

# CHAPTER ONE

## THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

(Note: As changes are approved in personnel policies, they may be viewed at the following Web site:  
<http://www.uwec.edu/AcadAff/policies/handbook/changes/>)

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## HISTORY

### **Eau Claire State Normal School (1916-1927)**

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire began its existence in September of 1916 as the State Normal School. A single building, now known as Schofield Hall, was constructed on a 12-acre site donated by the city of Eau Claire. Opening its doors to a student body of 159 and a faculty of 20, the School offered one-year and two-year elementary and three-year secondary teachers' courses, and a principal's course. Although the education of teachers was the major reason for the establishment of the institution, from the beginning it made available two years of general education or pre-professional study for persons not expecting to teach.

Harvey A. Schofield was appointed president of the new School, and his leadership saw it through the first 25 critical years of its existence.

### **Eau Claire State Teachers College (1927-1951)**

In 1927 the Legislature changed the name from State Normal School to Teachers College, with authorization to offer four years of higher education and to grant the degree of bachelor of education. In the same year, State Teachers College was accredited by the American Association of Teachers Colleges. In 1937 it was authorized to grant the degree of bachelor of science in education.

William R. Davies became president on January 1, 1941, and guided the College through the war years, providing acceleration of teacher education to meet a shortage in area schools, and accommodations and instruction for a 300-man detachment of Army Air Corps cadets.

Several directions for future growth were established during the next decade. In 1943, the installation of a chapter of Kappa Delta Pi (Education) brought the first of many national honor societies to the campus. The formation of the Chippewa Valley Forum, the Chippewa Valley Orchestra, and the Area Committee set a pattern for collaboration between the College and the community. In 1946, twenty acres on top of the bluff overlooking the lower campus were acquired to provide for future physical education facilities. This was the first substantial increase in campus size since the founding of the School.

The decade of the forties was also marked by the institution of programs of orientation for freshmen, the inauguration of the faculty advisement system for upperclassmen, and the advancement of teacher education and extension services. The adoption by the faculty of a philosophy of general education paved the way for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1950.

### **Wisconsin State College at Eau Claire (1951-1964)**

In 1951, the Board of Regents authorized Eau Claire to grant the bachelor of arts and the bachelor of science degrees in liberal arts, and the official name of the College became Wisconsin State College at Eau Claire.

The adoption of a faculty rank system in 1954 was a milestone in the academic progress of the fifties. A degree program in medical technology was begun in 1955; teacher education programs were augmented in 1958 by courses for the training of teachers of the mentally retarded and by specialization in junior high school and in business education.

In 1952, a complex of four buildings—campus laboratory school, little theatre, education building, and fieldhouse—was completed, marking the first major campus development since the construction of the original building. Katharine Thomas Hall and Katherine Putnam Hall were built in 1955 and 1958. Expansion of the college campus was made possible through the gift from the city of Eau Claire of 200-acre Putnam Park and the purchase of 23 additional acres for the upper campus in 1958.

President Davies died in office December 10, 1959. Leonard C. Haas, an alumnus who had been a faculty member since 1941 and Dean of Instruction since 1948, was chosen by the Board of Regents to succeed Mr. Davies. During the first decade of his administration, enrollment of students increased from 1,709 to approximately 8,200 and the faculty grew from 112 to 550.

## **Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire (1964-1971)**

In June 1964, the Board of Regents gave university standing to the state colleges, and the institution at Eau Claire was renamed Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire. Three Schools within the University structure were created in 1964: Arts and Sciences, Education, and Graduate Studies. In 1965, the School of Nursing was formed, and in 1966 the School of Business.

