Creative Writing Major Harmony Hanson Represents UWRF Nationally

Selected as a McNair scholar, Harmony has participated in many wonderful programs. She will be working with Dr. Craig Wilkins at the University of Michigan this summer on a creative nonfiction autobiography for the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is now being built on the Mall in Washington D.C. As part of this research, Harmony will be traveling to D.C. to the National Archives building, visiting with architects from North Carolina, and working with a design architect from London.

Harmony also presented a fiction piece titled “Mr. Ming in the Year of the Rat” at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference in April in Utah. Harmony states, “there were three nationally-recognized authors speaking at the conference, so I am looking forward to learning from them as well.” Harmony is very excited about the many programs in which she has participated.

Continued page 7

ALUM CORRESPONDENCE

June 13, 2011

Dear UW-River Falls English Department,

I graduated from River Falls College in 1943 with an English Major and went to Amery, WI to teach for $1300 the first year.

Mr. Hanna was director of the English dept. I was also active in Masquers and college band. Tuition was $17.00 a term. I had an NYA job, one of FDR’s programs. I earned $9.00 a month typing for one of the professors, Dr. Ames.

No dorms then. Four of us girls had three rooms upstairs in a house on 4th street. Two were in each bedroom. The third was our kitchen. Brought food from home each weekend.

All of us girls gathered in the South Hall social room Dec. 8th ’41 to hear President Roosevelt declare World War II. Pearl Harbor had been bombed the day before. Fellows left school in great numbers the following weeks to join service.

O my, those were the days! I have only the fondest memories of River Falls College.

Mary C. (O’Connell) Speltz

P.S. My roommate and I were farm girls from Roberts. I will celebrate my 90th birthday December 31st! Greg and I will be married 58 years on June 20th.
Faculty Retirements

In the past year, six tenured professors and three IAS professors retired. Three new professors have replaced these retirements. Retired tenured professors include Dr. James Mulvey (May 2011), Dr. Ron Neuhaus (May 2011), Dr. Nicholas Karolides (May 2011), Dr. Larry Harred (May 2011), Professor Richard McNamara (May 2011), and Dr. Laura Zlogar (May 2012). Retired IAS include Mary Prindiville (May 2011), Richard Zlogar (May 2012), and Jane Harred (May 2012).

Richard McNamara

In 2011, Professor Richard McNamara retired with Emeritus status. He first came to UWRF in 1970 to teach in the English Department.

After receiving his B.A. from Bethel College, Professor McNamara completed his M.A. at the University of Iowa. Named Distinguished Lecturer, Professor McNamara returned this fall to teach English 205: Children’s Literature and Journalism 101: Introduction to Mass Communication.

In the past, Professor McNamara freelanced for newspapers in Wisconsin and Iowa. He was also employed by the Republican Eagle in Red Wing, Minnesota. He worked in the Sports Department and served as a reporter and columnist for over twenty years. A few of his feature stories won first prize in a statewide competition between Minnesota daily newspapers. Department Chair Laura Zlogar said, “He’s visited more public and college libraries than any person I’ve ever known.”

Professor McNamara was published in two prestigious American literature journals. His article “Accessories that Concretely Explain Irving’s use of Dutch Genre Painting in ‘Rip Van Winkle’ was published in American Literature, and his article “Leprosy, Healing, and Christ-ness in Melville’s ‘Story of Wall-Street’” was published in Nineteenth Century Literature. These journals are high caliber, and no other tenure-line faculty have ever been published at this level.

Professor McNamara has received many recognitions, including the CAS Teacher of the Year award in 1998.

A fan of sports, Professor McNamara has been asked on occasion to review game tapes by WRFW announcers to help them improve their play-by-play work in football, basketball, and hockey.

In the 1995 NCAA Division III playoffs,
Professor McNamara served as Athletic Director due to Mr. Bowen’s (The AD of the time) coaching duties. In 1996, he also helped teach the football officiating course with head football coach John O’Grady. The English Department faculty, staff, and students wish Professor McNamara a happy retirement as he begins the next stage in his productive and rewarding life.

**Dr. Larry Harred**

Dr. Larry Harred has retired after teaching English at UWRF for over thirty years. In 1983, Dr. Harred completed his Ph.D. at Purdue University. He began teaching at UWRF in 1980.

