

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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Carroll Student Regrets Loss of WTG



Christina Lien of Cambridge, a junior at Carroll College

Christina Lien, a junior with a double major in history and politics, will complete her on-campus studies this year. She is taking off the fall 2002

semester to work on a political campaign followed by an internship in Washington D.C. the spring of 2003.

Christina grew up on a farm near Cambridge, Wisconsin. Her mother is a teacher and her father was a farmer and an airline worker before passing away three years ago. She was drawn to Carroll because of its small size, the internship programs, and the professors she met. The second of four daughters, Christina has two sisters currently attending state colleges, while her youngest sister is still in high school.

To ease the financial burden of

college tuition and fees, Christina works for the history department and receives scholarships and other forms of financial aid. "I didn't get any help from my parents. They just can't afford it." Her siblings, however, do get some help from their parents because they didn't receive as many scholarships as Christina.

Christina received a Wisconsin Tuition Grant in her sophomore year, but did not receive one this year. As a result, Christina now has an additional job off campus to make up for the WTG loss.

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Education Major Appreciates Cardinal Stritch



Carrie Waszak of Oak Creek, a sophomore at Cardinal Stritch University

Carrie Waszak appreciates the support she gets from her parents, who applaud her initiative in pursuing her education. However, while they give her the moral

support she needs, they don't have the resources to support her financially.

"I depend on financial aid a lot to pay for school," said Carrie, who is receiving a Wisconsin Tuition Grant for the second consecutive year. She also has scholarships, loans, and work-study to help her finance her full-time education.

An Oak Creek High School graduate, Carrie said she always knew she wanted to attend a college fairly close to home. So when the information about Cardinal Stritch arrived in her mailbox, Carrie's interest was piqued.

One visit to the campus, and Carrie fell in love with the university.

"I didn't need to apply at any other school. I knew I wanted to come to Stritch," Carrie said.

Carrie was most impressed by the reputation of the university's education program, which is highly acclaimed and well known throughout the region and the state. She has wanted to become a teacher for as long as she can remember.

"Growing up, I always played school with my brother and

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CHRISTINA LIEN *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

“Last year I didn’t have to have an extra job off campus. My mom wants to help me with college, but she’s only working part-time as a substitute teacher. I don’t want to put the financial burden on my family because we really don’t have the money.”

Valedictorian of her high school graduating class, Christina still puts pressure on herself to maintain her grades at Carroll. “I don’t want to take too much time away from my classes, and I have a somewhat heavy credit load. I really want to do well to maintain eligibility for scholarships, and because I am thinking of going to graduate school. It really helps to not work too many hours outside my on-campus job.”

Despite working more hours, she immerses herself in political activities that ready her for a future career in politics. She is a member of the

History Club and Phi Alpha Theta, and is the state and local political activity committee chairperson at Carroll. Off campus, she does volunteer political work, and will attend a national convention of college students in Washington D.C. this fall. She plans to work on the next presidential campaign after graduation. Afterward, she’d like to work in government or go to graduate school where she can gain more knowledge on a specific issue that interests her.

The financial aid she received allowed her to receive a Carroll College education, even though things were a little harder this year without the help of the Wisconsin Tuition Grant. But she doesn’t regret her decision to attend Carroll. “I’m grateful for all the great professors I’ve had and all the friends I have here,” she says. It’s a choice that will lead her to a successful future.

**FACT
OF THE
MONTH**

Need-based financial aid is essential to success for both traditional-age and adult students. A new survey from the Lumina Foundation shows financial aid is the key to persistence and degree completion among adult learners, echoing the findings of an earlier survey of 18-to-25-year-olds.

CARRIE WASZAK *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

sister, but I never let them be the teacher,” Carrie said, laughing at the memory. “Eventually they would get bored with playing, and I would let them go for ‘recess.’ But I often made them come back and play school some more.”

To make her dream of becoming a teacher come true, Carrie wanted to choose a school that is respected in education circles. Stritch has long been recognized as a pioneer in education, especially in the fields of reading and special education. To complement her elementary education major, Carrie is pursuing a minor in special education.

A tour guide for the admissions office, Carrie has not only met a lot of other students during her first year at the school, but she has become close with several members of the faculty and staff. For her, the friendly, welcoming atmosphere at Stritch is as important to her as the school’s academic offerings. She feels at home in the small-sized classes and appreciates the individual attention from professors.

In addition to all the opportunities for learning and growth available to her at Stritch’s main campus in Milwaukee, Carrie is preparing for the experience of a

lifetime as she anticipates a university trip to Tanzania next May. The trip will take students to a remote African village where they will live for three weeks, offer help with village projects, teach residents lessons in health, and travel to historic sites.

Carrie is grateful that financial aid has made it possible for her not only to attend classes and get her degree, but also to experience new things and learn about different cultures. She may not have traveled a long distance from home to get to college, but in so many ways Carrie has already come a long way.

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*



From here, you can go anywhere.