

## [Blugold FYI archive: April 2021](#)

### **Blugold FYI: April 6, 2021**

Check out the important UW-Eau Claire employee info in this week's **Blugold FYI**.

- **Have content for an upcoming edition?** Send it via the [Blugold FYI submission form](#).
  - **Interested in the latest UW-Eau Claire news stories?** [Visit the news page](#).
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### **Important announcements**

#### **Olga Diaz named vice chancellor for equity, diversity and inclusion and student affairs**

Diaz has been director of student success and equity at Palomar College in San Marcos, California, since 2015. She will begin work at UW-Eau Claire on June 14. [Learn more about Diaz](#).

#### **Next Chancellor Briefing scheduled for April 14**

Chancellor James Schmidt will hold his next Chancellor Briefing at **5 p.m. Wednesday, April 14**. The briefing will be [livestreamed](#) as the chancellor discusses the final weeks of spring semester and ways we can support our students and colleagues. Faculty and staff are invited to [submit questions](#) in advance and during the briefing.

#### **Join WiSys Innovation BrainStorm April 9**

UW-Eau Claire faculty and staff are invited to join their Mayo Clinic colleagues for a new WiSys Innovation BrainStorm event at **4 p.m. Friday, April 9**. The event will feature research problems presented by Mayo clinicians, followed by problem-solving and discussions. This is your chance to use your expertise to advise clinicians on how to design research that will improve patients' lives. For more information and to register, visit the [WiSys Innovation BrainStorm site](#). Questions? Contact [Ray French](#), WiSys regional associate.

#### **University Staff Student Scholarship nominations due April 11**

All university staff (active or retired) are asked to consider nominating a student of their choice for the University Staff Student Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year. This scholarship is an opportunity for university staff to ease the financial burden of college for a student. Once all nominations are in, one nominee will be chosen to receive \$250 for fall semester and \$250 for spring semester. The nomination deadline is **Sunday, April 11**. [Learn more](#).

#### **Call for Nominations: 2021 faculty/staff excellence awards**

Faculty and staff are encouraged to nominate deserving colleagues for excellence awards, to be presented at the fall academic year opening meeting/Blugold Breakfast. The UW-Eau Claire Foundation presents \$1,500 to each award recipient. [Nomination forms are available online](#) and the submission deadline is **Friday, April 30**.

### **Smithsonian's 'The Bias Inside Us' coming to Pablo in 2022**

The Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition "[The Bias Inside Us](#)," will be on display at Pablo Center at the Confluence from **Feb. 26-March 27, 2022**. The exhibition is based on current science of bias, the real consequences of implicit bias and strategies to confront one's own biases. UW-Eau Claire is a partner in bringing this exhibit to the Chippewa Valley. There are many ways for instructors, departments, programs and student groups to get involved with the exhibit. Please consider attending one of the following organizational meetings to learn more:

- **Friday, April 16, 9 a.m.** — [Zoom link](#).
- **Tuesday, April 20, 3 p.m.** — [Zoom link](#).

To receive an email reminder about the meeting, RSVP to [Robin Miller](#) in McIntyre Library.

### **Stories sought for 'Healing Reflections' collaborative arts project**

Provost Patricia Kleine and B.J. Hollars, associate professor of English, in collaboration with Mayo Clinic Health System, are working together on a collection of stories about people's experiences during the pandemic in 2020. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to submit their written stories for the "Healing Reflections" collection, which will be curated and considered for a physical display of words and pictures. To participate, [submit your written work](#) of 500 words or less by **May 15**. All submissions could be selected to be paired with a visual artist for public display. Submissions received by **Thursday, April 15**, will be part of the initial display promoting the project.

### **Job opportunities available at FEMA vaccine clinic**

UW-Eau Claire campus community members are invited to join the team behind the Federal Emergency Management Agency-supported vaccine clinic **starting Thursday, April 8**, at Zorn Arena. FEMA is seeking nonclinical staff to work in and around Zorn Arena to support the clinic that is a partnership between UW-Eau Claire and the Eau Claire City-County Health Department. Faculty, staff and students can earn a minimum of \$16 per hour. Anyone interested can find [details](#) about how to help.

### **Join 'Eau These Blugold Nights!' tomorrow**

Tune in to the [UW-Eau Claire Alumni Facebook page](#) at 6 p.m. **Wednesday, April 7**, for the Facebook Live series "Eau These Blugold Nights!" The Alumni Association is pleased to feature the Robert Frost Celebration of American Poetry in conjunction with the UW-Eau Claire Foundation, English department and McIntyre Library. In celebration of the Schmidt Robert Frost Collection of rare works that has a home at UW-Eau Claire, this event features individuals from the campus and community who will read poems on a selected theme. The series brings Blugolds to you the first Wednesday of each month to share an art, craft, knowledge or talent.

### **Support our students: Virtual Viennese Ball is April 8 and 10**

Join us for this special virtual experience, an evening of music and entertainment inspired by Vienna, Austria. We hope to see the traditional generosity continue through online donations. Although the ball is on hold this year, the incredible music education your gifts provide goes on.

Event dates are **Thursday, April 8**, and **Saturday, April 10**, hosted at [uwec.ly/live](http://uwec.ly/live), for free. For more information, visit [uwec.ly/vball2021](http://uwec.ly/vball2021)!

### **CultureFest is April 17-23**

Come join us for [CultureFest](#) and enjoy food, culture and entertainment during this weeklong event!

### **New UW System procurement tool to launch next week**

The new systemwide procurement tool, ShowUW+, will go live **Friday, April 16**. To prepare for the launch, the last day to submit purchase requisitions through BP Logix e-forms will be April 9. After that date, purchase requisitions submitted through e-forms will no longer be available. Beginning **Friday, April 16**, all purchase requisitions will be processed through ShopUW+. [Learn more about ShopUW+](#).

### **Title and Total Compensation Project update**

- **Project timeline and re-engagement:** In spring 2020, the Title and Total Compensation Project team communicated an extension to the timeline in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The scheduled implementation of new titles, job descriptions and salary structures will target November 2021. This timeline recognizes the need for institutions to re-engage with managers, for managers and employees to have conversations about title assignments and for revisions to related policies to be completed. We are encouraging institutions to coordinate efforts and begin conversations to be completed by early fall.
- **Project activities.** During the past year, project work has continued on refining the standard job library and defining the salary structure using market data. The project team also has been able to develop guidelines for the new non-tenure-track research and teaching professor titles.

For more information, visit the [TTC Project website](#).

### **Faculty, staff, students invited to join international lecture series**

The University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) — a UW-Eau Claire study abroad partner — is offering [cultural and academic lectures](#) via Zoom by their international faculty this semester. UW-Eau Claire faculty, staff and students are invited to join. Following are the dates and series details:

- **Wednesday, April 28**, 10 a.m.: “Sustainable Development in China,” presented by Dr. Jiahan Cao. [Register](#).
- **Wednesday, May 26**, 11 a.m.: “The Power of Truth and Non-Violence: Gandhi, Past and Present,” presented by Dr. Aindrila Chakraborty. [Register](#).