This past year, Dr. Harred was awarded the Compass Award. First-year students are asked to nominate a professor for this award, and Dr. Harred has received this award multiple times.

This past September, Dr. Harred participated in “Morning with a Professor Lecture Series,” where he presented a paper on detective fiction titled "From Sherlock Holmes to Nick Charles: Detectives in Literature and Film."

In the past, you may have caught Dr. Harred advising students in the Writing Center, which he helped establish. He was also responsible for a creating pre-major program at UWRF. He designed and supervised “Making the Academic Transition,” an orientation for first-year students, giving students a chance to discover their passions and eventually declare the right major.

You also may have enjoyed some of his favorite courses: Detective Fiction, Native American Literature, American Autobiography, Modern Novels, and a Major Author course on Harriet Beecher Stowe.

What other places in the world has Dr. Harred been? In 1986, Dr. Harred traveled to Spain to serve as a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Alcala de Henares. He taught American literature courses, delivered lectures, and developed courses for the Center for North American Studies.

In the fall of 2002, Dr. Harred served as a faculty member for the Wisconsin in Scotland program, where he taught at Dalkeith Palace.

He has also been sighted giving presentations on his favorite detective fiction writers, literature, writing, and tutoring in New Orleans, Chicago, Boston, Milwaukee, and Ontario.

Dr. Harred may be spotted currently working on research projects about Scottish detective writer Ian Rankin, Native American writer Louise Erdrich, and African American writer Edwidge Danticat.

You may also find Dr. Harred in the future: traveling, reading, listening to his favorite music, and exercising.

The students, faculty, and staff at UWRF wish Dr. Harred all the best in his retirement. He will be greatly missed as he begins the next chapter in

**Can you find the picture of Dr. Harred’s Maltese Falcon in this issue?**

**Dr. Laura Zlogar**

After teaching at UWRF for over thirty years, Dr. Laura Zlogar has retired as English Department Chair.

After earning her Ph.D. from Marquette University, Dr. Zlogar began teaching English at UWRF. Her areas of specialization include: 19th and 20th Century British Literature, African American Literature, American Ethnic Women Writers, Humanities, and Composition. Her favorite author to teach is Virginia Woolf. She has taught a Major Authors course about Virginia Woolf many times.

Dr. Zlogar has been published in many prestigious anthologies and publications including the *Reference Guide to American Literature*. Dr. Zlogar, with Carole Gerster, also published a textbook titled *Teaching Ethnic Diversity with Film: Essays and Resources for Educations in History, Social Studies, Literature, and Film Studies*.

Dr. Zlogar has participated in many public speaking events and conferences around the country. Dr. Steven Luebke stated that “she’s been a very good advocate for our department and our program. She’d never allow us to get complacent in all the time she’s been here; she’s been a part of what’s made this department strong.”

The English Department at UWRF Falls wishes Dr. Zlogar a happy and rewarding retirement. She will be greatly missed by students, faculty, and staff.

**In the spring of 2012, Dr. Jane Harred retired after teaching at UWRF for over thirty years.**

Dr. Harred states that “At UWRF, I loved teaching the African American literature course especially and investigating the African American literature tradition with students.” She has developed an online version of the course as well.

Before teaching at UWRF, Dr. Harred was an instructor at the University of Minnesota and Macalester College. She explains, “the teaching I did at the U of M and at Macalester was really rewarding and varied, but working with English majors and graduate students at those schools was especially gratifying.”

Dr. Harred has served on the UWRF Faculty Senate and was the first member from the instructional academic staff to do so.

In 2002, Dr. Harred was a faculty member for the Wisconsin in Scotland program and taught at Dalkeith Palace. In the 1980’s she spent time in Spain giving presentations on various types of American literature to students at several Spanish universities.

In retirement, Dr. Harred looks forward to completing a manuscript of her murder mystery set at a small Midwestern college.

The students, faculty, and staff at UWRF wish Dr. Harred a happy retirement as she embarks on her future endeavors.
The global mission of the University of Wisconsin—River Falls is to “help prepare students to be productive, creative, ethical, engaged citizens and leaders with an informed global perspective … and we engage with ideas, people, cultures, and places beyond our campus to enrich learning and understanding.” English students and faculty strongly support this mission. Many students have had the opportunity to travel around the world with the support of the University.

