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WHITEWATER**

WELCOME STUDENTS



UW-Whitewater student receives accounting award

Omunazia Hicks, a Whitewater resident and UW-Whitewater student, received the 2025 Accounting Student Award from the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants at this year's Member Recognition Banquet & Annual Business Meeting May 9.

The Accounting Student Award recognizes a college accounting student for their commitment to success in the accounting field. The recipient has demonstrated leadership skills, involvement in an accounting or business club and contributions to the community.

"Receiving this award is a tremendous honor and a reflection of my dedication to the accounting field," Hicks said.

"This recognition inspires me to continue

advocating for student involvement, leadership and professional growth. It also affirms my commitment to advancing the accounting profession and contributing to the business world," she added.

Hicks is one of eight WICPA Excellence Award recipients this year. To learn more about the award winners, search for and watch their interviews on YouTube.

The WICPA is the premier professional association for Wisconsin accounting and business professionals, with nearly 7,000 members working in public accounting, industry, government and education.

For more information, visit <https://www.wicpa.org> or follow the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants on LinkedIn, X and Instagram.



From the left: At the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants at this year's Member Recognition Banquet & Annual Business Meeting May 9, Omunazia Hicks, a UW-Whitewater student, receives the 2025 Accounting Student Award from WICPA President & CEO Tammy Hofstede.

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Founded in 1868 as a school that trained teachers for one-room schoolhouses, UW-Whitewater has evolved into a comprehensive university offering high-quality programs at the associate, bachelor, master, and doctoral levels.

The university is highly successful in both in-person and online instruction, leading the way in preparing students with the outstanding skills that make them strong candidates for 21st-century careers and community leadership. It celebrates more than 100,000 alumni around the world.

The Warhawk family — led by caring faculty and staff — is devoted to student success within a broad range of academic programs at both our flagship Whitewater campus and Rock County branch campus.

Recognized nationally for affordability and career development, UWW serves approximately one-third first-generation students and boasts strength in many areas, especially business and education.

“We are a university with an entrepreneurial spirit and championship culture, supporting the arts and NCAA Division-III level athletics,” the website states.

As a proud institution of access, more than 10 percent of undergraduate students use the acclaimed Center for Students with Disabilities — a priority mission since the 1970s.

Belonging and mattering are central to the university’s culture, and UW-Whitewater strives to maintain an environment where individual and collective efforts are valued and celebrated. Each year, UW-Whitewater and its alumni contribute more than \$1.4 billion dollars to Wisconsin’s economy.



Make a Difference Day in the spring brings out hundreds of UW-Whitewater students to pick up litter downtown, clear the way for garden flowers and vegetables, beautify campus and work with seniors. Kendall Mueller, left, and Ella Jamison, both of Delta Zeta sorority, show their cleanup work in downtown Whitewater.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER *UW-W Back to School*

Mission

“The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is a preeminent academic institution driven by the pursuit of knowledge, powered by a spirit of innovation, and focused on transforming lives. As part of the University of Wisconsin System, UW-Whitewater embraces the Wisconsin Idea and is an economic and cultural driver of our region.

“We are nationally and internationally

recognized for the accomplishments of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Grounded in a rigorous core curriculum, students receive a well-rounded education and every academic program prepares students to be creative, innovative and adaptable in dynamic and diverse work and life environments.

“We are an inclusive educational community with a deep commitment to

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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on the cover: (from top left) Kacie Carollo, an integrated science-business major and student-athlete from Whitewater, proudly displays her degree at Kachel Fieldhouse during commencement ceremonies in May. Janesville athlete Zachary Chamberlain and UW-Whitewater Police Lieutenant Jason Burt carry the torch during the opening ceremony of Special Olympics Wisconsin. Warhawk fans cheer for the home team at Perkins Stadium.

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JANNA BURHOP - DIRECTOR

Music educator goes to the ends of the earth to inspire her students

BY Kristine Zaballos

UW-WHITEWATER

A passion for education drives one Wisconsin music teacher to extremes: playing a trombone while experiencing zero gravity, exploring a Teacher at Sea experience on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship Bell M. Shimada off the coast of northern California, and – yes – traveling to the end of the Earth to participate in research as a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow with National Geographic in Antarctica.

Lisa Werner is not only a music educator and band director at St. Bruno Parish School in Dousman, but also an adventurer and an explorer – actively seeking out ways to form a connection between what she teaches in class and the broader world.

“I like to tell the students in my classroom that music is connected to everything,” Werner explains. “The more connections I can make, the better it is for them.”

In 2022 Werner, who earned her B.M. in music education-instrumental at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 2001, was one of four teachers in the country selected to fly microgravity experiments aboard a modified aircraft that creates periods of weightlessness. Werner’s experiments – performed in an aircraft NASA refers to as “g-force 1” with her signature purple trombone in hand – were designed to measure her ability to perform tasks such as keeping beat and responding to tempo signals in a weightless environment.

The experience left her with the determination to do more to tap into her



childhood curiosity about how things happened and why and to connect it back to her teaching.

“Once I started with the zero G flight, I started to think anything is possible,” she said.

A teacher at sea

The adventure continued in 2024, when

Werner was a part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Teacher at Sea Program, one that offers educators a unique opportunity to join NOAA scientists aboard an ocean research vessel as a member of the science team. For two weeks in late August through mid-September she worked on the EXPRESS project aboard NOAA Ship Bell M. Shimada off the coast of Northern California.

The ship uses Popoki, an autonomous underwater vehicle (or AUV), that “converses” with the AUV pilot aboard the ship, something she wrote about in the blog she kept during her voyage.

“Communicating with Popoki has a lot to do with acoustics,” said Werner. “Listening to her pilot talk about how important the angles between Popoki and the ship are reminded me a lot of preparing for a recital when I was a music education student at UW-Whitewater. For solo performances, the more experienced music majors would always pass on a very important piece of acoustic information to the new undergrads — always aim the trombone bell at the 3rd exit sign along the stage right wall. Hitting this sweet spot would cause the

recital hall to ring, the trombone sound to be dark and full, and the experience to be the best for all who were listening.”

Bringing the sea to Wisconsin

Back in the classroom in Dousman, she used what she’d experienced on the sea to help her students train their ears.

“I divided the students into pairs, and they had to develop a code using music, rhythm and notes,” she said. “One would be the AUV, like the Popoki, and the other would be the pilot, and they would have to sing or play to communicate with one another.”

“I also related careers on ships to careers in music. For example, conductors are like the captain of the ship – they see the big picture. And on the Shimada scientists were using environmental DNA – or eDNA – to collect seawater and determine what living beings had gone through the water at some point in time. In music this can translate to a recording – I’ll ask the students what instruments they can detect. If they hear clarinets, how many clarinets do they think there are?”

Werner finds her students are more engaged when she can show them that



above: Werner floated around NASA’s KC-135A aircraft as she played her purple trombone.

STEVE BOXALL UW-W Back to School

left: While in Antarctica, Werner shows off a necklace made of images of her students.

SUBMITTED PHOTO UW-W Back to School

the skills they are getting will translate to anything they will do in life.

“Who would have thought that we’d be sitting in Wisconsin discussing oceans and the science related to that?”

Going to the ends of the earth

Even before she embarked upon the Teacher at Sea program, Werner was preparing for the trip of a lifetime — a two-week expedition to the southernmost continent as part of a National Geographic and Lindblad Expeditions’ Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship, a professional learning opportunity for prekindergarten through 12th grade teachers to travel and get field experience that they can take back to the classroom.

“My goal has been to go to as many places as possible in my lifetime. It’s actually my students who said, ‘What about Antarctica?’

There’s so much of the world that I don’t know firsthand, and it’s the most barren and isolated continent. If I can find music there, I can find it anywhere.”

As part of the program, Werner visited Washington, D.C., in April 2024 to meet the other fellows. They toured the National Geographic headquarters, got an overview of their respective expeditions, and learned what they would be expected to create in their classrooms.

Back in Wisconsin, she began to prepare herself and her students for the adventure to come.

“I did the Float Your Boat project with all the grades in the school. The students decorate wooden boats that come with unique codes on them, and we mail them in. The program puts the boats out on arctic sea ice and, once it melts, the boats will go where

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Alumna Lisa Werner, who earned her degree in music education—instrumental in 2001, applauds the orchestra after they played their own composition on the theme of the Antarctic during a high school band camp on July 18.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School



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the ocean takes them. Scientists – and our students – can then find where they washed up to learn about ocean currents.”

She asked her students to paint pictures of what they thought Antarctica looked like and to make the noises she thought penguins made, recording their efforts. And, to be able to bring her students with her on the voyage, she made a necklace out of small pictures of them dressed as polar explorers.

