

# THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT

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

WINTER 2019-2020 VOL. 51 NO. 4



WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT  
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Alverno College  
Bellin College  
Beloit College  
Cardinal Stritch University  
Carroll University  
Carthage College  
Concordia University  
Edgewood College  
Herzing University  
Holy Family College  
Lakeland University  
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  
Viterbo University  
Wisconsin Lutheran College

## INDEPENDENT INSIGHTS

### Just and right



WAICU members testify in support of tuition grants for veterans at a public hearing before the Wisconsin State Senate Committee on Universities, Technical Colleges, Children, and Families.

Aristotle is quoted as saying that justice is defined as giving the individual what he or she deserves. Right now, bipartisan legislation is working its way through the state legislature, which would expand

opportunity for higher education for veterans and their families at all Wisconsin colleges and universities.

Several years ago, the state enacted the “Wisconsin G.I. Bill” which provided for remission of tuition for veterans and their dependents at public colleges and universities in the state. Those institutions were then reimbursed by grants from the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB). These grants are equal to the amount remitted for tuition. Veterans who had served our country in exactly the same way and were qualified for this assistance in the same way as other veteran, nonetheless, were left out because the original proposal did not include private, nonprofit colleges and universities. This was a missed opportunity for many veterans,

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## WAICU and MCW hold Suicide Prevention Symposium

On November 8, 2019 the Comprehensive Injury Center at WAICU member, the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW), hosted the second annual WAICU Suicide Prevention Symposium. The symposium, supported by a Garrett Kelly Memorial Grant from the Charles E. Kubly Foundation, brought together faculty and staff from WAICU-member colleges and universities to participate in shared learning around primary prevention of suicide on academic campuses, and specifically around stigma reduction practices.

More than 80 participants attended the symposium, which featured local and national speakers. A panel of representatives from Carroll University, Concordia University Wisconsin, MCW, and St. Norbert College shared policies and practices that have been implemented on their campuses; a number of these policies and practices originated at last year’s symposium.

Onsite QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) gatekeeper training was offered at the symposium. Gatekeepers are people who are in a position to recognize a crisis and the warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. Anyone can be a gatekeeper, and gatekeepers can apply their training in professional settings, for example, as office supervisors,

instructors, first responders, or health care providers; or in personal settings as parents, friends, or community members.

The symposia are planned to continue next year. In addition to running prevention programs on campuses, WAICU and its members have offered input and expertise to the Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker’s Task Force on Suicide Prevention, which is looking at suicides affecting the state.



Dr. Nance Roy of the JED Foundation presented on the organization’s model for a public health approach to suicide prevention.

## WAICU School Counselor Workshops in Illinois and Minnesota

The Meridian Banquet Center, Rolling Meadows, IL  
Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Metropolitan Beach Club, Minneapolis, MN  
Friday, March 20, 2020



Please save the date for a free WAICU School Counselor Workshop. For both regular attendees and those who are new to Wisconsin's private, nonprofit colleges and universities, there is much to discover:

- The latest updates from colleges on majors and on what's new on campus
- Information about admissions requirements and finding the best college fit
- The chance to speak one-to-one with admissions representatives
- New resources and materials for you and your students

Here are some things recent attendees have said about the workshops:

- "Thanks so much for a terrific WAICU Workshop. It was informative, efficient, collaborative, and fun!"
- "I learned what sets these colleges apart and how many resources are available for me as a new counselor."
- "I continue to enjoy hearing how private schools are an affordable post-secondary option."
- "I learned more about financial aid opportunities and programs for low-income students."
- "Great presentations with basics but plenty of opportunity to ask further questions at breakouts!"

Free continental breakfast and lunch will be served. For more information and to register, please visit [WisconsinPrivateColleges.org/Counselors](http://WisconsinPrivateColleges.org/Counselors).