Please send questions to [studyabroad@usac.edu](mailto:studyabroad@usac.edu) or [marchwcc@uwec.edu](mailto:marchwcc@uwec.edu).

### **Unravel your (in-person and virtual) travel**

Even with COVID-19, much is happening behind the scenes in the world of travel and virtual events. The Firstsource Support Team offers 30-minute live virtual training. The training is department-specific and covers physical travel and virtual-event participation. The training

includes current campus restrictions, required prior authorization, best practices for booking and reporting, reimbursement, student and guest/candidate travel, the top TER and PT log send-back reasons for your department and how to avoid them, policy updates, tips and tools. Time is provided for questions and discussion. Contact UW-Eau Claire travel manager [Shawn Seuferer](#) with two potential meeting dates/times you wish to have the Firstsource Support Team provide this live, virtual presentation to your department/unit.

### **Authorizations required for travel and events**

Division-level preapproval is required for all travel and related expenses through June 30, 2021. The following general guidelines are intended to strictly limit travel and expenses and applies to faculty, staff, students and guests:

- **On-campus meetings, events and guests:** An approved [Event Exception Request Form](#) is required as an attachment to the [SFS Travel/Expense Authorization Request Form](#) for on-campus events that involve one or more non-UW-Eau Claire attendee or presenter. The Event Exception Request Form authorizes the on-campus event and the SFS Expense Authorization Request Form authorizes the expense.
- **Virtual event attendance:** Consult with travel manager Shawn Seuferer at [seufersr@uwec.edu](mailto:seufersr@uwec.edu) or 715-836-3361 for virtual event approval requirements for your division.
- **Attach all approvals to the expense reimbursement request or PT log.** See the [Firstsource +Travel page](#) for details.

### **Program Inventory Management (PIM) updates**

To view the current program proposals, please [visit the Program Inventory Management page](#).

### **UW-Eau Claire updates regarding COVID-19**

A running account of information regarding COVID-19 and its impact on the campus and community continues to be maintained on the [COVID-19 Updates page](#). Check the link regularly to find resources and updates, including emails sent to faculty, staff and students, regarding UW-Eau Claire's response to the pandemic.

[Submit announcement](#)

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## **Awards and achievements**

**Mari Bodensteiner** and **Ami Christensen**, both lecturers in the languages department, gave two presentations with Emily Claypool Offord of Clemson University as part of the TESOL 2021 International Convention & English Language Expo, held virtually March 24-27. Their presentation, titled "Not Another PowerPoint: Creating Student-Generated Multimodal Projects," was conducted as a live session, and their presentation "Energizers and Icebreakers: A Playlist for Classroom Engagement" was recorded and available as an on-demand session.

**Mari Bodensteiner**, lecturer in the languages department, and Jennifer Majorana, Central Michigan University, presented “Bess Assess that Vocab Mess” at the TESOL 2021 International Convention & English Language Expo, held virtually March 24-27. Their presentation had more than 800 attendees.

**Dr. Lucy A. Johnson**, assistant professor of digital literacies in the English department, was an invited (remote) speaker March 30 for over 200 employees at Sony Interactive Entertainment (mainly those working at PlayStation). Her talk, titled “How We Look Dictates What We See: The Politics of Image Design,” discussed the ways in which design has never been neutral. Looking specifically at the ways in which images serve as lexicons for both representation and ideology, Johnson analyzed the tension between image and word as rhetorical symbol systems, focusing on the ways in which image design becomes hegemonized to reflect the dominant discourse in her analysis of emoji characters. Johnson extended her critique of emoji to other ubiquitous image communication systems such as GIFs and memes, attending to the significance of cultural origin and rhetorical intention as a way to enact digital ethics at both the level of form and content.

**Dr. Linda Young**, professor and dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, recently was re-elected to serve a third term as vice president of the Wisconsin Center for Nursing.

[Submit award/achievement item](#)

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## In memoriam

Condolences to Jean Piper, office manager in Integrated Marketing and Communications, whose mother, Beverly Jean Strahm, passed away March 30 in Eau Claire.

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## In the news

**Grace Crickette**, vice chancellor for finance and administration, was quoted in the April 2 Leader-Telegram article “[UW-EC moving antigen testing from Zorn Arena to McPhee Physical Education Center.](#)”

**Amber Dernbach**, associate lecturer in the University Honors Program and a UW-Eau Claire alumnus, was featured in the March 23 WEAU story “[Kids Under Pressure: Taking the virtual stage](#)” on the delivery of her theatre program in a virtual setting. Both Dernbach's high school and UWEC documentary theatre students are collaborating on the “Healing Reflections” mural with Mayo Clinic Health System.

**Dr. Selika Ducksworth-Lawton**, professor of history, was quoted in the April 2 APG Media of Wisconsin article "[Bipartisan bill aims to free hair braiders from licensing requirements, confusion.](#)"

**Kyran Hamill**, camps and conferences manager in University Centers, was interviewed for the March 26 WEAU story "[UWEC Viennese Ball goes virtual for 2021.](#)"

**B.J. Hollars**, associate professor of English, was quoted in the April 1 Leader-Telegram article "[Book of longtime video journalist and ornithologist features 27 related stories.](#)"

**Dr. Chia-Yu Hsu**, associate professor of music, was featured in the April 1 Leader-Telegram article "[UW-EC composer's work featured in The Minnesota Orchestra concert.](#)"

**Tou Ger Billy Lor**, UW-Eau Claire Hmong Student Association president; **Dr. Kong Pheng Pha**, assistant professor of critical Hmong studies and women's, gender and sexuality studies; and **Dang Yang**, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, were quoted in the April 2 Leader-Telegram article "['Stop Asian hate': Hundreds gather in Eau Claire to support Asian Americans.](#)"

**Jill Markgraf**, McIntyre Library director, was interviewed for the following media stories: "[UWEC pilot program helps faculty design textbook-free curriculum,](#)" WEAU, March 29; "[UW universities lowering costs by using open-source textbooks,](#)" WTMJ-TV, Milwaukee, March 29; and "[UW-Eau Claire Pilot Program Using Open-Source Class Materials,](#)" Wisconsin Public Radio's "Central Time" March 31.

**Jill Markgraf**, McIntyre Library director, and **Dr. Lisa Quinn-Lee**, associate professor of social work, were interviewed for the March 30 Wisconsin Public Radio story "[UW-Eau Claire Initiative Turning To Open-Source Materials For Classes: Pilot Program Aimed At Saving Students Money On Traditional College Textbooks.](#)"

**Dr. Justin Patchin**, professor of criminal justice, was quoted in the April 2 ABC News article "[Teen cheerleader's Snapchat brings Supreme Court clash over schools and free speech.](#)"

**Chancellor James Schmidt** had his guest column "[Competing for the love of the game](#)" published in the March 31 Leader-Telegram.