Dr. Marshall Toman, a member of the Faculty Senate, points to the Strategic Plan, a goal featuring Global Education and Engagement, in which the university “aspires to distinguish itself as being among the national leaders in internationalization among public comprehensive, master’s level institutions.” These goals represent our commitment to provide students with plenty of opportunities to succeed.

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A valuable experience for the students at Shin Hsin, they practice English in a comfortable and friendly environment while familiarizing themselves with American culture. TESOL students typically show Shin Hsin students American traditions. Upon graduation, many TESOL students return to Taiwan to teach.

Next year, Dr. Schneider-Rebozo will be participating in the Experience China program, a new program also designed to meet the mission of the University.

**New English Language Transition Program Opens**

The fall of 2011 saw the opening of the new English Language Transition (ELT) Program. This program offers two levels of intensive, academic language instruction for non-native English language students. The program is designed for students who have not yet met the University’s language proficiency for the demands of university work.

In the 2011-2012 academic year, 15 students were enrolled in the program. The home countries of these students include: China, Taiwan, Korea, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, and Benin.

Classes taught by Professors Karen Gosselin and Rhonda Petree include Speaking, Listening, & Pronunciation, and Writing & Reading. Graduate students in the TESOL program teach courses in Grammar and Language Lab, Academic Vocabulary and Extended Reading, Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) preparation, and Media Studies. Graduate students who teach these courses include: Alexander Hatheway, Charlie Levin, Sarah Swangstu, and Ami Christensen.

In the fall, all of the ELT students attended the production *Of Mice and Men* at the Park Square Theater in St. Paul.

Three students have successfully completed the program this year, achieved passing language proficiency scores, and entered into their degree programs at UWRF.

This exciting new program has already benefited many students, and the professors hope to continue to inspire future students at UWRF.

**Professor Ken Olson and Students Visit Ireland**

This past January, Professor Ken Olson took twelve students on a tour of Ireland. From January 2nd to the 9th, students traveled the country, learning about the culture and sightseeing. Ken studied in Ireland for four summers and is glad to return each year to the land of his ancestors.

He says the best memory about this year’s trip was the students. They were well-behaved and excited to travel. A highlight of the trip, according to Ken, was when their bus driver took them to visit a sheep farm in the countryside. The students were able to see how the farm was run and visit with a very hospitable family.

The group met Mairead Corrigan while they were touring the Peace House in Northern Ireland as well.

**The photo below was taken at the Peace House in Belfast, Ireland. Here students met Mairead Corrigan, Nobel Peace Laureate (front row).**

This trip is a three-credit course called “Experience Ireland,” fulfilling a general education requirement. Many students receive help through grants, loans, and financial aid.

Ken has been taking students to Ireland since 2001 and hopes to continue this enlightening trip for students in the future.

**English Department Experiences Budget Cuts**

Would you consider contributing to the English Department in light of budget cuts to the University from the state and the rising costs to students for their education? We are currently experiencing three important needs:

1. Scholarships: We awarded nine scholarships this year with an average of $634 each. Last year’s tuition was over $7300. The recipients were all very deserving, but we wished we not only could have awarded more scholarships but also more money to each student.
2. Student research activities: the Department has encouraged students to develop a greater sense of professionalism by proposing papers for undergraduate research conferences, by attending conferences of professional organizations, and by participating in scholarly activities. The English Department— unlike other departments on campus— has no funding to help support such student efforts. A research fund would help subsidize these student activities.
3. Visiting writer series: Some of the best memories of every English major’s life is to have an up close and personal experience with a published writer. We had none this year because we had no money to bring even local writers to campus. Times were when Kurt Vonnegut, Maya Angelou, Garrison Keillor, and others came to UWRF. Those were inspiring times for writers, readers, and students in general. Those experiences cannot be replicated without sufficient support.

Please consider helping out our campus and supporting these wonderful opportunities for English students.

**Visiting Professor Joins TESOL Program**

Dr. Robyne Tiedeman will be leaving the Department after serving as a professor for many years. Dr. Douglas Margolis will join us as a visiting professor for two years in support of our TESOL program.

Dr. Margolis earned his M.A. from the University of Hawaii and Manoa, his M.Ed. TESOL from the University of Southern Queensland, and his Ph.D. from the University of Hawaii. For the past three years, Dr. Margolis has been teaching at the University of Minnesota. He also taught in Seoul, Korea, Honolulu, Hawaii, and Birmingham, UK.

