

WTG *Achievers*

Vol. 8, No. 8

May 2007

About the WTG

The twenty private, or independent, colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 57,000 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.

WTG Achievers is published monthly by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU), 122 W. Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53703-2718; 608-256-7761; mail@waicu.org. For more information or for back issues of *WTG Achievers*, visit our website: www.waicu.org

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WTG helps would-be Marian business professor



Scott Richter of Van Dyne, a senior at Marian College

Marian College student Scott Richter has decided on his career goal: it's to become Marian College professor Scott Richter.

The accounting and economics & finance major from Van Dyne plans to get a Master of Business Administration degree and a doctorate in finance, and then return to Marian to teach beginning-level accounting and finance courses.

Scott is already making progress toward his goal. He has gotten teaching experience as a tutor of students in Marian's Business Administration Division and in Marian's Center for Academic Support and Excellence, as well as in the math lab. He has gained

hands-on experience as an accounting intern for Marian's Common Grounds Coffee House and while doing income tax preparation work, most recently for a Fond du Lac-area CPA firm.

His other Marian activities include working for Marian's Office of Institutional Research, serving as vice president of the student chapter of the Society of Human Resource Management and treasurer of Marian's Business Club, and serving as the student representative for three college committees.

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Edgewood business major appreciates strong preparation for her future career



Dustin Wilfling from Neenah, a senior at Edgewood College

Dustin Wilfling can accomplish just about anything she sets her mind to—but she finds it impossible to pinpoint the exact reason why she loves

Edgewood College. "It's the whole experience. I am proud of the person I have become here."

Edgewood College was the first school Dustin visited. The rest, as they say, is history. "The minute I was on the campus, I fell in love with it," Dustin remembers. "All the way home, I sat in the backseat thinking, 'This is where I will go to school.'"

Fortunately, Dustin's experience has exceeded even her high hopes. "The professors are so passionate about what they teach, and

that makes me passionate about the subject," she explains, singling out two of her business professors, Elaine Beaubien and Al Talarczyk, for special praise.

Dustin is grateful that a financial aid package including a Wisconsin Tuition Grant has enabled her to focus on preparing for her future career. "I came knowing I wanted to be a business major. Later I added concentrations in management and marketing."

Dustin is so enthusiastic about Edgewood College that she

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SCOTT RICHTER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Not content to limit his service to the campus community alone, he also is the 4-H volunteer treasurer for Winnebago County.

“Marian has helped me grow,” says Richter, who this month will be the first person in his family to graduate from college. “When I got here, I was shy and much more reserved, very academic-focused, didn’t participate in anything. I’ve since opened up a bit more, respect others’ opinions more; I enjoy looking at different viewpoints.”

Richter’s interest in accounting dates back to high school in Oshkosh, where he “got to work ahead in accounting. I like being able to go out on my own and work ahead, and I’ve had some of that in the Marian accounting program.”

He’s interested particularly in teaching basic accounting, since “I’ve heard that there is

a shortage of professors in accounting and particularly in finance. I relate to business; I like seeing the bigger picture.”

Richter says he is particularly grateful for the financial aid package he received from Marian College, which included a Wisconsin Tuition Grant. He deems the financial help crucial to getting the higher education he wanted. “If the grant hadn’t been there, I don’t think I could have done it.”

To that end, Richter was one of Marian’s representatives at WAICU Students’ Day in Madison, during which resident private college students visited their state legislators at the Capitol and asked them to support WTG funding.

“It’s nice to see that there are some people in Wisconsin who see this as important,” he says.

FACT OF THE MONTH

Of the grant aid given to private-sector students in Wisconsin during the 2005–06 academic year, \$247 million, or 77 percent, was comprised of institutional/private aid from the colleges themselves.

Source: Institutional data reported to the U.S. Dept. of Education

DUSTIN WILFLING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

thrives on showing off the great qualities of the school and the high quality of life on campus. Last year she showed new students the ropes as a Residential Advisor. Now she is an admission office Ambassador, giving tours to prospective students.

Even Dustin’s work-study position gives her a chance to showcase the exciting things Edgewood College has to offer—she is the master calendar coordinator for the Office of Student Activities. Her promotional responsibilities include keeping the school’s website updated with

a very full slate of events and activities. “Through that job, I realized that marketing is a good fit for me,” Dustin says.

Clearly, Dustin enjoys introducing people to Edgewood College just as it is. She’s also motivated to make a good place even better. To that end, she serves as special events coordinator on the Campus Activities Board (CAB). The group’s mission is twofold: to offer excellent entertainment and to create more opportunities for students to develop leadership skills.

Dustin’s proven organizational talents will serve her well after graduation. For her first job, she anticipates “something in business. I don’t know where that will take me yet. I am trying to figure out what aspects are the best fit for me.” She’ll start weighing her options this summer as a human resources intern at a company in Madison. Ultimately, she notes, “I would not turn down any opportunity that would help me grow and learn.”

“Edgewood College has helped me become an adult,” she says.

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



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