**Erik Strand**, women's hockey head coach, was featured in the March 29 WQOW story "[Strand named co-WIAC Coach of the Year.](#)"

**UW-Eau Claire** was highlighted as host of the 2023 National Conference on Undergraduate Research in the April 4 Wisconsin State Journal column "[Power of undergraduate research being felt in Wisconsin economy.](#)"

**Anna Ziebell**, UW-Eau Claire student body president, and **Kimera Way**, president of the UW-Eau Claire Foundation and Eau Claire Community Complex, were quoted in the April 1 Leader-Telegram article "[UW-EC students to vote on Sonnentag referendum in April.](#)"

See more media coverage by visiting the [News + Events page](#) and scrolling down to UW-Eau Claire In the News.

[Submit news item](#)

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## New employees, position updates and retirements

*Have you recently joined UW-Eau Claire as a faculty or staff member? Moved to a different campus department or unit to start a new position? Recently retired? If so, we welcome your news.*

McIntyre Library is pleased to welcome **Helena Sumbulla** to the position of student engagement librarian. She joins us from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she served as assistant director of social justice and leadership in Residence Life and later supervised the libraries in the residence halls.

[Submit position update item](#)

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## Campus news and features

- [Philip Rucker to speak during UW-Eau Claire's annual Devroy Forum](#)
- [UW-Eau Claire composer's work featured in The Minnesota Orchestra concert](#)
- [Antigen testing moving from Zorn Arena to McPhee Physical Education Center](#)

[Read/view more campus news and features](#)

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## Professional development

### Upcoming ORSP Faculty/Academic Staff Forum presentation

**Dr. Cheryl Jiménez-Frei**, assistant professor of history, will present "[Sculpting the Past, Contesting the Future: Monuments, Memory and Identity in Argentina](#)" from **12:10-12:50 p.m. Wednesday, April 7**, [via Zoom](#) (ID: 82381395846; Password: 702755) as part of the spring 2021 [Faculty/Academic Staff Forum series](#) hosted by the [Office of Research and Sponsored Programs](#).

## **UW-Whitewater to host 2021 UW System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity**

The registration deadline is **Monday, April 12**, for the 19th Annual UW System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity, to be hosted virtually on April 28. The event showcases undergraduate research, creativity, achievement, service-learning and community-based research in all areas of study, including the humanities, fine arts, biological sciences, physical sciences and social sciences. [Learn more and register](#). If you plan to register after March 20, please email [symposium@uww.edu](mailto:symposium@uww.edu) and provide the following information: names and email addresses of student presenters; and hometowns/home states of student presenters (or students' home cities/countries if not from the U.S.)

### **Call for Proposals: LTDC Virtual Showcase**

The UW System's Learning Technology Development Council (LTDC) is offering the virtual conference "[Transforming the Future of Education](#)" **June 15 and 16** to provide an opportunity to share our successes and challenges in teaching with technology, and highlight a variety of strategies and approaches to teaching and learning from every campus of the UW System. This year's theme is Transforming the Future of Education, which includes three tracks: Student Experience and Success, Online Instructional Pedagogy and Leveraging Learning Technology. Showcase sessions will be polysynchronous; some presentations will be prerecorded and shared via the web, while others will be conducted live. Proposals may be submitted for presentations or TechTalks. If you are interested in presenting on multiple topics, please see the [Call for Proposals](#) for details. Submissions are due **Friday, April 16**.

### **Early Career Eau Claire supports early-career faculty, instructional academic staff**

Early Career Eau Claire is a peer-mentoring group of junior faculty and instructional academic staff who are affiliated with UW-Eau Claire, UWEC-Barron County and UWEC-Marshfield. The group has scheduled virtual meetings for the spring 2021 semester at **2 p.m. on the first Friday of every month**. These meetings are for early-career faculty and instructional academic staff to support each other in their work through sharing experiences together, raising awareness of resources and opportunities that may be helpful and promoting collaboration and connections across campus. Each meeting will include: 1) time for a meet-and-greet and informal conversation; and 2) brief presentations and Q&A with colleagues on each topic. For colleagues interested in participating and receiving updates, subscribe to the group's email list by sending a message to [ec-squared-request@lists.uwec.edu](mailto:ec-squared-request@lists.uwec.edu) and typing "Subscribe" in the body of the message.

### **CETL professional development**

- **Virtual Q&A sessions:** Monday-Friday, 9-9:50 a.m. this April. [View sessions](#).
- **Faculty Fridays Open Write:** Looking to start or finish an article? An essay? A book? Block Friday mornings and write (virtually) with the Center for Writing Excellence. Weekly Friday meetings, 9 a.m.-noon. To join, email [rylandjj@uwec.edu](mailto:rylandjj@uwec.edu).
- **Digital Transformation Teaching and Learning Course:** This professional development opportunity is an online, asynchronous course to showcase planning, designing and teaching with technology. A \$500 stipend is awarded after all course assessments and

activities are completed by May 21. The course will take approximately 8-10 hours to complete and consists of assignments to help you redesign your course using evidence-based practices. [Apply by April 21](#).

- **2021 UW System OPID Spring Conference on Teaching and Learning:** April 9, 16 and 23. [Learn more and register](#). There will be an opportunity to earn EDI Tier 2 credit by attending at least two of the keynote speaker sessions. Participants who would like to participate for Tier 2 credit also should [register here](#).
- **Summer 2021 OER Course Redesign Program:** The goal of this program is for participants to redesign a course to incorporate Open Educational Resources (OER) and reduce student costs by eliminating materials with a subscription, rental fee or purchase. [Learn more and apply by May 7](#).
- **Save the dates and call for proposals: Learning Technology Development Council (LTDC) Virtual Showcase: Transforming the Future of Education,** June 15 and 16. [Learn more](#).

### **EDI professional development for faculty and staff**

Faculty and staff are invited to participate in professional development opportunities to increase understanding of equity, diversity and inclusion, and help UW-Eau Claire do better as a campus. [View and register for sessions and groups](#).

#### **Coming up:**

- [Systemwide Caregiving Forum: Independent Recording Viewing and Reflection](#), open now until June 4.
- [Blugold Dialogue: Implementing EDI into Studio Art Education](#), April 7, 4-5 p.m.
- [EDI Reading and Video Clip Dialogue Group: Whiteness, Allyship and Taking Action](#), April 8, 15, 22 and 29, noon-1 p.m.
- [Trans 101](#), April 14, 10 a.m.-noon.
- [Breaking down Barriers: Using Universal Design for Learning to Increase Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Students](#), April 20, 9-10 a.m.
- [What the Hmong: An Introduction of the American Hmong Experience](#), April 21, 2-3 p.m.
- Cultural Competency to Cultural Proficiency in Healthcare Professions: An Interprofessional Education Framework, [April 26, 10 a.m.-noon](#) or [April 29, 6-8 p.m.](#)
- [Identity, Privilege and Oppression](#), April 26, 1:30-3 p.m.
- [Campus Connect: Suicide Awareness and Intervention](#), May 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- [Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care Reading Group](#), June 2, 9, 16 and 23, noon-1 p.m.

