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Alumni Association

Cleary Alumni & Friends Center
608.785.8489
www.uwlalumni.org (http://www.uwlalumni.org)

The UW-La Crosse Alumni Association builds and maintains relationships among alumni, students, friends, and the university. The Association’s primary goal is to keep alumni engaged with the university and to ensure "The La Crosse Experience" lives on for generations to come.

The Alumni Association makes UW-La Crosse stronger by:
- Supporting alumni networks
- Contributing to "Legacy" scholarships
- Keeping alumni informed about what is happening on campus
- Contributing to alumni activities around the world
- Providing support for today's students

For information regarding programs, benefits, services, and how you can get involved, visit the UWL Alumni Association (http://www.uwlalumni.org).

The UW-La Crosse Alumni Association. For you. For La Crosse. For a lifetime.

Departmental honors programs policy

Departmental honors programs are available in the Departments of Archaeology and Anthropology, Economics, English, Geography, Mathematics, Microbiology, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science and Public Administration, Psychology, and Sociology.

Designed to provide opportunities for special in-depth research, reading and writing for majors in the departments listed above, department honors programs also emphasize independent and creative work with highly personalized student-teacher contact and discussion.

The minimum requirements for all departmental honors programs are:

1. Admission: junior standing, 12 credits in major, 3.25 cumulative grade point average in the major, recommendation of two faculty members from major department.

2. Program: completion of the regular major, one course in a seminar, independent study, research study, or other appropriate honors options within the major program of study.

3. Evaluation: a cumulative 3.50 grade point average at graduation in the major, distinguished performance on a paper or project (a project might be a ballet in the area of the arts, or a study of some aspect of local economic conditions in the area of business), and presentations of the paper or project to a colloquium of faculty and students in the major.

Honors programs may vary by department. See departmental listings underneath the colleges and schools.

Additionally, there are numerous student honor organizations.

The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse has a longstanding commitment to excellence in both the academic and physical development of its students, as memorialized in the University’s seal, which is emblazoned with the phrase “mens corpusque” (“mind and body”). The intercollegiate athletics program sponsors 19 sports competing as a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III, the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA), and the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC).

UW-La Crosse’s rich history in intercollegiate athletics is highlighted by 69 national championships, 390 conference championships, and thousands of All-American performers. Just as importantly, UW-La Crosse’s student-athletes have set a high bar in the classroom, with a cumulative GPA that consistently ranks as the highest in the WIAC and, for 14 out of the last 15 years, has exceeded the GPA of UW-La Crosse’s general student body. The nearly 600 student-athletes competing in UWL Athletics embody the program’s mission: Building Champions. In Sport. In School. In Life.

UW-La Crosse Athletics is committed to equal opportunity for student-athletes and staff. The program offers 10 women’s sports (basketball, cross country, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor and outdoor track and field, and volleyball) and nine men’s sports (baseball, basketball, cross country, football, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor and outdoor track and field, and wrestling).

The intercollegiate athletics program is under the leadership of a director and deputy director of athletics, both of whom lend strategic direction to, and supervision of, a staff of more than 80 dedicated professionals providing comprehensive instruction and services to UW-La Crosse’s student-athletes. In addition to 14 head coaches and more than 50 assistant coaches, the staff includes an administrative assistant, four certified athletic trainers, three strength and conditioning coaches, three facility managers, two marketing and event management professionals, a sports information director, an equipment manager, and a director of camps and clinics.

UWL Athletics is a member of the Division of Student Affairs and, as such, the director of athletics reports to the vice chancellor/dean of students. Two faculty athletics representatives provide academic oversight to the athletic program. In keeping with the campus commitment to shared governance, an Athletics Committee comprised of students, faculty, and staff monitors and advises the program on
budgetary matters. A Student-Athlete Advisory Committee that includes representatives from every sport program meets regularly and consults with the program’s leadership.

McNair Scholars Program

106 Graff Main Hall 608.785.6913
www.uwlax.edu/mcnair-scholars

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is federally funded by the United States Department of Education to provide eligible students with support and preparation for graduate school. McNair Scholars must either be low-income, first generation college students AND/OR be members of a traditionally underrepresented group in their field (usually African American, Latino/a, Native American and/or Asian Pacific Islander). The program at UW-La Crosse began in October of 2009 and is housed in the College of Science and Health. The program considers students from all majors that would lead to a Ph.D. as the terminal degree.

