

# WTG *Achievers*

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## 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 56,000 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 financially needy Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the needy 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 difference.*

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## Student follows mom to Carroll with aid of WTG



*Kelly Wulff Plumb  
from Beaver Dam,  
a junior at Carroll College*

Kelly Wulff Plumb of Beaver Dam followed in her mother's footsteps when she came to Carroll College three years ago. Linda Wulff, a 1972 graduate, always speaks

highly of her education, and enjoyed taking her children on "test-drive" college visits to her alma mater. Kelly immediately knew Carroll was the right fit for her.

"I knew I'd have more opportunities at a small school, where the professors can get to know you," Kelly says.

She is a psychology and Spanish double-major and has gotten to know two professors very well. She notes that Dr. David Simpson, professor of psychology, and Dr. Robert Black, professor of Spanish,

are extremely knowledgeable about their respective subjects. "They love their subject and teach their students to love it, too," Kelly says.

She also takes advantage of Carroll's intimate campus by participating in diverse extracurricular activities. She played soccer her freshman and sophomore years, but cut back this year now that she is a resident assistant.

Kelly is a writing tutor, works in the registrar's office, and wants to join InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. She also

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## Ripon College student plans to make a difference in the lives of children



*Eliza Cherry  
from Crivitz, a sophomore  
at Ripon College*

A sophomore from Crivitz, Eliza Cherry wants to find a career in which she can help school-aged children. She is taking advantage of the opportunities and programs

available at Ripon College to further her experiences and find a path to achieve this goal.

Eliza graduated from Crivitz High School in a class of 85 students. She finds Ripon College is larger than her high school, but small enough and very welcoming and supportive.

"The classes are small and my professors know me and care about how I'm doing, both in and out of class. Everyone wants me to succeed," she says.

When looking for a college, Eliza sought a small community that would offer opportunities similar to those she had in her hometown. In high school she was involved with forensics, the Academic Bowl (English), 4-H, band, and the National Honor Society. She was also on Student Council, serving as vice president and president for one year each.

"I really wanted a small school somewhat close to home, in a small town with opportunities

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**KELLY WULFF PLUMB** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

plays piano, a talent she has cultivated since age nine.

Kelly and her mother are the only Carroll Pioneers in the Wulff Plumb family, but her siblings also attended private colleges. Kelly's older sister, Heidi, recently graduated from Augustana College in Illinois, and her brother, Cory, attends Carthage College in Kenosha.

"Private schools can be more expensive, but there are usually more opportunities for scholarships," Kelly says. "Carroll reaches out and allows students to get a quality education. With scholarships and the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, I'm able to have opportunities only a school like Carroll can provide."

One such opportunity was a six-week immersion experience in Costa Rica. Kelly

traveled there in summer 2006 as part of her Spanish major. During her stay, she lived with a "rich" family—they had hot water, a telephone, and Internet access. "These are everyday occurrences here in the United States, which we take for granted," Kelly says. Kelly was also able to visit a school in a poorer area of the country. "The students did not have enough money to buy supplies such as notebooks, pens, and pencils, but they were excited to learn and were happy to just have the opportunity to receive an education. It was very heartwarming."

Back home, Kelly plans to be a school psychologist. Although she has yet to begin her graduate school search, she knows she'll stay in the area. "I like small Wisconsin towns; you'd miss a lot of unique things if you were in a big city. I'm a small city kind of girl," Kelly says.

**FACT OF THE MONTH**

"[U]nless we begin to work together to lower financial barriers to college enrollment and persistence..., much of our considerable efforts to improve academic preparation, broaden early intervention, maximize outreach and information, and simplify student aid forms and processes will be frustrated."

*"Mortgaging Our Future: How Financial Barriers to College Undercut America's Global Competitiveness," Report from the Congressional Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance to the U.S. Department of Education, September 2006*

**ELIZA CHERRY** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to be involved," she notes.

As a psychology and sociology double major, Eliza spends much of her time pursuing her studies. However, she finds time to be active in many organizations on campus as well: She plays flute in the pep band and works with the Student Media and Activities Committee, where she served as co-chair of the homecoming organization.

Eliza also participates in the Ethical Leadership Program and is part of the Orientation Committee to help incoming first-year and transfer students adapt to the Ripon campus.

"I felt like people knew me even before I got here," she says. "It was good to come to campus as a 'first year' with a sense of belonging."

Eliza is a first-generation college student, but has not found this to be a problem. "My parents were very impressed with Ripon," she says. "The people were very friendly and helpful."

With her degrees, Eliza plans to be a school psychologist or social worker.

"I think I'd enjoy working in a school, but I don't want to be a teacher," she explains. "I'm more interested in

psychology than teaching."

In any event, her current activities and future plans underscore her desire to help others. The Wisconsin Tuition Grant is helping her to do just that.

Although she is paying her own way through school and works as much as she can to pay tuition, she says the WTG grant is helping her focus on campus involvement and exploring issues that will affect her career, and for that she is very grateful.

**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*