## WAICU at the 55th annual WSCA Conference

Again this year, WAICU is pleased to sponsor the Wisconsin School Counselors Association (WSCA) Conference. The conference, now in its 55th year, will take place February 18-20, 2020 at the Monona Terrace in Madison. This year's theme is "Connections: Together Towards Tomorrow," and the event will provide a wide array of professional development opportunities for over 1,200 school counselors. WAICU's booth will feature resources and information from WAICU-member colleges and universities. Visit [www.WSCAweb.org](http://www.WSCAweb.org) for more information.

Commencement at **Alverno College** will take place in the Pitman Theater on December 14. The student speaker will be Brianna Walker.

**Bellin College** will hold its Winter Commencement in the Bellin College Atrium on December 13, 2019. JoAnn Swanson, retired director of the BSN Program, will serve as the Leona Waraksa Memorial Commencement Speaker.

**Concordia University Wisconsin** will hold its Fall Commencement on Saturday, December 14 in the R. John Buuck Field House on campus. Monique Nunes will be the commencement speaker.

**Herzing University** – Kenosha's Commencement and Pinning Ceremony will take place January 26 at Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, and Herzing University – Madison's Commencement and Pinning Ceremony will be held on January 25 at the Monona Terrace in Madison.

**Marian University** will hold its Commencement ceremony on December 13 in the Sadoff Gymnasium on campus.

Ted Kellner, retired founder and portfolio manager of Fiduciary Management Inc. and founder, executive chairman, and trustee of Fiduciary Real Estate Development Inc., received an Honorary Doctor of Business and Economics degree and delivered the keynote address during the Fall Commencement on November 23 at the **Milwaukee School of Engineering** Kern Center.

**Mount Mary University** will hold its Commencement on Saturday, December 14 at 11:00 AM in the Alumnae Dining Room in Bergstrom Hall on campus. Barbara Gunn, Part-time Teaching Excellence Award winner for 2019 will be giving the Commencement address.

The Winter Commencement ceremony at **Viterbo University** will be held on Saturday, December 14 in the Fine Arts Center Main Theatre. Sophia Woychik will give the undergraduate student address, and Kari Houser will give the graduate student address. Board of trustees member Andrew Dahl will provide congratulatory remarks.

**Wisconsin Lutheran College** will hold its Winter Commencement service on Thursday, December 12 in the college's Recreation Complex. The speaker will be Deborah C. Uecker, a professor of communication at Wisconsin Lutheran College.

## With tuition reset, Carthage embraces transparent pricing

### CARTHAGE COLLEGE

To give students and their families a clearer picture of the actual cost of attendance, Carthage College has decided to “reset” its tuition rate for the 2020-21 academic year.

In September, President John Swallow announced that Carthage will lower tuition to \$31,500 — a 30 percent drop from the current \$45,100. The price for housing and meals will also hold steady.

The tuition reset, which applies to all new and returning undergraduate students, should not affect the amount families actually pay. Corresponding adjustments to financial aid packages ensure they will pay the same net tuition as they would have without the reset.

Instead, the goal is to alleviate prospective students’ concerns about “sticker price.” A 2018 survey by student loan company Sallie Mae revealed that 65 percent eliminate schools from their search based strictly on the published price, without factoring in financial aid.



Carthage College has lowered tuition by 30 percent.

“Understanding the true cost of college has become unnecessarily complicated,” said President Swallow. “We hope this tuition reset cuts through the confusion to offer some much-needed transparency for families as they consider Carthage.”

Nearly all Carthage students receive financial assistance, and significant need-based and merit-based aid will remain

available. *U.S. News & World Report* ranks the college fifteenth among Best Value Schools.

The reset was announced shortly after the launch of The Aspire Program, a comprehensive four-year career development initiative for all Carthage students. Administrators believe the move will attract even more students to the college’s growing list of academic programs.

“Each year, we’ve made a stronger commitment to affordability, making a Carthage education accessible for more students from all backgrounds,” said Nick Mulvey, vice president for enrollment. “The average amount students pay for tuition today, after scholarships and grants are applied, is the same as the average they paid a decade ago.” ■

## Forging new frontiers in AI education: Diercks Hall opens at MSOE

### MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) celebrated the grand opening of Dwight and Dian Diercks Computational Science Hall in September 2019. The 65,536-square-foot building was made possible with a \$34 million gift from MSOE alumnus Dr. Dwight Diercks and his wife Dian and features an NVIDIA GPU-powered supercomputer.

