

THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT

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

SPRING 2015 VOL. 47 NO. 1



Alverno College
Bellin College
Beloit College
Cardinal Stritch University
Carroll University
Carthage College
Columbia College of Nursing
Concordia University Wisconsin
Edgewood College
Lakeland College
Lawrence University
Marian University
Marquette University
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Mount Mary University
Northland College
Ripon College
St. Norbert College
Silver Lake College
Viterbo University
Wisconsin Lutheran College

INDEPENDENT INSIGHTS

Life Lessons

Dr. Wegenke received an honorary doctorate at the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE)'s winter commencement. The following are excerpts from his remarks.

First, a lesson I learned from my Dad: my father never had the opportunity to attend college. He told me that he decided that he wanted to be a machinist when, as a child, he saw a drill press in operation—with shiny metal spiraling upward, and he said, “it was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen, and I knew I wanted to do something like that.” So, the first lesson is: seek beauty in whatever you do.

The second lesson is to take risks, to break out of the tried-and-true, “...to go where no one has gone before.” I suppose I also learned risk-taking from my Dad who was a problem solver and an inventor. Richard Florida wrote that the future belongs to the creative class, and, by definition, creativity

means “the new.” You have been prepared to take calculated—not foolish—risks. Embrace the thrill.

The third lesson I learned from someone I never met, a dean in the University of Illinois system. He was quoted as saying of the 9/11



MSOE president Dr. Hermann Viets, board chair Dr. Scott Moon, and board regent Dr. Eckhart Grohmann present Dr. Rolf Wegenke, WAICU president, with an honorary doctorate.

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WAICU Students' Day 2015 a success

Thursday, March 26 was WAICU Students' Day in the Capitol. As in past years, the students turned in an absolutely stellar performance. They took time off from work and from class to speak up for educational opportunity in the form of Wisconsin Grants. They were eloquent, informed, and civil—making all of us proud. As preparation for the individual visits in the capitol, WAICU president, Dr. Rolf Wegenke, moderated a panel of legislators including: Representative Joan Ballweg (author of the Wisconsin

Commission on Financial Aid Consolidation and Modernization and considered the leading legislative expert on student financial aid), Representative Robb Kahl (a Ripon College graduate and trustee), Senator Jennifer Shilling (Senate Minority Leader who represents Viterbo University, UW La Crosse, and Western Wisconsin Technical College), and Senator Paul Farrow (Assistant Majority Leader and Carroll University graduate). These legislators were fully engaged by the students, focused on the importance of Wisconsin Grants, and

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Representative
Joan Ballweg



Representative
Robb Kahl



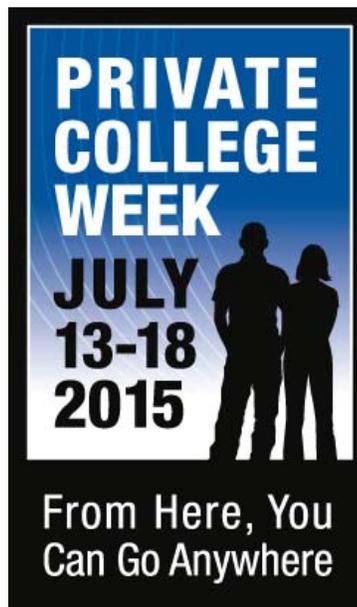
Senator
Jennifer Shilling



Senator Paul Farrow

Wisconsin Private College Week: July 13-18

Soon it will be summer, a perfect time for the family road trip! Scheduled this year from **July 13-18, Wisconsin Private College Week** offers high school students a chance to “jump start” the college search process. Private College Week is the ideal time to visit several colleges and discover what’s important in the college experience. Students and families can get a feel for the private, nonprofit colleges and universities in Wisconsin, each with its own, unique opportunities. During this joint “open house” week, visitors can talk to admission and financial aid representa-



tives, sample campus food, meet students, tour the campus, and learn about majors, sports, clubs, and more. Student visitors will receive fun prizes and be entered into a drawing for an iPad. In addition, student visitors receive free application fee waivers for each campus they visit. The place to start is WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org/Private-College-Week, where students and families can learn more about Wisconsin’s 23 private, nonprofit colleges and universities.