By late November, Werner traveled first to Argentina and then by ship on the *Endurance*, with more than 100 passengers and crew heading toward Antarctica.

During her two weeks aboard, the ship made stops when Werner could join others in walking on the sea ice, kayaking, or snowshoeing. She also updated her blog, took photos, answered student questions, worked on her lesson plans for when she returned and recorded sounds of seals and penguins.

“I was surprised when I recorded the penguins,” she said. “One kid got really close – one species sounds exactly like the sound

he made.”

Since getting back, she’s been busy bringing what she experienced into her classrooms. She plans the same activities for the grades she teaches, which runs from kindergarten to grade 8, scaling them back or simplifying them as needed.

“I had the students listen to music composed about Antarctica and do watercolor paintings of what they thought the composer was thinking of. We used saltwater with the same salinity as the weather in the Antarctic – I know because I tested it when I was there.” said Werner. “I showed the students landscape photos I took when I was there and had them work on composing music that follows the shape of the mountains, glaciers and icebergs.

Werner is also guiding projects using temperature data gathered in the Antarctic combined with data gathered locally helping students prepare a water-related goal in time for the spring concert, where some of the compositions will be played. Each student will have a poster displayed in a “dreams

room” at the concert, and each post will include a QR code that leads attendees to more discovery.

“Doing these new lessons is like hitting refresh on the way I teach,” said Werner. “It keeps my passion for teaching invigorated.”

Werner was recently named the UW-Whitewater 2025 Distinguished Alumna for Professional Achievement, a recognition given to graduates who have exhibited distinguished professional, personal and career achievement, and accomplishments in their field.

Africa: the next, but not final, frontier

Werner, who is also the senior symphony orchestra manager at the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra and jazz ensemble director at Kettle Moraine High School in Wales, received a Fulbright to go to Senegal, which she did in the spring.

“I picked Asia or Africa, and my cohort of 16 teachers was selected to go to Senegal.

First we’ll go to the U.S. Embassy in Dakar to learn about the country and its culture, and then we’ll travel to the town or village we’ll be teaching in,” she said in February.

To prepare, Werner participated in a 10-week online course about global education and participated in a symposium in Washington, DC, accompanied by the school administrator, Mary MacDonald, a UW-Whitewater alumna who earned a B.A. in music education as well.

MacDonald has been supportive of the wealth of educational opportunities Werner’s adventure brings to the school, which has about 72 students.

“I couldn’t do any of this without the support of my principal and school community and students,” said Werner, who will only have the continents of Asia and Australia left on her bucket list after her trip to Africa.

“I am so grateful we have a principal who was a music teacher. I know I am in the right space at the right time.”

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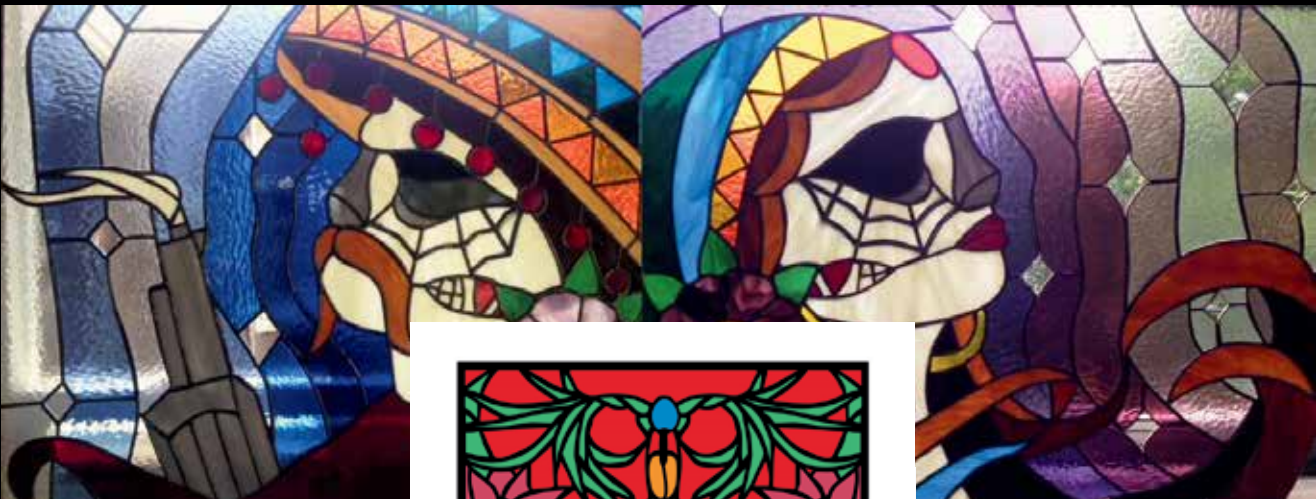
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Winged friends welcome

A butterfly explores multicolored blooms near Winther Hall at UW-Whitewater on July 7. It's one of numerous areas in the midst of showing off its summer blooms around campus.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITWATER
UW-W Back to School

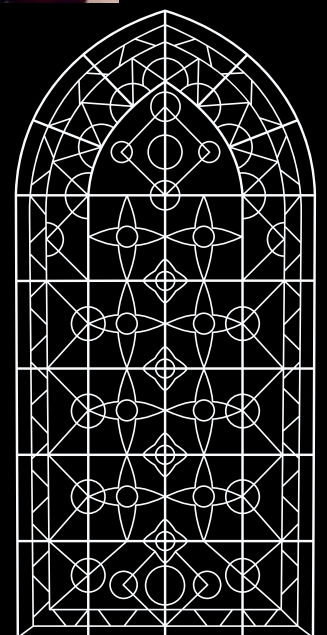
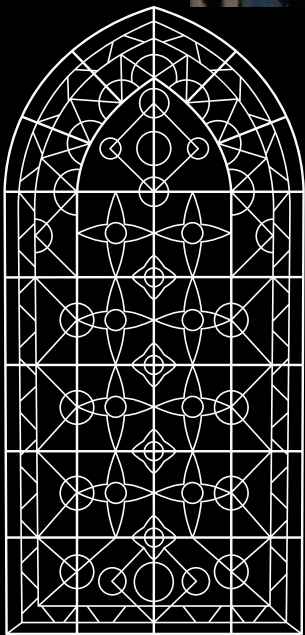


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UW-Whitewater tabbed as best business school



CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School

It's also nationally ranked in all five program categories

The 2025 "U.S. News & World Report" Best Online Programs rankings were announced Jan. 21, with one Wisconsin college earning top honors.

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's College of Business and Economics was named the top single business college in the state, topping Wisconsin schools in a number of categories and also ranking well nationally.

The College of Business and Economics is also nationally ranked in all five categories:

- No. 23 Graduate Business Programs for Veterans, excluding MBA (Best in Wisconsin)
- No. 32 Veterans (tie) MBA Programs (Best single school in Wisconsin)
- No. 46 (tie) Online MBA (Best single school in Wisconsin)
- No. 46 (tie) in Online Graduate Business, excluding MBA (Best in Wisconsin)
- No. 68 (tie) Online Undergraduate Business (Best in Wisconsin)

The rankings are more impressive knowing that this year's edition of the U.S. News report evaluates more than 1,790 online bachelor's and master's degree programs.



above: Andy Dahl teaches a business class at UW-Whitewater. top: University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's College of Business and Economics was recently recognized as the best business school in the state by "U.S. News & World Report."

NICK POOK/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School

"U.S. News & World Report" assessed schools based on a variety of objective factors, such as student engagement, faculty credentials, and services and technologies.

"Being ranked the best online business school in Wisconsin reflects why we're the state's largest business college and among the top 2% of business schools worldwide,

as recognized by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – the premier international accreditation agency," Dr. Paul Ambrose, Dean of the College of Business and Economics, said. "Our flexible, student-first online programs empower learners to balance work, family, and education seamlessly," he added.

According to information online from U.S. News & World Report:

- The bachelor's degree, Grad business degree and MBA programs scored between 81 and 83 out of a possible 100.
- Individual rankings saw UW-Whitewater competing against roughly 300 and 500 programs nationwide, including larger schools like Stanford, Cal-Berkeley and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

• Online programs had a different set of criteria. According to the publication, "Most undergraduate programs assessed in the Best Online Programs rankings are degree completion programs, meaning few, if any, new entrants at most of these schools are first-time, first-year students.

"Consequently, ranking indicators like standardized test scores and high school class standing that are used in the Best Colleges rankings are not used in the Best Online Bachelor's Programs rankings.