Music activities

608.785.8409
www.uwlax.edu/music

The Department of Music welcomes all University students to participate in its performing organizations. Music ensembles function as part of the curriculum for our music majors and minors but non-music major students from all colleges and programs make up a large percentage of the participants in our ensembles. There are a variety of music ensembles available including: Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Screaming Eagles Marching Band, Jazz Bands and combos, Concert Choir, Women’s Chorus, Mannerchor, Chamber Choir, Vocal Jazz Choirs, Korean Percussion Ensemble, and various other chamber ensembles. The large ensembles regularly perform on tours within the state, nationally and internationally. Auditions are required for admission and placement for some ensembles. Contact the Department of Music for details on audition dates, times, and repertoire. Also, for students who enjoy listening to music, the abundance of concerts presented by our ensembles throughout the academic year provide ample opportunities to attend a wide spectrum of musical events.

Recognized student organizations

For a current listing of over 200 UW-La Crosse recognized student organizations, visit MyOrgs (https://uwimyorgs.collegiatelink.net).

Recreational sports

130 Recreational Eagle Center 608.785.5225
www.uwlax.edu/recsports

UWL students study hard, work hard, and play hard. Once you put down your books, check out what the Rec Sports Department has to offer. We have programs and facilities designed to help you stay active, meet new friends, and reduce your stress levels. Programs include: intramural sports, sport clubs, group fitness classes, personal training, special events, Outdoor Connection gear rental, trips, and climbing wall.

Recreational Eagle Center houses a climbing wall, 200 meter elevated track, two racquetball courts, four basketball courts, six volleyball courts, three badminton courts, multi-purpose room, strength and fitness center, cardiovascular equipment, aerobics studio, conditioning room, locker rooms with showers, outdoor trips and rental program.

Mitchell Hall houses a swimming pool, climbing wall, 200 meter track, three basketball courts, six tennis courts, indoor ropes course, dance studio, sports performance center, wrestling room, and locker rooms with showers.

Student Association and student government

2244 Student Union 608.785.8775
www.uwlax.edu/student-association

Chapter 36 of the Wisconsin State Statutes reads: "The students of each institution or campus shall have the right to organize themselves in a manner they determine and to select their representatives to participate in institutional governance." To exercise that right, the students have established the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Student Association (UW-LSA) (http://www.uwlax.edu/student-association). Each student enrolled at UWL is a member of the UW-LSA. The student government is divided into three branches: executive, legislative (Student Senate), and judicial. The executive and legislative branches are elected by the members of the UW-LSA each year. The judicial branch is appointed by the executive branch and approved by the legislative branch. The Student Association seeks to provide a student voice by advocating for student rights and responsibilities, fostering leadership, communicating student issues, and demonstrating respect for diversity in their actions.

Student-faculty committees

The Academic Affairs Committee is responsible for providing input on academic issues from the student perspective. This committee promotes the highest standards of academic integrity throughout the entire university community.

The Academic Initiatives Differential Allocation Committee (AIDAC) is responsible for the annual distribution of academic initiatives differential tuition money to programs which fall under one of four cornerstones: advising, research, internationalization and diversity. AIDAC is a made up of students, faculty and staff members who must determine how to allocate the budget so as to be the best advocates of student money through program presentations and budget deliberations.

The Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee (SUFAC) recommends to the student senate the manner in which funds collected by the state for support of student activities are to be distributed among eligible organizations. The committee also allocates funds to eligible groups for equipment and supplies, reviews requests for the Sustainability Fund, and makes recommendations to the student senate.

The Athletics Committee is responsible for recommendations to SUFAC for funding of activity fees used in support of athletic programs, and for recommendations to the Student Senate regarding policies affecting the athletic program.

The Cultural Affairs Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the SUFAC Committee regarding distribution of student activity fees used for programs that enhance the UW-La Crosse environment.

The Legislative Affairs Committee is responsible for encouraging student participation in voting and other events and maintaining these by-laws of the various Student Senate committees.

