

WTG *Achievers*

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About the WTG

The twenty private, or independent, colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 56,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) in 1965 to help financially needy Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the needy 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 difference.

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Stritch student discovers his leadership skills



Jorge Aguilar Segura of Sheboygan, a senior at Cardinal Stritch University

When his father died two years ago, Cardinal Stritch University student Jorge Aguilar Segura had a conversation with his aunt that continues to ring in his ears today.

“My aunt mentioned to me how I had a lot to live up to because my father had been a leader in his community and my grandfather had been a leader,” Jorge says. “And I just kind of laughed — not disrespectfully — but I thought, I don’t see myself as a leader. And then I got a position as an orientation leader. And then they made me manager of the Bean [Stritch’s coffee shop]. My leadership skills are emerging. Apparently on campus I’m referred to as a ‘student leader.’ I didn’t think I had it in me.”

Looking ahead to his senior

year in the fall, Jorge, a 26-year-old political science major on a pre-law track, is carving out a place for himself at Stritch and looking ahead to a career as an international human rights attorney.

In addition to his leadership positions, Jorge also participates in Campus Ministry activities, including a social justice protest, regular readings for mass, and monthly trips to a local meal program. He traveled to St. Louis for a three-day Model UN experience, where he won the International Press

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Outstanding Marquette business and finance student will give back to Milwaukee area



William Heard of Milwaukee, a 2005 graduate of Marquette University

William Heard had had more investment experience than most seasoned financial professionals — when he was still in his senior year

at Marquette University, majoring in finance and real estate in the College of Business Administration.

He had already worked at several of the top investment firms in the country, including as an analyst in the Milwaukee offices of Robert W. Baird & Co., L. William Teweles & Co., and Stark Investments LP. Last summer, William spent his vacation working in the New York offices of Merrill Lynch & Co.

“I was always curious about

finance and markets,” says William, who hails from the Milwaukee neighborhood of Sherman Park and graduated from Milwaukee Lutheran High School.

While at Milwaukee Lutheran, William was introduced to the Marquette community and the university’s personalized student recruitment process. Although he received offers from colleges across the country, he chose to attend the private university close to his

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JORGE AGUILAR SEGURA *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

Delegate award recognizing his hard work and writing during the event.

When he enrolled at Stritch as a transfer student, Jorge had no idea what he wanted to study. Yet as a recipient of a Lilly Fellow grant, awarded to students who choose to use faith as a guide in their life decisions, Jorge gradually discerned his major and says he remains open to possibilities.

“Because of my faith and views, there’s a road I’m walking on. And, as with any road, there are a couple of curves and bends,” Jorge says. “I’m open to rolling with the punches. One of my goals is speaking up for those who can’t speak up for themselves.”

A native of Los Angeles, Jorge moved to Sheboygan during his teen years. Jorge’s “bends” took him through a couple of other higher education institutions. Upon graduating

from high school, he had become a theatre major, hoping to educate audiences about societal issues. But Jorge found that both Stritch and political science were better fits.

Like nearly 50 percent of Stritch’s undergraduates, Jorge is the first in his family to pursue a four-year degree, and he is hoping to set a good example for his younger siblings. Yet, he says, college would not be possible without the help of financial aid, especially since he was not able to come up with the “expected family contribution” required as part of a typical financial aid package.

“The generosity of the institution was helpful in many ways and the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, in a way, served as my ‘expected family contribution,’” Jorge says. “Without it, I don’t know if I ever would have come here. Plain and simple. It all balanced out so that I was able to come to Stritch.”

FACT OF THE MONTH

Net tuition for 2003-2004 for WAICU member colleges and universities:

The average tuition and fees was \$17,848.

The average freshman financial aid package was \$13,777.

The average net tuition was \$4,071.

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WILLIAM HEARD *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

family. “Marquette has a good reputation and I knew it would provide academic rigor,” William says.

Wisconsin Tuition Grant funds helped make it possible for William to attend Marquette, and since he came to campus, he admits surprise at all the opportunities he has been given. “It’s nice to know that people recognize potential, and it gives you an incentive to work hard,” says William, who received seven scholarship awards.

Besides building a business portfolio,

William has used his time to give back to the local community as well as the university. He volunteered at the Special Olympics and worked with the Companions in Leadership Program. As a junior, William was one of the driving forces behind reestablishing the applied investment management student organization. “At the undergraduate level, it’s important to get practical experience in your field,” he reasons.

As for his experience at a private Wisconsin university, William says, “I have formed relationships that will last

my whole life.” In addition, he met his wife on campus. They were married last August.

Despite being scouted by top national investment firms, when he graduated, William stayed true to form and settled close to family in the Milwaukee area. He accepted a position at the St. Francis office of Stark Investments, where he works with multi-strategy hedge funds. “I want to give back to the community. So many people have helped me to get where I am today. I want to do the same for others,” William says.

Wisconsin’s Private Colleges and Universities

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

Lakeland College *Sheboygan*
 Lawrence University *Appleton*
 Marian College *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*