"Indicators distinct to the Best Online Programs rankings include measures of services offered remotely, available technologies and course delivery best practices," the publication states.

• Regarding online programs, specifically in graduate programs, it stated: "Highly ranked programs have strong traditional academic foundations based on the excellence of entering students, graduation rates and instructor credentials. They also excel at educating distance learners while offering robust career and financial support."

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater College of Business and Economics (CoBE) is Wisconsin's largest business college.

UW-W is the only college in the state that offers an AACSB-accredited Doctor of Business Administration degree program. The College of Business and Economics is in the top 2% of the world's business schools having earned both AACSB and AACSB Accounting Accreditation.

In addition to business degrees, UW-Whitewater offers 13 fully online bachelor's degree programs outside of the College of Business and Economics. The programs address key workforce needs in the region, including early childhood education, special education, social work, and more.

The university recently added an online degree program in legal studies for students pursuing careers in law, which are expected to grow faster than average over the next decade according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For more information, visit uw.edu or call 262-472-1234.

UW-Whitewater Enactus earns national championship

BY Chris Lindeke

CONTRIBUTOR

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's Enactus team, an organization that uses business as a force of good to improve people's lives and their communities, was named the 2025 Enactus USA champion at the Enactus United States Expo in Kansas City, Missouri.

This group of Warhawks will now represent the country as Team USA at the Enactus World Cup, set for this September in Bangkok, Thailand. They'll compete alongside the top teams from more than 30 countries around the world.

UW-Whitewater last claimed the Enactus national title in 2021. The team is supported by the College of Business and Economics and advised by Choton Basu, professor of information technology and supply chain management.

Basu said the chapter's two primary collaborations – an existing international project that empowers women, and a new project focused on supporting rural America – set the UW-Whitewater Enactus team apart from others in the nation and propelled it to win the 2025 national championship.

ProChapina

Students and faculty have been working with ProChapina, a nonprofit organization that serves to support, educate, uplift, and empower women in Guatemala through professional training programs and other services, since 2019.

Last year, Enactus teamed with UW-Whitewater's American Marketing Association chapter – the 2025 International Chapter of the Year – to build a sustainable business plan with marketing and fundraising services for ProChapina. Two students from each group, along with AMA faculty advisor Lauren Drury, visited Antigua, Guatemala, for one week last summer to discuss product development and sales and to immerse themselves in Guatemalan culture.

The team turned its focus to marketing this past year, working with the university and businesses in the area to gauge interest in selling ProChapina products, which include hand-crafted goods and other services.

RenewTowns

Over the last year, UW-Whitewater students and faculty have worked with three Wisconsin cities as part of Enactus' RenewTowns project.

The goal of the project is to drive sustainable economic growth and revitalization in communities. Enactus has teamed with organizations and business leaders in Fort Atkinson, Cambridge, and Wauwatosa to build business pitch



Members of UW-Whitewater's Enactus team celebrate after being named the 2025 USA champion at the Enactus United States Expo in Kansas City, Missouri. They will now represent the country as Team USA at the Enactus World Cup, set for this September in Bangkok, Thailand. They'll compete alongside the top teams from more than 30 countries.

PHOTO SUBMITTED
UW-W Back to School

left: Left to right, UW-Whitewater student participants Ruth Hammer, Faith Jones, Kylie Bilello, and Fionnbharr Hartnett stand with Julio Martinez of ProChapina, at center, at the top of Cerro de la Cruz in Antigua, Guatemala.

PHOTO COURTESY FLONNBHARR
HARTNETT UW-W Back to School

competitions that offer free rent and other incentives to small businesses who set up in the downtown areas of those communities.

For example, Enactus worked with Collaborative 532 on the Cambridge Storefront Competition to bring a small business to one of the vacant spaces in downtown Cambridge. In Fort Atkinson, the latest winner of the RenewTowns storefront competition was Tidy Tails, a dog grooming business that captured the community's heart.

As with other participating towns, the

winning entrepreneur received a year of free rent – a powerful incentive designed to jumpstart small business growth on Main Streets across rural America.

The student-led initiative is more than just the prize. RenewTowns is sparking a movement that unites community members, unlocks local resources, and creates a ripple effect of sustainable growth by bringing life back to vacant storefronts. It's an economic – and emotional – revival.

“What’s unique about this project – and what continues to impress the

Enactus judges – is its unwavering focus on rural America,” Basu said. “The direct beneficiaries are the small towns, the mom-and-pop stores, and the wonderful communities that are the country’s beating heart. We’re using cutting-edge business tools to support the places and people we care about. We’re working to uplift the folks you hear about in a Springsteen or Mellencamp song.”

Chris Lindeke is the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Marketing and Communications Manager.

'We are here to assist our communities'

The University of Wisconsin – Whitewater Police Department proudly, professionally and proactively assists in our mutual pursuit of the safety and security of our students, staff, faculty and community.

As the Chief of Police, I believe in a philosophy based around compassion. I want our officers and staff to consider each individual with the same empathy they would want for their own family members and people they care about.

I don't believe in or like the term "law enforcement" being applied to our profession. I think it was an unfortunate belittling of what we should truly be doing.

We are here to assist our communities, not simply enforce laws upon them. It sells short what we really do and definitely isn't what any individual wants. Our goals



BY **Matthew Kiederlen**

UW-WHITewater
POLICE CHIEF

should be to educate, encourage and inform; we cannot compel individual change through strictly enforcement.

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• **Compassion** – We will see others through their experiences and situation.

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UW-W professor wins 'Bright New Idea' award

Sea Change Silicides also a recipient of innovation grant

BY Jennifer Eisenbart

STAFF WRITER

It's been a busy stretch for University of Wisconsin-Whitewater associate professor Steven Girard.

In February, Girard was announced as one of three recipients of the 2024 Universities of Wisconsin Innovation Grant – a total of \$175,000 over two years with the possibility of up to \$400,000 more.

Both the grant money and the finalist nomination are for Girard's proposal of "Sea Change Silicides – Superalloy and Biomedical Coatings from Sustainable and Recycled Feedstocks."

His business plan started by being inspired by osseointegrated implants – basically, a double amputee who had titanium rods put into his legs so that his prosthetics could be directly attached.

"I previously had some undergraduate research projects involving bioactive glasses in my lab at UW-Whitewater, which could serve as the gold

standard for implant bone growth and regeneration, while also limiting infections due to their inherent antibacterial properties," Girard explained. "But I quickly realized there aren't any commercialized coating technologies using bioactive glass – which is a major problem."

Bioactive glasses are a group of surface reactive, glass-ceramic biomaterials – used as implant devices in the human body to repair and replace diseased or damaged bones.

Among the uses are for fillings (replacing metallic or plastic materials in teeth) and can also bind to bone and other tissues.

Girard began working with WiSys, an organization of business professionals that help with academic technology transfer, intellectual property protection, contract management and technology commercialization.

He originally received funding in 2021-22 to start studying the issue and said they discovered "we could chemically bond bioactive glass into titanium for the first time using a novel silicide interface."

Since then, Girard has filed a patent on the invention for its use on implants. The coatings are bioactive, meaning they

regenerative and grow bone.

"Osseointegrated implants are a game changer in prosthetic technology," Girard said in a UW-Whitewater release last December. "Rather than a socket prosthesis, which is essentially strapped onto a patient's site of amputation, osseointegrated components are implanted into the patient's skeleton and extend through their skin."

"The implant becomes a part of the patient's skeleton. These components more naturally distribute weight and have improved function. Patients even report they have improved senses of force and vibration since the implant essentially becomes an extension of their body," he said.

"Bioactive glasses are extremely effective at regenerating bone in the human body and would be ideal to permanently anchor the implant to bone tissue. But they haven't been successfully demonstrated as coatings for osseointegrated implants – until now," Girard added.

Girard's business plan went beyond the Innovation Grant, advancing through several stages to reach the "Diligent Dozen" – 12 business plans – in the 22nd Annual Wisconsin Governor's Business Plan Contest. The finalists were



selected after submitting a 15-minute pitch deck for review by a panel of about 70 judges. The plans describe the core product or service, define the customer base, estimate the size of the market, identify competition, list members of the management team and provide financial data.

The results were announced in June. Girard finished second in the Life Sciences category and his business plan was selected as winner of the "Bright New Idea" award.

"I am extremely proud that all of the research to get to this point was accomplished by incredible undergraduate researchers at UW-Whitewater," Girard said.

"The outcomes of this research could be a sea change for biomedical implants – our coatings should reduce implant failures from loosening or infection and improve outcomes for patients throughout the U.S. and the entire world," he said.