The English Department welcomes Dr. Margolis as a new addition to the TESOL program.
Students Participate in National Conference of Undergraduate Research

This year, English students attended the National Conference of Undergraduate Research (NCUR) held at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. From March 29 to 31, students around the country participated in this program. NCUR gives undergraduate students the opportunity to present their research in the form of posters, presentations, performances, and artwork.

Three Plenary Speakers, Mario R. Capecchi, Paul Alan Cox, and Anne Fadiman, were featured at the conference.

Dr. Schneider-Rebozo was asked this year to review published Proceedings for NCUR, a service she also performed last year.

NCUR is a wonderful opportunity for students of all majors and minors to present their work.

Brandon Paddock presented a paper titled “What you can’t not do: The Ascendance of Personal Desire Within the Chapter ‘Half Lives: The First Luisa Rey Mystery’ in David Mitchell’s Cloud Atlas.” Brandon’s paper was written for Dr. Schneider-Rebozo’s course, English 428: Contemporary British Literature.

Lydia Kiminski presented a paper titled “Graphic Illustrations and Interpretations of Conrad’s Heart of Darkness.” This paper was written for Dr. Schneider-Rebozo’s course, English 444: Major Authors, which focused on Joseph Conrad.

Rozlyn Tousignant presented a paper titled “Fairytales: The Indicator of Cultural Importance,” which was written for Dr. Schneider-Rebozo’s course, English 200.

Matthew Davis presented a paper titled “Mothers and Sons, Brides and Brothers: Exploring Gabriel Garcia Marquez’s Mythological Revisionism in Chronicle of a Death Foretold.” His paper was originally written for Dr. Toman’s International Literature course.

Amy Roth presented a personal essay titled “Survival of the Fittest.” She wrote this narrative for Dr. Brantley’s English 370: Writing Non-Fiction course.

Becky Jones presented independent research titled “A Game of Genders: Depictions of Empowered Women in A Game of Thrones.” This essay is a compilation of her research on the depictions of empowered women in the TV show and novel A Game of Thrones. She was sponsored by Dr. Klemp.

Sarah Tyler presented a paper titled “The Destruction of Lily Bart in Edith Wharton’s The House of Mirth.” This paper was originally written for Dr. Luebke’s American Literature II course.

Prologue Features Writing and Art Students

Prologue, the UWRF student literary and art publication, is distributed at the end of the spring semester. Each year, about 20 written works and 20 artists are featured in the magazine.

Editor Kelsey Hanson has been working on Prologue for the last two years. She says, “I love to see the finished book and see all of my work pay off. I never get tired of seeing the shiny new cover of my latest issue.”

Kelsey enjoys reading the submissions that students submit. She states, “there are a few people who submit artwork and written works annually, and I look forward to reading their new pieces every year.”

Since most of the budget goes toward printing the magazine, Kelsey has to rely on word of mouth to get students to submit their work. She hopes more students will submit their work in the future.

The 2012 issue features works from undergraduate and graduate students ranging from poems, short stories, and essays, to original artwork such as drawings, photographs, and images of metal and glass work. Prologue is distributed campus-wide and is free to all students and faculty members. It is also available online at: www.uwrf.edu/prologue.

English Honor Society Sigma Tau Delta Welcomes New Members

On April 24th, the UWRF Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta welcomed fourteen new members. These members include: Robin Mondloch, Angie Drennen, Lauren Potter, Kelsey Hanson, Sarah Campbell, Colette Aburime, Kendal Quandahl, Tina Norris, Alex Wankerl, Brittany Bell, Nicole Crowell, Brett Michel, Shiloh Trenholm, and Sarah Allen.

Sigma Tau Delta is an International Honor Society founded in 1924, with over 800 chapters located in the United States, Middle East, Europe, and the Caribbean. About 9,000 new members are inducted each year nationwide.

To become a candidate, students must have completed a minimum of two years in college courses in English language or literature. They must have a minimum of a B average and must rank in the top 35 percent in their class.

Benefits of becoming a member of Sigma Tau Delta include a free subscription to Sigma Tau Delta’s two journals, The Sigma Tau Delta Rectangle and The Sigma Tau Delta Review. Students can also compete for scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $4,000, and apply for a variety of internships available to members of the program. For more information, visit www.english.org.
Student Publishes in Literary Magazine

Kelsey Hanson, a creative writing major, will be published in a new book called *Heartscape*. Her short story, “We’ll Always Have Chicago,” will appear in this collection. Kelsey showcases her best work in this text. Congratulations, Kelsey, on all your hard work this year!