[Submit professional development item](#)

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### **Meeting notices**

- [See all meetings and agendas](#).
- [Submit your meeting notice](#).

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## [Blugold FYI archive](#)

*Blugold FYI compiles many bits of information and announcements about the business of working at UW-Eau Claire into one single email for your convenience. Reply to give us your feedback, or [head to the form](#) to submit items for a future issue.*

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## **Important announcements**

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### **Statewide tornado drill set for April 15**

Each year Wisconsin takes part in a statewide tornado drill, typically in mid-April. While the drill is planned for **Thursday, April 15**, it will be different in nature. Due to technical limitations of the drill and restrictions of gatherings, we will not physically run through the exercise this year. Instead, we ask that you review the [tornado-drill preparedness information](#) on the Risk Management and Safety site. The purpose of a tornado drill is to ensure faculty, staff and

students know what to do during an actual tornado event. It is important to know that tornadoes can happen anywhere and at any time, sometimes with little notice. What we do during that time is critical. Tornadoes can be short in duration but can pose a significant threat and cause an abundance of damage. Thank you for doing your part to help Blugolds stay safe.

### **CultureFest begins this week**

Come join us for [CultureFest](#), which runs from **April 17-23**, and enjoy food, culture and entertainment during this special event!

### **Join CERCA virtually April 19-23**

The Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity (CERCA) returns this year with presentations available to an audience that stretches beyond the boundaries of the university campus. There also will be livestreamed presentations throughout the week, culminating with the Provost's Honors Symposium on April 23. [Learn more about CERCA 2021.](#)

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### **Duo Security to be added to shared accounts**

Duo Security will be added to shared (generic) accounts in Qualtrics on **June 1**. In preparation for this change and to ensure that you have access to the necessary shared accounts, please complete the e-form "Management of Shared Accounts Protected by Duo Authentication" to indicate which Qualtrics shared account you need to access. Please allow at least five business days for your request to be processed. If you no longer need a shared account in Qualtrics, please let us know either through the same e-form or by contacting the [LTS Help Desk](#).

### **April wellness newsletter: Stress awareness, gut health and more**

Be sure to check out the [April employee wellness newsletter](#) to learn strategies for coping with stress, including learning to incorporate "stress-less" foods. The issue also includes information on Earth Day, recycling and the "Go Green Challenge."

### **Smithsonian's 'The Bias Inside Us' coming to Pablo in 2022**

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### **Program Inventory Management (PIM) updates**

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### **UW-Eau Claire updates regarding COVID-19**

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[Submit announcement](#)

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## **Awards and achievements**

**Dr. April Bleske-Rechek**, professor of psychology, and UW-Eau Claire alumni **Grace Nuck** and **Michaela Gunseor** have had their paper "[Individual Differences in Romantic Attachment: Shared Environment Does Not Predict Shared Attachment Style](#)" published in the *Journal of Individual Differences*, April 2021.

Congratulations to the faculty and staff who completed Tier 3 of the EDI professional development program. The following individuals completed 10 or more Tier 2 sessions and a project within their scope of duties to help improve EDI on our campuses: **Dr. Melissa Bruce**, education for equity and justice, "Students of Color in Education (SOCE) Support Group"; **Katie Bublitz**, Services for Students with Disabilities, "Universal Design Implementation in Response to COVID-19"; **Sandy Moua**, Advising, Retention and Career Center, "Students of Color in Education (SOCE) Support Group"; **Dr. Brent Opall**, management and marketing, "MBA 701 Modification to Improve Student Learning of Diversity and Inclusion Concepts"; **Katie Orf**, Services for Students with Disabilities, "Universal Design Implementation in Response to COVID-19"; **Dr. Bruce Ouderkirk**, Student Support Services, "Student Training on Socioeconomic Barriers to Educational Equity"; **Stitira Wendt**, Services for Students with Disabilities, "Universal Design Implementation in Response to COVID-19"; and **Dr. Kyle Whipple**, education for equity and justice, "Genders and Sexualities Privilege Mapping." [Learn more about Tier 3.](#)

**Tyler Edmondson**, event production coordinator in Event Services, and **Nicole Rindone**, senior coordinator for events and marketing in Activities, Involvement and Leadership, were interviewed for the April 8 "[Spectrum West](#)" program on Wisconsin Public Radio to discuss this year's virtual Viennese Ball. Washington Post correspondent Phil Rucker, the 2021 Devroy Forum speaker, also was interviewed during the show.

**Dr. Lucy A. Johnson**, assistant professor of digital literacies in English, (remotely) presented her research "Digital Literacies, Labor, and Access Amidst a Pandemic" at the (virtual) [2021 Conference on College Composition and Communication](#), held April 7-10.

**Dr. Dorothy Ka-Ying Chan**, assistant professor of English, had her new triple sonnet, "[Triple Sonnet for Chinese Girls with No Humility](#)," published in ALL Review, a publication of the Arts + Literature Laboratory in Madison, for National Poetry Month.

**Dr. Thomas Wayne King**, professor emeritus of communication sciences and disorders, is author of "[Red Pump Chronicles](#)" (ISBN 978-1-716-50532-4). This new 700-page collection of King's Wisconsin history essays, stories and poems is archived at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library in Madison, among other libraries. The result of 26 years of King's writing, "Red Pump Chronicles" covers more than 130 years of Wisconsin lives and families. The volume also includes essays and stories from his years as an itinerating speech-language pathologist in schools and clinics of rural, northern Wisconsin, Minnesota and Ontario. A prolific author across genres, King received his original master of science degree in communication disorders from UWEC in 1972, enabling his 35-year career in clinical and academic aspects of speech-language pathology, speech science, education and assistive technology. He currently serves on the state board of directors of the Wisconsin Writers Association.

**Dr. Thomas Kovacs**, assistant professor of communication sciences and disorders had his article "[A Survey of American Speech-Language Pathologists' Perspectives on Augmentative and Alternative Communication Assessment and Intervention Across Language Domains](#)" in the *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*.

**Dr. Jessica S. Miller**, professor of French in the department of languages, and **Avonlea Hanson**, instructional design consultant in Learning and Technology Services, presented "Turning a F2F Course into a HyFlex Open Educational Resource with Canvas" April 9 at the UW System's annual [OPID 2021 Spring Conference for Wisconsin Educators](#).