Chris Lindeke, UW-Whitewater's Marketing and Communications Director, contributed to this article.



above: Steven Girard has been knee-deep in his silicides research since 2021. He is now a finalist in a business plan contest in the state. left: UW-Whitewater associate professor Steven Girard (left) is shown working with a student on a project at the university. He finished second in Life Sciences of the Governor's Business Plan Contest for a material that could help revolutionize prosthetic implants.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School

UW-Whitewater athletics

From NCAA Division III Warhawk athletics to our club and intramural teams, Warhawks know how to have fun competing in sports — and how to win.

“Our exceptional facilities are home to student-athletes of every level — from those who want to go up against the best in the nation, to students who have a passion for playing sports and want to join a pickup game,” the website states.

“UW-Whitewater is rich in athletic history, from the game day experience to our purple traditions,” it states.

From intercollegiate athletics to championship-caliber club teams, UW-Whitewater is nationally renowned as a sports powerhouse with a deep commitment to the success of student-athletes both on and off the field.

Intercollegiate athletics – Proudly



There are numerous options for athletes at the university including NCAA Division III athletics, club sports, intramurals (such as volleyball, above) and men's and women's wheelchair basketball.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School

supporting 20 intercollegiate athletic teams, UW-Whitewater competes in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) and Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Since the advent

of the Directors' Cup in 1995, which measures the overall competitive success of intercollegiate athletic programs on a national level, UW-Whitewater has finished in the top 15 ranking of all Division III programs 13 times, according

to the website.

Club sports – From Aikido to Water Polo, and everything in between, UW-Whitewater offers more than 30 club sport teams. Depending on the club, teams may travel, host events on campus and compete for state, regional and national championships.

Intramural sports – “If you're looking to stay active, learn about new sports, and experience the camaraderie of a team, intramural sports are great options. When it comes to intramurals, our goal is “a sport for everyone and everyone in a sport!” Intramurals include individual, dual and team activities for male, female and co-ed participants,” it states.

Wheelchair basketball – With a combined 16 national championships, the Warhawk men's and women's wheelchair basketball teams welcome students from all over the world and are among the best athletes in the sport. “Our students, alumni and coaches play internationally and have won many Paralympic medals — gold, silver and bronze,” it states on the website.

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Warhawks rout field en route to championship

BY UWW SPORTS INFORMATION

Dominant.
In one of the most dominant performances in NCAA Division III Championship history, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater baseball team secured the national title with a 21-3 win over Messiah University June 4.

That win followed an 18-3 win over Messiah the previous day, and UW-Whitewater never trailed in any of their five games at the College World Series.

The Warhawks scored 74 runs over the course of their five games at the World Series, a Division III record, to hoist the championship trophy for the third time in program history (2005, 2014).

In the second game against Messiah, UWW was able to get the bats to shine

early as the award team. Andy Thies delivered the first strike with a three-run homer.

Cade Hansen set the tone defensively as well, dealing out two strikeouts in the bottom of the first. A groundout to Darryl Jackson created the first 1-2-3 inning of the day for Hansen.

The Warhawks tacked on two more in the second, as Jackson got on with a double. Dominic McVay followed suit with his own double to score the shortstop, with Aaron Holland bringing in McVay with a single of his own.

After just two innings of play, the Warhawks had already burst out to a 5-0 lead, replicating the first game of the

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



The national champion University of Wisconsin-Whitewater baseball team is celebrated with a parade around campus and along Main Street in Whitewater on June 5 to celebrate their win in the Division III World Series.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School



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Warhawks volleyball runner up in NCAA Division III

BY UWW SPORTS INFORMATION

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater women's volleyball team wrapped up a phenomenal 2024 campaign as the NCAA Division III National Runner-Up. The Warhawks fell to undefeated Juniata 3-2 (25-19, 25-19, 15-25, 26-28, 15-10) at the Cregger Center in Salem, Virginia.

The women pushed a fifth set for the first time in nine seasons in the national title match – the previous eight were 3-0 sweeps.

UW-Whitewater battled back to force the decisive fifth after trailing 0-2 in the match. The Warhawks turned it around in set three as the best blocking team in the country lived up to its reputation.

The Warhawks registered seven blocks in the set, holding the Eagles to a negative attack percentage. Meanwhile the offense picked up the pace hitting .235 with 13 kills. The offense-defense combination led to a lopsided 25-15 win in the set.

The fourth set was arguably one of the most thrilling of the season. UW-Whitewater trailed early until Jenna Weinfurt took over. The powerful outside hitter posted UW-W's next five points – all on kills – to tie the set 10-10.

From there, the teams traded points, battling it out as the set continued on. Juniata claimed the

first set and match point, 25-24, but the Warhawks had the response on an Alayna Jansky kill.

The Eagles forced another match point and setter Aubrie Krzus pushed the ball back to this outside, this time for Weinfurt. She drove the ball on a dart toward the endline and the line judge lifted his flag to signal out.

Juniata rushed the floor as Warhawks coach Stacy Boudreau immediately grabbed the green challenge card. The officials went to the monitor and quickly returned to the floor indicating the ball was in, the call overturned for a UW-W point and the set now tied 26-26.

On the next play, the Eagles set drifted over the net and Weinfurt put it back down for a UW-Whitewater set point. In a rare feat for a title match, the Warhawks won the set on a bad set as the Juniata setter pushed the ball to the outside pin as the hitters all collapsed toward the middle. The error sent the squads into a fifth.

Following the brief intermission, the Eagles came out on fire, scoring the first eight points. The Warhawks did not fold and continued to battle pulling to within four, but the deficit was too much to overcome in the shortened fifth set.

Weinfurt had a phenomenal match with 25 kills while Jansky posted 16 in the contest. The pair combined for

99 kills over the three matches in the championship and were named to the NCAA Division III Championship All-Tournament Team for their performances. Krzus tallied 38 assists in the match.

On the defensive end, Jaedynn Evans led UW-W with 19 digs while Weinfurt added 18 and Jansky posted 12. At the net, Hannah Proctor had 10 blocks, Krzus and Abbie Dix each registered eight and Chloe Werner added four.

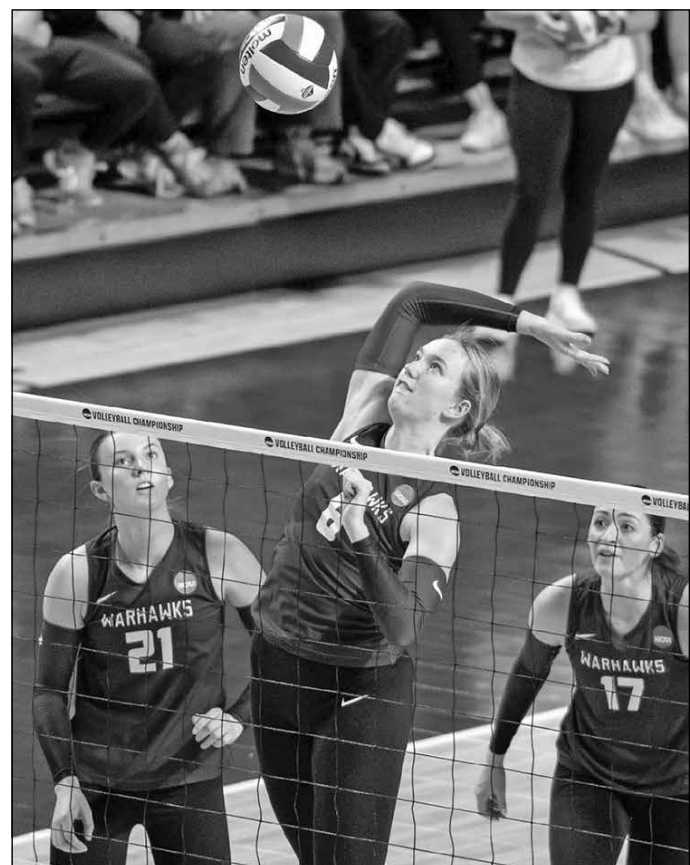
UW-Whitewater – the No. 6 tournament seed – reached the national title match with a pair of upsets. On Dec. 4, 2024, the Warhawks swept No. 3-seeded Emory, 25-13, 25-23, 25-19.

Jansky had 13 kills in the match, while Weinfurt had 12.

In the national semifinal, facing No. 2 seed Johns Hopkins, the Warhawks traded sets with the Blue Jays before winning, 13-25, 25-16, 17-25, 25-16, 15-7.

In the semifinal, Jansky led the Warhawks with 17 kills, while Weinfurt added 16. Krzus had 43 assists and Weinfurt 17 digs.