Under President Haas's leadership, a 50-million-dollar building program was realized. Seven additional residence halls, including the 1,242-bed Towers, and two food and recreational centers, the Crest Commons and the Hilltop Center, increased the amenities of student life and created an upper campus. The W. R. Davies University Center, built in 1959, was doubled in size in 1964. The L. E. Phillips Science Hall was opened in 1964 and expanded in 1968-69. Schneider Social Science Hall was occupied in 1967, the McPhee Physical Education Center in 1969, the School of Nursing building also in 1969, and the Fine Arts Building in 1970. A six-story addition to the W. D. McIntyre Library was completed in 1971.

## **University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (1971--)**

With the merger of the Wisconsin State University System and the University of Wisconsin System, completed in 1971, the name of the institution was changed to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. At that time President Haas was on leave, having accepted appointment as Executive Vice President of the newly created University of Wisconsin System. Richard E. Hibbard, an Eau Claire alumnus, former Dean, and Vice President for Academic Affairs, became the Interim Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and served in that capacity until his death in 1972.

A new academic building, the Richard E. Hibbard Humanities Hall, was named in honor of the Interim Chancellor at its dedication in 1974. In 1977, construction on a major addition to Davies Center was completed. During 1977-78, Schofield Hall was remodeled to furnish more efficient and attractive quarters for the main administrative offices of the campus and for various support services.

M. Emily Hannah succeeded Leonard Haas as Chancellor in 1981. In 1982, the Allied Health and Clinical Services Building, on the north bank of the Chippewa River, was completed. Construction of an addition to the Nursing Building was begun. The addition opened for occupancy in the summer of 1985.

Larry G. Schnack was inaugurated as the fifth Chief Executive Officer of the University in October 1985. Under his direction, major additions and remodeling projects were completed for the W.D. McIntyre University Library, the McPhee Physical Education Complex, W.R. Davies University Center including the Student Organizations Complex, as well as the L.E. Phillips Science Hall. Sophisticated technology was implemented and improved across the campus, and there was an emphasis on coordinating the instructional services provided by the Library, Media Development Center and Learning and Technology Services. The concept of differential tuition was introduced and ultimately approved by the System Board of Regents, whereas current students had the opportunity to assess themselves additional tuition (which began as \$50/semester/student) and advise the direction of the use of the funds for such services and programs as advising, undergraduate research, diversity, etc.

Donald J. Mash became the sixth Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire in August 1998. One of his first official acts was to preside over the ground breaking ceremony for a new 324-bed, apartment-style residence hall on the west end of the upper campus, the first such campus structure in nearly 30 years. Under his direction, private fundraising and advancement activities were enhanced, resulting in April 2002 public kick-off of UW-Eau Claire's first-ever comprehensive private fundraising campaign. The five-year campaign exceeded its original goal of \$35 million 15 months ahead of schedule and the calendar and goal were readjusted to raise \$50 million in a campaign scheduled to conclude in 2007. In consultation with faculty, staff and shared governance structures, Chancellor Mash provided leadership to create the College of Education and Human Sciences and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, replacing the College of Professional Studies and relocating the academic departments formerly housed there. The new colleges joined the existing College of Arts and Sciences and College of Business.

Brian Levin-Stankevich began serving as the seventh Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire on June 1, 2006. A respected historian and longtime university administrator, Chancellor Levin-Stankevich most recently served as Interim President of Eastern Washington University in Spokane. Previous positions held there include Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Vice President for Student Affairs. Prior to arriving at Eastern Washington, he served in both academic affairs and student services positions at Florida Atlantic University, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and at Canisius College in Buffalo. His leadership positions have provided him with an unusually comprehensive understanding of what it takes to successfully run a regional public university. Passionate about Russian history, the Buffalo, New York native spent a year in Russia as a Fulbright Scholar.

## ROLE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education in Wisconsin is characterized by variety and accessibility, provided through numerous private colleges and through a network of public institutions, including both technical institutes and the entire University of Wisconsin System. The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire thus shares in Wisconsin's long tradition of making available to all citizens a variety of opportunities for higher education.