**Dr. Judy René Sims**, professor emerita of communication and journalism, had research from her 2003 article "[Politicians and media owners in Greek radio: Pluralism as Diaploki](#)" (2009 online), paraphrased by Lambrini Papadopoulou in his 2020 article "[Alternative hybrid media in Greece: An analysis through the prism of political economy](#)" in the *Journal of Greek Media & Culture*, 6 (1), 199-218. Sims' research derived from her 2001 sabbatical "Struggling toward pluralism: The structure of Greek broadcasting since privatization" (Athens, Greece). The research was supported, in part, by a University Research and Creative Activity Grant from the UW-Eau Claire Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

[Submit award/achievement item](#)

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## In the news

**Grace Crickette**, vice chancellor for finance and administration, and **Dr. Debra Jansen**, associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, were quoted in the April 8 Leader-Telegram article "['An amazing step': Mass vaccination site opens at UW-Eau Claire's Zorn Arena](#)" and the April 8 WEAU story "[UW-Eau Claire's Zorn Arena transitions to federally funded vaccine clinic.](#)" Jansen also was interviewed for the April 8 WQOW story "[Zorn Arena COVID vaccine clinic now open.](#)"

**Olga Diaz**, UW-Eau Claire's new vice chancellor for equity, diversity and inclusion and student affairs, was featured in the April 6 Leader-Telegram article "[UW-EC names new equity, diversity and student affairs head.](#)" Diaz also was quoted in the April 8 Escondido Times-Advocate article "[Former councilwoman Diaz named UW-Eau Claire vice chancellor.](#)"

Collaborative research by **Dr. Elizabeth Glogowski**, associate professor of materials science and engineering, UW-Eau Claire students and Mayo Clinic Health system physicians was featured in the April 11 Leader-Telegram article "[Mayo-UW-Eau Claire partnership seeks to aid cancer treatment.](#)"

Research by **Dr. Justin Patchin**, professor of criminal justice and co-director of the Cyberbullying Research Center, was cited in the April 12 New Hampshire Union Leader article "[Scope of cyber sextortion's teen victims unknown.](#)"

**Dr. David Gordon**, professor emeritus of communication and journalism, was quoted in the April 7 WisPolitics.com article "[UW-Stout: Students talk about contributing to local journalism.](#)"

**Dr. Lucy A. Johnson**, assistant professor of digital literacies in English, was featured in the article "[Johnson Shares Emoji Research with Sony Employees](#)," which was published in the March 31 edition of "Northern Today," a publication of Johnson's alma mater, Northern Michigan University.

**Tim Triplett**, a new UW-Eau Claire football staff member, was featured in the April 7 WQOW story "[Triplett takes over as Blugolds WR coach.](#)"

**UW-Eau Claire's** collaboration in the "Healing Reflections" project was noted in the April 7 Leader-Telegram article "[Mobile mural: Mayo Clinic art project turns pandemic stories into art.](#)"

**Nobuyoshi Yasuda**, professor of music and Chippewa Valley Symphony music director, was quoted in the April 8 Leader-Telegram article "[Joy and hope: Symphony performance lifts spirits of musicians, shares music with community.](#)"

See more media coverage by visiting the [News + Events page](#) and scrolling down to UW-Eau Claire In the News.

[Submit news item](#)

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## Campus news and features

- [Research shapes geology major's UW-Eau Claire experience](#)
- [UW MBA Consortium students appreciate online program's flexibility, engagement](#)
- [CERCA returns in 2021 with virtual platform](#)

[Read/view more campus news and features](#)

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## Professional development

### Call for Proposals: LTDC Virtual Showcase

The UW System's Learning Technology Development Council (LTDC) is offering the virtual

conference “[Transforming the Future of Education](#)” **June 15 and 16** to provide an opportunity to share our successes and challenges in teaching with technology, and highlight a variety of strategies and approaches to teaching and learning from every campus of the UW System. This year’s theme is Transforming the Future of Education, which includes three tracks: Student Experience and Success, Online Instructional Pedagogy and Leveraging Learning Technology. Showcase sessions will be polysynchronous; some presentations will be prerecorded and shared via the web, while others will be conducted live. Proposals may be submitted for presentations or TechTalks. If you are interested in presenting on multiple topics, please see the [Call for Proposals](#) for details. Submissions are due **Friday, April 16**.

### **Early Career Eau Claire supports early-career faculty, instructional academic staff**

Early Career Eau Claire is a peer-mentoring group of junior faculty and instructional academic staff who are affiliated with UW-Eau Claire, UWEC-Barron County and UWEC-Marshfield. The group has scheduled virtual meetings for the spring 2021 semester at **2 p.m. on the first Friday of every month**. These meetings are for early-career faculty and instructional academic staff to support each other in their work through sharing experiences together, raising awareness of resources and opportunities that may be helpful and promoting collaboration and connections across campus. Each meeting will include: 1) time for a meet-and-greet and informal conversation; and 2) brief presentations and Q&A with colleagues on each topic. For colleagues interested in participating and receiving updates, subscribe to the group’s email list by sending a message to [ec-squared-request@lists.uwec.edu](mailto:ec-squared-request@lists.uwec.edu) and typing “Subscribe” in the body of the message.

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University of Wisconsin  
**Eau Claire**

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  - **Interested in the latest UW-Eau Claire news stories?** [Visit the news page](#).
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## Important announcements

### Join 'Racing Toward Justice' presentation tonight

The Center for Racial and Restorative Justice presents the final installment of the "Racing Toward Justice" series of the academic year. [Dr. Rheeda Walker](#) will present "[The Legacy of Black Mental Health: Balancing Stress and Strength](#)" at **6 p.m. tonight, Tuesday, April 20**. Black mental health is often buried in stigma and shame, but generationally, Black Americans have met unimaginable trauma with unyielding creativity and resilience. Walker will discuss culturally motivated coping and shed new light on the complex balance of overwhelming stress and strength to move mountains that is integral to Black Americans' emotional health. Please join the virtual presentation at [uwec.ly/live](https://uwec.ly/live).

### Virtual forums, Q&As scheduled for chief information officer and director of Learning and Technology Services position

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend virtual open forum presentations and Q&A sessions this week with two candidates for the chief information officer and director of Learning and Technology Services position. The schedule is: **Wednesday, April 21, 1-1:45 p.m.:**  [Stephen Rieks](#) ([Zoom link](#)) and **Thursday, April 22, 1-1:45 p.m.:**  [Kent Gerberich](#) ([Zoom link](#)). The forums will be recorded for those unable to attend. We value your [feedback](#) and appreciate your participation in this important search process.

### Support diverse students in research, scholarly and creative works

Jodi Thesing-Ritter, executive director for diversity and inclusion, and Dr. Catherine Chan, executive director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, invite you to participate in a community of practice where we will share and reflect on our experiences in mentoring diverse students and examine current work on best practices. The goal is to build support for mentors and share successful strategies, identify barriers and discuss ways to dismantle these barriers. It will be structured as a Canvas course with asynchronous pre-work followed by five virtual meetings during summer 2021 (anticipated: one in late May and two each in June and July) with a follow-up meeting in fall 2021 to conclude. A \$500 stipend is available. [Learn more and apply](#) by **May 1**.

