

## About Wisconsin Grants

*The twenty-four private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without direct 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 financial help to attend the college of their choice.*

*The Wisconsin Tuition Grant, now known as Wisconsin Grants, was enacted in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Each month, Wisconsin Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites at WAICU-member campuses for whom Wisconsin Grants have made a significant difference.*

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122 W. Washington Avenue  
Madison, WI 53703-2723;  
608.256.7761;  
mail@waicu.org.

Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D.  
President & CEO

Rebecca Larson  
Senior VP for Advocacy

Cassandra Krause  
Director of Communications  
and Marketing, Editor

## Mount Mary student determined to make a positive impact in Milwaukee

Paige Palmisano chose Mount Mary University because it had everything she was looking for in higher education. She enjoys the small class sizes and the welcoming environment that make her feel that she can and will accomplish anything she puts her mind toward. Mount Mary is also a sister college to her high school, Saint Joan Antida in Milwaukee. A few of her teachers had graduated from Mount Mary, and once she received her acceptance letter, it was an easy choice to make.

Paige is double majoring in psychology and public relations with a minor in English/writing for new media. It was important to her that she would not just be another face in a crowded lecture hall. She appreciates that the professors at Mount Mary take interest in their students.

As a first-generation college student, financial aid was the top factor for Paige in choosing a college. Thanks to the Wisconsin Grant, Mount Mary scholarships and private scholarships, she is able to attend the college that is the best fit for her. Paige is an advocate for the Wisconsin Grant and serves as a WAICU Student Ambassador.

Graduating is an important accomplishment itself, but for Paige, it will also be proving a point. Over the years, some people have tried to discourage her from

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Paige Palmisano

## Outstanding experiences position Lakeland junior for career success

As a first-generation college student from Sheboygan, Karley Campbell was looking for a university that offered the best opportunities for her future along with financial aid assistance. Lakeland proved to offer that, and so much more.

"I've been so blessed with all of the generosity of Lakeland donors who really made my four-year education affordable," said Karley, whose financial aid package also includes a Wisconsin Grant.

A graduate of a large public high school, Karley was drawn to the small student-to-instructor ratio Lakeland offers its students. As a double major in business administration and Spanish, with an emphasis in management and international business, she said it proves beneficial to have instructors with real-world experience.

"Our business professors here are amazing," Karley said. "I think almost every one I've had has worked for a major employer in the area, and they are so knowledgeable and provide such good connections because of those work experiences."

Lakeland's Student Success Coaches have also played a major role for Karley.

"When I went to Jess Lambrecht my sophomore year looking for an internship, she really helped me utilize all of Lakeland's tools to find the best internship

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Karley Campbell

**Paige Palmisano** continued from page 1

pursuing her degree. “I have heard people say that ‘it isn’t worth it’ because they believe you’re completely wasting your time and going into debt,” said Paige. “A college degree will be my gateway to prove that I am capable of achieving my personal goals in life, despite any doubts or negativity.”

Paige has learned that she is not alone in college. At Mount Mary, she feels she is surrounded by family. During the first semester of her sophomore year, she lost her father to cancer. He was her biggest supporter in going to college. “I felt completely lost, but Mount Mary had and is still showing such love and support,” said Paige. “I was panicked because I wasn’t sure if I would be able to continue my education. My mind wasn’t in the right place, but Mount Mary professors supported my choices and supported me. I am still in school because of the Mount Mary community.”

After graduation, Paige’s plans are to pursue her master’s or Ph.D. in clinical or organizational psychology. She intends to stay in Wisconsin and work with nonprofit organizations to support the community. She would also like to write for companies or magazines to provide current perspectives in her areas of expertise. She is confident that she will be ready to help others with their personal problems and or work environment issues. “I feel that with my two majors and minor, I will be capable of making a positive impact in Wisconsin,” said Paige. “I want to represent the change in Milwaukee.”

**Karley Campbell** continued from page 1

opportunities that matched my interests,” Karley said.

She ended up landing an internship with a Lakeland graduate at Above and Beyond Children’s Museum in Sheboygan. “I think it’s cool that all of the major programs do a good job of connecting current students with alums, which helps us see what life can be like after college,” Karley said.

Another thing that piqued Karley’s interest when coming to Lakeland was the study abroad program. This past summer, she spent a month in Costa Rica at the University of Costa Rica-San Jose.

Innovation Destination was another incredible experience Karley had through The Commons in Milwaukee. The 40-hour, four-state excursion took her and nine of her peers through five Kohl’s locations in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. The experience proved to be beneficial as it provided networking opportunities and leads for post-graduation employment.

This summer, Karley will intern at Johnsonville. After graduation, she initially hopes to stay in the Sheboygan area to start her career, perhaps working for one of the family-owned, world-class companies that are pillars in Sheboygan County.

Through her internships, study abroad opportunities, and success as a student at Lakeland, Karley, just a junior, is already well-positioned to pursue other goals such as teaching English abroad.

“I want to be that person for future students who challenges them to achieve things they never thought they could, whether that’s passing a class, studying abroad, or just being able to attend college,” Karley said. “I want to inspire students to think differently and to believe in themselves.”

**FACT OF THE MONTH**

**WAICU members produce 25 percent of all bachelor’s degrees and 35 percent of all advanced degrees in the state.**

Source: IPEDS, 2017



*Wisconsin’s Private, Nonprofit Colleges and Universities*

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

Herzing University *Milwaukee*  
 Lakeland University *Plymouth*  
 Lawrence University *Appleton*  
 Marian University *Fond du Lac*  
 Marquette University *Milwaukee*  
 Medical College of Wisconsin *Milwaukee*  
 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design *Milwaukee*  
 Milwaukee School of Engineering *Milwaukee*

Mount Mary University *Milwaukee*  
 Neshotah House *Neshotah*  
 Northland College *Ashland*  
 Ripon College *Ripon*  
 St. Norbert College *De Pere*  
 Silver Lake College of the Holy Family *Manitowoc*  
 Viterbo University *La Crosse*  
 Wisconsin Lutheran College *Milwaukee*