First Annual Student Gala Held

On March 9th, the Literary Society, the Art Society, and Masquers hosted the first annual Student Gala.

Students and members of the community attended; and seven students presented pottery and sculpture, drawings and paintings, poetry, short stories, and research papers.

Mainly English students presented at the Gala, but theater, art, and business majors also presented their work.

Internships Help Students Prepare for Life After UWRF

Amanda Brandt is currently working at two internships this spring, Toonari News & Media and DailySource.org. With Toonari, Amanda focuses on writing in the publishing industry. She writes weekly articles that are published on their website. She loves learning new things about writing and editing. She states, “I’ve never written news articles before, so it is all new for me.”

Shaina Johannsen, a graduate this past December, is now an Editorial Assistant at Redleaf Press, a nationally known publisher of books for early childhood professionals, located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Shaina mainly works with the acquisitions /development editor and assists in the development of the annual publishing lists by logging, reading, and evaluating incoming book proposals and manuscripts. If Shaina reads a proposal that she thinks Redleaf would be interested in publishing, she writes a summary for her editor. Other tasks include preparing final manuscripts for transmittal to production, organizing original copies of resources and helping create bibliographies, providing editorial administrative support, and attending meetings with the other editors, project managers, and the editor-in-chief about production status, interior design, and cover design.

Sara Ermisch recently completed an internship with InDigest Magazine. Created in 2007, InDigest is an online literary magazine based in New York and Minneapolis. Sara performed many tasks including writing weekly book reviews, reading narrative submissions, contacting submitters, and copyediting. She believes that this was a valuable experience and learned a lot about the publishing industry.

Harmony Hanson from page 1

She states, “these opportunities have been made available and attainable to me through the ongoing support and encouragement of my mentor, Dr. Brantley; the McNair Scholars Program and the persistent passion of Director Njia Lawrence-Porter; and the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, with essential programs like the Summer Scholars Program, SURSCA, and Falcon Grants. I am so grateful!”

Harmony is a shining example of success in the English Department. The faculty are extremely proud of the many efforts she has put into her work and the accomplishments she has already reached. Congratulations on all your hard work and success, Harmony Hanson!

UWRF Alumnus Publishes Hikes With Tykes


His book includes personal anecdotes and stories along with a step-by-step guide on how to prepare for a hike with children.

Bignell graduated from UWRF in 1989. He served as an infantryman in the Army National Guard and taught middle school in New Mexico and Wisconsin. Bignell also served as managing editor of The Prescott Journal in 2001.

Now residing in Southern California, Bignell takes his own son hiking about twice a week.

If your company would like to offer internships to UWRF students, please send internship and contact information to: Dr. Mialisa Moline 250 Kleinpell Fine Arts 410 South 3rd Street River Falls, WI 54022 mialisa.moline@uwrf.edu
Faculty News

Dr. Hunzer Publishes Anthology

Dr. Kathleen Hunzer’s collection, titled Collaborative Learning and Writing: Essays on Using Small Groups in Teaching English and Composition, will be released this spring.

Professor Hunzer explains that this collection was designed to provide “practical, pedagogical essays on how to use collaborative learning in writing classes.” Many of her courses work with group settings, and this research directly benefits how she teaches in her own courses.

The most enjoyable part of this experience for her was meeting new people across the country and learning new techniques for her own courses. Dr. Hunzer hopes that this collection will help students, even those with learning disabilities, overcome challenges and learn how to be effective in groups.

She states, “I chose articles that not only focused on the ‘how-tos’ of collaborative learning but also that spanned a variety of topics: how to effectively choose groups, manage tasks, use collaborative learning in Professional Writing/Technical Writing, with special populations, and connect with online classes.”

Dr. Hunzer hopes that her anthology inspires other teachers to use these ideas in their own courses.

Instructor Lorbiecki Presents Research

February 20-24, Instructor Marybeth Lorbiecki (Mataya) presented a session at the International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society in Vancouver. The title of her session was “Climate Change as Spiritual Opportunity: the Radical, Integrated Ecological Vision of John Paul II.” This presentation was based on ten years of study and the many manuscripts she has written. Professor Lorbiecki was recently contacted by the Holy See to provide her research for Pope Benedict’s speech on sustainability at the UN conference in June.