### **Join the Innovation BrainStorm April 23!**

Join your colleagues at UW-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic for the second Innovation BrainStorm event at **4 p.m. Friday, April 23**. This is for anyone with an interest in research and collaborating on solving problems. The Innovation BrainStorm features research problems presented by Mayo clinicians, followed by problem-solving and discussions. This is your chance to use your expertise to advise clinicians on how to design research that will improve patients' lives. For more information and to register, visit the [Innovation BrainStorm site](#). Questions? Contact [Ray French](#), WiSys regional associate.

### **Call for proposals to teach in University Honors: Winterim and spring 2022**

The University Honors Program invites proposals for Winterim and spring 2022 honors colloquia. We're looking for courses that will excite and challenge our highly motivated, high-achieving students from all majors, while helping them to grow intellectually, personally and professionally. Colloquia are limited to 26 students and are specifically designed for the University Honors Program. We welcome interdisciplinary, innovative and inclusive pedagogies and invite proposals on all topics. Compensation (to departments or through PARF/overload) is available. For priority consideration, please submit an e-form proposal to teach a new colloquium or an existing colloquium **by May 21**. Questions? Contact [Dr. Heather Fielding](#), Honors Program director. [Learn more](#).

### **Call for Nominations: 2021 faculty/staff excellence awards**

Faculty and staff are encouraged to nominate deserving colleagues for excellence awards, to be presented at the fall academic year opening meeting/Blugold Breakfast. The UW-Eau Claire Foundation presents \$1,500 to each award recipient. [Nomination forms are available online](#) and the submission deadline is **Friday, April 30**.

### **Join CERCA virtually through April 23**

The [Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity](#) (CERCA) continues this week with presentations available to an audience that stretches beyond the boundaries of the university campus. There also will be livestreamed presentations throughout the week, culminating with the [Provost's Honors Symposium](#) on **Friday, April 23**.

### **CultureFest continues this week**

Come join us for [CultureFest](#), which runs through **Friday, April 23**, and enjoy food, culture and entertainment during this special event!

### **Stories sought for 'Healing Reflections' collaborative arts project**

Provost Patricia Kleine and B.J. Hollars, associate professor of English, in collaboration with Mayo Clinic Health System, are working together on a collection of stories about people's experiences during the pandemic in 2020. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to submit their written stories for the "Healing Reflections" collection, which will be curated and considered for a physical display of words and pictures. To participate, [submit your written work](#) of 500 words or less by **May 15**. All submissions could be selected to be paired with a visual artist for public display.

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Duo Security will be added to shared (generic) accounts in Qualtrics on **June 1**. In preparation for this change and to ensure that you have access to the necessary shared accounts, please complete the e-form “Management of Shared Accounts Protected by Duo Authentication” to indicate which Qualtrics shared account you need to access. Please allow at least five business days for your request to be processed. If you no longer need a shared account in Qualtrics, please let us know either through the same e-form or by contacting the [LTS Help Desk](#).

### **Scrap paper needed**

Printing Services would like your scrap paper! Please email [printingservices@uwec.edu](mailto:printingservices@uwec.edu) or call 715-836-5621 if you have single-side printed or blank scrap paper that can be used for scratch pads. Printing Services can pick up the paper — or feel free to drop it off in Schofield 18.

### **Smithsonian’s ‘The Bias Inside Us’ coming to Pablo in 2022**

The Smithsonian Institution’s traveling exhibition, “[The Bias Inside Us](#),” will be on display at Pablo Center at the Confluence from **Feb. 26-March 27, 2022**. The exhibition is based on current science of bias, the real consequences of implicit bias and strategies to confront one’s own biases. UW-Eau Claire is a partner in bringing this exhibit to the Chippewa Valley. There are many ways for instructors, departments, programs and student groups to get involved with the exhibit. Please consider attending the following organizational meeting to learn more:

- **Tuesday, April 20, 3 p.m.** — [Zoom link](#).

To receive an email reminder about the meeting, RSVP to [Robin Miller](#) in McIntyre Library.

### **Faculty, staff, students invited to join international lecture series**

The University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) — a UW-Eau Claire study abroad partner — is offering [cultural and academic lectures](#) via Zoom by their international faculty this semester. UW-Eau Claire faculty, staff and students are invited to join. Following are the dates and series details:

- **Wednesday, April 28**, 10 a.m.: “Sustainable Development in China,” presented by Dr. Jiahan Cao. [Register](#).
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Please send questions to [studyabroad@usac.edu](mailto:studyabroad@usac.edu) or [marchwcc@uwec.edu](mailto:marchwcc@uwec.edu).

### **Program Inventory Management (PIM) updates**

To view the current program proposals, please [visit the Program Inventory Management page](#).

### **UW-Eau Claire updates regarding COVID-19**

A running account of information regarding COVID-19 and its impact on the campus and community continues to be maintained on the [COVID-19 Updates page](#). Check the link regularly to find resources and updates, including emails sent to faculty, staff and students, regarding UW-Eau Claire’s response to the pandemic.

[Submit announcement](#)

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## Awards and achievements

**Dr. Michael Axelrod**, director of the Human Development Center, and professor of psychology, and his colleague, Michael Santagata, of the Sarasota (Florida) County Schools, had their chapter, “Behavioral Parent Training,” published in the book “Applications of Behavior Analysis in Healthcare and Beyond” by Alexandros Maragakis, Claudia Drossel and Thomas Waltz in April 2021.

**Dr. Dorothy Ka-Ying Chan**, assistant professor of English, co-wrote a proposal, titled “Intersectionality and Radical Empathy: Delivering Inclusive Online Learning in a Year of Crisis,” which has been accepted for inclusion in the program for the 2022 Modern Language Association International Symposium, to be held in partnership with the University of Glasgow. Chan will present with Dr. Rita Mookerjee (organizer/leader) of Iowa State University, Dr. Ruxandra Marcu of Iowa State University and Christina Giarrusso of Arizona State University.

**Dr. David Lewis**, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, presented two papers at the virtual Spring National Meeting of the American Chemical Society April 6: “Ten years on: How a springer brief led to a decade of Russian conferences” and “Nikolai Aleksandrovich Menshutkin (1834-1907): Physical organic chemistry four decades before Hughes and Ingold.”

**Dr. Wendy Makoons Geniusz**, associate professor of languages, presented the talk “Biskaabiiyang: When we talk about decolonizing in Ojibwe, we say we are returning to ourselves” as part of a Zoom panel discussion for the Society of Economic Botany on April 17.

**Dr. Kaia Simon**, assistant professor of English and director of the Blugold Seminar Writing Program, presented her research in a roundtable discussion called “Teaching for Justice for Multilingual Writers” at the virtual 2021 [Conference on College Composition and Communication](#), held April 7-10.

**Jamie Tester Morfoot**, assistant professor of social work, had her article, titled “[Title IV-E Funding & CAST: An Empowering Combination](#)” published in a recent Zero Abuse Project newsletter.

