

About the WTG

The twenty-three private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 61,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the low-income 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 significant difference.

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Mother of three returns to college, learns to love math

Adina Jerominski was a busy and very involved mother of three children when she made the life-changing decision in 2008 to return to college. While she's still a busy mom, her love of science prompted her to pursue a career in chemistry, and her preferred learning environment led her to Alverno.



Adina Jerominski, of Milwaukee, is a returning student at Alverno College. She majors in chemistry and math.

"I attended other schools before having kids, but the structure and setting at a

private, nonprofit college such as Alverno is ideal for my needs. I benefit from the small class sizes and indi-

vidual attention, and I enjoy the diversity of students, including non-traditional students like myself." Adina is a double major in chemistry and math. "Historically, I never really cared for math, but I learned to love it because of the learning style at

Alverno. Of course my first love was and will always be chemistry."

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Serving fellow students drives senior to succeed

When he decided to attend Carroll University, senior Evan Abt knew he would need to apply for scholarships and grants, such as the Wisconsin Tuition Grant. "My Carroll experience and success would not be possible without financial aid," he said. It allows him to take on "invaluable" leadership roles and benefit from the small, personalized education experience that Carroll is known for.



Evan Abt, of Brookfield, looks forward to serving his community after graduating from college.

Evan works as a building

manager for Carroll's Campus Center and as a resident assistant for Frontier Hall, an apartment-style residence hall on campus. Although he just completed his first

semester as a resident assistant, Evan says this is the most rewarding job for him because he has the opportunity to be a guide for students in a time of change. "It is a blessing to serve and impact students in a meaningful way," he says.

When not busy working or studying, Evan can be found participating in soccer and football intramurals, as well

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Adina is a recipient of the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, as well as a work/study program where she works as a tutor in the chemistry lab and the math and science resource center. During her time at Alverno, she has earned several impressive scholarships, including the National Science Foundation Future Scholars Program and the highly competitive Her Scholarship through the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee.

These opportunities not only provide Adina with much-needed financial assistance, but they also open the door to potential career paths. For instance, Adina has learned that she thoroughly enjoys leading one-on-one tutoring sessions. As a result, she spends a considerable amount of time helping others' learn—and even appreciate—science and math.

Adina spends several hours every week at her son's school where she tutors students in math. She also was involved with Wisconsin Alliance for Minority Participation (WiscAMP) where she serves as a mentor to minority students. The group represents a statewide consortium of colleges committed to doubling the underrepresented minority graduation rates of students in STEM fields. Adina also volunteers for Circle K, the collegiate division of Kiwanis, and is involved with the Math Club; she recently attended a conference in Lincoln, Neb., specifically geared to undergraduate women in math.

Ultimately, Adina will pursue a career in the research-driven analytical chemistry field. To make her dream a reality, she plans to work for six months immediately after her undergraduate graduation in spring while she studies for the GRE and then proceed to graduate school.

FACT OF THE MONTH

During 2011-2012, Wisconsin's private, nonprofit colleges and universities conferred 8,840 bachelor's degrees—the most ever. Since 2000-2001, the number of bachelor's degrees granted has grown by 25 percent.

Source: WAICU research archives

Evan Abt continued from page 1

as Intersarsity Christian Fellowship. He also takes time to tutor fellow students in history and was a member of the Carroll University Student Conduct Board.

Evan's other hobbies are playing the piano, drums, and guitar. He likes working out, rock climbing, and playing rugby with his brothers, including his twin and fellow Carroll student, Jared. Evan also volunteers as a coach for the eighth grade Brookfield Spartans football team.

Evan started off his college career as a history major and wanted to teach in a

high school, but he recently decided to pursue pastoral ministry upon graduation. In his free time, he reads Christian apologetics books and listens to sermons. Evan's faith has always been a driving force in his life. After he graduates in spring 2013, Evan plans to attend a seminary or volunteer at a local church to pursue his goal of becoming a minister.

Evan's determination and drive are common among Wisconsin's private, nonprofit college students. Financial aid like the WTG enables students like Evan to attend the college or university of their

choice, pursue their dreams, and build a brighter future.



Join the PFA campaign at www.poweroffinancialaid.org

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*
 Columbia College of Nursing *Milwaukee*
 Concordia University *Wisconsin Mequon*

Edgewood College *Madison*
 Lakeland College *Sheboygan*
 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 College *Milwaukee*
 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*