The Warhawks wrapped up the 2024 campaign with a 31-4 record, the first 30-win season since 2015. The trip to the national title match is UWW's first since 2007. Juniata has won 97 consecutive matches, including three straight titles.



Hannah Proctor goes for a kill in the Warhawks run in the NCAA Division III tournament late in 2024. The team fell to undefeated Juniata 3-2 in the national match, which they reached following a pair of upsets. UW-Whitewater finished the season with the first 30-win season since 2015.

PHOTO COURTESY BROOKE BOWDREN UW-W Back to School

WARHAWKS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

World Series Final.

Sam Paden was the lone hit of the third inning, as Messiah's defense was able to put a zero on the scoreboard. However, Hansen kept moving through the order, pitching his ninth straight out of the game.

In the fourth inning, the Warhawks pushed the lead to double digits, benefitting from a few walks and wild pitches to move the juiced bases. Jackson cleared the bags with a two-RBI single to cap off the inning.

Hansen picked up another 1-2-3 inning in the bottom of the inning, to set up a big top of the fifth for the Warhawks.

Matt Scolan delivered the second homer of the game for UWW, putting the team ahead 12-0. His strike kickstarted five straight hits for the Warhawks, as Adam Cootway connected on a triple, then Thies, Eli Frank and Danny Hopper all passing the bat.

Jackson finished the inning with an RBI fielder's choice, putting the Warhawks up 16-0.

Hansen's no-hitter came to close in the

fifth, as the Falcons knocked a ball off the righty. Hansen quickly got out of the inning, however, forcing a 4-6-3 double play to bring the Warhawks offense back out.

In the top of the sixth, it was a pair of back-to-back home runs by Scolan, who tallied his 300th hit in a Warhawk uniform in the process. Cootway followed with his own solo shot, putting the Warhawks just one run from a 20-0 score.

But on the Falcons side of the frame, Messiah finally pushed their first runs of the day across with a four-hit inning. Max Huseboe came on in relief for the Warhawks, picking up the last two outs to finish the evening.

UWW was held off the scoreboard in the seventh, though Holland recorded a single to pick up a single-season hit record of 84 for the Warhawks.

Cootway led off the eighth, looking for a double to complete the cycle, but got on base with a walk. Hopper then scored him, followed by Paden's RBI single to put the Warhawks at 21 runs.

Messiah scored another two runs in the bottom of the inning on a two-out double,

but Jack Hagen finished the side with a strikeout looking.

In the top of the ninth, the Warhawks went three-up, three-down, going without a hit in an inning for the first time since the first game of the championship series against Messiah.

Logan Eisenbarth had the call on the mound for the final three outs. After two flyouts to Scolan, a foul pop-up created the championship moment, as Frank made the catch and went to his knees in front of the Messiah dugout as the dogpile ensued.

Cootway was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player, finishing his week as designated hitter with a .615 batting average, hitting four home runs and serving responsibility for 10 Warhawk scores.

Joining him on the All-Tournament Team were Frank, Thies, Hopper, Paden, Scolan, Hansen and Ben Lee – who secured the Warhawks' 18-3 win over Messiah in the first of the two games.

In total, UWW finished the Division 3 CWS with a final margin of 74-17 over the five games. The Warhawks, seeded

third of eight teams, defeated No. 6 Trinity University 7-3 May 30, then No. 2 Denison 11-4 the next day.

A 17-4 win over Rowan University June 2 put the Warhawks into the championship series against Messiah – the No. 8 overall seed.

A few statistics from the tournament:

- UW-Whitewater chased a total of 20 pitchers of the opposition over five games.

- The Warhawks outit Messiah 39-15 in the championship series, and pounded out 85 hits to the opposition's 41 over five games.

- Four different pitchers – Hansen, Lee, Huseboe and Eisenbarth – picked up wins on the mound for UW-Whitewater.

- The Warhawks finished the season 49-6, losing no more than two games in a row all year and bouncing back from an opening-game loss in the WIAC tournament to win that title.

- Eight seniors were on the roster for the championship game – Frank, Huseboe, Paden, Cootway, Scolan, Jackson, Alex Najera and Charlie Bogue.

UW-W ranks No. 1 in state for student experience

According to a study by the Wall Street Journal and research partners

BY Chris Lindeke

UW-WHITEWATER

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is the state's top college or university for student experience, a Wall Street Journal study has found.

The study was part of the Wall Street Journal/College Pulse 2025 Best Colleges in the U.S. ranking, developed and executed in collaboration with its research partners College Pulse and Statista. In a survey, more than 50,000 students and recent graduates were asked about campus facilities, including food, housing options, and extracurricular activities, the WSJ said. Questions also focused on students' satisfaction with the sense of community on campus, mental health support, safety, and social scene.

"We are excited that UW-Whitewater is being recognized for the amazing work our faculty, staff, students, and alumni do to enhance our student experience. Together, our university leans into the relationship-rich educational setting that moves our students toward success," said Chancellor Corey A. King. "I am so proud of our Warhawk family in this acknowledgment of what we do every-day to make the student experience the best in Wisconsin."

Unique campus experiences

Students on campus benefit from a uniquely satisfying Warhawk life, including an affordable college education, a robust set of student activities, and an environment where hands-on learning and small class sizes are put into practice to support student success.

UW-Whitewater welcomes first-year students each year with traditions



of painting Warhawk Drive purple and running out through a student tunnel onto Perkins Stadium, home of the university's football team.

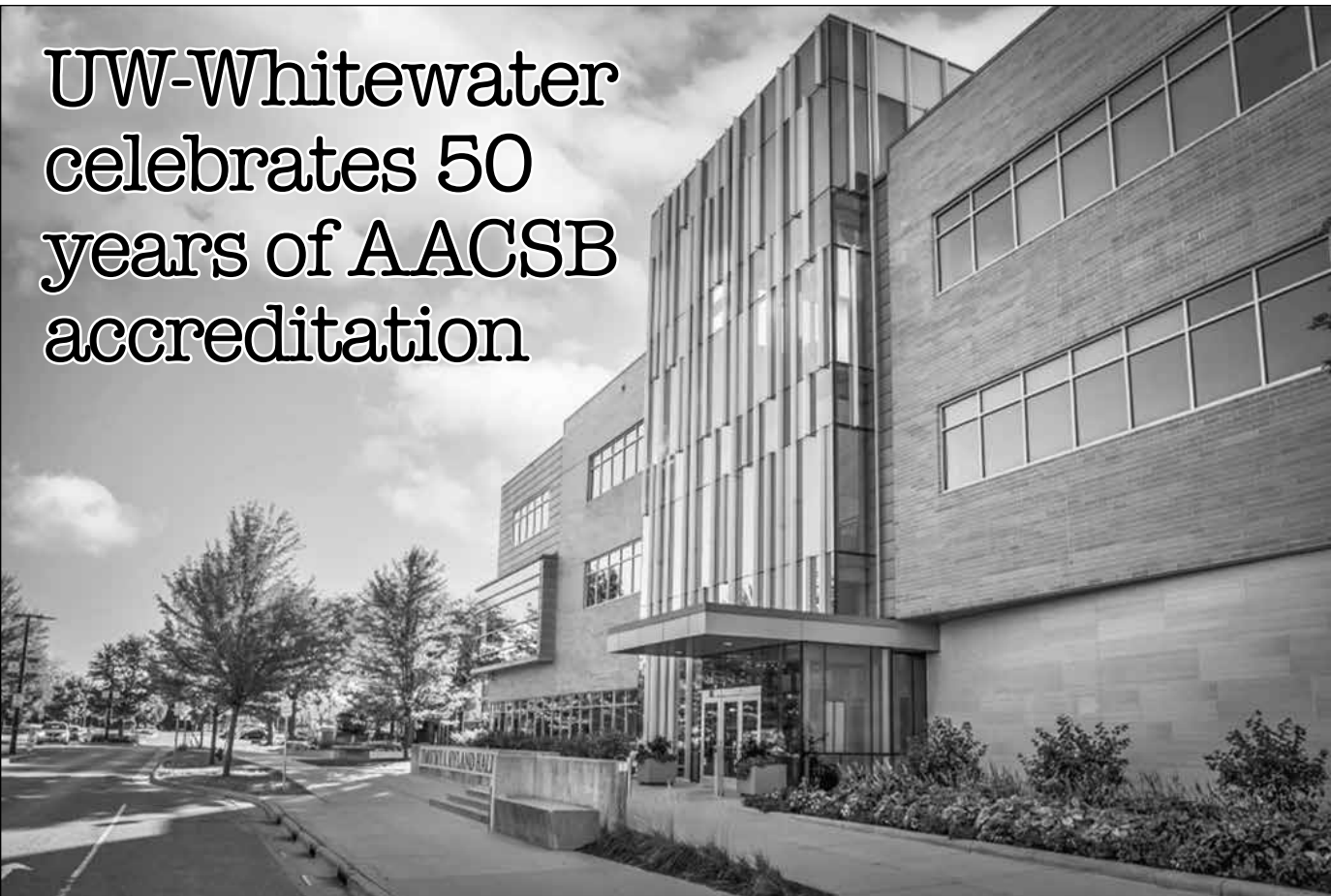
from above: Families, alumni and current students enjoy the atmosphere in the parking lot of Perkins Stadium as they tailgate before the 2024 home opener; (from left) Delany Silva and Anna Pineda, who are members of Omega Pi Lambda Sorority, Inc., volunteer in the Campus Garden with prospective members Rebecca Mendoza and Michelle Jimenez in September 2024; Students flock to a Hawk Career Fair in the fall of 2023 at Kachel Fieldhouse to connect with employers offering internships and full-time jobs.

