



Campus BUZZ

Brought to You by the Employee Development Committee
Fall 2009 Editor in Chief: Amanda Lombardo



A Note from Chancellor Van Galen

It is now nine months since my wife Mary and I made the decision to return to Wisconsin and come to River Falls. Four months into my tenure as Chancellor, I am more confident than ever that we made the right decision. We are excited to be here. While the natural beauty of Western Wisconsin is reason enough to love the St. Croix Valley, it is UWRF and its people that truly make this a special place to be.

One of my earliest acts as Chancellor was to schedule a series of listening sessions with the campus community. The first of these sessions was held with classified staff this summer. The purpose of these sessions is to gain greater insight into those institutional values, opportunities, and challenges that members of the UWRF community believe are of greatest importance. What I encountered at the first listening session was a group of individuals that, despite the challenges we face, are dedicated to creating an outstanding environment for members of the UWRF community to teach, learn, live and work. I was then able to view this dedication in action as major projects, such as the KFA renovation, were completed in time for the start of the academic year.

I will host another listening session for classified staff in the spring. I encourage you to join me for this session, even if you were able to attend the session this summer. Classified staff play an important role at UWRF, and I am appreciative of all your good work.

Best of luck the rest of this semester, and I look forward to seeing you on campus and in the community!

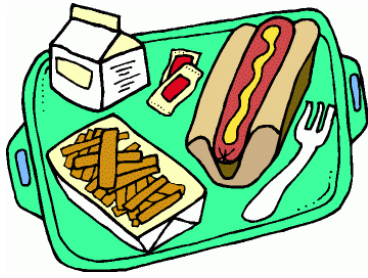
Dean Van Galen

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Nothing is more powerful and liberating than knowledge.
~William H. Gray III



Lunch & Learn

In Review

May 20, 2009: "The Art of Self Defense"



Carolyn Brezina, who previously had been a police officer for the town of River Falls, was with us to share some of her expertise. Carolyn took lots of questions from attendees as to what we should do during domestic abuse and other types of attacks. It provided a lot of helpful information! Carolyn did show some actual self-defense moves. Our own Dori Holter filled in as the subject! She demonstrated 'get-away' methods if someone surprises you from behind. Also how to use hands, legs, feet, and arms in escape techniques. She left Dori Holter with a notebook outlining self-defense programs. If anyone is interested in seeing that, please contact Dori.

June 9, 2009: "The Kinnickinnic, Kayacking, Flyfishing & More"

Paige Olson and Dave Lackey from Kinni Creek Lodge & Outfitters of River Falls led a discussion accompanied by a slide show regarding rainbow trout and brown trout found in the Kinnickinnic as well as the differences between the upper & lower Kinni. The lower Kinni, or canyon, offers some very picturesque areas, such as the "weeping wall." We also explored respectfully sharing the river with one another and discovered that kayaking or canoeing through a spot where someone is fishing does not diminish their chances of catching fish. Paige and Dave provided information on the various kayak trips available on the Kinnickinnic River, the upper Kinni trip being shorter than the lower. It was also stressed that each individual should do their part to maintain litter control. It was a nice presentation, and great to learn more about our local treasure: the Kinnickinnic River.



September 22, 2009: "The New MSWord 2007 Basic Work - Real Life Applications"

Dan Semi was our cheerful and able teacher as he helped us understand the intent behind Microsoft Word 2007. We learned that functions are now grouped into categories and how to use "word Option," by clicking on the colorful Microsoft icon at the upper left of the program, then looking at the bottom of the list to customize the program to our specifications. Dan answered questions from individuals, and invited those people who needed individual help to contact him and set up a time for him to come to their office to help with individual difficulties. He led us through instructions on how to set up an Excel Spreadsheet for Mail Merge, and then showed us how to use it in Microsoft Office. The session was informative and helpful, with a great deal of information packed into a short amount of time. Thanks Dan!

Who's Who?

The Employee Development Committee

Elaine Baker - "I've been with the University 26 years. I've always been in the Information Technology Department, but just lately we've changed our name to Division of Technology Services. I'm part of the Information Systems & Services group. We're located in North Hall, but will eventually be moved over to Davee Library. Outside of work, my husband, Fletcher, and I like to keep active, whether it's golfing, biking, canoeing, snow-shoeing, you name it, we've probably tried it! My main pastime is gardening. I just love my flower gardens and pond and look forward to becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer this fall."

Cheryl Dintemann - "Hello everyone! This is my second year on the EDC. This experience is rewarding and I encourage others to become involved. I have met new people, and have become more aware of the various activities that occur on campus. I work in the CAFES in their Internship Program and I have been working on campus as an LTE and now permanent employee for about 7 years. My husband and I live in River Falls and really enjoy this community. We enjoy the area parks and outdoor activities."