The Organizations Committee is responsible for recommendations to the Student Senate for the formulation of general policies concerning student organizations, and for recommendations regarding the
distribution of the allocable fees for programming organizations. Also reviews requests for graduation regalia applications.

The Student Services and Buildings Committee recommends policy concerning services provided to students. In addition, it is responsible for making recommendations to SUFAC for distribution of segregated fees for recreation, sport clubs, and student media.

The Special Events Committee is responsible for choosing commencement speakers.

Student governance associations

Student governance expands beyond the UWL Student Association on campus. There is one other community that has a structured governance component: the Fraternity and Sorority Life Community. The Panhellenic Council (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/fraternities–sororities/panhellenic-council) and the Interfraternity Council (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/fraternities–sororities/interfraternity-council) serve as the governing bodies for the social sororities and fraternities.

Undergraduate Research and Creativity Program

223 Graff Main Hall
608.785.8040
www.uwlax.edu/urc

Highly motivated students can gain practical experience in their field of study at UWL by pursuing an undergraduate research/creativity project in close association with a faculty member of their choice. The undergraduate research experience is much like an apprenticeship and is most suitable for students interested in gaining additional experience in their area of discipline.

Course credit may be earned for such research or creative activity, and an undergraduate research project could serve as a basis for a departmental honors thesis. UWL faculty also may have paid summer positions available for student researchers. Because of the wide variety of possibilities for undergraduate research or creative experiences, students should speak directly with individual faculty members to determine the types of opportunities and specific projects available. In general, the procedure for carrying out an undergraduate research project involves four steps:

1. Selecting a topic of interest and developing an idea for a project.
2. Speak with faculty members about your interests and select one as a mentor to advise you in your research. Most faculty will have projects or research ideas that they would be happy to discuss with you. Be sure to understand the expectations and commitments required of you.
3. Plan the project, seek funding (whenever possible), and carry out the research/creative work.
4. Disseminate your results in the form of a presentation and/or written manuscript.

To assist students in their undergraduate scholarly activity, UWL has initiated the Undergraduate Research and Creativity Program, which makes funds available to student researchers on a competitive basis for their projects, hosts the annual Celebration of Student Research and Creativity, and publishes the UWL Journal of Undergraduate Research. Students (with the help of their faculty mentors) may apply for funding every academic year; awards are made in the fall and spring. Project options are numerous. Proposals can be in your major or another discipline of interest, and could be multidisciplinary. Students may work independently or collaboratively on scholarly work completed in the U.S. or at an international location. Recipients are expected to complete their projects and present their work at the Celebration of Student Research and Creativity one year after receipt of the award. It is advisable that interested students begin speaking and planning their work with faculty mentors as early in their academic career as possible. Visit Undergraduate Research and Creativity (http://www.uwlax.edu/urc) for additional information and undergraduate research proposal guidelines.

University Centers (UC)

3200 Student Union
608.785.8888
www.uwlax.edu/university-centers

University Centers (http://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers) is a financially self-sufficient part of the Division of Student Affairs, comprised of the Student Union and Whitney Center. The focus of the Student Union is on student involvement, development, leadership and services, while Whitney Center provides the main dining operations on campus. Our objective is to support the academic mission of the institution by providing a wide variety of engaging educational and cultural programs, while supporting students with a multitude of free or affordable services and amenities (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers).

• The Campus Activities Board (CAB) (http://www.uwlax.edu/cab) is a student-run programming board that provides entertaining and educational activities for the entire campus community. Events such as small and large concerts, comedians, coffee house acts, and special events are offered to students, faculty, staff, and the community. Several educational events are offered. These activities may include fine arts programming such as theater, music, lecture, and dance. The Distinguished Lecture Series also offers the university community an opportunity to hear speakers of national prominence due to their significant contributions to society.

• The COVE - Center for Organizations, Vision, & Engagement (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/the-cove/about-the-cove) is the student organization suite located in 2200 Student Union. The COVE is a space for all student organizations to come together to share ideas, collaborate, and find resources specifically for student organizations. It physically houses several student organization offices, including: Campus Activities Board, COVE Graphics, COVE Programming, Fraternity and Sorority Life, eight designated Multicultural Student Organizations, the Pride Center, Student Association, and the Racquet. Public computers and workspaces, as well as a variety of graphics supplies are also available for use within the COVE.

