

Making News

People You Know

Blue Devils coaches honored

After leading his team to a 10-1 season and a perfect 7-0 conference record, head coach **Ed Meierkort** was named the American Football Coaches Association NCAA Division III Region 5 coach of the year, and was a finalist for the national coach of the year award. The honor is the oldest coach of the year award in football and is the only one voted on exclusively by the coaches. The worst-to-first finish also earned Meierkort the 2000 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference coach of the year honors.

Jeff Richards was named the 2000-01 WIAC gymnastics coach of the year, receiving the award for the second consecutive year. Richards, who is in his third year at Stout, has seen his young team continually improve on their team score throughout the season. Stout finished third in the WIAC meet, matching their best finish ever.

Terry Watkins was named the WIAC men's ice hockey coach of the year and eight players were named to the all-WIAC honorable mention squad. The Blue Devils finished the season with their best overall record (15-11-1) in Stout's varsity hockey history, but Watkins was honored for turning the team around in conference play. After finishing fifth of five teams last season with an 0-7-1 record, Stout finished second with a 5-3-0 conference record. The WIAC coach of the year award was Watkins' second.

For more information, see the *Blue Devil Report* on page six.

Staff members recognized by Who's Who

Stephanie Graber, speech communication, foreign languages, theatre and music; **Robert Horan**, English and philosophy; and **Julie Keown-Bomar**, social science, have been recognized in the sixth edition of "Who's Who Among American Teachers 2000." One or more of their former students selected them for their teaching excellence.

Graber is the director of bands and instrumental music at UW-Stout. Horan began teaching at UW-Stout in 1985 and has directed the University Honors Program since 1994. Keown-Bomar teaches courses in cultural anthropology and the sociology of minority groups at UW-Stout.

Retirees Honored

Twenty faculty and staff members who have retired or will retire in 2000-2001 from the university were honored at the annual Faculty and Academic Staff Retirement Dinner. Retirees recognized were **Robert Bolin**, Continuing Education; **Douglas Cumming**, art and design; **Jim Daines**, technology; **James Eggert**, social science; **James Herr**, communication, education and training; **Terry Ingram**, communication, education and training; **Dan McAlees**, Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute; **William McGuire**, mathematics, statistics and computer science; **Gail Misfeldt**, hospitality and tourism; **Harlyn Misfeldt**, Office of Teacher Education; **Tom Modahl**, Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute; **Robert Moran**, English and philosophy; **John Olson**, industrial management; **Michael Ritland**, psychology; **Stephen Snyder**, social science; **Don Stephenson**, education, school counseling and school psychology; **Charles Wimmer**, art and design; **Patricia Wimmer**, art and design; **Virginia Wolf**, English and philosophy; and **Eddie Wong**, art and design.

Other recognitions

Alec Kirby, social science, is the recipient of the university's first Diversity Award. The award is based on outstanding diversity efforts in the areas of new initiative or expansion of existing effort; clear leadership; role model; curricular efforts; and overall impact on campus, unit or department. Kirby is an assistant professor of history and government.

Dave Rosenthal, rehabilitation and counseling, has been awarded the prestigious Mary E. Switzer Rehabilitation Research Fellowship. Rosenthal will examine existing biases in the rehabilitation counseling field during his fellowship. The fellowship supports researchers who engage in studies that may ultimately improve services to individuals with disabilities.

Red Cross Dog, by **Patricia Zontelli**, art and design, was a finalist for the National Poetry Series and the Akron Poetry Prize. Zontelli's collection draws the reader into the compassionate, yet wild heart of the Red Cross dog, whose sturdy, selfless shoulders bear the heavy burden of saving humanity.

UW-Stout boosts purchases from minority vendors

For the past several years, the State of Wisconsin's Department of Administration has encouraged state agencies and UW System institutions to increase their purchasing activity with Wisconsin certified minority vendors. The state's goal is to ensure that 5 percent of the total amount expended is paid to minority businesses.

"The 5 percent goal is not mandatory, but the governor has expressed that he would like us to help these fledgling businesses grow," said Marilyn Mars, director of Purchasing Services. For UW-Stout, 5 percent of expenditures is equal to approximately \$500,000 annually.

"Because there are few minority businesses in the west-central part of the state, this goal is difficult to meet in our area. We have to go to the Twin Cities, Madison or Milwaukee," said Mars.

Still, UW-Stout has nearly tripled its purchases from minority vendors since the start of the state initiative—growing from \$153,000 in 1994-95 to \$426,000 in 1999-2000. Out of all the UW System campuses, UW-Stout ranks third in the amount of purchases from minority businesses. Only UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee purchased more.

"Considering our location and that we have considerably less purchasing power than these two campuses, this is a real accomplishment," said Mars.

Out of all Wisconsin State agencies, UW-Stout

ranks fourteenth. Workforce Development, the agency that promotes the program, and the Department of Transportation topped the list.

UW-Stout surpassed last year's purchases by more than \$100,000. "It took a great deal of hard work, but there was cooperation all the way through the process," said Mars. Along with Purchasing Services, other areas on the campus contributed to this substantial increase, including University Dining Services, Housing and Residence Life, Physical Plant and University Publications.