Counselors can also be winners.

Counselors nominated by student visitors will be entered into a drawing. For more information or to register, call 1-800-433-4733, or just head to WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org/Private-College-Week.

Learn and earn credits with the 2015 College Seminar Tour

High school counselors are invited to participate in the twenty-first annual College Seminar Tour to be held June 21-26. Each year this popular seminar explores colleges and universities in different areas. You will gain valuable insight into the colleges and universities and the college selection process while also earning three graduate credits toward the renewal of your state license. The graduate credits, offered through Marian University, are approved by the Department of Public Instruction and endorsed by the Wisconsin Association for College Admission Counseling and the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

For more information, go to <http://www.marianuniversity.edu/cst/> or email cst@marianuniversity.edu.

WAICU SCHOOL COUNSELOR WORKSHOPS

WAICU School Counselor Workshops

WAICU offers high school counselor workshops throughout Wisconsin. Learn about the private college difference. New for fall 2015, we have added new workshop locations and dates.

Please save the following dates:

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- **Monday, October 12:** Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design (MIAD)
 - **Tuesday, October 13:** Beloit College
 - **Monday, October 19:** Carthage College
 - **Tuesday, October 27:** Silver Lake College
 - **Tuesday, November 3:** Holiday Inn & Suites Wausau-Rothschild

and coming in **March 2016:** Holiday Inn Rolling Meadows-Schaumburg

The program will feature a presentation on the affordability of Wisconsin’s private nonprofit sector, tips on the application and financial aid process, updates from each admission representative, and breakout sessions with the chance to meet with representatives from Wisconsin’s private, nonprofit colleges and universities. Free continental breakfast and lunch will be provided, and professional development certificates will be awarded.

For more information on these free workshops, visit our webpage just for counselors at WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org/counselors.

Mount Mary launches innovative Occupational Therapy Doctorate

MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY

Mount Mary University is an established leader in the education of occupational therapists, with more than 2,000 graduates of its B.S. and M.S. programs over the past 73 years. The university has responded to growing demands for specialization in the field with a new post-professional Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) program for practicing occupational therapists who hold a master's degree in occupational therapy. The 31-credit online program equips candidates with advanced practice and leadership competencies in the changing delivery models for OT services. Emphasizing gerontology, physical rehabilitation, pediatrics and mental health, the program also prepares OT professionals for education and healthcare leadership positions.

This first-of-its-kind OTD program requires practice-based research and a culminating portfolio specifically designed to meet rigorous criteria for American

Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Board Certification. These high standards provide graduates a competitive edge. Among more than 113,200 licensed occupational therapists in the country today, only 158 are board certified in specialty practice areas. "The new doctorate program underscores our commitment to meeting the needs of a changing health care environment," said Mount Mary President Eileen Schwalbach, Ph.D.

The OTD program is open to men and women nationwide. The part-time, flexible program features "distance-delivery" courses that allow students to remain in their work settings for ongoing real-time knowledge acquisition. Students connect online with peers and program administrators weekly. Faculty offer feedback on students' critical analysis and application of knowledge and oversee the peer learning community. Research-driven residency experiences are



Kari Inda, professor and chair of occupational therapy, meets with student.

offered under the shared guidance of a practice mentor and faculty member.

Cathy Buck, president of Froedtert Hospital and a Mount Mary trustee, affirmed the need for highly skilled occupational therapists. "Doctoral education will allow practitioners to concentrate on clinical specialties, focus on wellness and even partner with primary care providers as health care strives to offer more affordable and effective care models," she said. ■

A head start for young students in Carroll University's PASOS program

CARROLL UNIVERSITY

Beginning in the spring of 2015, Carroll University opened its doors to tomorrow's college students with PASOS, or Preparing and Advancing Students for Opportunities in Science. Ten eighth-grade students from Bruce Guadalupe Community School (BGCS), a grade K-8 charter school in Milwaukee, will receive a head start towards pursuing a career in nursing, physical therapy, or the physician assistant field.

PASOS is a partnership between the United Community Center and Carroll University.