### University of Wisconsin System

The University of Wisconsin System as a whole is under the leadership and direction of the Board of Regents and the President and other officers of the System Administration. It is composed of thirteen universities, thirteen two-year campuses, and the statewide University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Among the thirteen universities, all of which offer baccalaureate and master's degrees, the two which also grant doctorates are known as the "Doctoral Cluster" (Madison and Milwaukee). The eleven other institutions comprise the "University Cluster" (Eau Claire, Green Bay, La Crosse, Oshkosh, Parkside, Platteville, River Falls, Stevens Point, Stout, Superior, and Whitewater).

### West Central Wisconsin Consortium (WCWC)

In 1973, four members of the University of Wisconsin System--UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse, UW-River Falls, and UW-Stout--formed the West Central Wisconsin Consortium (WCWC), which has been recognized by the Board of Regents as the official program planning and review agency for the west central region. The basic purposes of the Consortium are to eliminate and to prevent unnecessary and costly duplication in programming and to promote inter-institutional cooperation and sharing of resources where appropriate and feasible. [See *University Policybook* 1:4 for Board of Regents Resolution (BR Res.) #536 and #1032 pertaining to WCWC]

## MISSION STATEMENT

### Founding Missions

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire was founded as a regional Normal School with the primary objective of preparing teachers for rural, elementary, and secondary schools. Since no particular "specialization" was assigned to the Eau Claire Normal School, its initial development occurred essentially in the "academic" fields--sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Its broadly based curriculum came more and more to serve another purpose, that of providing a general education for students who did not intend to teach, but who sought to prepare for admission to professional schools or to institutions granting degrees in the liberal arts and sciences.

### Evolution of Missions

From the relatively limited purpose enunciated by its founders, the institution thus began to evolve toward its current mission as a multi-purpose university offering a full curriculum leading to the bachelor's degree

in liberal arts and sciences, as well as professional preparation for teaching, business, certain allied health fields, and nursing, and graduate degrees in several areas. Presently, the University continues the pattern of responsive change as it seeks to develop and refine existing curricular offerings, to phase out programs which have outlived their usefulness, and to inaugurate such new programs and services as may be warranted by interest, need, and the availability of resources.

In 1964, the faculty of the Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire approved a general statement of the philosophy, aims, and objectives of the institution. Since it is entirely compatible with the mission statement of the University of Wisconsin System, this local statement remains in effect as expressing a point of view from which all current and projected academic programs of the University are evaluated.

The University aims at excellence in intellectual development, conducted in a democratic atmosphere, through a curriculum designed to meet the needs and interests of a changing society. It is devoted to augmenting, organizing, and presenting knowledge. The University is concerned with students as individuals and seeks to bring them into close contact with a faculty who, by its scholarly attainments, devotion to studies, and concern for teaching, is able to instill a love of learning.

The general education program of the University aims to provide students with the broadest possible base for intellectual, aesthetic, social, emotional, and physical development. To do this, the program emphasizes the cultural heritage that is the possession of a free and responsible citizenry. It stresses the power and beauty of the imagination and the usefulness of critical judgment. It emphasizes the importance of thoughtful and skillful interchange of ideas.

Upon this foundation, the University builds its advanced courses in the various disciplines of the liberal arts, professional, and pre-professional programs. These courses are designed to teach the more specialized skills and knowledge of subject matter needed by students preparing for specific careers. The courses stress preciseness of information, thoroughness of understanding, competence in the use of appropriate research techniques, and an appreciation of the relationships between the individual course and other fields of learning.