This past fall, a new edition of her children’s biography, entitled Things Natural, Wild, and Free: The Life of Aldo Leopold, was released. Professor Lorbiecki’s picture book for elementary students, titled Escaping Titanic: A Young Girl’s True Story of Survival, was released in February.

Three Professors Earn Sabbaticals

During spring, 2012, Dr. Kathleen Hunzer took a sabbatical to explore Autism Spectrum Disorder and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. She is learning how instructors can better serve these students. Her plans are to compile a guidebook for professors, and she hopes to work across campus to help students with these disorders.

This fall, Dr. Greta Gaard will be taking a sabbatical to work on many projects, including a feminist ecocriticism international volume with co-editors living in Turkey and Korea. This volume will be published next year. She will also be working on a new course called Human-Animal Studies. Dr. Gaard was invited contribute to special issues of ecocritical journals in Spain and Taiwan, writing about feminism and world literature.

Dr. Lisa Schneider-Rebozo will also be taking a sabbatical this fall. She will be researching British modernism and will be pursing work on Joseph Conrad, Samuel Beckett, and Caryl Churchill. She is also in the process of editing a series of novels on the Eastern Front of WWII.

Dr. Brantley Presents Paper at Lecture Series

On April 25, Dr. Jennifer Brantley presented at the Excellence in Teaching and Learning Series at UWRF. The paper she presented was titled “Everything Has a Story: Developing the Creative Mind.” This lecture series was sponsored by Faculty and Academic Staff Development, Provost’s Office, Learning Technology Development Council, and Office of Professional and Instructional Development. The series highlights the work of professors from all disciplines, and the professors are recognized for their excellence in teaching, learning, and research.

Last year, Dr. Brantley was invited to be a reviewer for the Proceedings of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research. She read papers submitted by students in her discipline and had the opportunity to decide which students should be invited to participate in the program. She was very excited to participate in both programs!

Ken Olson Receives Teaching Award

Professor Ken Olson was awarded Excellence in Teaching in Arts and Sciences in 2011. This award recognizes exemplary service in the classroom and beyond. Professors are nominated by alumni of the College of Arts and Sciences. Congratulations, Ken!

Dr. Moline Receives Service Award

Dr. Mialisa Moline was awarded the Outstanding Service Award in 2011. Created in 2004 by The College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Student Advisory Committee, these awards are given in the areas of University, Community, and Professional. Congratulations, Dr. Moline!
Dr. Lissa Schneider-Rebozo Receives Excellence Award

Dr. Schneider-Rebozo was recently awarded the Excellence in Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity Award in 2011. She has also been busy working on editing projects and writing grants. She sponsored three students for NCUR this year as well.

Dr. Schneider-Rebozo recently took a trip to China to research the new Experience China program for students. She will also be participating in the International Traveling Classroom in the near future.

Professional Writing Emphasis Launches

The English Department launched a new Professional Writing emphasis in the Liberal Arts degree during the spring of 2012. Over the last five years, the English Department’s minor in professional writing has grown steadily. In response to this steady growth and interest in professional writing, this major ensures that the program in professional writing will continue to grow.

This emphasis requires students to take eight required courses, three directed electives in writing, and one directed elective in language. Required courses include Advanced Composition, Business Writing, Technical Writing, Visual Rhetoric, Technical/Professional Editing, Cyberliteracy, Introduction to Rhetorical Studies, and the Writing Seminar in Professional Writing. A sampling of additional elective courses includes Proposal Writing, Advanced Technical Writing, and a topics course in Rhetoric.

The major emphasis in professional writing integrates numerous service projects into the classroom and a great deal of technology. If you would like more information regarding this major, please feel free to contact Dr. Moline for additional details.

English Department Welcomes New Professor

Dr. Catherine Ross-Stroud joined the English Department in the fall of 2011. She received her B.S. degree from UW-Milwaukee, her M.S. from Michigan State, and her Ph.D from Illinois State University.

Before coming to UWRF, Dr. Ross-Stroud taught at Cleveland State University.

This year, Dr. Ross-Stroud taught a variety of courses, including TED 432: Techniques in English, English 250: Literature for Children, English 251: Advanced Composition, and English 355: Literature for Adolescents.