[Submit award/achievement item](#)

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## In Memoriam

Condolences to the family and friends of David Steele. Steele, who taught business law in the College of Business from 1969 until his retirement in 2001, passed away April 7. [View full obituary.](#)

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## In the news

**Brian Biernat**, Blugold head tennis coach, and **Ron York**, assistant coach, were featured in the April 13 WQOW story "[Friends reunite to lead Blugolds.](#)"

**Charles Bolden**, Blugold baseball head coach, was featured in the April 14 Leader-Telegram article "[College baseball: Once in the same dugout, Szykowny and Bolden meet again as opponents.](#)"

**Karen Loeb**, professor emerita of English, was featured in the April 12 Dunn County News article "[Stout Poetry Celebration to feature local award-winning poet, workshop and showcase.](#)"

**Kimera Way**, president of the UW-Eau Claire Foundation and Eau Claire Community Complex Inc., was interviewed for the April 15 WQOW story "[Next steps for the Sonnentag Complex.](#)" Way also was quoted in the April 14 Leader-Telegram article "[Green light: UW-EC students approve referendum, agree to Sonnentag fee.](#)"

See more media coverage by visiting the [News + Events page](#) and scrolling down to UW-Eau Claire In the News.

[Submit news item](#)

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## Campus news and features

- [Blugold's custom fishing rod business takes off during pandemic](#)
- [Nursing simulation lab helps future speech-language pathologists gain new skills](#)
- [Eau Claire Jazz Festival will be virtual, livestreamed event on April 23](#)
- [UW-Eau Claire students pass referendum to support Sonnentag Complex](#)

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## Professional development

### Early Career Eau Claire supports early-career faculty, instructional academic staff

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## Important announcements

### **New dean named for College of Arts and Sciences**

Dr. Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn will become the new dean of UW-Eau Claire's College of Arts and Sciences effective July 1, according to Dr. Patricia Kleine, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. Since 2018, Sternfeld-Dunn has been director of the School of Music at Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas, where he also is an associate professor of music. Dr. Rodd Freitag, professor of political science, has served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for the past three years.

### **Join virtual International Poetry Reading tomorrow night**

UW-Eau Claire's 15th annual [International Poetry Reading](#) will be held virtually from **6-8 p.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, April 28**. Learn more and join the event via the [International Poetry Reading Facebook page](#).

### **Share your ideas during Innovation BrainStorm April 30**

Join your colleagues at UW-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic for the next Innovation BrainStorm event at **4 p.m. Friday, April 30**. The event will feature research problems presented by Mayo clinicians and discussions with researchers and students on approaches for solving these problems. This is your chance to use your expertise to advise clinicians on how to design research that will improve patients' lives. For more information and to register, visit the [Innovation BrainStorm site](#). Questions? Contact [Ray French](#), WiSys regional associate.

### **Red-dress collection to help raise awareness**

The Inter-Tribal Student Council is hosting a red-dress collection **through Friday, April 30**. Donated dresses will be used for a red-dress display around campus on **May 5** to raise awareness about the crisis of murdered and missing Indigenous women. Please drop off donations at the Office of Multicultural Affairs in Centennial 1106. [Learn more about the collection and display](#). Questions? Contact [Margaret Jensen](#) in OMA.

### **Sodexo cooking demonstrations to raise funds for Stop Hunger Foundation**

Sodexo is pleased to announce its new cooking demonstrations in celebration of Servathon 2021, Sodexo and Stop Hunger's global months of service in April and May. Sodexo has partnered with both Dole and Sodexo Chefs to offer two unique virtual cooking experiences — one on **Wednesday, April 28**, at 3 p.m. CDT, and the other prerecorded. Throughout the U.S., we are continuing to see an average increase of 55% more people visiting food banks than before the pandemic. The need for food aid is greater than ever before. All funding raised by these virtual events will support the Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation's year-round programming and grants. [Learn more and register](#).

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### **Scrap paper needed**

Printing Services would like your scrap paper! Please email [printingservices@uwec.edu](mailto:printingservices@uwec.edu) or call 715-836-5621 if you have single-side printed or blank scrap paper that can be used for scratch pads. Printing Services can pick up the paper — or feel free to drop it off in Schofield 18.

### **UW-Eau Claire updates regarding COVID-19**

A running account of information regarding COVID-19 and its impact on the campus and community continues to be maintained on the [COVID-19 Updates page](#). Check the link regularly to find resources and updates, including emails sent to faculty, staff and students, regarding UW-Eau Claire’s response to the pandemic.

[Submit announcement](#)

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## **Awards and achievements**

**Dr. Hyoseok (David) Hwang**, assistant professor of finance, recently had his paper, titled “[Changes in trading behavior of analyst-affiliated institutions: The impact of the global analyst research settlement](#),” published in the journal *Financial Markets, Institutions & Instruments* on April 24.

**Dr. Kaishan Kong**, associate professor of Chinese in the department of languages, has successfully completed the training and requirements to become a certified oral proficiency interview (OPI) tester for the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). She has received an ACTFL OPI full-tester certification in Chinese. ACTFL OPI tester certification is a highly valued professional credential that is recognized nationally and internationally.

**Cedar Marie**, assistant professor of art & design, wrote “Evolving States: Michael Elizondo Jr. and the reemergence of the Bacone College School of Indian Art,” which was published as a feature article in [First American Art Magazine](#), issue 30, spring 2021. Bacone College, chartered in 1880, is the oldest continuing American Indian college in Oklahoma.

**Patti See**, academic advisor in the Advising, Retention and Career Center/senior lecturer in women’s gender and sexuality studies, had her column “[Witness to history](#),” based on her yearlong COVID-19 journal, published in the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram on April 18 and in The Country Today on April 23.

[Submit award/achievement item](#)

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## In the news

**Dr. Brian Allred**, lecturer of flute in the music and theatre arts department, was featured in the April 24 Sioux City Journal article “[REVIEW: Surprise pairing brings Aaron Copland's ‘Appalachian Spring’ to life.](#)”

**Robert Baca**, professor of music and director of jazz studies, was quoted in the April 19 Leader-Telegram article “[Playing on: Eau Claire Jazz Festival making the music happen despite the pandemic with virtual event.](#)”

**Dr. Sudeep Bhattacharyay**, associate professor of chemistry, and **Dr. Ying Ma**, associate professor of materials science and biomedical engineering, were quoted in the April 26 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article “[Powerful new supercomputer will open doors for research and education at UW-Eau Claire.](#)”

**Dr. James Boulter**, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, was interviewed for the April 20 WQOW story “[Carbon dioxide levels continue to break records.](#)”

**Dr. Diana Cataldi**, UW-Eau Claire lecturer in music, was quoted in the April 25 WEAU story “[New UWEC precollege summer camp offerings in the arts.](#)”