CRAIG SCHREINER/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



UW-Whitewater celebrates 50 years of AACSB accreditation



The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International announced that the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater has earned five more years of business and accounting education accreditation. This marks the 50th year of consecutive AACSB business accreditation for the university and its College of Business and Economics.

The organization has 1,026 accredited institutions in over 65 countries and territories and 194 institutions with AACSB accreditation for accounting programs. Achieving this milestone ensures greater access to high-quality business education for learners and for businesses seeking top talent.

“AACSB congratulates the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater on achieving AACSB accreditation,” said Stephanie Bryant, executive vice president and global chief accreditation officer for the organization. “The commitment to earning accreditation is a true reflection of the school’s dedication – not only to its students, alumni network, and greater business community – but to society as a whole.”

Achieving AACSB accreditation is a mission-driven, rigorous process that includes an in-depth assessment of internal

activities. It is a peer-reviewed evaluation focused on continuous improvement.

During this multiyear path, schools focus on developing and implementing a plan to achieve their mission and align with the organization’s accreditation standards. These principles-based standards require excellence in areas relating to strategic management and innovation, research, teaching and learning, and making the region better through business education.

“This year UW-Whitewater’s College of Business and Economics is celebrating 110 years of business education, 25 years of online education, and now 50 years of continuous AACSB business accreditation. Whether online or on-campus, freshman to doctoral students, the College of Business and Economics helps students achieve their dreams for a better future,” said Dean Paul Ambrose.

“Being Wisconsin’s largest business school is no coincidence. With AACSB accreditation in both business and accounting, College of Business and Economics ranks in the top 2% of business schools globally for program quality. Whitewater proudly accept 97% of applicants, and College of Business and Economics graduates boast a 99% job placement rate,” Ambrose added.

“It’s been an incredible year of milestones for our College of Business and Economics,” said UW-Whitewater Chancellor Corey A. King.

“Dean Ambrose and the faculty and

staff work hard to create a world-class experience for our students, and our 50 years of AACSB accreditation are proof of the college’s continued culture of transformative education. I’d like to congratulate our business school students, faculty, and staff – past and present – who made this achievement possible. We see you, and we thank you,” King added.

Per 2022 data, of all Wisconsin public comprehensive universities, UW-Whitewater has the largest population of underrepresented minority students, is number one in total aid, and graduates the greatest percent of students in six years or less (Universities of Wisconsin standard graduation measure).

About the College of Business and Economics

The college ranked No. 1 in the state in the 2024 U.S. News and World Report review of online programs. UW-Whitewater is home to Wisconsin’s top-ranked single school in the following categories:

- Best Online MBA
- Best Online Business Graduate Program
- Best Online Business Undergraduate Program
- Best Online MBA Program for Veterans
- Best Online Business Graduate Program for Veterans

For more information on the UW-Whitewater College of Business and Economics, visit uww.edu/cobe or email cobe@uww.edu.

RANKS NO. 1

• CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

UW-Whitewater invests more than \$5 million annually in student employment and more than \$2.5 million in scholarships. Students save money through free textbook rentals and complimentary tutoring services. The value of a UW-Whitewater education is the best among the Universities of Wisconsin.

More than 4,000 students live in the university’s residence halls, where they participate in engaging programs like Learning Communities that boost academic success. UW-Whitewater is home to 26 Greek organizations and more than 180 clubs and organizations. The University Center hosts hundreds of free events each year and oversees a vast array of dining options, including 24 concepts through Warhawk Dining.

Game days at Perkins Stadium, home of the six-time national champion UW-Whitewater football team, are among the best in the region — the award-winning Warhawk Marching Band, the tailgating experience, and the “Cannon Guy” all contribute to the excitement. The team has led NCAA Division III in home attendance in three of the last four years and holds the on-campus Division III record for single-game attendance (20,113).

Students are supported through services like the new One Stop, where they can get answers to their questions about any topic, and the nationally recognized Center for Students with Disabilities, a place that’s accessed by more than 1,300 Warhawks annually.

Leading the way in opportunity

UW-Whitewater also led Wisconsin schools in the WSJ/College Pulse Social Mobility ranking, a measure of how much the university enhances its students’ social mobility. The ranking is a testament to the university’s support of students coming from lower-income families, graduation rates, high value, and positive impact on graduate salaries.

In 2023-24, more than one-third of Warhawks at the Whitewater campus and almost 55 percent at the Rock County campus were first-generation college students, meaning neither of their parents earned a four-year degree. During the same year, a total of 378 students were veterans or active service members.

Many UW-Whitewater students secure high-profile, coveted internships during their time on campus and are hired before graduation. More than 99 percent of the university’s graduates are employed or in graduate school within one year of receiving their degree.

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater earned five more years of business and accounting education accreditation from the AACSB, announced in July 2024. Above: Timothy J. Hyland Hall is the university’s home to the College of Business and Economics.

NICK POOK/UW-WHITEWATER UW-W Back to School



Great teaching

Striving to make college possible and meaningful

BY Craig Schreiner

UW-WHITewater

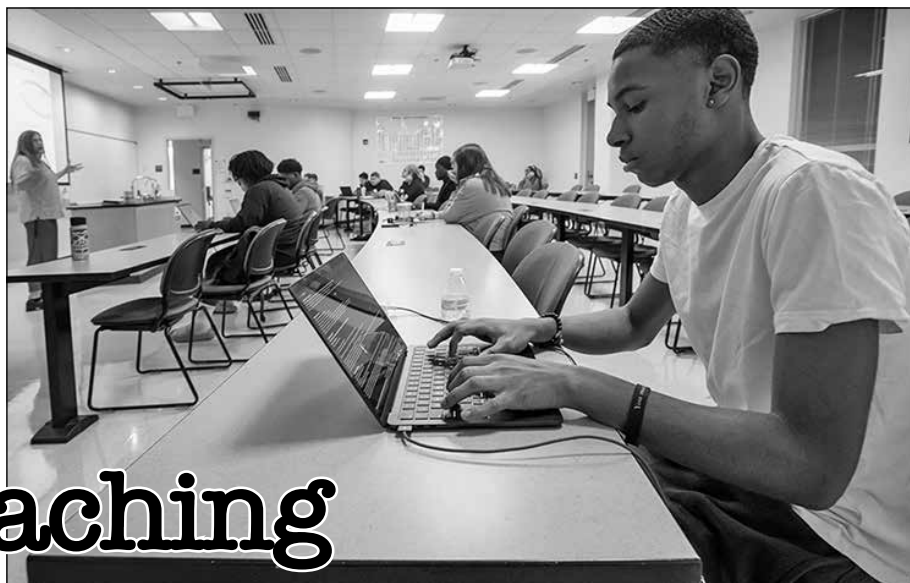
Soon after Anneke Lisberg came to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater 14 years ago, she began to realize she had a front-row seat to her students every day — along with an opportunity to help make college doable, possible and meaningful for them.

Lisberg, an associate professor of biology, was interested in student success beyond her own classes. She learned that nationally, three categories of students were finishing college at a rate dramatically less than their peers: first-generation college students, students from underrepresented minority groups and students with low socioeconomic status.

In 2012, Lisberg and her then-colleague Brett Woods set out to do something about that with a summer program for incoming first-year students at UW-Whitewater. This bridge program, called STEM Boot Camp, has improved graduation rates among these key categories and has become a learning laboratory on student success.

“We would get students before day one — before they started their freshman year — and we would keep talking to them,” said Lisberg. “A lot of what I was able to learn was because I was fortunate to be able to build relationships with students and hear from them long-term.

