

WTG *Achievers*

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About WTG

The 21 private, or independent, colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to Wisconsin, educating more than 52,000 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. Its goal is to help financially needy Wisconsin citizens to succeed. There are only enough funds allocated to WTG to cover about half of the needy students who apply every year. Each month WTG Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites for whom WTG has made a difference.

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Marquette Grad Begins MPS Teaching Career



Noelia Arrizon of Milwaukee, a graduate of Marquette University

Maybe it's that she comes from a family of teachers. Maybe it's her caring personality. Maybe it's her desire to teach her students

better than she was taught.

Whatever the reasons, Noelia Arrizon is excited about molding young minds in Milwaukee's classrooms.

Noelia graduated in May from Marquette University in Milwaukee with a major in interdisciplinary social science/elementary education and a minor in anthropology.

"I've always liked the fact that you can teach something new to someone," Noelia said. "Also, when I was growing up I didn't have the best of teachers – and I wanted to do it so much differently."

Noelia wanted to attend Marquette, but hesitated to apply because of the cost. That was before a representative from Marquette's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) visited Noelia's high school and explained how Marquette could become more affordable with financial aid packages and academic scholarships.

Noelia applied to Marquette. The EOP put together a financial aid package for her that included a Wisconsin Tuition grant, an EOP grant, and a Pell grant. She was also awarded a scholarship from

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MSOE Senior Serves as Role Model



Chris Boll of Oak Creek, a senior at Milwaukee School of Engineering

Mechanical engineering student Chris Boll likes being a role model for other students by setting a good example. There is no doubt that he is succeeding.

Chris, who is about to begin his senior year at MSOE, recently learned that he has landed an undergraduate research assistant position in MSOE's Rapid Prototyping Center (RPC) – a coveted position for many students at the university.

"Working in the RPC has connected theory with the practical applications in the research area," said Chris. His work in the coming academic year will focus on developing new mold-making processes, including rapid tooling and high-performance tooling.

Chris doesn't take his position in the RPC, nor even the fact

that he's a student at MSOE, for granted. He knows his Wisconsin Tuition Grant and other aid from the university make it possible for him to succeed.

"There's no feasible way I would be able to attend MSOE without this help," said Chris. "I'm grateful to the state and others for helping to make my dreams a reality."

Like many other students, Chris is in a situation where he has a sibling who is also attending college and requires family financial resources. Through academic scholarships, grants, work, and

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NOELIA ARRIZON *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

the organization that produces Milwaukee's Mexican fiesta ethnic celebration.

Noelia spent the spring before college graduation teaching in the Milwaukee Public Schools and has been hired as a third-grade teacher at Allen-Field Elementary School. She hopes to teach a bilingual class next year, after earning her bilingual certification, and wants to start work on a master's degree in education within two years.

She says she will incorporate many of the things she's learned in her classes at Marquette in her curriculum. Explaining how to use abstract concepts in everyday situations and incorporating art, music, drama, and role playing in her classes are among her plans.

"That way (the students) won't just memorize and repeat it back to me," she said.

Noelia's relatives have been sources of inspiration. Her Aunt Coca and uncles Jesus and Pedro are teachers, and Noelia's grandmother, Josefa, is a retired teacher. Noelia has drawn her greatest inspiration, however, from her father, Antonio.

"He always says, 'Go to school and do the best that you can,'" Noelia said. "Just knowing that I make him proud ... it feels good."

Noelia's personality and motivation will serve her and her students well, said Dr. Karen S. Evans, a professor in Marquette's School of Education. "She is a very caring, gentle, open person," Dr. Evans said. "I just think she will be a godsend to many students."

Noelia's students – and Wisconsin – will be the ultimate beneficiaries of her education, thanks to the Wisconsin Tuition Grant.

FACT OF THE MONTH

Private colleges use their own resources to help make college affordable for all qualified students. In 1999-2000, the 21 private colleges and universities of Wisconsin granted more than \$153 million of their own funds to students to lower their out-of-pocket costs.

CHRIS BOLL *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

some loans, Chris is able to realize his dream and the community is able to benefit from the considerable talents of a leader.

In addition to his studies, Chris has been program advisor for the "Discover the Possibilities" and "Focus on the Possibilities" summer programs at MSOE for two years. In this way he has been able to encourage young people to widen their horizons and believe in their ability to achieve academic and career success.

During the school year, Chris was Homecoming chairman for 2000, and was

named Outstanding Peer Mentor for 2000. He has also been a member of the Student Union Board since his freshman year and freshman orientation assistant the last two years, along with working in the Enrollment Management Office last fall. In his "free" time, he continues his grandfather's stamp collection that he inherited.

"Chris is a true inspiration to those around him, whether they are fellow students, professors, co-workers or friends," said classmate Jenny Strangeway. "Chris and I were freshman orientation assistants last fall. After

working non-stop for two weeks straight, the whole group was tired, but Chris was our motivator and source of cheer. He never let us down, and I don't know what we would have done without him. He was a wonderful friend and mentor to the new freshmen."

In fact, Chris seems destined to succeed in all of his challenging endeavors. Although his schedule sounds daunting, and he admits his junior year was tough, he is one of many students who have given their all, inside and outside of class, to achieve their dreams – with a little help from the state and others.

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*

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