The building was designed with students and the community in mind — providing modern classrooms, innovative laboratories, an auditorium, and spaces to support companies that partner with MSOE. Diercks Hall — and the courses taught and research undertaken there — position MSOE at the educational forefront in artificial intelligence (AI), deep learning, cyber security, robotics, cloud computing, and other next-generation technologies.

With its new B.S. in Computer Science degree focused on AI, and the supercomputer, MSOE is forging new frontiers in AI education. Unique to MSOE,

the supercomputer, named “Rosie,” is available to undergraduate students, offering them the ability to apply their learning in a hands-on environment to prepare for their careers. Thanks to the university’s corporate partnerships, students will access this high performance computing to solve real-world problems in their course work.

The name of this number-crunching powerhouse was inspired by the women who programmed one of the earliest computers during World War II — the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC) — and portrayed in the documentary “Top Secret Rosies – The Female Computers of WWII.”

Dr. Dwight Diercks earned his bachelor’s degree in computer science and engineering with a minor in business from MSOE in 1990. He also holds an Honorary

Doctor of Engineering degree from the university and is a member of the MSOE Board of Regents. Diercks joined NVIDIA in 1994, a year after its founding, as its 22nd employee and today serves as senior vice president of software engineering, overseeing more than 5,000 software employees. ■



“Rosie,” the new NVIDIA GPU-accelerated AI supercomputer at MSOE, gives undergraduate students access to high performance computing to solve real-world problems.

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

### More than 400 Stritch students, faculty, and staff participate in Service Day

#### CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY

On October 10, 2019, more than 400 Cardinal Stritch University students, staff, and faculty volunteered at 22 community partners as part of the annual Stritch Service Day.

Service Day provides an opportunity for the Stritch community to serve others in true Franciscan spirit, sharing its collective gifts, talents, and blessings with organizations in the greater Milwaukee community. This important event brings the students, staff, and faculty together to work where there is significant need while embracing and cultivating the diversity of all of God's creation.

"Participating in Stritch Service Day is such an incredible experience," said senior Lucy Hartnell. "Throughout my four years at Stritch, I have enjoyed seeing the Stritch community come together to create positive change in the greater Milwaukee area. I think that Stritch Service Day powerfully represents our Franciscan Values and helps all of us to

build relationships with those we interact with."

Once the service activities were completed, teams returned to campus to participate in the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's On the Table discussion. The conversations focused on how the community service brought the University's Franciscan Value of "Reverencing All of Creation" to life. This is the third year Stritch has served as an On the Table host as one of the largest sites in southeastern Wisconsin.

"Stritch Service Day is a tradition that inspires us all to create a more caring community," said Marilyn Jones, chair of the University's Modern Languages and



Students, faculty, and staff participate in the annual Stritch Service Day.

Cultures. "It is a day to reflect and to raise awareness about the ways in which we all can do a bit more to serve others. Deep in my heart, I know our work helped bridge barriers and strengthen our community in many ways. I am thankful for the opportunity to have been part of a full day devoted to service and reflection." ■

### The business of wellness

#### CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN

On August 1, 2019, Concordia University Wisconsin dedicated the Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center, a new academic building that aligns business and health care in unprecedented ways.

The three-story glass structure houses Concordia's thriving Batterman School of Business, which graduates more students than any other academic school in the university. It is also home to the new Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic that will provide vital health services to the community and prepare students with best practices and state-of-the-art equipment essential to help them become experienced practitioners in the field.

A hallmark of the Plaster Center is the massive Collaboratorium, a creative space that offers key resources for start-ups.

Concordia has long been a hub for innovation and collaboration. A few of the signature business programs include annual start-up and accelerator competitions, an

executive speaker series, and important summits in health care and economics.

The Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center is the result of creative and imaginative academic leaders who had an uncommon vision to combine business and health care programs so that students will be better prepared to face challenges and find solutions in a rapidly evolving world.