Deb Johnson - "I've been with UWRP just over 4 ½ years in the Registrar's Office, and starting in Jan '09, part-time in the Financial Aid Office. That's why you may have seen or talked with me in both offices. I really enjoy working with the students, it is very rewarding to see a smile on a student's face after the person's situation has been solved. My husband and I live in God's country between Stockholm & Pepin and are blessed with two boys, Alex (17) and Trey (10). We like to do various indoor and outdoor activities with the boys such as traveling, hiking, reading, game days, school activities, and exploring our state and region. Besides being with family, my favorite hobbies are being outdoors and card crafting. As a first time member, I'm looking forward to all the opportunities the Employee Development Committee will bring."

Kris Paulson - "I have been working at UWRP for 4 years and am currently the Dean's Assistant in COEPS. Previously, I worked for a local homebuilder as a Project Manager and before that, I worked in Human Resources for a mid-size corporation in the Twin Cities. I prefer the hustle and bustle of "city life" but have to admit that I really enjoy the peacefulness of Western Wisconsin. This is my first year on the EDC. I am looking forward to getting to know more people on campus and helping with committee events. I have two children, Jake (2) and Anna (3), and we are in the process of building a new house in Hudson. I enjoy traveling, scrapbooking, taking pictures, watching movies, and attending a variety of sporting events. During our free time, my husband and I enjoy hitting the links for a round of golf."

Logan Spindler - "I work in the University Advancement Office. I am the Scholarship Coordinator for the UWRP Foundation and have been working for the university since 2008. I moved to River Falls years ago to begin my education as a student at UWRP and never left. I guess you could say I have fallen in love with the city and its people. The small town friendliness and close proximity to the metro area are the perfect mix of rural and urban for me. I have many of the same hobbies as I did from my college days including playing cards and board games, bean bag toss and polish golf. I also enjoy drinking wine, spending time with friends and family, and traveling. I have been blessed to be able to visit eleven European countries so far, including a three-week backpack trip this past summer. My next travel will be to visit Yellowstone National Park, hopefully sometime in the next two years."

Who's Who?

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Tom Uldrich - "This will be my third year in Residential Services as the custodian of Stratton Hall, a position that I thoroughly enjoy. Being a member of the EDC has provided the opportunity to meet others I may not have otherwise. I also work part-time at the Dairy Queen. When not working, my hobbies include Yoga, reading, and spending time with my cats F. Scott and Hemingway."



New Hires

Brenda Dunse	Office Operations Associate	Facilities Management
Mark Klapatch	Custodial Services Supervisor	Facilities Management
Erin McDermott	Library Services Assistant – Adv/Lead	Chalmer Davee Library
Steven Meads	IS Technical Services – Sr.	Division of Technology Services
David Toskey	Electronics Tech Media – Sr.	Student Affairs

Sally Margis Award Winner



Lesia Woitas - "I will use the Sallie Margis scholarship money this fall when I return to Chippewa Valley Technical College to finish my training and certification in the Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement program. I will be traveling to Eau Claire twice a week for field training in firearms, defensive driving, and tactical defense. The scholarship will help me pay tuition and fees to obtain my degree in Law Enforcement. My hope is, that after graduating from the program, I will become a Police Officer on the campus of UWRF where I will continue to work with our students, faculty, and staff. I love working here on campus. It's such a wonderful place, with it's beautiful gardens, green spaces and friendly, compassionate people. I look forward to many more years here on campus!"



Campus Climate Survey

You will be asked to complete a Campus Climate Survey beginning October 12. The purpose of the survey is to help learn more about how people feel on our campus. UW-River Falls really wants to understand the experiences of everyone and how our campus is perceived by those who work and study here. The survey is voluntary and anonymous. You will be able to access the survey from any computer, but other survey-taking options will be available to accommodate individual needs. Watch the Falcon Daily for more details. Please participate . . . because you matter!

Don't Forget!



Flu Information!

<http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>
<http://www.uwrf.edu/emergency/>

(don't miss the pandemic flu kit for families!)



Safety Training: AED and Basic First Aid

Tuesday, October 20th, 321-UC
10:00-11:00 am or 1:00-2:00 pm



International Education Week!

November 16 - 20



Chancellor's Holiday Reception

December 8



Campus Climate Survey!

October 12



Blood Drive!

October 28 & 29; February 1 & 2;
March 31 & April 1

Register in advance or walk in.
Location: UC Ballroom



Furlough Dates!

November 27; December 23; March 15



Classified Holiday Party!

Friday, December 11