• COVE Graphics (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/the-cove/graphics) and COVE Programming are two student-staffed groups that operate out of the COVE and provide resources and opportunities not only for student organizations, but for all students. COVE Graphics offers free graphic design services and low-cost printing and laminating for a variety of projects.

• COVE Programming (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/the-cove/programming) offers a variety of leadership, involvement, and service opportunities for students, including support of the Ugetconnected (http://www.uwlax.edu/ugetconnected) volunteer portal and MyOrgs (https://uwmyorgs.collegiatelink.net) student organization database.
The COVE is also home to the Campus Food Pantry (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/the-cove/campus-food-pantry), a free service provided to all faculty, staff, and students. Interested users should visit the COVE desk to register for access to the pantry.

- The Fraternity and Sorority Life Community (FSL) (https://www.uwlax.edu/university-centers/get-involved/fraternities-sororities/welcome) The Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) community is rooted in the four pillars of: brotherhood/sisterhood, leadership, service, and academic excellence. These are the core shared values that all of the social fraternities and sororities have in common. Members of the community engage in a variety of different areas of campus and community development including: partnering with our community philanthropic partner, The Children’s Museum of La Crosse, individual philanthropic partnerships, participation in leadership conferences at the local and national level, community service and outreach endeavors, and academic development opportunities. The goal of the FSL community is to empower students to reach their fullest potential by living the values of their organization every day.

- The Pride Center is devoted to serving students, faculty, staff, and members of the campus community that may or may not label themselves as queer, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gay, pan sexual, questioning, asexual, their allies, and students with LGBTQ+ parents. The Center offers panels, educational programs, information, and most importantly, support and advocacy. LGBTQ+ specific magazines, books, and videos are available for check out.

- Dining Services (https://new.dineoncampus.com/uwlacrosse) offers an assortment of different dining locations within the Student Union and Whitney Centers to meet the variety of needs and tastes of the campus community. Students may select from several contract dining plans, block meal plans, and cash/Campus Cash options. Students looking for a light snack or beverage between classes can visit the coffee shop located in Centennial Hall, which features the Starbucks "We Proudly Brew" program and a variety of sandwiches and pastries. Murphy’s Mug in the library also serves a great cup of coffee, along with sandwiches and their signature cupcakes.

- The Meal Plan/ID Card Office located in room 1131 on the first floor of the Student Union, is where students add meal plans (http://www.uwlax.edu/University-Centers/Meal-plans), Campus Cash, and get information on the dining program. It is also the location to have your Eagle ID card picture taken and get answers to ID card issues.

- University Reservations and Event Support (http://www.uwlax.edu/reservations) assists the university community by coordinating reservations, offering information for event planning, and serving as a liaison with university services. The Reservations Office offers equipment and assistance for events and meetings occurring in the Student Union. In addition, they can assist with reserving classrooms (when classes are not scheduled), fundraisers, and outdoor events. Event Support consists of experienced technicians and event planners that help student organizations develop and produce events of all sizes.

University theatre

608.785.6701
Box Office: 608.785.8522
www.uwlax.edu/theatre-arts

The Department of Theatre Arts produces a theatre season of seven shows in the 418-seat Toland Theatre and in the more intimate Frederick Theatre including musicals, dance performances, and a children's show. Additionally, Summer Stage, the summer theatre, produces a major musical each June-July. The theatre season is a thoughtful mix of contemporary plays, classics, musicals, and cutting edge new works. Tickets for all Toland Theatre productions may be purchased in advance, either as season tickets or tickets for individual performances. Reservations are strongly recommended.

Any UWL student registered for at least three credits is eligible to audition and be cast in productions. The same applies to any student wanting to work backstage or in various capacities of the production team. Whether or not you are experienced in theatre, your participation is welcomed. Students work both with faculty and guest directors, designers, and choreographers on a wide variety of theatrical offerings. Opportunities to become involved are announced across campus, or you can contact the theatre department for more information.