in each of the last two years.

He chose Edgewood College for the opportunities it offers—he

can participate in athletics, volunteer in the community,

continued on page 2

Future teacher at Carroll strives to seize each day

Casey Scheuerell, a junior from Little Suamico, really enjoys school. She is an art education major at Carroll University with plans to teach elementary education in a diverse urban setting. She believes her job as a teacher will be to help her students learn to like school, too. "This is my chance to help kids love art or something else, and that will give them a reason to go to school every day."



Casey Scheuerell of Little Suamico aspires to be an elementary school teacher in a diverse urban setting.

tant to Casey. She is considering teaching art for special education, and was inspired by her cousin Forrest, who has autism. "He is a big part

of who I am now," she said. When they watch movies together, Forrest often asks Casey to draw the movie cover as he draws, too. "He doesn't communicate well, and this is a way for us to

connect."

As a resident assistant at Carroll, she also has an impact

continued on page 2

Chris Handrick continued from page 1

work, and pursue his career goal of being a manager in the technology field. His work-study schedule is part of the financial aid package—including the Wisconsin Tuition Grant—that makes these opportunities possible. The story of Chris’ college career so far is one of recognizing possibilities and running with them.

“I love new and different experiences, because they become a part of who we are. That allows for increasing opportunities for my future,” he said. He’ll have some remarkable experiences this summer, when he’ll be a team leader on a service trip to Guatemala. “It’s eye-opening to see what the rest of the world goes through. You see the joy on the faces of the people there and you realize how much we have here in this country. It really broadens your horizons.”

After that trip, he’ll have a month-long volun-

teer internship at a camp for kids where he’ll operate the “ropes” course. Next year he’ll spend a semester studying abroad in either Chile or Argentina.

But it’s his supervisory role in the college’s Information Technology Help Desk that keeps him running—great preparation, he says, for his future career. “Technology is not an easy field for many, and it’s a place I can really help out. It’s always changing, always growing. It tests your creativity, trying to reach solutions. In solving problems, I learn something too.”

Chris credits his “friendly attitude toward life and a willingness to help” for his success so far in his study and in his work. “When you take advantage of what’s presented to you, it develops who you are,” he said, “and the opportunities just keep presenting themselves.”

Casey Scheuerell continued from page 1

on a floor of freshman girls. “I help them adjust to college. Sometimes I’m like a mom; I say, ‘be smart, be safe.’ But I also like to discover who they are, what they like, and where they want to go.”

As for academics, Casey likes to push herself. In addition to the demanding education major (which can take 4.5 or 5 years to complete), she takes every art class and has opted into the Honors Program for more challenging general education courses. “If I stay on goal, I will be done in four years. It saves money to take less time,” she said.

Cost is big for Casey, who is funding her own education. “Scholarships like the Wisconsin Tuition Grant allow for my Carroll education,” she said. “I can’t afford school without the WTG.” Being a resident assistant and working in the financial aid office also ease the burden of tuition and fees.

When she needs to get away from the stress of school, Casey will go to the Humphrey Art Center and create ceramic sculptures. “I listen to music and go to town,” she said. She also likes to watch movies, attend fun campus activities, and talk or be silly with her friends. “We’re

here for school, but I try to live life to the fullest,” she said. “There is always time to study, but maybe not enough time for the small moments—and those are the most memorable.”

FACT OF THE MONTH

Research indicates that between 2000 and 2009, at least three million academically qualified low- to moderate-income students in the U.S. were unable to obtain a bachelor’s degree due to inadequate financial aid.

Source: U.S. Congressional Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance



Join the fight to protect the Wisconsin Tuition Grant along with financial aid for all Wisconsin college students. Find out more at ProtectFinancialAid.com.

Wisconsin’s Private Colleges and Universities

- Alverno College *Milwaukee*
- Beloit College *Beloit*
- Cardinal Stritch University *Milwaukee*
- Carroll University *Waukesha*
- Carthage College *Kenosha*
- Concordia University Wisconsin *Mequon*
- Edgewood College *Madison*

- Lakeland College *Sheboygan*
- Lawrence University *Appleton*
- Marian University *Fond du Lac*
- Marquette University *Milwaukee*
- Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design *Milwaukee*
- Milwaukee School of Engineering *Milwaukee*

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