Dr. Ross-Stroud has accomplished many impressive tasks before teaching at UWRF. In 2008, she published a book titled Janet McDonald: The Original Project Girl. She also has articles published in the Encyclopedia of Hip-Hop Literature titled “Janet McDonald” and “Teen Literature.”

Dr. Ross-Stroud has participated in various conference presentations around the country. A few of her presentations include: “Creating Windows and Mirrors: Teacher Educators, Their Students, and the Many Challenges of Cultural Competence,” which she presented in Denver; “The Importance of Engaging in the Process: Teacher Educators and the Challenge of Teaching all Children,” which she presented in Philadelphia, and “Ecological Critical Literacy; Set in Stone: Portrayals Children and Environmental Discourse of the Concrete Jungle in Adolescent Fiction,” which she presented in Victoria, British Colombia.

Dr. Ross-Stroud has also served as Curator and Reviewer at the NCTE National Gallery of Writing.

The English Department at UWRF welcomes Dr. Ross-Stroud and wishes her a successful career of teaching in the Department.

Dr. Pavlov Presents at Conference in Hawaii

January 5-8, Dr. Vladimir Pavlov attended the 10th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education. He served as Teacher Education Session Chair. His topic was: “The Structure of English Vocabulary and ESL Teacher Education.”

Dr. Luebke Publishes in Literary Magazine

Dr. Steven Luebke’s short story “Unauthorized Absences,” was published in the November 2011 issue of Rattlesnake Valley Sample: An Anthology of Regional Writing.” The literary magazine is based out of Houston, MN.

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Techniques of Teaching English, Literature of War, Children’s Literature, Literature for Adolescents, Introduction to Mythology, and the Seminar on the American Frontier. He appreciates all the many interesting ways his students have made their classes come alive in each and every individual section he has taught over the years.

During retirement, Professor Karolides plans to continue his writing, his newest project being “Troubled Boys and Boys in Trouble,” an analysis of several adolescent novels about troubled boys and how they overcome hardship. He will be enjoying more time with his wife and visiting his daughters and grandsons in both San Diego, California, and Aspen, Colorado; and he looks forward to reading the many books he’s not had a chance yet to read. Much anticipated activities include hiking in the Rocky Mountains, enjoying the Aspen Music Festival, and visiting museums in San Diego.

Professor Nicholas Karolides will be greatly missed by students, faculty, and staff alike. The English Department at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls wishes Professor Karolides all the best as he enjoys a lengthy and productive pursuit of lifelong learning during his retirement.
Christina Washam is attending Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism in Chicago, focusing on magazine writing and editing. This is a one-year program, and she expects to graduate this August with a MS-J. Christie was awarded two scholarships: the Edward E. Lindsay Scholarship and the Northwest Editorial Scholarship. Christie says, “I’ve written and produced multimedia articles on winter surfers and kayakers on Lake Michigan, a start-up skateboard company, and the trend of manufacturing education—along with many smaller events in the Chicago Park District as well as manufacturing corporations’ quarterly earnings stories.”

Todd Mueske is currently attending Colorado State’s MA program in Non-Fiction. He is in his second semester as a GTA, teaching two freshman composition classes. Todd is taking three courses, one in Creative/Critical Writing, a major author course on Flannery O’Connor, and a third on teaching. Todd says his semester is going great, and he cannot “wait for summer when I’ll have more time to write and read a stack of science fiction books I’ve been craving as of late.”

Megan Lofgren recently started teaching at UW-Stout as an Associate Lecturer in their ESL Institute, working with Saudi Arabian students to prepare them to attend US college. This past February she presented in Dr. Pavlov’s TESOL Techniques course. Megan finished her graduate coursework in May 2011, and student taught in the fall. She hopes to finish her Plan B paper and complete her Master’s degree this spring.

Danielle (Ibister) Magnuson (1998) is enjoying being part of the final guard Minneapolis staff at UNE Reader, where she is an associate editor and blogger. (The magazine is relocating in March to company headquarters in Kansas.) Danielle and her husband, Eirik, live in Hopkins, Minnesota, and are expecting their first child in May.

Jeff Parker recently finished his Masters degree in Florida and has been appointed the Residential Director for Johnson and Wales University in Denver, Colorado. Alisha Bjorklund just accepted a position as copyeditor at Llewellyn Worldwide, a book publishing company that specializes in New Age titles. She is very excited to start this new chapter. In her free time, Alisha participates in a variety of community activities, from Zumba fitness to dog agility training with her American Eskimo, Jazz.