Their vision is alive and thriving in the halls, classrooms, and noisy Collaboratorium. The entire university community is grateful for the hands that built the house, the donors who supported the vision and

mission of the university, and the faculty who use this space to prepare the next generation for service. ■



The new facility houses an innovative combination of business and health care programs.

## Lawrence University unveils new Bachelor of Musical Arts degree

### LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

A new degree program has been introduced at Lawrence University that is expected to open the school's Conservatory of Music to a wider group of student musicians.

Bachelor of Musical Arts (B.M.A.), with a Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation track, has been added to Lawrence's degree options, joining Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.) and Bachelor of Arts (B.A.).

Built on the strength of a nationally recognized jazz program, the new degree expands on the classical music component in the Conservatory, allowing students for the first time to audition with non-classical repertoire.

The B.M.A. degree has a 50-50 split between music studies and a student's choice of another field in the liberal arts landscape, with expectations that they will connect the two.

The audition process for acceptance into the Conservatory remains intact, and the skill-development expectations



The new degree program offers Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation tracks.

continue to be top level. But, for prospective students eyeing the B.M.A. degree, the audition no longer needs to be limited to the Western classical repertoire. This openness has the potential to open the door for students who see their strengths and interests in jazz or pop or hip-hop or another music genre.

It unwraps additional choices, said Brian Pertl, dean of the Conservatory.

"The new degree will open the Conservatory to a broader range of musical interests," he said.

Patty Darling, director of the Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble, said the new degree also bolsters music industry skills and career paths beyond technical mastery.

"It's really interesting how the recording scene has developed, how

music publishing has changed," she said. "Even large ensembles and orchestras — all these musical opportunities have transformed dramatically in the last 10 years, and students need the ability to self-promote. That's a very important skill to have ... to be able to put your best self out there." ■

## Mount Mary recognized for diversity, social mobility

### MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY



The Grace Scholars program, with students pictured here, is among Mount Mary's initiatives that encourage retention and inclusion.

In the 2020 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Colleges report, Mount Mary University received high rankings for social mobility, with markers for success based upon university-wide practices to support inclusion and diversity.

"The results and rankings are indicative of a pervasive effort across campus to provide support to all students, no matter their income, social status, race, or ethnicity," said Melody Rensberger of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. "This holistic approach helps students feel secure in the role as students and they thrive."

Mount Mary has the highest ethnic diversity index in the Midwest, alongside Robert Morris University in Illinois. *U.S. News* factored in the total proportion of minority students and the overall mix of groups to identify colleges where students are most likely to encounter undergraduates from racial or ethnic groups different from their own.

Most recent figures identify 58 percent of Mount Mary undergraduate students as having one or more underrepresented ethnic backgrounds.

In the category of social mobility, Mount Mary tied as the top-rated private

institution in Wisconsin and thirty-third among colleges in the Midwest. Social mobility, a new ranking for *U.S. News and World Report*, measures how well schools graduate students who received federal Pell Grants (typically, those coming from households whose family incomes are less than \$50,000 annually, though most Pell Grant money goes to students with a total family income below \$20,000).

In the 2018-19 academic year, Mount Mary received \$8.4 million from federal agencies and national organizations to support programs, scholarships, and initiatives to encourage persistence and retention.

Institutional programs serving students from low-income and racially diverse backgrounds include the Promise Program, Jewel Scholars, and Grace Scholars Programs.

In the overall best colleges ranking, Mount Mary placed among the top 10 universities in Wisconsin and tied for seventy-eighth in the Midwest for factors such as total score, retention, and graduation rates. ■

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

### Ethos Awards honor Aker, Scott, Vitale

CARROLL UNIVERSITY



Anthony Aker

Carroll University recognized three outstanding employees as this year's recipients of the Ethos Awards. This is the second year the awards have been given to individuals who exemplify in their daily work and lives the tenets of Carroll's Ethos: Respect, Integrity, and Stewardship.

Anthony Aker, associate head football coach and offensive and recruiting coordinator for diversity and athletics, was the winner of the Respect Award.