The University is aware that it must remain sensitive to the educational needs of all of society. While seeking to be true to the best academic traditions of the past, the University acknowledges its duty to re-examine, revise, and extend from time to time its programs in order to keep education a vital dynamic process. [Graduate Faculty (GF) 9/64]

The merging of the former Wisconsin State Universities with the University of Wisconsin, together with changes in the needs of society and in the interests and goals of students, made it necessary to reassess the overall mission of the System and to re-evaluate and redefine the specific missions of its various units. This undertaking was completed on January 11, 1974, when the Board of Regents approved the new mission statements. As a member of the University of Wisconsin System, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire shares in the general mission of that System and in the more specific mission of the University Cluster, while its particular mission statement continues to reflect the strengths and emphases developed locally during the earlier years of its history. Reproduced below are the current mission statements for the University of Wisconsin System, the University Cluster, and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

## **Current Missions**

### ***The University of Wisconsin System Mission***

Each institution of the University of Wisconsin System shares in the mission of the System.

The mission of this System is to develop human resources, to discover and disseminate knowledge, to extend knowledge and its application beyond the boundaries of its campuses, and to serve and stimulate society by developing in students heightened intellectual, cultural, and humane sensitivities; scientific, professional, and technological expertise; and a sense of value and purpose. Inherent in this mission are methods of

instruction, research, extended education, and public service designed to educate people and improve the human condition. Basic to every purpose of the System is the search for truth. (Amended by BR Res. 6/10/88)

### ***The Core Mission of the University Cluster***

As institutions in the University Cluster of the University of Wisconsin System, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, the University of Wisconsin-Stout, the University of Wisconsin-Superior and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater share the following core mission. Within the approved differentiation stated in their select missions, each university in the cluster shall:

1. Offer associate and baccalaureate degree level and selected graduate programs within the context of its approved mission statement.
2. Offer an environment that emphasizes teaching excellence and meets the educational and personal needs of students through effective teaching, academic advising, counseling, and through university-sponsored cultural, recreational and extracurricular programs.
3. Offer a core of liberal studies that supports university degrees in the arts, letters, and sciences, as well as specialized professional/technical degrees at the associate and baccalaureate level.
4. Offer a program of pre-professional curricular offerings consistent with the University's mission.
5. Expect scholarly activity, including research, scholarship, and creative endeavor, that supports its programs at the associate and baccalaureate degree level, its selected graduate programs, and its approved mission statement.
6. Promote the integration of the extension function, assist the University of Wisconsin-Extension in meeting its responsibility for statewide coordination, and encourage faculty and staff participation in outreach activity.
7. Participate in interinstitutional relationships in order to maximize educational opportunity for the people of the state effectively and efficiently through the sharing of resources.
8. Serve the needs of women, minority, disadvantaged, disabled, and nontraditional students and seek racial and ethnic diversification of the student body and the professional faculty and staff.
9. Support activities designed to promote the economic development of the state. (Amended by BR Res. 6/10/88)

### ***Select Mission of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire***

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is a comprehensive university whose purpose is to foster the intellectual, personal, social, and cultural development of its students. The University provides an academic environment designed to encourage faculty-student interaction and promote excellence in teaching and learning, scholarly activity, and public service. Its residential setting fosters personal and social development through a rich array of co-curricular activities.

The University's focus is a liberal arts based education across the curriculum in all programs. The University places a special emphasis on experiential learning activities, such as international studies, faculty-student research collaboration, internships, and community service. UW-Eau Claire is the University of Wisconsin System's Center of Excellence for Faculty and Undergraduate Student Research Collaboration.

In addition to the University of Wisconsin System Mission and the Core Mission of the University Cluster Institutions, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire has the following select mission:

- to provide undergraduate education in a broad range of programs, based on a strong general education component emphasizing the liberal arts and sciences, offering degrees in the arts and sciences, allied health fields, business, education, nursing, and other areas that grow clearly from university strengths and meet identifiable regional and state needs;
- to provide graduate education, at the master's and specialist levels, in select programs that grow clearly from undergraduate strengths and meet identifiable regional and state needs;
- to support and encourage scholarly activities, including research and creative endeavors, that enhance its programs at the associate and baccalaureate level, its selected graduate programs, and its special mission; and
- to support the cultural, educational, and economic development of the immediate region in a variety of ways, including its outreach and community service programs. (US 2/02; BR 11/02)

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