Mars said the increase was also due to an upsurge in state contracts and bids awarded to minority businesses, including Universal Software Solutions, one of the campus' primary office software vendors. Additionally, she noted that cooperation between vendors and suppliers has risen. For example, UW-Stout buys paper products from Waupun Central Warehouse, who in turn has contracted with H. Derkson and Sons, a registered minority business. The campus' main office supplier, Boise Cascade, has also contracted minority businesses to supply their catalog.

In order to become a certified minority vendor, minority-owned businesses must apply for registration with the state's Minority Business Enterprises Program. The program increases opportunities for certified vendors to sell their products and professional services.

Sending a message about alcohol abuse

Drinking is often part of the social life for university students. Indeed, many UW-Stout alumni will recall the house parties and the bar scene as part of their experience of attending the university. But misuse of alcohol is a growing problem on this campus and at institutions across the country, with dire consequences. Grades suffer, relationships deteriorate and the increased risks of being part of a sexual assault all are results of inappropriate use of alcohol. This must stop now. We are sending a clear message to our students: The party is over.

In reaction to some alarming statistics about alcohol consumption by some of our students, I have appointed a coalition to address problem drinking at UW-Stout. The coalition, with broad campus representation, has the following charge:

- Create a UW-Stout position statement regarding alcohol use and abuse.
- Coordinate and oversee alcohol abuse prevention initiatives.
- Review UW-Stout and UW System alcohol use and abuse policies, procedures and laws.
- Disseminate information on and enforce policy and laws.
- Invite parental involvement as an alcohol abuse prevention tool.

We have already launched an extensive advertising campaign in the school newspaper, *The Stoutonia*. The ads tell people that we are serious about addressing this issue and that students must understand that irresponsible use of alcohol will not be tolerated at this university.

If we are to be successful in our efforts, we need the help of our alumni. When you tell potential students about the wonderful education they will receive at UW-Stout, please point out that all of this can be wasted through irresponsible drinking and partying. Let young people know that drinking has adverse effects on their education and will hamper their chances for success in later life.

We are not opposed to the use of alcohol in social settings if it is done with responsibility and control. Help us get out the word. We have a great university with talented students and dedicated faculty. We will not let this atmosphere be poisoned by indiscriminate drinking.

Chancellor's Message



Charles W. Sorensen

"We are sending a clear message to our students: The party is over."

Research awards

Dale F. Thomas was named UW-Stout's Outstanding Researcher, and Learning Technologies, a unit within Stout Solutions, received the Nelva G. Runnalls Research Support Recognition Award.

Chancellor Charles W. Sorensen and Provost Robert A. Sedlak presented the awards during annual Research Day activities.

Thomas was chosen by a vote of the graduate faculty and principal investigators of extramurally funded projects. The Outstanding Researcher Award recognizes individuals for their leadership and significant contributions to research and scholarly activities.

Thomas is a senior research scientist for UW-Stout's Research and Training Center, and a practicing licensed psychologist specializing in rehabilitation psychology and clinical neuropsychology.

During his 17 years with the university, he has



Thomas

been involved in a wide range of activities, including developing federally funded research grant proposals, teaching, supervising student research studies, and publishing and disseminating research findings.

Thomas has represented the university through numerous publications and presentations. He recently completed a book chapter on Mood Disorders Following Brain Injury for a book on international perspectives on brain injury rehabilitation.

Learning Technologies, a unit of Stout Solutions, was recognized for providing media services and training opportunities that support faculty and staff in their research activities. The unit offers a variety of services, including Web-based course design, audio and video production, distance education technical support and computer-based multimedia design. In addition, the unit has received several grants from the UW System to expand and improve the use of technology in instruction and research.

UW Day highlights UW System's role in state economy

On March 7, friends of the UW System from throughout Wisconsin gathered in Madison for a one-day celebration of the system and its many contributions to the state.

"UW Day: Building Wisconsin's Future" was a special event that strengthened relationships between UW System institutions and government officials. It also reminded participating guests of the universities' strategic role in shaping Wisconsin's economic vitality.

UW Day began with a luncheon at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center for several hundred invited supporters representing every UW System institution. UW System President Katharine Lyall and Board of Regents President Jay Smith hosted the lunch and discussed current issues facing the UW System.

Lunch participants then had the opportunity to meet with their local legislators in the Capitol to discuss the value of the university in their communities and its impact on the state.

That evening, a reception was held at the Monona Terrace for approximately 1,500 alumni, business and

community leaders, government officials, and other friends of UW System institutions.

Students from around the state provided entertainment throughout the evening. The assembly hall also held numerous interactive exhibits featuring technology, educational programs and partnerships. UW-Stout offered exhibits featuring STEPS for Girls, a weeklong camp that introduces seventh grade girls to careers in engineering, technology and science; and solutions that packaging program students recently designed for Binney & Smith, the makers of Crayola products (see cover story). UW-Stout's College of Technology, Engineering and Management also displayed information about its Northwest Wisconsin Manufacturing Outreach Center.

David Miller, assistant vice president for UW System's university relations, coordinated UW Day. "It was a great opportunity," he said, "to showcase the strengths of our institutions, our students, and our faculty and staff. We had fun, but we also conveyed an important message to a key audience: the UW System is a vital part of Wisconsin's future."