An excerpt from his nomination says: "Anthony works tirelessly to recruit

student-athletes to Carroll and the football program. He becomes so knowledgeable on each student's gifts and helps each student shine, given their strengths. I can see this as Anthony speaks with his student-athletes both on and off the field. He truly honors the dignity and worth of each member of our diverse community by building relationships of trust."



Dawn Scott

Dawn Scott, associate vice president for enrollment/director of financial aid, received the Integrity Award.

An excerpt from her nominations captures her dedication: "Dawn is a role model for us all who embodies every characteristic of the Carroll Ethos, and uses the Ethos to inform her work and

interactions with others each day. She works tirelessly to support the mission and goals of the university and never gives less than 100 percent in everything she does."



John Vitale

John Vitale, utility worker, physical plant, was the winner of the Stewardship Award.

An excerpt from his nomination says: "John is a stellar example of what it means to be a Pioneer. His stewardship of relationships with the residents of Kilgour and his dedication to making the building a better place for them to live is truly awe-inspiring. An example of his stewardship includes leaving Post-it Notes on the doors of residents who were a part of a show to congratulate them and leaving treats for them on holidays and during exams." ■

### Helping Science crush cancer

MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN

On Saturday, September 28, 2019, Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin successfully completed the 2nd annual Cancer Crush one mile and 5k walk/run. More than 1,750 community members, including patients, families, scientists, physicians and healthcare providers, participated in this event to raise more than \$360k, with donations continuing to come in. These funds will be used to advance lifesaving cancer research at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin.

The mission of the MCW Cancer Center is to reduce cancer through outreach, education, and research into the causes, prevention, early detection, and treatment. This is done by integrating basic science, translational and clinical research, patient care, and professional and community education, with an emphasis on engaging underserved populations.



The Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin regional health network is a partnership between Froedtert Health and the Medical College of Wisconsin.

MCW's network of cancer experts, scientists, clinicians, research programs, and shared resources connects the collective cancer effort at the Medical College of Wisconsin and throughout the region. This essential hub provides leadership, knowledge, support, and resources to hundreds of cancer investigators and clinicians.

Cancer Crush began in 2018 to raise funds to support the most promising

cancer research at the Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Research Center and the most effective and supportive patient care throughout the Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Health Network. In Milwaukee County, 1 in 2.6 people are expected to develop cancer in their lifetime. Over 1,600 people in Milwaukee County will likely die from cancer this year. Cancer touches everyone in our community and for many, the impact is devastating. Let's crush it! ■

# Just and right

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their dependents, and for the State of Wisconsin.

The legislation now working its way toward passage also provides a grant from HEAB to the qualified veteran and dependents who attend WAICU-member colleges and universities. The grant, capped at \$2,000 per semester, will be matched dollar for dollar by their college or university. The grant must be applied to tuition costs and can be used for undergraduate or graduate programs.

These veterans and their families served their country and the ideals of justice and fairness for which our country stands. They have earned the support, and it is only just that we give that support to them. It is also right that all of our veterans be treated fairly.

The veterans' service says something important about them. The State of Wisconsin, acting with justice, says something good about all of us.