“Over the years we would see all of the reasons why students were pushed to the edge of deciding whether they could continue or not,” she said. “Every time



we would see a challenge that seemed like we could do something about, we would address it in the program. These were things we could talk about — these were things we could help students avoid or prepare for.”

Lisberg discussed what she has learned about the challenges these students face in “Bridge to College,” a Tedx Youth @ Wrigleyville talk she gave in 2019.

UW-Whitewater Chancellor Corey King saw a link between Lisberg’s work with students in the STEM Boot Camp program and the role of assistant chancellor for inclusivity and belonging. Since being tapped for the opportunity in 2023 through the Chancellor’s Leadership Fellows Program (LFP), Lisberg has continued teaching biology and running the STEM Boot Camp program as she has helped to bring together six special chancellor committees — Disability Concerns, Inclusive Excellence, LGBTQ+ Inclusive Excellence, Mental Health, Student Success and Veteran and Servicemember Success — and help those groups communicate and realize goals related to retaining students.

“The exciting thing about moving into this position is that I am able to see the landscape from a broader view,” said Lisberg. “I’m talking and working now with people from across the university, with people who have the capacity to see all these other moving pieces and make some changes.”

In her role as assistant chancellor, she has focused on lines of communication from classrooms to campus decision-makers.

Lisberg said change is easier to identify and achieve at Whitewater because of the way students are committed to their own goals. She recalls feeling this commitment and a spirit of collaboration when she first

came to campus 13 years ago.

“They have career goals in mind or they see it as a path,” she said. “They don’t always know how to do it or how to make college work for themselves. That’s a really great thing to be around because they are bringing the energy and doing the work—it’s easier to get to a place where we can help connect the dots and make the university work for them the way they need it to.

“I just felt like students here were wanting to get it (college) done,” she added. “Because we have so many first-generation students here, college isn’t just the next step that you’re expected to do. There are a lot more students who are taking college seriously as a way of getting to where they want to go.”

Although Lisberg was not a first-generation student herself, she recalls hitting some of the same walls as an undergraduate.

“I felt like my experience as an undergraduate was one where I had to figure out how to make the system work for me,” she said. “How do you ‘be a student’ in college? It was something I figured out with a lot of trial and error.”

Last fall, Lisberg and STEM boot camp program co-director Stephen Levas, associate professor of biology, gave another group of first-year students a head start on subject matter and study skills before the fall semester began.

“We see how much they grow and how much they change in their time here,” said Lisberg. “It’s just an incredible thing to be able to witness.

“Students need to learn a lot from each other to succeed,” she said. “Inclusivity means intentionally creating classroom and campus environments where students are more likely to collaborate together, with faculty, and with other key people.”

UW-Whitewater students win research challenge

BY Gracie Weston

UW-WHITewater

A team of finance students from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater made history recently by securing first place in the 2025 Local Finals of the CFA Institute Research Challenge in Milwaukee.

This marks the first time UW-Whitewater has won the prestigious competition in the 14 years it has participated.

The winning team of Nathan Parrish, Joshua Peterson, Alexa Gill, Kelsey Hengst, and Carter Voigt competed against top universities in the region.

Their success was part of the university’s Applied Investments Program. AIP is under the direction of UW-Whitewater Finance and Business Law instructor R.J. New and industry mentor John O’Hare, managing director at O’Hare Wealth Management. Both provided invaluable support, helping the students refine their research and presentation skills.

As part of the challenge, the team conducted extensive equity research on Manitowoc, Inc., a U.S.-based crane manufacturer.

Their analysis included evaluating the company’s financial statements, developing projected financial performance models, and determining a target stock price based on discounted cash flow valuation.

To enhance their understanding, the team from UW-Whitewater also interviewed professional crane operators, gaining first-hand insights into how MTW cranes compare to competitors in real-world applications.

“The competition was an incredible experience, and I can’t wait to see what we can achieve in the next stage,” said team member Carter Voigt.

“Being able to bridge classroom learning with real-world financial analysis has been invaluable. This experience has not only expanded our technical skills but also prepared us for future careers in finance,” Voigt added.

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

left: Anneke Lisberg, associate professor of biology and assistant chancellor for inclusivity and belonging, also runs UW-Whitewater’s STEM Boot Camp program and helps make college possible and meaningful for students. **right:** Savion Heaston-Stewart, a computer science major from Milwaukee, participates with other incoming first-year students in a summer STEM program prior to the fall 2023 semester at UW-Whitewater.

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2025-26 WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

CHALLENGE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Kelsey Hengst echoed this sentiment, emphasizing the competition's role in professional development.

"Throughout this experience, I gained invaluable skills that will benefit my professional career," Hengst said. "We learned how to properly analyze financial statements, build financial models, evaluate key financial ratios, and forecast future earnings."

"Additionally, the competition's Q&A session forced us to think critically and respond under pressure, which will be crucial in our future careers," Hengst added.

The CFA Institute Research Challenge is an annual global competition designed to provide university students with hands-on mentoring and intensive training in financial analysis and ethics. Students work with CFA professionals, faculty advisors, and industry mentors to produce a professional-grade research report and present their investment recommendations to a panel of expert judges.

After submitting their written reports in

January, the UW-Whitewater team delivered their final presentations on Feb. 25.

With this victory, the team from UW-Whitewater advances to the sub-regional competition, where they will submit a video recording of their presentation.

Their success highlights the strength of UW-Whitewater's College of Business and Economics in providing high-impact, experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for real-world careers in finance.

As the team moves forward in the competition, they remain focused on refining their research, sharpening their presentation skills, and continuing their success on a larger stage.

UW-Whitewater's Applied Investment Program gives students the opportunity to gain real-world experience by managing an investment portfolio worth more than \$1 million. For more information about this and other offerings at the university, call 262-472-1234 or visit uww.edu.

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Outdoor practice

Noah Brockway, a music major from South Beloit, Illinois, who is working a campus job as a safety officer with campus police, practices in the Campus Memory Garden after a rain on June 4, 2025. He is practicing for his solo recital, which will be in February 2026.

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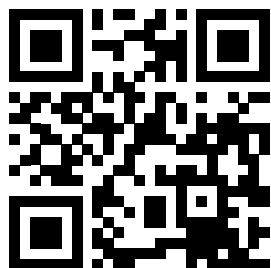
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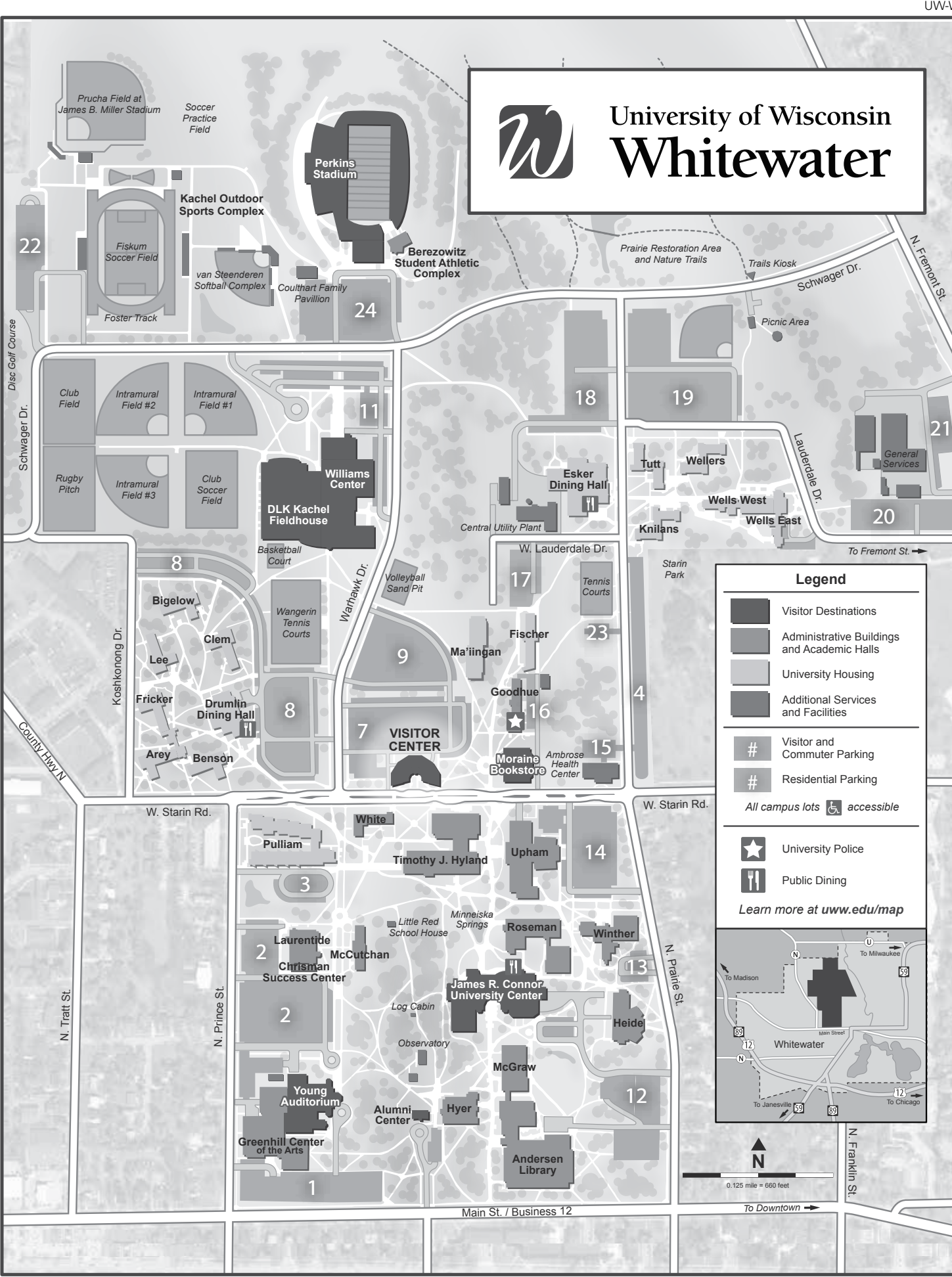
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Online degrees offered at UW-Whitewater