The program addresses priorities shared by both partners. PASOS students will gain exposure to in-demand careers in health and medical sciences. The predominantly Hispanic student population of Bruce Guadalupe Community School enriches the diversity of the Carroll student body

while addressing the disparity between the low numbers of Spanish-speaking health care workers and the growing Hispanic population. A 2012 Wisconsin Registered Nurse Survey Report found that only 11 percent of Wisconsin nurses speak Spanish.



Student Natalia Perez is eager to learn about health science in the PASOS program.

"Through working with BGCS and the United Community Center, health and medical professions will be highlighted in the community," said Jane Hopp, dean of

the College of Natural Sciences and Health Sciences at Carroll University, "as well as provide practice opportunities in various communities."

Student participants, many of whom would be first-generation college students, are accepted into PASOS based on test scores, grades, recommendations and essay submissions. PASOS' innovative education model has a built-in component to ensure student participants' success from the start of high school to the end of college. Throughout that time, Carroll's College of Natural Sciences and Health Sciences' faculty and students will work with PASOS students to maintain the program's academic standards within the university's highly competitive program. The first 10 students selected for the program will be announced in the summer of 2015. ■

Downtown Fond du Lac building to serve as Marian's School of Nursing and Health Professions

MARIAN UNIVERSITY

For more than 100 years, Marian University has been dedicated to the education of quality nurses who focus on compassionate patient care, while embracing the growing specialization and corresponding technological changes of today's healthcare field. With the recent purchase and renovation of a downtown Fond du Lac building, Marian is poised to meet the growing demand for nursing education in a state-of-the-art facility.

Marian University has recently purchased the building formerly owned by The Nielsen Corporation, located at 30 S. Main Street in downtown Fond du Lac. "Marian's purchase of this building will allow us to relocate the School of Nursing and Health Professions from our Agnes Center on East Division Street to the more spacious Main Street Building," said Robert Fale, interim president of

Marian University. "We believe Marian's presence will add to the growing vibrancy of the downtown area. The vacated space in our Agnes Center will be strategically reallocated at a later date."

The new, expanded location for Marian's School of Nursing and Health Professions will enhance the educational experience by bringing together formal instruction and simulated learning within one location. The new facilities will add a simulated hospital unit to expand critical learning experiences and foster interdisciplinary education with Marian's expanding health professions programs.

With the downtown location of the Nielsen building, Marian is anticipating new

opportunities to expand activities as part of its ongoing commitment towards community engagement. Marian University has established a partnership with Agnesian HealthCare for the additional space as a venue for providing workshops, training sessions, and other professional development opportunities. Renovations are underway and the building is expected to open for the 2016 fall term. ■



The renovated Marian-Nielsen building in downtown Fond du Lac.

Viterbo University marks 125th anniversary with a year of special events

VITERBO UNIVERSITY

Founded by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in 1890, Viterbo University is celebrating its 125th Anniversary with special events that commemorate the past and focus on its mission of service and leadership.

Students, employees, alumni/ae, and friends of the university are logging their volunteer service hours with the goal of 125,000 hours for the academic year. Two alumni provided unexpected momentum to the celebratory food drive and its goal of collecting 12,500 pounds of non-perishable food items. Derek Burnstad, vice president of Burnstad's Markets, and Mark Skogen, president and CEO of Festival Foods, showed their appreciation for their alma mater by donating 12,500 pounds of food towards the goal. Viterbo then doubled the food

drive goal to 25,000 pounds of food. The Viterbo community will share the bountiful food collections with the Viterbo University food pantry, Place of Grace Catholic Worker House, the La Crosse Warming Shelter, Centro Latino, and the Hunger Task Force.

The year-long anniversary celebration has included multiple demonstrations of Viterbo's mission to prepare students for faithful service and ethical leadership. Carolyn Woo, president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services and named one of the 500 Most Powerful

Women on the Planet by Forbes magazine, gave a campus presentation on "Common Good, Uncommon Excellence"

for students, faculty and staff. Students gained the real world insights and lessons behind the recent film, "Captain Phillips" with a talk on leadership in challenging circumstances by Captain Richard Phillips, who was held hostage by Somali pirates.