Kristina Larson is currently working as a Title One Reading Tutor for Red Wing Public Schools and doing some freelance writing on the side. Since graduating from UWRF, she became reacquainted with a childhood friend and was married on May 15, 2010. They are expecting their first baby, a little boy, on July 15, 2012.

Vanessa Ramos currently works at launching her food blogging career one culinary disaster at a time while moonlighting as an Assistant Professor of English at Salem State University in Massachusetts. Vanessa has great plans for the duration of 2012: to apply to various Ph.D. programs, to sell her cash cow memoir, Welcome to Which City, and to adopt a dog (preferably an apartment-friendly Great Dane) who will be saddled with the gender-neutral name Ulysses.

Tyler Ormson just started his second year of teaching English at Daeyeon Elementary in Daejeon, South Korea. He says that his “students are absolutely wonderful, but [he] was sad to see [his] sixth graders graduate (elementary goes 1-6).” Tyler is learning to speak Korean and trying to visit all the close countries and hike new mountains as often as he can.

Derek Anderson is currently teaching Language Arts in the Mahtomedi, MN School District. He currently teaches English 10 and AP Literature and is head of the Drama Department. Derek spends his free time playing with his band, My Cousin Dallas, and is VP for his school’s union.

Monica Manske Copeland is a teacher at Faribault High School. She currently teaches Speech, English 9, and Reading Writing Workshop. Monica says, “Reading Writing Workshop I’ve co-written into existence to help struggling students: it is using my master’s degree with reading certification as well. I love my job.”

Wendy Fjorden, a graduate of the 2001 class, taught for three years (2001-2004) at Roseville Area High School in Roseville, MN, teaching Advanced Speech, Creative Writing, Fantasy in Fiction, Honors English, and Reading classes. Wendy recently started working as an elementary librarian in Wichita, Kansas. Wendy explains that “all my English professors at UWRF had a profound impact on the course of my life; I thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of my time at UWRF, and I have not forgotten what fantastic professors I had.”

Rachel Zitzow is teaching English Learners at Lakeaires Elementary in White Bear Lake, MN. She’s in her second year of teaching.

Candace Kiefer received a degree from UWRF in December of 2011 and is licensed to teach Secondary English and K-12 TESOL in the state of WI; She’s currently in the process of getting her Minnesota license as well. Two days after Candace finished student teaching, she began working at River Falls High School as a long-term English substitute teacher. Due to the budget cuts taking place in Wisconsin, she is unsure of where she will be in the fall.

Mandi Yeske has been traveling a ton, going to different places in the Midwest, and also to the Florida Keys and Barbados. Mandi is planning a few more trips, and definitely planning on going to London in the near future. She’s also been writing and working on some art pieces for pleasure. Mandi works at The Hartford, an insurance company, but she’s looking for a more enjoyable job.

Maddie Baird is currently teaching 9th, 11th and 12th grade English at Hudson High School and coaching the dance team.

Melissa Murphy recently finished a tour with the Peace Corps. She was in Kazakhstan from August 2010 to November 2011. Melissa taught English as a second language at a university in Karaganda. She also led leadership summer camps, held a fun club for disadvantaged children, led round table discussions, and presented teacher trainings. She was recently engaged to fellow UWRF English major Bradley Brookins. She is now working as a long term substitute teacher at St. Croix Falls High School.
2011-2012
English Department Scholarship Recipients

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Robert E. and M. Susan Beck Memorial Scholarship

Becky Jones
Olafr and Grace Pilgrim Bloom Scholarship

Amy Roth
Olafr and Grace Pilgrim Bloom Scholarship

Michael Ritter
Olafr and Grace Pilgrim Bloom Scholarship

Tiffany Hafner
Nicholas L. and Inga Tarollos English Education Scholarship

Mango Stern
Francis P. Cichomski Walter J. Engler Memorial Scholarship

Kathleen Diabosh
Vera M. Morse Memorial Scholarship

Jonathan Reid
Mulvey-William Scholarship

Sabrina Doss
Mikla Book Award
Bath and David Wood Scholarship

Amanda Braundt
Mikla Book Award

Amanda Laubardo
Mikla Book Award

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Margaret Odegard Scholarship

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