BY Jennifer Eisenbart

STAFF WRITER

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, as of last fall, now has two new, 100% online degree programs. The university recently announced that both the human resources and international business degrees are now fully online as undergraduate options.

The HR program is designed to give students a comprehensive overview of the field as well as real-world experience with training and developing employees, managing benefits and compensation and handling employee relations.

The international business degree works to provide an in-depth understanding of global economics, finance, management, marketing and the supply chain.

Joshua Knapp, a professor of management/HR at UW-Whitewater, said the human resources field remains one of the most in demand for qualified applicants.

"HR is always at the center of the organization and is intimately involved with managing its most important asset: people," he said.

Andy Ciganek, coordinator for the international business course, said online degrees are offering the kind of flexibility both students as well as businesses crave.

"Online learning allows students to study at their own pace and on their own schedule, making it easier to balance their education with work, family, and other commitments," Ciganek explained.

"Students are increasingly seeking specialized skills, which is why there is an increase in online degree opportunities," he added.

UW-Whitewater, Ciganek said, can appeal for a number of reasons.

The international business program has a strong reputation – Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation and more than 25 years of online education experience – plus the competitive cost compared to other programs.

Ciganek, who is also the chair of the IT and Supply Chain Management department, said he is routinely working with local and regional employers to find out what kind of skills are in demand.

University Dean appointed to business education board

Dr. Paul Ambrose, Dean of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater College of Business and Economics, has been invited to join the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) Global Americas Advisory Board with a three-year mandate from 2025 to 2028. This prestigious appointment recognizes Dean Ambrose’s expertise in management education, active engagement with the EFMD Global community, and knowledge of the Americas.

The EFMD Global Americas Advisory Board helps serve EFMD Global members in the western hemisphere and promotes the network’s growth. As one of a select group of business education leaders chosen for this position, Dean Ambrose will help shape the future of management education across the Americas.

“This appointment represents a significant honor not just for me personally, but for our entire College of Business and Economics,” said Dean Ambrose.



Dr. Paul Ambrose

of Business and Economics was named a full member of EFMD, becoming one of only 27 business schools in the United States to achieve this distinction. This membership recognized the college’s commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and the delivery of a transformative educational experience.

“Dean Ambrose’s appointment to this advisory board further validates our business college’s rising prominence in the international business education community,” said Dr. Robin Fox, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. “His leadership and vision have been instrumental in positioning the College of Business and Economics as a leader in delivering world-class business education with a focus on developing innovative, ethical business professionals.”

“It reflects our growing international recognition and provides an extraordinary opportunity to collaborate with leading business schools across the Americas while showcasing UW-Whitewater’s commitment to excellence in business education.”

The invitation comes just months after UW-Whitewater’s College

Ambrose, who has been part of the UW-Whitewater community since 2005 and was named dean in January 2023, is committed to creating future executives who lead through ESG principles – focusing on the environment, social ramifications, and governance. Under his leadership, the college has maintained its status as Wisconsin’s largest business school while earning numerous distinctions.

The College of Business and Economics ranked No. 1 in the state in the 2025 U.S. News and World Report review of online programs and is Wisconsin’s top-ranked single school in multiple categories, including Best Online MBA, Best Online Business Graduate Program, and Best Online Business Undergraduate Program. The college is in the top 1% of the world’s business schools, having earned both Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and AACSB Accounting Accreditation.

Ambrose will attend his first EFMD Global Americas Advisory Board meeting on September 17, 2025, in Lima, Peru.

The College of Business and Economics ranked No. 1 in the state in the 2025 U.S. News and World Report review of online programs. UW-Whitewater is home to Wisconsin’s top-ranked single school in the following categories:

- Best Online MBA
- Best Online Business Graduate Program
- Best Online Business Undergraduate Program
- Best Online MBA Program for Veterans
- Best Online Business Graduate Program for Veterans

For more information on the College of Business and Economics, visit uww.edu/cobe or email cobe@uww.edu.

WELCOME • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

access that inspires us to serve students from diverse backgrounds, experiences, identities, and abilities. We have a longstanding special mission to serve students with disabilities. By supporting all students, we champion education, opportunity and prosperity for all. As engaged global citizens, members of our community make positive contributions to the State of Wisconsin, to our nation, and to the world.

“Our academic programs serve undergraduate and graduate students, including online learners, and span the disciplines, from the theoretical to the applied, and encompass study in the arts, business, education, humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, technology, and professional and interdisciplinary programs. High-quality programs are offered at the associate, bachelor, master, and doctoral levels. These programs prepare students to become lifelong learners who lead successful lives and enjoy productive careers.”

Vision

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater will be a national and international leader in providing transformational and empowering educational experiences.

Values

Collaboration – We invest in meaningful relationships that leverage our respective talents and strengthen the Warhawk family, and we champion the endeavors of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Inclusivity and opportunity – We believe in the dignity of all individuals and we cultivate an accessible, inclusive, and equitable culture where everyone can pursue their passions and reach their potential in an intellectually stimulating and respectful environment.

Integrity – We embrace principles of honesty, fairness, and ethical standards to foster an environment of mutual trust.

Learning and academic excellence – We engage all members of the campus community in learning, research, scholarship, and creative endeavors through powerful academic and co-curricular experiences in an environment that values academic freedom.

Service and social responsibility – We bring the knowledge and resources of the university into the communities we serve to solve problems, improve the quality of life, and create a more sustainable society.

Shared governance – We make decisions

based on strategy, evidence, and transparent, collegial dialogue and we hold one another accountable.

Community

Whitewater is a place full of passionate people, entrepreneurship and creativity. We are a cozy university town with the perfect mix of tradition and progress.

Downtown is just a 15-minute walk from campus along Main Street, lined with historic homes, the iconic Birge fountain and our thriving Cultural Arts Center, home to the Whitewater Arts Alliance. Cravath Lakefront Park hosts the July 4th Celebration, the vibrant Whitewater City Market, and weekly concerts during the summer.

Our Rock County campus, located in Janesville — known for its acres of tranquil parkland and miles of peaceful trails — is a 40-minute drive from the Whitewater campus.

Volunteering

The university serves the community and region through various cultural events and volunteer efforts. These events include theatrical and musical productions, art and cultural exhibits, visiting artists, speakers

and lecturers.

On and off campus, students have donated thousands of hours of volunteer time to help improve the lives of others in Whitewater and its surrounding communities.

DEGREES

• CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

“Beyond critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving, these employers have regularly mentioned ‘global’ or ‘international’ as essential skills since the pandemic,” Ciganek said, going on to explain that the university’s international business programs directly addresses this need and complements UW-Whitewater’s other well-known majors.

“For example, marketing or supply chain students may open up new and more diverse career possibilities by majoring or minoring in international business,” he added.

According to Ciganek, UW-Whitewater offering the international business program fully online gives students flexibility, especially if they can’t be on campus for classes or are enrolling from a distance.

For more information, go to uww.edu/online/bachelors.



Summer blooms

The Minneiska Springs water feature at UW-Whitewater is shown in early July with the University Center as a backdrop.

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