In March, friends and supporters gathered for a gala arts event to raise scholarship funds and celebrate Viterbo's commitment to the visual and performing arts.

The entire Viterbo campus community continues with observances of its 125-year history throughout the academic year. ■



Campus improvements bring new life to Alverno College

ALVERNO COLLEGE

This academic year, Alverno began its biggest campus improvement project in school history. The \$30 million dollar renovation has already led to the completion of several major phases, and the new amenities have created considerable excitement and renewed energy on campus.

The campus space that elicits the most enthusiasm is the new La Verna Commons. Before, the Commons was so cramped during peak hours that students frequently had trouble finding an open seat. Since then, the Commons has doubled in size and now provides ample space for students, faculty and staff to dine and meet together.

The Commons lobby offers space for student-organized events. It's also home to the new Service Learning Center, which provides a central gathering spot for food

drives and other charitable collections. In addition, leaders of student organizations have a dedicated space to meet and plan activities in the Student Activities &



The newly remodeled La Verna Commons is the crossroads of campus.

Leadership Center.

The Commons also includes the brand new Loft, where comfortable seating and a fireplace make for a cozy place to study in between classes. Right around the corner,

the brand new Inferno Café serves as a campus coffee shop and popular gathering spot.

The library has also seen major renovations, and the updates reflect Alverno's emphasis on collaborative learning. New small group study areas provide space for students to work together and practice presentations.

The latest addition to campus is a brand new classroom building—Alexia Hall. It features new classrooms, a comprehensive nursing simulation facility and studios for art/dance.

The entire project is being paid for through contributions to Alverno's Promise & Power fund-raising campaign. Alverno's revitalized campus reflects the college's focus on students and an excellence in teaching and learning. ■

Renovation offers a welcoming space at Silver Lake College

SILVER LAKE COLLEGE

Silver Lake College has long been known for offering a warm welcome to anyone who walks through its doors. That warmth is even more in evidence thanks to a recently completed major renovation made possible by a gift of \$300,000 from Mike and Mimi Ariens of Brillion.

"Silver Lake College students, faculty, staff and visitors will experience true Franciscan hospitality thanks to their gift, for which the entire college community is truly grateful," said Dr.

Chris Domes, President of Silver Lake College. The remodeled space, located inside the main entrance of Main Hall, features the Ariens Family Welcome

Center and provides a central location for the registrar, financial aid office, and business office. Prospective students and their families will be welcomed



Mike and Mimi Ariens (far left & center) pose with Silver Lake president Dr. Chris Domes and guests at the Ariens Family Welcome Center dedication ceremony.

by the Admissions Department, newly relocated just within the main entrance area. Visitors may learn about studies in the more than 25 academic disciplines

in the schools of Education, Liberal Arts and Professional Studies in the four-year, private liberal arts setting founded on the Catholic Franciscan tradition.

In addition, the new space will serve as an inviting entrance to the recently remodeled Heritage Room, which features a pictorial history of the relationship between Silver Lake College and the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, who sponsor the college. The campus will enjoy the community space afforded by Mimi's Café, a meeting and social area that includes a gift shop featuring Silver Lake College merchandise.

A dedication ceremony for the renovated space was held Dec. 5, with Bishop Robert Morneau, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Green Bay, leading the blessing. As Silver Lake commemorates its 80th anniversary in 2015, the Welcome Center affirms the college's ongoing commitment to growth and community in the Catholic Franciscan tradition. ■

Ripon's Department of Communication recognized as best in the U.S.

RIPON COLLEGE

The Ripon College Department of Communication received the prestigious 2014 Rex Mix Program of Excellence Award from the National Communication Association in November.

Each year, the award recognizes one undergraduate department of communication for overall excellence above all others in curriculum, program quality, course design, and special programs.

"We are deeply honored that our commitment to student development and empowering them as agents of change has been recognized at the national level," says Steve Martin, associate professor and chair of the Department of Communication. "While the core of our program engages students in rigorous, traditional studies of rhetorical theory, American public address, and rhetorical criticism, we also invest time and resources to provide students with opportunities to apply what they learn in the classroom to the world beyond campus."

The department established a national reputation in the early 2000s through the creation of its Speakers Bureau program, a selective traveling group that empowers students to serve as spokespersons for nonprofits whose missions align with their passions.