Sincerely,



Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D.  
WAICU President



## WAICU BULLETIN BOARD

### NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer (MACC) Fund has pledged \$25 million to advance medical discoveries at the **Medical College of Wisconsin** and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin related to pediatric cancer and blood disorders.
- **Carthage College** computer science professor **Perry Kivolowitz** has won a 2019 Engineering Emmy Award for his software SilhouetteFX. This accolade honors an individual, company or organization for innovative developments in broadcast technology. The software has been featured in TV series such as "Game of Thrones," "Chicago Med," and "Black Mirror."
- **Cardinal Stritch University President Kathleen A. Rinehart, J.D.**, was one of five individuals who received the National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA) Life Membership Award.
- *Sierra*, a publication of Sierra Club, ranked **Northland College** a "cool school" in its annual top-100 list of eco-savviest colleges and universities.
- **Dr. Russ Meier, Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE)** professor of electrical engineering and computer science, was awarded a \$463,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study computational thinking in the formation and enculturation of engineering students. Meier worked with colleagues at Texas A&M University and the University of Oklahoma to submit the grant.
- **Marquette University** alumnus Thomas H. Werner and wife Suzanne have committed \$5 million to the university, dedicated to new first-generation scholarships.
- Henry J. Predolin Foundation has announced a grant of \$865,000 in support of student scholarships at **Edgewood College**. The gift will provide direct scholarship support to more than 100 students in the Predolin Academic Areas – Business, Nursing, and Science.
- **Alverno College** was honored at the 2019 ALL IN Challenge Awards Ceremony with a platinum seal for achieving a student voting rate above 50 percent.
- Direct Supply unveiled its revamped Innovation & Technology Center (ITC) in the heart of the **Milwaukee School of Engineering's** campus on October 8, 2019. The ITC, which first opened in 2012, connects MSOE professors and students with research projects and internships. It now occupies the entire 55,000-square-foot German-English Academy Building at MSOE.
- **Dr. Kevin Crosby**, professor of physics and astronomy at **Carthage College**, has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from NASA that allows space science students from Carthage to be part of NASA's international effort to return to the Moon by 2024.
- **Estrella Luciano**, a **Cardinal Stritch University** senior majoring in Spanish and communications, was a unanimous selection for the Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee (HPGM) Student Leader Award.
- **Marquette University** dedicated its \$18.5 million Physician Assistant Studies Building this fall. Physician assistants are in high demand and are heavily relied upon to address health care provider shortages.
- **Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE)** students walked away with four trophies at the Associated Schools of Construction Region 3 Conference and Student Competitions. They took first place in the Heavy Civil Regional Competition, second place in the Design/Build Regional Competition, second place in the Project Solutions National Open Competition, and third place in the Electrical National Open Competition.
- **Northland College** has been ranked first in sustainable curriculum by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.
- **Dr. Aaliyah Baker**, an assistant professor in **Cardinal Stritch University's** College of Education and Leadership, has been named a Midwest Engaged Scholar by Campus Compact.
- MSOE Raiders Stadium opened in October at Maslowski Park in Glendale, Wisconsin. The stadium is home to the **Milwaukee School of Engineering's** baseball team and the Nicolet High School baseball team. The project was made possible thanks to MSOE's generous donors and a public/private partnership between the university, Nicolet Union High School District, and City of Glendale.

### APPOINTMENTS

- **Dr. Karl Solibakke** has been named 15th president of **Northland College**.
- **Dr. John Walz**, president of the **Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE)** has been selected to represent Wisconsin on the board of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU).

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WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT  
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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*“The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you’ll go.”*

Dr. Seuss

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

### THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT

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- **David Hotchkiss** of the **Medical College of Wisconsin** and **Dr. Michael Zimmer** of **Marquette University** have been nominated by Dr. Wegenke, WAICU president, and appointed to serve on the Data Privacy and Security Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP).
- At the recommendation of the WAICU president, Dr. Rolf Wegenke, **Dr. Mitra Fallahi** of **Cardinal Stritch University** has been nominated for the Professional Standards Council in the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The Professional Standards Council focuses on colleges and universities providing educator preparation programs.
- **Dr. Desiree Pointer-Mace** of **Alverno College** has been nominated by Dr. Rolf Wegenke, WAICU president, and reappointed to the State Superintendent's Standards Review Council. The State Superintendent's Standards Review Council reviews Wisconsin Academic Standards for K-12 education.
- **Melissa Luedtke**, **Marian University's** director of TRIO-Student Support Services (SSS), has been named President Elect for the Wisconsin Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (WAEOPP).

### NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Gateway Technical College and **Concordia University Wisconsin** have signed a 2-plus-2 articulation agreement, which enables graduates of Gateway's architectural-structural engineering technician or civil engineering technology-highway technology associate degree programs to transfer into Concordia's construction and trades management bachelor's degree program.
- **Marian University** has announced a new partnership with Chippewa Valley Technical College, allowing CVTC graduates to complete their Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene at Marian.
- **Marquette University** has launched a new program, On Your Marq, to improve educational outcomes and job prospects for students with autism.