**Dr. Catherine Chan**, executive director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs; **Dr. Jessica Kraker**, professor of mathematics; **Dr. Crispin Pierce**, professor of environmental public health; **Dr. David Leland**, associate professor of psychology; and students **Maggie Westerland** and **Jessica Lim** were quoted in the April 22 Leader-Telegram article “[COVID on their minds.](#)”

**Dr. Selika Ducksworth-Lawton**, professor of history, was interviewed for the April 20 WEAU story “[UW-Eau Claire professor reacts to Chauvin guilty verdicts](#)” and the April 21 WQOW story “[Professor of color reacts to Derek Chauvin guilty verdict.](#)”

**Arthur Grothe**, associate professor of theatre arts and artistic director of theatre, was interviewed for the April 26 WQOW story “[UWEC theater department creates podcast during pandemic.](#)”

**Bill Hoepner**, visual assets manager and photographer in Integrated Marketing and Communications, and **McKenna Dirks**, photographer for The Spectator, were quoted in the April 26 Chippewa Valley Post article “[Pandemic paradox: COVID-19 guidelines pose challenges for local photographers.](#)”

**Heather Pederson**, director of the Center for Communication Disorders, **Dr. Abby Hemerich**, assistant professor and chair of communications sciences and disorders, and graduate student **Abigail Joski** were quoted in the April 20 WEAU story “[UWEC to head free speech therapy services for individuals living with Parkinson’s disease.](#)”

**Dr. Geoff Peterson**, professor and chair of the political science department, was quoted in the April 26 Wisconsin Public Radio story “[With 3 UW Regent Appointments Up In May, Gov. Evers Has A Chance To Remake System Board.](#)”

**Chancellor James Schmidt** was interviewed for the April 22 WQOW story “[Barron County COVID-19 vaccine clinic helping get rural residents inoculated.](#)”

**Chancellor James Schmidt; Dr. Sudeep Bhattacharyay**, associate professor of chemistry; **Dr. Ying Ma**, associate professor of materials science and biomedical engineering; **Dr. Rahul Gomes**, assistant professor of computer science; **Dr. Nora Mitchell**, assistant professor of biology; and **Chip Eckardt**, senior information processing consultant in Learning and Technology Services, were quoted in the April 26 Leader-Telegram article “[HPE supercomputer donation helps UW-EC ramp up processing power.](#)”

**Dr. Ryan Weichelt**, associate professor of geography, was quoted in the April 25 Associated Press article “[Young adults’ relocations are reshaping political geography](#)” and the April 26 Le Devoir article “[Après la Géorgie, la charge républicaine contre le système électoral atteint l’Arizona.](#)”

See more media coverage by visiting the [News + Events page](#) and scrolling down to UW-Eau Claire In the News.

[Submit news item](#)

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**Campus news and features**

- [UW-Eau Claire, HPE collaboration a powerful partnership](#)
- [Summer Food Service Program to provide meals for UW-Eau Claire's Upward Bound participants](#)
- [New grad takes research to a new level during her years as a Blugold](#)

[Read/view more campus news and features](#)

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## Professional development

### University Staff Professional Development Conference is June 7-10

All university staff, faculty and academic staff are invited to attend the annual University Staff Professional Development Conference. This successful event is key for our university staff, offering them a cornerstone of continued education, training and communication on campus. This year, the daylong event has been expanded to four days — **June 7-10** — with the theme “Exploring the Gateway of Opportunities.” The conference also is partnering with the annual Wellness Fair, which is open to all UW-Eau Claire and UW-Eau Claire–Barron County employees. Check out the [conference website](#) for event details and a sneak peek of some of our sessions. Registration will open in early May!

### Early Career Eau Claire supports early-career faculty, instructional academic staff

Early Career Eau Claire is a peer-mentoring group of junior faculty and instructional academic staff who are affiliated with UW-Eau Claire, UWEC-Barron County and UWEC-Marshfield. The group has scheduled virtual meetings for the spring 2021 semester at **2 p.m. on the first Friday of every month**. These meetings are for early-career faculty and instructional academic staff to support each other in their work through sharing experiences together, raising awareness of resources and opportunities that may be helpful and promoting collaboration and connections across campus. Each meeting will include: 1) time for a meet-and-greet and informal conversation; and 2) brief presentations and Q&A with colleagues on each topic. For colleagues interested in participating and receiving updates, subscribe to the group’s email list by sending a message to [ec-squared-request@lists.uwec.edu](mailto:ec-squared-request@lists.uwec.edu) and typing “Subscribe” in the body of the message.

### CETL professional development

- **Virtual Q&A sessions:** Monday-Friday, 9-9:50 a.m. throughout April. [View sessions](#).
- **Faculty Fridays Open Write:** Looking to start or finish an article? An essay? A book? Block Friday mornings and write (virtually) with the Center for Writing Excellence. Weekly Friday meetings, 9 a.m.-noon. To join, email [rylandjj@uwec.edu](mailto:rylandjj@uwec.edu).
- **Summer 2021 OER Course Redesign Program:** The goal of this program is for participants to redesign a course to incorporate open educational resources (OER) and reduce student costs by eliminating materials with a subscription, rental fee or purchase. [Learn more and apply by May 7](#).

- **Interprofessional Education (IPE) Community of Practice:** Interprofessional education (IPE) creates opportunities for two or more professions to learn with, from, and about each other to improve collaboration and health outcomes. We plan to launch a community of practice in the fall to help bring together instructors in healthcare programs on campus to share what programs are currently doing, how programs assess interprofessional work and brainstorm possibilities for collaboration across programs. The goal is to create a few collaboration activities with our students for the spring semester. There will be an initial meeting on **Tuesday, May 18, from 11 a.m.-noon** to discuss possibilities for the fall. Please contact [CETL@uwec.edu](mailto:CETL@uwec.edu) if you would like to attend this initial meeting.
- **Digital Transformation Teaching and Learning Course:** This professional development opportunity is an online, asynchronous course to showcase planning, designing and teaching with technology. A \$500 stipend is awarded after all course assessments and activities are completed by Aug. 6. The course will open July 12 and takes approximately 8-10 hours to complete and consists of assignments to help you redesign your course using evidence-based practices. [Apply by July 7.](#)

### **EDI professional development for faculty and staff**

Faculty and staff are invited to participate in professional development opportunities to increase understanding of equity, diversity and inclusion, and help UW-Eau Claire do better as a campus. [View and register for sessions and groups.](#)

#### **Coming up:**

- [Systemwide Caregiving Forum: Independent Recording Viewing and Reflection](#), open now until June 4.
- [Cultural Competency to Cultural Proficiency in Healthcare Professions: An Interprofessional Education Framework](#), April 29, 6-8 p.m.
- [Campus Connect: Suicide Awareness and Intervention](#), May 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- [Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care Reading Group](#), June 2, 9, 16 and 23, noon-1 p.m.

[Submit professional development item](#)

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### **Meeting notices**

- [See all meetings and agendas.](#)
  - [Submit your meeting notice.](#)
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