For eight years, the department's extravagant "Mr. Ripon" comedic pageant has challenged Applied Communication students to use theory learned in other courses to wage a large-scale fund-raising and awareness campaign supporting research by the Huntington's Disease Society of America.

More than 90 percent of students who graduate from Ripon's Department of Communication are employed within their career field of choice within six months of graduation; typically, more than half have secured full-time employment in their field of choice prior to Commencement.

Since 1996, 17 percent of communication graduates have attended a master's or Ph.D. program in communication immediately following completion of the



Steve Martin, associate professor and chair of the Department of Communications, leads a discussion.

bachelor's degree. Every graduate who has applied to graduate school has been accepted to at least one program offering a full-tuition scholarship and teaching assistantship stipend. ■

WAICU Students' Day a success *continued from page 1*

appreciative of the role WAICU and WAICU members play in this state. Just having the dialogue was a big step forward.

Of course, there is much work lying before us before the state budget passes. One thing you could do today is join the more than one thousand Wisconsin Grant supporters who have signed the online petition at PowerofFinancialAid.org, and encourage others to do so.



Students ready to "take" the Capitol.

WISCONSIN'S FINANCIAL AID BUDGET



Wisconsin spends less than one percent of its taxpayer-supported budget on financial aid.

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Act 20

Life Lessons

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terrorists, “they were just as educated as anyone else.” Wrong! Education transmits knowledge, but true education is about wisdom. Neither we nor this world are just random, self-seeking flux. True wisdom includes meaning and morality.

The fourth lesson I learned from my son, Erich, a college junior. And that lesson is to take joy in everything in life. Life is what it is, but it can be what you make of it. Make it joyful!

The fifth lesson came from my wife, Karen. As the Apostle Paul teaches, “... Now these three remain—faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love.” I began by urging you to seek beauty. I’m not sure if you can seek love, but I pray you may find it as I have and that, if you are given the gift of love, you treasure it above all else.

The sixth lesson is hard to learn: remember “you ain’t such a much.” Over the years, many took a chance on me, mentored me, supported me, and gave me opportunity. It is not about what I did, but about what we did together. “I ain’t such a much.”

The next lesson is: seize the opportunity to be part of a great cause. You have undoubtedly learned that your *alma mater*—is such a great cause. Private, nonprofit colleges and universities have neither taxpayer support nor compulsory attendance, but they were founded, and continue today, because of the creativity, risk-taking, voluntary support—and, yes, love—of the Board, the faculty, the alumni/ae, and the donors. All of this is done for YOU in the great tradition of American voluntarism...because of and for YOU.

The final lesson is from my mother. She always taught me to say “thank you,” not because she needed to hear it, but because she wanted me to be the kind of person who would say it. So, I thank you for this recognition and thank you for the privilege of being part of this great cause.

Sincerely,



Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D.,
President



WAICU BULLETIN BOARD

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Dr. Michael Lovell**, President of **Marquette University**, received the Lifelong Commitment to Justice Award in the Environmental Progress category from the Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee, presented on February 26.
- **Mount Mary University** received the 2014 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction award for its exemplary commitment to community service and service learning. The Community Service Honor Roll is the highest form of federal recognition an institution can receive for community involvement and service learning programs. Mount Mary is the only Wisconsin higher education institution to be named to the Honor Roll with Distinction.
- Wisconsin Student Nurses' Association (WSNA) has elected Cassandra Goldschmidt, BSN student at **Bellin College** as its 2015 Executive Vice President. WSNA encourages nursing students to participate in community affairs and influence standards in nursing education.
- The School of Pharmacy Building at **Concordia University Wisconsin** was recognized with the Architectural Portfolio Award for outstanding design in the post-secondary category in the November 2014 issue of the American School & University.
- **Edgewood College** received a \$500,000 gift to honor a student from the Cutting Edge program, which offers a fully integrated higher education experience for adult learners with intellectual challenges and other developmental disabilities. The gift will help fund a new residence hall that will welcome three Cutting Edge students, each year, in perpetuity.
- The Army ROTC program at **Marian University**, part of the UW-Oshkosh program, was awarded a top ranking out of 43 colleges and universities in North Central United States, the first time a higher education institution in Wisconsin has been awarded this distinction.
- **Lakeland College** received an \$840,000 gift to their natural sciences division from **Dr. Cliff Feldmann**, president of Sheboygan Falls-based Feldmann Engineering and Manufacturing Company, Inc. and a 1969 Lakeland graduate.
- The **Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW)** has received a two-year, \$420,000 grant from the National Institute of Health's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to study new therapeutic targets for tuberculosis.
- Edith Widder, a deep-sea explorer and conservationist, has received the 2015 Distinguished Explorer Award, given by **Beloit College's** Roy Chapman Andrews Society.
- **Carroll University** has been listed as a Friendship Institute to Musashino Art University (MAU) in Tokyo, the only university in the United States with this honor. MAU is one of the leading art institutes in Japan, with over 7,500 students.
- Thirty students from the **Columbia College of Nursing** were inducted into the Tau Sigma - at - Large Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society. The mission of Sigma Theta Tau is to advance world health, celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.
- The Mary Livingston Griggs and Mary Griggs Burke Foundation awarded **Northland College** a \$10 million endowment to create the Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation.
- **Tammylynne (Johnson) Jonas**, 2000 graduate of **Carthage College**, has been recognized by the Milwaukee Business Journal as one of Milwaukee's rising community leaders in their 2015 40 Under 40 awards.
- **Lawrence University** is part of a six-college Midwest Hybrid Learning Consortium that was awarded a \$335,000 grant from the Teagle Foundation to develop and teach new hybrid online courses in the liberal arts.
- Professor **Paul Secunda** of the **Marquette University** Law School has earned a Senior Fulbright Scholar Award, and will spend the fall 2015 semester in Australia teaching and doing research focused on the country's national pension program.
- **Demi Fung '15**, a student at the **Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design**, was selected for the Society of Illustrators' 2015 Student Scholarship Competition, the third consecutive year a MIAD illustration student has been chosen in this highly selective competition.
- The Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) recognized the student organization at the **Milwaukee School of Engineering** as the MCAA Student Chapter of the Year for exceptional achievement in governance, leadership, community involvement, and career development.
- The teacher education program at **Northland College** received a Model of Excellence Award for

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WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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*“Education costs money,
but then so does ignorance.”*

Sir Moser Claus, British academic
b. 1922

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

THE WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT

Vol. 47 No. 1, Spring 2015

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The Wisconsin Independent is published quarterly by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU). To be placed on the free mailing list, contact:

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Madison, WI 53703-2723
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Printed on recycled paper ♻️

WAICU BULLETIN BOARD *continued from page 7*

its clinical residency program from the Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges for Teacher Education.

- **Silver Lake College** was awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to expand its Camp Explore summer program, designed to familiarize students in grades 3-9 with the college campus experience.
- **Jesús Jambrina**, Associate Professor of World Languages and Cultures and coordinator of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program at **Viterbo University**, was presented with the prestigious Medal of the Four Synagogues in honor of extensive research on the medieval Jewish heritage of Zamora, Spain.
- **Beloit College**, **Lawrence University** and **Ripon College** are part of a seven-year initiative with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation to diversify the academic workforce through a \$8.1 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
- A \$1 million gift from the Agustin A. Ramirez, Jr., Family Foundation will fund the Ramirez Lean Scholars Program, a joint initiative between the **Milwaukee School of Engineering** and the **Medical College of Wisconsin** to employ Six Sigma, Lean processes towards the improvement of healthcare.

NEW DEGREES AND PROGRAMS

- **Ripon College**, recently recognized by the National Communication Association as the top undergraduate communication program in the United States, has initiated the Ripon Communication Consortium to foster connections between student organizations related to speech, deliberation/debate, technology and media at the College.
- **Concordia University Wisconsin** has announced the Concordia Promise dual credit initiative, designed to provide select high school students the opportunity to complete one year of a liberal arts undergraduate degree cost-free.
- **St. Norbert College** has officially launched its Master of Business Administration (MBA) program under the auspices of the Donald J. Schneider School of Business and Economics.